



Illinois

Association for the

Treatment of Sexual Abusers

February 2013

Membership Newsletter

Upcoming Webinars!

Wed. February 27
ABEL ASSESSMENT

Presented by
Dr. Gene Abel

Fri. March 22
TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS WITH PERSONALITY DISORDERS

Presented by
Guy Groot and
Rhonda Meacham

Fri. April 19
STATIC

Presented by
Robin Wilson

Fri. May 17
POLYGRAPH

Presented by
Harry Reid

Fri. June 21
PPG USE IN TREATMENT AND SUPERVISION

Presented by
Tracy Rogers

All webinars will be held from 11:30am-1 pm CST. E-mail Guy Groot for registration information.

Welcome from the President

~ Guy Groot~

During this glorious year that the 32nd Annual Research and Treatment Conference of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers is held in Sweet Home Chicago, the Board of the Illinois Chapter of ATSA and I would like to take this opportunity to reignite the spark that has been threaded throughout the history of Illinois-ATSA over the years. Our first task on that journey has been organization. That has included reaching out to expand the Illinois-ATSA board, developing objectives and a plan to guide board action, and distributing assignments amongst board members

to insure completion of goals and objectives.

One focus area falls under the broad umbrella of communication. The first objective in that area is before you at this moment, renewing our dedication to reach out to membership through a periodic/quarterly newsletter. Additional points under the umbrella of communication include: Maintaining, updating and expanding the content of the website every 3-6 months. Establish communication and connections with other professional organizations with whom we interface in working to reduce sexual

abuse. Provide access via our website to succinct professional resources that provide guidance for our members in providing best practices, empirically based treatment, and accurate information about the scope, problem and ways to address the issue of sexual abuse to the public and public policy makers.

Another area Illinois-ATSA has made a commitment to address is training. In 2011, we envisioned that the board could become facilitators of training for members and other stakeholders. That came to fruition in 2012 with the **Continued on page 2...**

New Licenses and Changes to SOMB

~ Compiled from SOMB website ~

In Fall 2012, letters were sent to providers and treatment providers, outlining changes to SOMB and requirements for SOMB approved treatment providers and evaluators. Following is a summary of this letter.

The Governor signed Senate Bill 3638 (Public Act 97-1098). This legislation makes several modifications to the Illinois Sex Offender Management Board Act (SOMB Act) as well as other related statutes.

The legislation creates the "Sex Offender Evaluation and Treatment Provider Act" requiring that all individuals who provide evaluation and/or treatment services to sex offenders, under the SOMB Act, the Sexually Dangerous Persons Act, or the Sexually Violent Persons Act, be licensed and regulated by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations (IDFPR).

Three new licenses will be established and they are

as follows:

- Sex Offender Evaluator
- Sex Offender Treatment Provider
- Associate Sex Offender Provider

The Associate Sex Offender Provider license allows individuals in training to provide services under the supervision of a licensed Evaluator or Provider. IDFPR can begin issuing these licenses on July 1, 2013 and by January 1, 2014. **Continued on page 2...**



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*Interested in becoming
an IL-ATSA board
member? We are always
looking for dedicated
professionals to join us!
Contact Guy Groot,
President, for more
information!*

New Licenses and Changes to SOMB...continued from page1

2014, all evaluation and treatment services for sex offenders, under the SOMB Act, the Sexually Dangerous Persons Act, or the Sexually Violent Persons Act, must be provided by a licensed evaluator or treatment provider. IDFPR has the authority to adopt and implement rules governing this process.

The qualifications for licensure include that the applicant already be licensed by IDFPR in one of several professions including a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, clinical social worker, clinical professional

counselor, etc., or be working under the supervision of a licensed evaluator or treatment provider and have significant experience working with sex offenders. Specific hours of experience are detailed in the legislation.

The Illinois Sex Offender Management Board will no longer be reimbursing the counties for a portion of sex offender evaluations. Monies collected by the SOMB will be utilized for training purposes. One of the new roles that SOMB will undertake will be to

provide two trainings (annually). One of these trainings will be focused on the needs of law enforcement; the other training will focus on treatment providers.

