

MCFR

Minnesota Council on Family Relations

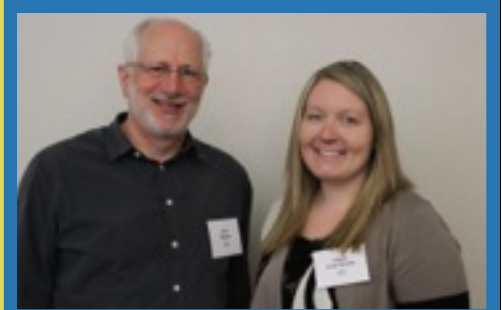
Family Forum

SUMMER 2015

Family Forum is the newsletter of the Minnesota Council on Family Relations, a state affiliate of the National Council on Family Relations



Connecting with colleagues



Domestic Abuse Project Presenters

The Minnesota Council on Family Relations strengthens all families by educating and supporting family professionals and promoting connections among those involved in research, policy and practice.

2015 Spring Conference Review

by Marilyn Sharpe, MCFR Secretary and Spring Conference Co-Chair

THE COMPLEXITIES OF DOMESTIC ABUSE:

An Overview of Resources, Research and Effective Interventions

On May 1, MCFR hosted an inspiring half-day conference at the New Brighton Community Center on the challenging and vitally important topic of domestic abuse. The conference featured two superb speakers from the Domestic Abuse Project of Minneapolis: Aaron Milgrom is the Director of Therapy Services and Angela Lewis-Dmello is the Associate Director of Therapy and Supervisor of Youth Services. In a lively, interactive presentation, the presenters wove together complex topics about domestic abuse, including equipping participants with:

- Awareness of the wide variety of relationships in which domestic violence happens
- Statistics on the pervasive nature of abuse
- Dynamics and results of domestic abuse - physical, emotional, sexual, economic, intimidation, harassment, verbal, psychological, and cyber
- Red flags to alert others to probable abuse
- Language and techniques to open the door to communication about experiences of domestic violence
- How to respond empathetically to clients' experiences and provide resources and referrals
- Causes and patterns of violence
- Reasons why victims stay in abusive relationships
- Learning alternatives to and accountability for violence
- Short term and long term effects on children, even and especially very young ones, who witness domestic abuse (Adverse Childhood Experiences)
- Resources for educating about and responding to domestic abuse
- Relevant policy and legislative changes
- Effective interventions conducted at Domestic Abuse Project, including Trauma Informed treatment for victims, abusers, and children
- Current research issues
- Domestic abuse will be present in all of our venues
- All of us can respond in helpful ways to trauma survivors, who need from their providers (not just therapists) empathy, non-judgmental listening, safety, respect, choices, and hope.

Save the Date! 2015 MCFR Annual Conference

December 4, 2015

Addressing Gender in School, Work, and Family

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Val Anderson.....701-840-1424

Melissa Denning.....763-226-3933

Laura Sanchez

Family Forum Editor:

Ron Pitzer612-331-1970

Family Forum Managing Editor:

Tammy Dunrud.....651-303-1219

Minnesota Council on Family Relations

Box 293

Forest Lake, MN 55025

phone: 651-303-1219

mn.ncfr.org

From the President Gail Peavey

Greetings.

“Good leaders must first be good servants” is a quote by Robert Greenleaf, author of the “The Servant as Leader.” Several years ago, I had the fortune of participating in a Wisconsin Leadership Program and studied Greenleaf’s philosophy of servant-leadership. A servant leader focuses on the growth and well-being of people and the community to which they belong. Does MCFR implement the servant-leadership model? I suggest that we do inspire through education, resources, and partnerships so families can thrive—do you agree?

One of the goals of the MCFR board is reevaluating our MCFR mission statement —“The Minnesota Council on Family Relations strengthens all families by educating and supporting family professionals and promoting connections among those involved in research, policy, and practice.” Over the last few years, the word from our mission statement “family professionals” has been challenged. What does a family professional mean to you? Do the following meet *our/your* criteria (and what is that standard?):

- Child care workers/nannies
- Social workers
- Health care staff/parish nurses
- Public health employees
- Mental health providers
- College educators
- Counselors
- Mentors of families/youth
- Directors/employees of non-profit organizations serving families
- Faith community staff
- Family advocates
- Anthropologists
- Others

I believe and am confident as members of MCFR we will continue to strengthen and support families in multiple ways. Please e-mail (gail.peavey@ces.uwex.edu) to respond with your thoughts of “who is a family professional” and suggestions on how we will adapt to a changing environment. Thanks for your feedback and all you are doing to empower families.

