



North Dakota Association for Play Therapy Newsletter

March 2023

President Message

Hello! I'm sure everyone is looking forward to the arrival of Spring and the end of all this snow! Check out this edition of our newsletter for information on the upcoming virtual training presented by NDAPT member Andrea Walker, LCSW, RPT-S! There is also information on our Annual Summer Conference and the Board has been busy planning for another great learning experience! We can't wait to see you all there!

Ariana Best, LCSW, RPT-S

Foundation Trainings

North Dakota APT is dedicated to providing training opportunities to all levels of experience within providing play therapy. Our ND APT board has made it a priority to provide a good foundation for those seeking their RPT or RPT-S credentialing and began to provide foundational trainings the past few years. These trainings have been offered virtually and open to ND providers and also others within other states. Thank you Andrea Walker, LCSW/LICSW, RPT-S, for provided a foundational training on recognizing and identifying play themes and metaphors within play therapy sessions on March 3, 2023. This training was well attended with a total of 15 virtual attendees. Those in attendance were from North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and even further distance states such as Texas & Virginia.

Stay tuned for more foundational trainings to be provided in the future!

Upcoming ND Training Opportunities

Do you want to expand your knowledge and be trained in Theraplay? There is an opportunity to participate in Level 1 Theraplay & MIM training in Fargo, ND. Mark your calendar for this great opportunity on September 25-28th, 2023 from 8:30am-4:30pm at Valley Christian Counseling Center.

To register visit Theraplay Institute's website: <https://theraplay.org/>



NDAPT Annual Conference June 7-9th, 2023

West Fargo Convention Center
Fargo, ND

Alyssa Swan, PhD, LCPC,



Day 1: Collaborating with parents and caregivers in play therapy

This training is designed for all level play therapists who are interested in learning more about involving parents and caregivers in play therapy. We will cover information related to facilitating parent consultations, parenting groups, and joint sessions. Participants will participate in case studies and experiential activities. Relevant cultural and ethical principles, supplemental resources, and research will be discussed.

Day 2: Getting creative with adolescents and families: Using expressive media in play therapy

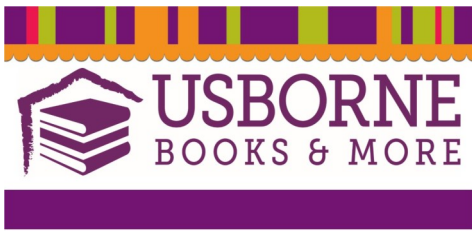
This training is designed for all level play therapists who are interested in learning more about utilizing expressive media with adolescents and families. We will discuss rationale, ethics, and recommendations for utilizing creativity in sessions with adolescents and families. Participants will engage in experiential activities throughout

Day 3: Ethics and Social-Cultural Complexities in Play Therapy

This training will provide participants an opportunities to challenge and increase their understanding of how social and cultural dynamics impact service delivery. Additional exploration of ethics within play therapy practices will be explored.

Earn up to 15 APT CEs – ND Social Work and Counseling CEU pre-approved
Registration is now open! Register today at www.playtherapynd.com

2023 Annual Conference Vendors



Please notify us if you have ideas or suggestions for vendors you would like to see at our upcoming conference



**Mental Health Professionals
Applying the Therapeutic Power of Play!**

Congratulations!

on becoming a new
RPT in North Dakota

Katie Wayt, LPCC, RPT

Fargo, ND



WHY BECOME A REGISTERED PLAY THERAPT (RPT) OR REGISTERED PLAY THERAPIST

Association for Play Therapy provide credentials to become a recognized Registered Play Therapist (RPT) or a Registered Play Therapist Supervisor (RPT-S). You may be asking yourself why should I go through the process of gaining the training hours, supervision and credentialing process? What is in it for me as a therapist who sees children?

In ND we have a growing number of RPT & RPT-S mental health professionals. We would love to see this community grow and strengthen. In order to do this we wanted you to be aware of why it is beneficial.

In play therapy, we speak the language of children through play and toys become their words. Becoming a credentialed Registered Play Therapists (RPT) with the Association for Play Therapy provides you a higher level of excellence and allows you to stand out in a community of many mental health therapists. Having a RPT or RPT-S credentials demonstrates the evidence that you have the training and knowledge to provide play therapy and addressing children's unique needs using their language. Being credentialed ensures that you are aware of the researched and evidence based approaches and have the ability to provide effective and quality play therapy approaches within your practice.

Whether you are a licensed social worker (LCSW), a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT), or a licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC), having a play therapy credential will really open up a whole new way to connect with your patients and clients and offers a niche that is quickly and easily recognized by parents and educators looking to refer children to your practice.

Being a part of Association for Play Therapy community and maintaining your credentials will provide you with resources to ensure quality based practices. To learn more about credentialing please visit Association for Play Therapy website.

<https://www.a4pt.org/page/CredentialsHomepage>

One of our ND members, Andrea Walker, LCSW/LICSW, RPT-S, has also provided her contact information located on the next page. Please feel free to contact her if you would like additional information.

Are You Interested in Learning More About Play Therapy?



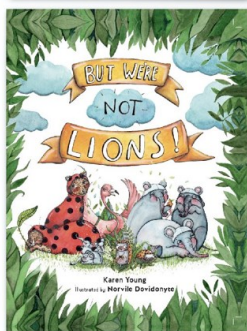
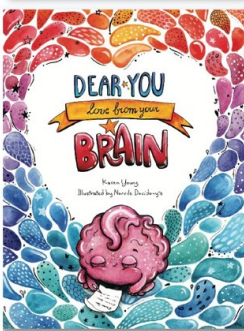
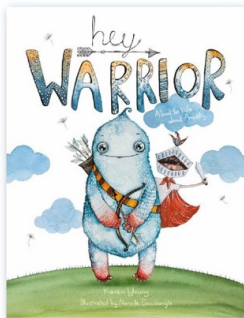
Free Consultations to learn more about becoming a Registered Play Therapist and help to navigate if this is the best route for you!!

Group & Individual Supervision Available

Andrea Walker, LCSW/LICSW, RPT-S
Child and Family Therapist
Registered Play Therapist ~ Supervisor
701-213-6245
AndreaWalkerLICSW@gmail.com

Books for your Play Therapy Practice:

Author Karen Young provides some great books excellent for your play room to help kids understand how their brain works.



Stay Connected with NDAPT



Facebook:



ND Association for Play Therapy

Instagram:



nda4pt
North Dakota Association for Play Therapy

<https://playtherapynd.com/>

NDAPT Board Members

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Why Play Therapy?

"Play is the highest form of research."
- Albert Einstein