

helping professions engage in efforts that can often diminish client participation and responsibility. It has been said that the most overlooked resources in the helping/treatment field are the strengths and capacities of our clients. Several motivational constructs will be examined in this presentation. This address will also review a new meta-analytic research that identified the key ingredients to positive behavior change. These factors will be reviewed at length as they embody the true catalysts for change and optimizing each client's unique potential. Find out why it's the client, and not treatment methods, that represent the real "engine for change." Join this keynote address to understand how we can harness this potential with client-directed, outcome-informed practice. Begin to use what 40 years of motivational research has been suggesting for working with clients that may be reluctant to work with you!

Strength Based Practice with Challenging Populations: Overcoming resistance

Dr. Michael D. Clark and Dr. Venkat Pulla (Pre conference)

This pre-conference training session is designed to improve practice skills with professionals who are working directly with challenging clients. This institute is a full-day training that focuses on skill-building and will utilize multimedia presentations, interactive lecture and facilitated small and large group exercises. A mixture of small group discussions and full room exercises will keep the training pace lively and engaging. Come ready to learn "how to's" and techniques! The emphasis for this training is on skill-building and "theory-to-practice" group work for direct application of these skill-based techniques. The modules include Strength-based Assessments: How to Find and Amplify Resources/Strengths for Effective Interventions; Increasing Client Motivation: The Change Conditions of Desire, Ability, Reason & Need; and Increasing "Change Talk": Direct Practice Tips to Weaken Resistance and Improve your Productivity.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS The Drylands of Hope

Dr William D Dar

There is an inextricable and unseen web that connects faith, hope, science, agriculture and sustainability. For the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), practising research to ensure sustainable agriculture is probably both a natural and an enlightened action. We believe that agriculture cannot be sustainable unless we work within the natural order. Expressed in biological and spiritual terms, sustainability can only be realized by insights into our place in the natural order. ICRISAT's mission is to reduce poverty, enhance food and nutritional security and protect the environment of the semi-arid tropics by helping empower the poor through science with a human face. By this we mean raising the hopes and aspirations of the poor, inspiring them to better their homes and communities, as well as providing them opportunities through science and technology to become self-reliant. Our research over the last 34 years has led to the creation of societal hope, and brought an overwhelming change in the lives of the poor in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The dryland farmer has been the beneficiary of our research with strategic partners. We realise that sustainable agriculture exists within dynamic change and we also strongly believe in retaining the integrity between humans and nature. While we continue to use conventional methods of science to improve the livelihoods of the poor, we do not fight shy of new science and the advanced tools it offers. We have adopted integrated genetic and natural resource management (IGNRM) as our overarching research strategy to attain scientific excellence and relevance in agriculture, with the core principles being equity, multidisciplinary, sustainability and community participation. Whether it is the 570 improved varieties released by partners from ICRISAT parental lines, the wide-ranging impacts of our innovative ideas in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, new production systems, the social cohesion we seek to bring about or facilitating an improved marketing environment, they have all ultimately brought hope to poor families this is the drylands of hope we envisioned.

Strengthening Individuals

Dr. Jacinta D'Souza

This paper is about a strengths-based approach with individuals who are physically challenged and timid. The approach undertaken uses the Neuro Linguistic program, which is an approach to communication that produces the widest range of choices and the ability to change in order to achieve desired results. Its objective is to increase the range of behavioural choices available to each person and enables the individual to build a distinct, unique model of their world. It is based on the following premises and techniques: resources are within each person; awareness of resources within oneself; simple and skilful method of what goes on inside oneself; effective communication can become a matter of conscious choice; you can become an expert in communication if you engage all your senses; the key to opening the lock of representational sequences is knowing that people will show you all you need to know; by their choice of words people will let you know their sequences; by the way they use their body they will let you know those sequences; what they do with their eyes will even help you to uncover those sequences; life has positive value if it projects the power of 'unity and love into the world'; develop all the vital forces in yourself, give them direction, unify them and integrate them. Observed outcomes have included: revitalisation of energy within oneself; effective functioning of individuals in the face of difficulties; finding joy and happiness in one's own milieu; being able to express oneself and confront when required; and enhancing the well being of others.