Have a great and relaxing/balanced summer!!

Gail Peavey-Sederski

MCFR Board President

Current News and Committee Reports

Treasurer's Corner

Sharon Powell, MCFR Treasurer

MCFR finances remain steady and are following a typical pattern. Our main income is from conference fees and memberships dues and we experience two income spikes when people register for conferences. The rest of the year, we have intermittent deposits and a steady set of expenses. In addition to income from conference registration, MCFR enjoys generous donations from members. These gifts are very beneficial in helping the organization to remain solvent. Thank you!! Another exciting and new source of income for MCFR is in grants. Thanks to the excellent work of Tammy Dunrud, MCFR received a grant award of \$5000 to support the expenses associated with the Fall Conference. This grant is very valuable in allowing MCFR to make the conference accessible to people across the state.

Student/New Professional News

Stay tuned for the Call for Poster Proposals for the 2015 Annual Conference!

Call for New MCFR Board Members: We Need You!

MCFR is beginning the process of recruiting new board members for the coming year. Please consider working with us or let a colleague know about this opportunity. We are interested in recruiting family professionals in social work, psychology, social services, family ministry, nursing and sociology as well as family social science and education.

Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of most months (excluding July, August, December and January) from 3:00-5:00 PM at the Red Cross Building in Minneapolis. Members from Greater Minnesota are welcome, and we work to include you via phone and internet connections. The board also meets in a day-long retreat in January. Members-At-Large serve for two years and are expected to attend the board meetings, serve on a Board Committee, communicate about MCFR to other family professionals and aid in recruiting new MCFR members. There are also opportunities to serve on conference planning committees and become involved in policy work. We would like to add 4 new Members-At-Large. This position is a good way to learn the role of the organization and how it functions as you network with colleagues across family profession disciplines.

If you are interested or know someone who might be, please send an email message to President Gail Peavey at gail.peavey@ces.uwex.edu and attach a resume. We look forward to hearing from you!

Mary Maher, Ethics Committee Chair

Progress is continuing on the new draft of the “Ethical Thinking and Practice” booklet. The writing team hopes to have it ready for publication sometime this fall in anticipation of scheduling regional workshops and other trainings in 2016-17. Glen Palm and Dawn Cassidy will spearhead the effort to gather and develop new case studies for the booklet and future trainings.

An introductory workshop was conducted for Osseo Early Childhood programs and Family Education staff in April with resoundingly positive evaluations. A few more tweaks have been made to the PowerPoint and we continue to try different introductory exercises for initial presentation of the principles.

Marilyn Sharpe, MCFR Secretary and 2015 Fall Conference Co-Chair

2015 MCFR Annual Fall Conference on Gender Issues

“Addressing Gender in School, Work and Family”

December 4, 2015

8:00am-4:00pm

New Brighton Community Center-Host Site

Additional Satellite Sites Available Around the State!

If you have read, heard, or watched the news recently, issues of gender have surfaced. If you are a teacher, coach, parent educator, health care professional, human resources director, pastor, professor, therapist, chaplain, chemical dependency counselor, spiritual director, youth worker, social service provider, childcare leader, or any of the thousand and one professions that work with children, youth, and adults, issues of gender are playing a larger, more nuanced, more urgent role. We are all facing questions we were not trained to answer, decisions we have not made before, and issues of justice and equity for which we have no prior experience.

Plan now to join your fellow family professionals for a day of great information and insight, stunning presentations and practical workshops, thoughtful speakers and inspiring theater, outstanding resources and time to reflect on this vitally important and ubiquitous topic.

