

Hofstra University's
School of Health Sciences and Human Services
as part of
National Public Health Week
presents

Mental Health Policy and Practice Issues in the Wake of Sandy Hook

An Invitation to the Conversation

Wednesday, April 3, 2013

4-5:30 p.m.

Hofstra University Club, David S. Mack Hall, North Campus

The deadly shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, has generated shock, grief, passionate discussion and controversy, all leading to the question: How do we prevent such horrific tragedies? In the effort to understand, many are grappling with notions of how violence and mental illness collide. Unfortunately, discourse has often focused on mental illness as the cause of such violence, rather than critical gaps and failures in the nation's mental health system. We need to do a much better job in the identification and early intervention of those with mental illness; we need to provide families appropriate intervention and support; we need to help schools, colleges and communities better address the mental health needs of their communities. Change in the mental health care system in this country can be achieved through evidence-based policy and practice initiatives, funded legislation and systematic community education. This panel discussion is aimed at moving toward these positive changes by engaging the community in thoughtful conversation led by experienced practitioners.

MODERATOR:

Laurie Johnson, PhD, NCC, LMHC,
Professor and Director of the Graduate Programs in Counseling at Hofstra University; ARC/DMHR.

SPEAKERS:

Andrew Malekoff, LCSW, Executive Director / CEO,
North Shore Child and Family Guidance Center, Roslyn Heights, NY

Holly Seirup, EdD, Associate Professor of Counseling and Higher Education Administration,
Hofstra University; previously Vice President for Campus Life at Hofstra University

Janet Susin, President, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Queens/Nassau, Lake Success, NY

Joseph S. Volpe, Ph.D., School Psychologist, Farmingdale Public Schools;
Clinical Psychologist & Executive Director, East End Psychological Services, P.C.

Angela M. Zimmerman, MPA, Coordinator, Family Support Long Island Initiative @ Molloy College, Rockville Centre, New York. Previously Director of Development, Training and Legislative Advocacy at the Nassau County Youth Board.

Admission is free and open to the public, but registration is required.
RSVP to Keila Sole at ksole1@pride.hofstra.edu or Jeannie Renda at **516-463-7356**.

Co-sponsored by Hofstra University's Department of Counseling and Mental Health Professions, the M.S. in Community Health program, the Master of Public Health program and the Hofstra University student chapter of the Society of Public Health Advocates (SOPHA).

