



North Dakota Association for Play Therapy Newsletter

March 2025

President Message:

Hello fellow play therapists! We are fully into 2025 with a lot of changes and challenges with our new political climate and questions about our future. This is an important time to reflect on how our own views, goals and biases can impact the work that we do and the messages we may inadvertently send to our clients and their families. Instead of uniting with clients on shared or unshared fears and concerns, it is wise to take a step back and model the use of healthy personal and professional boundaries and of course extra doses of self-care. I recall instructions from my professors many years ago reminding us that “it is not about you.” I find that phrase very fitting right now as a helpful internal message to potential emotional responses shared by our clients while we listen and reflect without bias or judgment.

I hope you take time to review our upcoming training opportunities for June including Sand Tray and of course those Ethics credits done with a playful mindset! We moved our conference back a week this year to see if that will help accommodate more attendance without impacting graduations and end of school year activities.

I also wanted to take a moment to congratulate our very own Bridget Meranda with the publication of her first children’s book which we will have available at the conference! Stay tuned for title and subject details!

We hope to see you all at the ND Annual Conference in June!!



Andrea Walker, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
NDAPT President



2025 Annual Play Therapy Conference

June 18, 19, & 20, 2025 Clubhouse Hotel & Suites, Fargo, ND

Earn up to **15 APT CE**s – Social Work, Counseling CEU approved.

APT Approved Provider # **21-635**



Bridges in the Sand; Sand Tray Play Therapy

June 18 & 19 8:30 – 5:00

Presented by: Andrea Walker, MSW, LICSW/LCSW, RPT-S

Sand therapy is an expansive therapeutic approach with the ability to reach across the life span. It is a psychotherapeutic tool that utilizes natural processing in an in-depth and creative way that brings light to increased awareness and insight. This 2-day training includes hands-on tools and practice while learning the principles of Sand Tray play therapy including sand and miniatures. This training encompasses the use of Sand Tray across multiple therapeutic approaches and includes the integration of play themes, metaphors and symbols providing many useful elements for providers to use in their work with youth, adults and families.

Attendees must register for both Day 1 (June 18) and Day 2 (June 19) as day 2 builds upon the skills and knowledge from day 1.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND SCHEDULE AT :

<https://playtherapynd.com>

Location: Clubhouse Hotel and Suites, 4400 15th Ave S,
Fargo, ND.

Rooms Blocked on June 18 & 19. Rate: \$112.00

701-282-5777 for Reservations.

Conference Questions?

Carol Schneweis
701-739-5480
Nda4pt@gmail.com

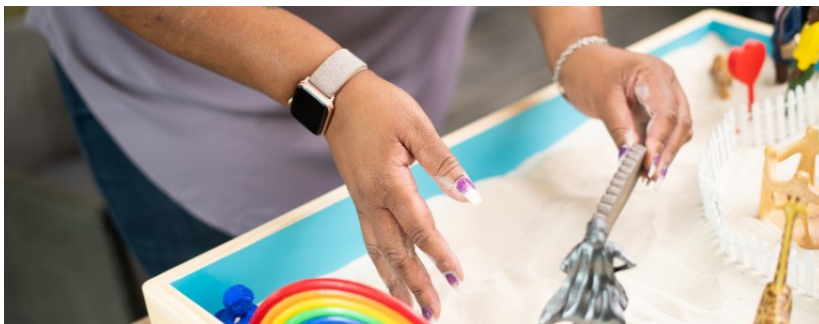


June 20 – 8:30 – Noon

Ethical and Legal Issues in Play Therapy

Presented by: Anna Thompson, MS, LPCC-S, RPT and Arianna Best, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S,

This session will review the 2022 APT Code of Ethics as well as cover legal issues play therapists may encounter such as receiving a subpoena, developing a court policy, and preparing to testify in court.



REGISTER AS A MEMBER & SAVE

JOIN APT TODAY!

Joining will give you access to a discount to our upcoming ND Annual Conference plus...