The Minnesota Council on Family Relations’ Fall 2015 Annual Conference is for you and those you serve. Although it is still in the planning stage, we know it will include keynotes; workshops featuring a variety of topics; current research; resources; time for networking, conversation, and reflection; and a powerful piece of theater. It will include:

Keynote: Jenifer McGuire, Associate Professor at the U of M, whose areas of interest include:

- Parent relationships for sexual and gender minority youth
- Parent socialization of adolescent sexuality
- Well-being of sexual and gender minority youth
- Parenting across family transitions

Keynote: Sam Brinton, recipient of two MA’s from MIT in Nuclear Energy and Waste Management, will address issues of gender non-conformity and surviving reparative therapy.

Nominations Open for Two MCFR Awards

MCFR gives two awards in recognition of contributions to the family field each year. Please consider nominating someone who has done outstanding work to make life better for families.

Ruth Hathaway Jewson Distinguished Service to Families Award is given to a professional in the family field who is recognized for outstanding work on behalf of families. Preference is given to individuals who are members of MCFR and NCFR.

Friend of the Family Award is given to a professional or organization who may or may not be in the family field, but who has made significant contributions to the quality of family life in Minnesota.

2015 MCFR Awards will be presented at the MCFR Annual Conference on December 4, 2015 in New Brighton, Minnesota. Any MCFR member is welcome to submit an award nomination by the deadline of October 1, 2015. A list of previous winners and the nomination details are available on the MCFR website at <http://mn.ncfr.org>.

Beth Gausman and Val Anderson, Membership Co-Chairs



Why Do I Belong to MCFR?

There are many reasons for joining Minnesota Council on Family Relations (MCFR); professional connections, subscription to the online newsletter Forum, reduced registration at conferences and resume building opportunities to name a few. We asked MCFR board members why they belong to MCFR and here are their responses;

"I belong to MCFR because it is a premier organization of family professionals who value children and families and work to educate and empower them." Peg Lindlof, M.S., CFLE

"I am a member of MCFR for the professional connections to people who want what is best for families and dedicate themselves toward that effort both personally and through their chosen careers." Beth Gausman, M.S., CFLE

"MCFR has provided my best continuing education, ongoing inspiration, and connection with amazing colleagues as a family professional." Marilyn Sharpe, M.A., CFLE

"The initial reason that I became involved with MCFR was for my own professional development--the quality of conferences in topics and presenters. I attended several conferences and met many new colleagues from Minnesota. I value the professional camaraderie." Gail Peavey, M.S.

If you would like more information on how you can be a member of MCFR go to mn.mcfcr.org and click on **Join Us** found on the website homepage.

Peg Lindlof, Communications Committee Co-Chair

MCFR's Communications Committee members have been busy looking at ways to accomplish current MCFR goals using 21st century communication tools. These goals center around seeking ways to recruit new members and spreading the word about the work our members do to support families.

We are currently updating the MCFR website, so check us out at <http://mn.ncfr.org>. In addition, we are looking into using a Facebook page and/or a listserv. As a state affiliate of NCFR, we have found staff of the national organization to be a great ally and resource. There is much to learn, and we would love to hear from MCFR members who have social media skills and would be willing to help us with these technologies.

Don't forget that *all* MCFR members are welcome to communicate with the Board about events, news, questions or ideas. Use the "Contact us" page on the MCFR website, or send an email message in care of Tammy Dunrud at td4mcf@gmail.com.

Renee Sawyer, Policy Committee Co-Chair

The current members of the MCFR Policy Committee are Sharon Powell, Mary Jo Katras, Beth Magistad and Renee Sawyer.

In the fall of 2014 the committee worked on the development of the conference handout "You Can Make a Difference!" The handout listed resources and action steps conference participants could use to continue to support individuals and families that are dealing with mental illness. The committee is currently discussing ways to update the Policy section of the MCFR website. They want to provide information and resources that will help members become more engaged in the work of MCFR.

In June the committee will be meeting with Jennifer Crosswhite, NCFR's Director of Public Affairs. The committee members want to work more closely with NCFR to provide communication to members about family policy and relevant impacts of family policy.

The MCFR Policy Committee always welcomes additional members. If you would be interested in joining this group please contact Sharon Powell at spowell@umn.edu



Stay in touch at mn.ncfr.org

NCFR News - Summer 2015

Rose Allen, President, NCFR Affiliate Council Board and NCFR Board of Directors

Greetings and Happy Summer!