For more information about the changes, please refer to Public Act 97-1098. The Act can be found through the links on the SOMB page at:

<http://www2.illinois.gov/ido/c/Pages/SexOffenderManagementBoard.aspx>

You may also contact **Robin McGinnis**, SOMB Representative, for more information.

President's Welcome...continued from page 1

~ by Guy Groot ~

implementation of a series of webinars where members and others could receive up-to-date training in a low-cost manner, right at their own desk. This year we will continue that plan with a series of five or six webinars available to the membership. Longer range goals include examining the need and ability to present a local conference, and developing collaboration with the Illinois Sex Offender Management Board to facilitate annual training for providers.

Every ATSA member in good standing who works or resides in Illinois is a

member of Illinois-ATSA. During this year that the national conference is held in Chicago, we have set a goal of increasing national membership in ATSA. Thusly, that will increase Illinois-ATSA membership. This year is the opportunity for you, your colleagues and others who have a stakeholder's interest in reducing sexual abuse to attend a phenomenal conference. Start now, to support ATSA's mission of preventing sexual abuse by planning to attend, and reaching out to others to attend ATSA's 32nd Annual Research and Treatment Conference

being held this October 30th to November 2nd at the Sheraton Chicago Towers. This year's conference theme is "Shouldering Responsibility: Making Society Safer." We don't just do that by individually providing therapy, assessment, management, prevention, supervision, prosecution, or research with and into sexual abusers. We do that by enthusiastically sharing the load with others in our field, learning collectively, and respectfully. I hope to see everyone in Chicago in October.



Illinois

Association for the

Treatment of Sexual Abusers

Treatment Intervention of the Month:

Addressing the 'Responsitivity' in the Risk-Needs-Responsivity Model

~ submitted by Jennifer King ~

Modality: Group treatment

Addresses: Group building (rules and safety), relapse prevention (high risk situations), personal disclosure

Referenced in: The Geese Theatre Handbook. Drama with Offenders and People at Risk. Baim, Brookes, and Mountford. Waterside Press. London, UK 2002

Ask the group members to quietly walk around the room and identify areas and objects that could be dangerous. After a few moments, ask the members of the group to stand by one of these 'dangerous' places or objects. One at a time, they tell the group what the dangerous place or thing is and why. Encourage use of imagination and going beyond the merely practical. For example: "This flip chart is

dangerous because I could trip over it, but also because I could write something on it so intelligent and amazing that everyone's brain will explode when they read it." Or, "this space in the middle of the room is dangerous because I am all alone here and everyone is looking at me."

This exercise can be used to explain health and safety in a beginning group, or to illustrate ideas

like general processing, (what can we do to address hurt) boundaries, and setting rules for groups that involve active movement. It can also facilitate personal processing regarding high risk. What is a dangerous place for you? Name a dangerous place you avoid. Or maybe it is a person? Why do you avoid that place, or them? How? When do *you* become a 'dangerous' place? Who would consider you dangerous?

Resource Spotlight!

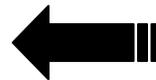


NEARI (New England Adolescent Research Institute) provides online trainings, a free monthly newsletter, free webinars, and access to an online bookstore where you can purchase the best resources provided by leaders in the field. Check out <http://nearipress.org/> for more information.

~ Submitted by Tracy Tholin ~



SAVE THE DATE!



Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers
32nd Annual Research and Treatment Conference
Shouldering Responsibility: Making Society Safer

October 30 - November 2, 2013
[Sheraton Chicago Hotel](#)
Chicago, Illinois

Conference Program Co-chairs:
Robin McGinnis, M.S.W.
Michael Fogel, Psy.D

Don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity to attend a conference in our home state!
Interested in presenting? Call for Abstracts deadline is February 28! See
<http://www.atsa.com/call-for-abstract> for more details.

FACT: Did you know that membership in ATSA means you automatically become a member of Illinois-ATSA? Don't miss out on vital information! Join ATSA today!

Interested in submitting something for the "Tip of the Month" or "Resource Spotlight?" E-mail [Tracy Tholin](#), IL-ATSA Secretary with your ideas!