- Discounts on other play therapy trainings
- Monthly free workshops
- Play Therapy Journal
- Play therapy Magazine
- Community Forums
- Credentialing discounts
- Weekly member e-newsletter APT Play Today

APT Member Highlight

Congratulations to our APT Member & Bridget Meranda on her upcoming book. Bridget is currently publishing a children's book that will help children who have experienced has had to keeping difficult secrets. Watch her social media for updates if interested in getting your hands on her book that will be coming out soon!



<https://www.facebook.com/share/18SxcuSaRn/?mibextid=wwXlfr>



@BRIDGETMERANDA

APT MEMBERS

**REMEMBER TO
ACCESS YOUR FREE
MONTHLY TRAINING**

How to:

1. Log in to your APT member profile
2. Go to the Play Therapy Forums
3. Select General Discussion
4. Follow instructions in pinned post



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

Did You Know?



As an APT Member, you'll enjoy discounted conference registration, discounted credentialing application & renewal, & more! Plus, gain access to FREE Trust Risk Management Services (TRMS) insurance quotes to protect your practice.



Are You Interested in Learning More About Play Therapy?

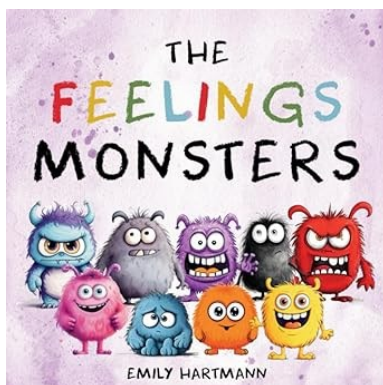
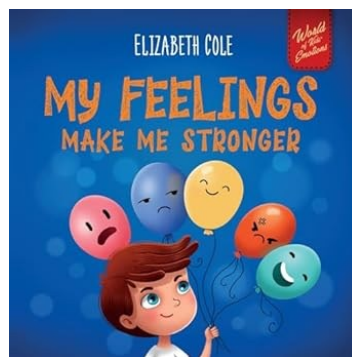
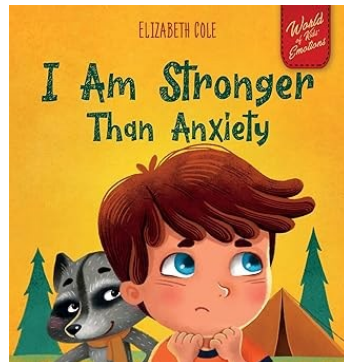
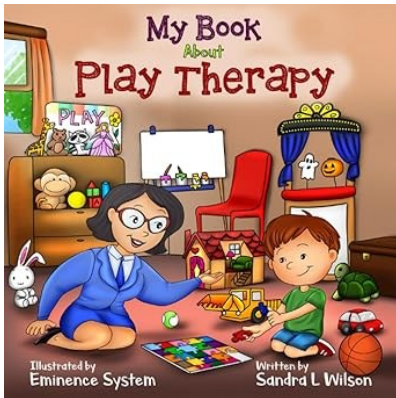


Free Consultations to learn more about becoming a Registered Play Therapist and help to navigate if this is the best route for you!!

Group & Individual Supervision Available

**Andrea Walker, LCSW/LICSW, RPT-S
Child and Family Therapist
Registered Play Therapist ~ Supervisor
406-642-0506
Andrea@beyondwordscat.com**

Bibliotherapy Recommendations for your play room



Stay Connected
with NDAPT



Facebook:



ND Association for Play
Therapy

Instagram:



nda4pt
North Dakota Association for Play Therapy

<https://playtherapynd.com/>

NDAPT Board Members

Executive Director	Carol Schneweis
President	Andrea Walker
Vice President	Bridget Meranda
Secretary	Tina Nordaune
Treasurer	Amanda Weston
Member Elect	Jennifer Kizima



Alissa Fugazzi
Ariana Best



Why Play Therapy?

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