The National Council on Family Relations publishes a quarterly magazine – **Report**. Members receive this publication by mail. If you are not an NCFR member, **Report** is also available to you on the NCFR web site. Go to <https://www.ncfr.org/ncfr-report> to read the latest issue focusing on communication.

This year's annual conference is in Vancouver, British Columbia – November 11-14, 2015. The conference theme is *Conflict, Violence and War: Family Risks and Resilience*. Keynote speakers include:

E. Mark Cummings

Ph.D., Director of the Family Studies Center and Co-Director of the Center for Children and Families, University of Notre Dame

Lee Ann De Reus

Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Penn State Altoona

Ann Masten

Ph.D., Regents Professor, Irving B. Harris Professor of Child Psychology, and Distinguished McKnight University Professor, Institute of Child Development, University of Minnesota

David Finkel

Journalist at *The Washington Post*; author of *The Good Soldiers* and *Thank You for Your Service*; 2006 Pulitzer Prize winner for explanatory reporting

You can take a peek at the conference schedule at:

<https://www.ncfr.org/ncfr-2015/conference-schedule>

Registration is available on-line at:

<https://www.ncfr.org/ncfr-2015/registration-details>

If you are a student, check out the student rates and the opportunity to work at the conference for a reduced registration fee.

I am looking forward to attending and hope to see some of you there.

**MCFR MEMBERS –
OUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET!!
PLEASE...
VOLUNTEER! DONATE! PARTICIPATE!
JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!**

Book Review:

Sticks and Stones: Defeating the Culture of Bullying and Rediscovering the Power of Character and Empathy

Reviewed by Marcie Parker, Ph.D., CFLE,

who has a private practice in healthcare research and consulting in Excelsior, Minnesota

These days, there are screaming headlines and wrong-headed assumptions about bullying everywhere.

[by Emily Bazelon; Random House Trade Paperbacks, New York; 2013; ISBN #978-0-8129-8263-3 or e-book ISBN #978-0-679-64400-2; 391 pages; \$16.00 paperback; contains a discussion guide for classroom use and book groups]

The goal of this riveting book is to look closely at the bullies and those who are bullied and to show the true complexity of all aspects of bullying. These days, there are screaming headlines and wrong-headed assumptions about bullying everywhere. Bazelon would like to see bullying covered more responsibly in the media and addressed more forcefully by the legal system. She says that bullying was not taken seriously by the law until the shootings at Columbine High School in Colorado. While bullying is not new, our collective attempts to respond to bullying in a wider public arena are.

There are a number of persistent, and incorrect, myths about bullying:

- That girls bully more than boys do;
- That online and in-person face-to-face bullying are entirely different animals;
- That bullying is a common cause of teen suicide;

In addition to good old-fashioned physical and verbal bullying, we now have bullying that goes around the world with the speed of light, stays up 24/7/365, and essentially lasts an eternity.

- That bullying is due to violent video games, rock music, parental neglect, social media or any other single simplistic cause; and,
- That harsh criminal penalties are enough to effectively deter bullying.

Bazelon is Senior Editor of [Slate](#), a contributing writer at the [New York Times Magazine](#), and the Truman Capote Fellow for Creative Writing and Law at Yale Law School. Before her stint at [Slate](#), Bazelon was a Soros media fellow, an Editor and writer at [Legal Affairs Magazine](#) and she served as a law clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 1st Circuit. I give you her background because not only is she a writer but she

is an attorney and therefore searches far and wide for the truth and the subtleties of bullying.

She points out that in addition to good old-fashioned physical and verbal bullying, we now have bullying that goes around the world with the speed of light, stays up 24/7/365, and essentially

Continued on page 9

lasts an eternity. Welcome to the land of social media, the Internet and all forms of digital communication. She notes that bullying is not on the rise but modern technology is taking the torture of these kids to a whole new level, well beyond school yard teasing. These hurtful bullying relationships are found in schools everywhere and lead to heartbreak and humiliation for millions of kids. Bazelon looks at the psychological literature but also the scientific research about bullying.

Bazelon points out that bullying is misunderstood---that not all conflict between kids is bullying. She explores when she thinks intervention is warranted and when kids need to be left alone to fend for themselves and devise their own solutions to conflict. It is not always clear who is the bully and who is the victim [one victim was also a bully herself]. Most kids are not involved in bullying and when a kid commits suicide the reasons are many and complex and cannot be ascribed simply to bullying, as we currently see in the headlines.

This book should be read by anyone working with families, by teachers, administrators, anyone in law school or journalism,

educators, parents, teens and principals. In the book, Bazelon examines the details of the lives of three kids who were bullied and tormented in school: thirteen-year-old Monique whose mother finally pulled her out of school to attend another one; Jacob who was physically attacked and threatened due to his sexuality---- he sued the school to protect himself and try to change the culture at school; and Flannery,

We need to imbue school culture with a new focus on teaching character, empathy, and respect. To overcome bullying we need to character, values, and empathy.

one of six teens who faced criminal charges when a fellow student committed suicide, which was ascribed to bullying [This is the story of Phoebe Prince, who lived in South Hadley, Massachusetts and, according to the media, killed herself after months of bullying and cyberbullying. The media used the term bullycide to describe the result of the months of psychological torture perpetrated by six mean girls at school. However, to show you how complex the case actually was, Phoebe was a popular teen, both

victim and aggressor, with a history of depression and cutting herself. She had gone off her medications for several weeks prior to her suicide. So while she certainly killed herself, Bazelon says that the real story is much more complex and nuanced than anything that came out in the media].

Bazelon points out in the book what we can and cannot do about bullying. She hopes that her book will bring bullying out into the public realm [much as we now view formerly private issues such as domestic violence, sexual harassment and child abuse]. She

says that we need to imbue school culture with a new focus on teaching character, empathy and respect. She feels that to overcome bullying, we need to instill character, values and empathy in children, showing them that other peoples' feelings are more important than social climbing and that kindness has to trump everything. Bazelon has specific suggestions and guidelines for parents,

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families, teachers, and teens to counteract the corrosive effects of bullying, and to prevent it in the first place. She shows that if we don't get a handle on bullying, it can easily tear families and communities apart. It is important to get the message out to kids that bullying is not as all-pervasive as we think it is, that empathy is a really important attribute to develop and, that bystanders who witness bullying need to step up and say something to support victims and report the abuse.

Some who read this book may experience flashbacks and nightmares about their own bullying experiences. While bullying is awful and needs to be stopped

whenever and wherever possible, we also need to balance protecting kids vs. policing kids, to help them develop solutions on their own, and to learn resilience in the face of adversity.....how to bounce back when life throws us curve balls. Bazelon is a parent herself and she writes about a complicated issue with verve and from a deep well of scientific research.

One note of caution: there are times in the book when it can seem as though Bazelon is blaming the victim.....thus we need to

be very clear that bullying is never OK, not no how, not nowhere. That said, anyone who works with families, teens or pre-teens needs to read this book and ponder deeply on what Bazelon has written. How can we prevent bullying? What can we do when we witness bullying? How do we support and advocate for kids who are being bullied?

MCFR

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Perspectives from Practice

Thoughts on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders-What can we do to help?

By Colleen Gengler

Retired Extension Educator & Professor, currently working with professional development programs at the University of Minnesota Southwest Research and Outreach Center (SWROC), Lamberton MN

I so appreciated Marcie Parker's two recent book reviews in the MCFR Family Forum: *When Rain Hurts: An Adoptive Mother's Journey with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome* (Fall 2014) and *Drink: The Intimate Relationship Between Women and Alcohol* (Winter 2015). In response, I'd like to share work in southwest Minnesota to increase and enhance the resources available to families with children who have Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) and also, to suggest actions MCFR members might take which address prevention, education and intervention.

Let's back up a moment and review some facts. FASD is an umbrella term describing the range of conditions and disabilities that can occur in an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy. FASD cannot be cured and the damage to the brain is permanent. The only cause of FASD is alcohol use during pregnancy. If a woman does not drink alcohol during pregnancy, her baby will not have an FASD. In other words, FASD is completely preventable.

The most severe FASD is Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS). Within the spectrum, there is also partial Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (pFAS), Alcohol Related Neurodevelopmental Disorders (ARND) and Alcohol Related Birth Defects (ARBD). Effects of FASD can vary widely from person to person. Not all children have characteristic facial features. Brain damage is the most serious effect. Other effects may include physical,

mental, social, behavioral and/or learning disabilities. Effects such as poor reasoning and judgment skills can last throughout a lifetime.

Often, the effects of pre-natal alcohol exposure are misdiagnosed as Autism, EBD, ADHD or other disorders. If misdiagnosed, children with FASD do not receive the kind of help they need. The average level of developmental skills for children with FASD is generally about half of their actual age. More specifically, an 18 year old may have the comprehension abilities of a six year old, the emotional maturity of an eight year old and the living skills of an 11 year old.

Rural Southwest Minnesota – A Region with Limited Resources

As part of my University of Minnesota Extension career and now in retirement work since 2012, I coordinate a professional development series called ConnectU. I work with Pauline Nickel, past administrator at the SWROC and currently Coordinator of K-12 Education. At ConnectU which is one of several outreach programs sponsored by the SWROC and Extension, U of M faculty present workshops on a wide variety of topics addressing regional needs of families and children. The topic in 2009 was FASD. Presenters from the University Medical School were Christopher Boys, Ph.D., pediatric neuropsychologist, Department of Pediatrics and Co-Director of the FASD Clinic, and Judith Eckerle Kang, M.D., Division of Global Pediatrics. We began hearing from families as a result of that

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ConnectU. The families needed help but were not finding it. Pauline began researching programs and found a real void in the southwest corner of the state. For example, some families would need to travel 300 miles or more round trip to access a diagnostic clinic.

One of our first steps was to assess prevalence of FASD to help define the issue. We quickly realized there is no source for statistics on children with FASD. We worked with a regional health provider on a preliminary study identifying FASD diagnoses in medical records in a selected group of six southwestern Minnesota counties. The number of cases averaged only one per county which suggests there is a dramatic difference between the number of cases able to be identified through medical records and what would be expected given state and national prevalence rates. Experts agree that even those rates may be low. In general, FASD is vastly under-recognized and under-diagnosed.

In addition to ConnectU and the medical records review, we consulted with the Minnesota Organization for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (MOFAS). We've assisted them in prevention, awareness and education efforts resulting in new communities receiving awareness grants and increased numbers of FASD education/awareness activities at community and family events throughout the region. More schools are incorporating questions on fetal alcohol exposure into early childhood screening as a result of MOFAS led training in southwest Minnesota in 2014. There are also connections with

higher education advisory staff at two campuses and a pregnancy center.

Training professionals continues to be part of the broader outreach model here at the SWROC. Chris Boys has presented on FASD to over 50 teachers at Improving Teacher Quality trainings and to 30 school counselors in a requested workshop. Over 60 middle and high school students took part in a FASD session taught by a MOFAS Family Resource Coordinator as part of our University on the Prairie – Health Track, 2013.

Current efforts are focused on establishing a coalition of the “champions” of FASD in our region. We have made slow but steady progress in working with several partners in education, medical and funding areas. Dr. Boys continues to consult with us and support our efforts.

Why Should We Be Concerned?

FASD can be devastating to a family emotionally and mentally as well described in *When Rain Hurts*. Although the book focuses on a child with a very extreme case of FAS, his story has pieces that fit many children with FASD. We want children to grow up to be confident, healthy contributing members of society. For a child with an FASD, there may always be limitations, but if found early and treated correctly, those limitations can be greatly reduced. And, if public education and awareness can be accomplished, FASD will be reduced through prevention. The financial cost needs to be noted as well. MOFAS estimates that FAS costs Minnesotans \$107.4 million annually.

So what can MCFR members do? Think about what is appropriate and needed in your role as you work with children and families.

- Educate yourself about FASD. One place to start is the Center for Disease Control, <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/fasd/index.html>. Recognize that FASD crosses all racial, ethnic and economic classes.
- Find out what resources are available. Go to the MOFAS website, <http://www.mofas.org/> to find programs in your location for children and families as well as training and grant opportunities.
- Learn more about diagnostic clinics. The U of M FASD Clinic has the largest capacity for evaluating children with 450 slots per year, <http://www.uofmchildrenshospital.org/Specialties/FetalAlcohol/index.htm>
- Advocate for no alcohol use during pregnancy. The American Academy of Pediatrics is clear and consistent on their message of abstinence.
- Be sensitive as you talk with someone who has consumed alcohol during pregnancy. Fifty percent of pregnancies are unplanned. Or women may simply not realize they are in the early stages of pregnancy. Once pregnancy is established, encourage no alcohol use from that point forward.
- Be aware of the stigma birth mothers of children with FASD may feel. It is easier to come forward for help as a parent of an adopted child with FASD.
- Think about the drinking culture among young adults. The book *Drink* discusses this. If you work with couples, encourage support of the woman in alcohol abstinence during pregnancy.

- Consider including questions about fetal alcohol exposure in pre-school screening. Training is available on doing this in a respectful manner making it part of the process. Alcohol exposure does not mean a diagnosis but it can be helpful information later on.
- Become proficient on classroom strategies that can help children even when there isn't a diagnosis if in the classroom or consulting with teachers. Strategies need to fit the child's needs. Recognize that signs of FASD may not be evident until third or fourth grade.
- Listen carefully to the parent who is struggling especially if you work in parent education. Perhaps the child has been diagnosed with ADHD and the parent is trying strategies which are not working. Misdiagnosis as ADHD or other disorders is common. Many well established parenting practices suitable for a child with ADHD simply don't work with a child who has an FASD.

For a white paper describing more details of our work in southwest Minnesota, prevalence rates and financial costs, go to <http://swroc.cfans.umn.edu/ResearchandOutreach/ConnectU/index.htm>, click on the FASD topic on the right to find the paper, "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders – Why We Should Be Concerned."

Above all, let's do our part in spreading the word about FASD and helping those children and families who've experienced the frustration and pain of this under-recognized and under-diagnosed disorder.

MCFR History

Memorials Reflect Past and Future

Sue Meyers, MCFR Historian

Over the years, there have been many memorials for our family colleagues. Most recently was a service for Richard Hey on May 30 - and one for Gerhard Neubeck 2 years ago. The services reflect the history of the MCFR and NCFR connection as well as our good fortune to have wonderful colleagues throughout our professional lives. Both services were held (2 years apart) at Luther Seminary, Olson Campus Center, St. Paul.

The shared memories by friends, family and colleagues allowed each to be honored. Each relative had special moments that were very typical for their shared experiences. Children shared in order of their age. Their memories were shared with laughter and tender reflections. Friends could identify with their own memories. The consistency of their professional and personal journeys through their long careers was amazing. Partnerships like Hey and Neubeck are somewhat rare, but they shine in quality.

The common theme that I admired included shared values that evolved over the years. Both Jerry and Dick were very different individuals, but their mutual respect was obvious to their friends, family and students nurtured by them.

In spring 1969 I applied for a position with Dick Hey. He did not know me, but gave me a position on the West Bank. He then went on leave, and when I reached the UMN West Bank that fall, Jerry Neubeck was the chair. He didn't seem to mind not being hired by him. In the spring of 1970, Dick Hey let me know that the St Paul Campus was looking for a family sociologist in the Rural Sociology Department. I applied, and was accepted (after interviews with Ron Pitzer and Sue Fisher). A few months later, Dick Hey and Jerry Neubeck came to the College of Home Economics to start the Department of Family Social Science.

We are so fortunate to work in a field where fellow professionals value our work and share theirs with us. Competition has been minimal in the family field. May our mutual respect continue through the years.

A note from the editor...

As the poets say, "What is so rare as a day in June!" I concur; this is favorite time of year. It is also a family celebration time of the year—Mother's Day (recently past), Father's Day, high school and college graduations, June weddings, family reunions. I hope your celebrations are many and joyous. We also hope you enjoy this issue of MCFR's newsletter and offer our thanks to all the contributors. I encourage each of you to consider contributing to *Family Forum* – by preparing a book review or a research article/brief or by submitting an item for "Members' Corner" (our version of letters to the editor). If you have any suggestions for improving the newsletter, please let me know.

Ron Pitzer

Family Forum editor

612-331-1970, pitzer@q.com