



North Dakota Association for Play Therapy Newsletter

Sept 2025

President Message:

It seems like we just started summer, and we are already headed into fall! We have some exciting opportunities with live and online trainings coming up this fall! The details are included in this newsletter! Our board has been working hard to gather input from our play therapists regarding preferences for training and support. If you have some suggestions, please do not hesitate to reach out!

At the National level, APT has been gathering input from the members to evaluate the access barriers to training. We are working hard to find balance with the need for solid quality training, managing the strain many states' experience in offering in-person training, and creating a system of requirements that are relevant nationally. If you find yourself interested in more information regarding how things work and why decisions are made at the national level, please consider getting involved in committees! All decisions are member driven. There is also a Leadership Academy every year that you can sign up for to learn more and get involved!

Our membership for North Dakota APT has been holding steady at 38-40 and fluctuates depending on renewals! We appreciate your dedication to enhancing play therapy services to our most vulnerable populations – our kids!!

Sincerely,
Andrea Walker, LCSW, LICSW, RPT-S™



2026 NDAPT
Annual Play Therapy
Conference
June 10-12, 2025
Clubhouse Hotel &
Suites
Fargo, ND



NDAPT Upcoming Trainings

September 22-25 Theraplay- Level 1

25 Contact CE's Available

Fargo, ND



October 23

Query through the Theories

3 Non Contact CEs

Online

Register at <https://playtherapynd.com>

November 6

The Amazing Powers of Play

3 Non Contact CEs

Online

Register at <https://playtherapynd.com>

See NDAPT Website for more details on upcoming trainings!



ONLINE TRAINING

A QUERY THROUGH THE THEORIES

Finding Your Anchor Points in
Play Therapy



Thursday, Oct. 23rd, 2025
09.00AM–12:00PM CST



Location

LIVE ONLINE TRAINING



ANDREA WALKER, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S

Play Therapy can sound like an easy endeavor, just bring in some toys and play right? Play Therapy is based out of years of experience and research demonstrating how and why play therapy works. This course will explore key theories and help you identify which theories formulate your grounding points.



Cost: \$75 APT Members or \$100 Non-APT Members
APT approved CEs: 3 Non-Contact CE hours
(1 hour of History & 2 hours of Seminal Theories)
APT Provider #21-635
Counseling & Social Work CEU's available
Register at: www.playtherapyND.com

HOUSTON

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE
SEPTEMBER 5, 2025

Workshops are filling up fast! Secure your choice
and take advantage of early registration savings.
Register by **September 5, 2025**.



During the upcoming
APT International
Conference be on the
look out at the gift
basket donated by
NDAPT and other
chapters for the silent
auction.

NDAPT Donated Gift Basket



This Basket includes:

- **Folkmanis Bison Hand Puppet** 15" Brown Plush Retired ~ ND has large herds of bison and use this symbol for mascots, coins and statues
- **Igloo Moxie Heather Grey Softside Cooler**, Lightweight, Stylish, Neoprene Exterior, Insulated ~ North Dakota is often referred to as the coldest place on earth including -60 to -70 degrees F with windchills
- **Dot's Pretzels Original Seasoned Pretzel Twist Snack** ~ This National Company originated in ND!
- **Kimicare 43 piece Farm Tractor Animal set** ~ ND known for Agriculture
- **Soft Bumble Bee** ~ ND is the largest producer of honey in the US
- **Rosie's Big Secret** ~ North Dakota Children's Author Spotlight! Bridget Meranda, LCSW



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



ONLINE TRAINING

THE AMAZING POWERS OF PLAY

How it works, what it means, and
how tracking and reflecting
amplifies therapeutic play



Thursday, Nov. 6th
09.00AM–12:00PM CST



Location
LIVE ONLINE TRAINING



ANDREA WALKER, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S

Play Therapy is a powerful demonstration of how youth of all ages express themselves without limiting themselves to words. This course will focus on how to follow and track play therapy sessions with insights on techniques and strategies utilizing in the therapeutic powers of play. This course includes skill development with verbal and nonverbal communication, empathic listening, and encouragement while incorporating the importance of the child's emotional and intellectual development.



Cost: \$75 APT Members or \$100 Non-APT Members
APT approved CEs: 3 Non-Contact CE hours
(2.5 hours Skills & Methods & .5 hours Seminal Theory)
APT Provider #21-635
Counseling & Social Work CEU's available
Register at: www.playtherapyND.com

Member Recognition



NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF PLAY THERAPY

Welcome to New NDAPT Member

Tiffany Clouse– Rolla, ND

Play Therapy Class being offered at UND

The University of North Dakota has offered a summer course on Play Therapy to provide Master level Social Workers the opportunity to learn fundamental knowledge about play therapy. The past two summer semesters, Bridget Meranda, has provided the opportunity for students to become introduced to play therapy and help expand the knowledge of play therapy. This summer a total of 16 students completed this course providing new graduate level social works increased interest in play therapy. This course was also offered by Carol Schneweis & Andrea Walker in previous years. Thank you for all your work Increasing the excitement about play therapy.

Congratulations to Andrea Walker on being appointed as the Association for Play Therapy 2026 Leadership Academy's Chair!

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**

APT Accepted CE delivery formats

Contact

- In Person (Live Instruction in Real Time)

Non Contact

- Live Webinars
- Recorded Webinars
- Book Study
- Home Study
- All other programs that are not in-person

*Reminder: All CE's must be from APT Approved Providers

Association for Play Therapy
United States

**APT
Membership Benefits**

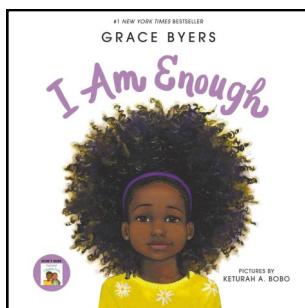
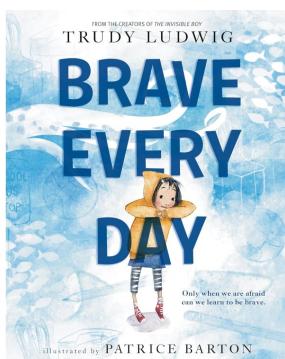
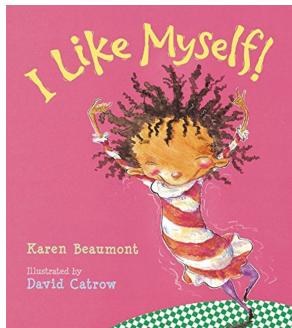
- Quarterly Play Therapy™ magazine
- Free online CE offered every month
- Membership in Chartered Branch
- Quarterly International Journal of Play Therapy®
- Volunteer opportunities with committees
- Access to members only Community Forums
- APT Play Today weekly member e-newsletter
- Discounted fees on credentialing, APT products, & APT conference



Why Play Therapy?

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

Bibliotherapy Recommendations



stay Connected
with NDAPT

Facebook:



ND Association for Play
Therapy

Instagram:



nda4pt
North Dakota Association for Play Therapy

Website:

<https://playtherapynd.com/>

NDAPT Board Members

Executive Director

Carol Schneweis

President

Andrea Walker

Vice President

Bridget Meranda

Secretary

Tina Nordaune

Treasurer

Alissa Fugazzi

Member Elect Members:

Jennifer Kizima, Ariana Best, Sandy Richter, Amy Ham, &
Cianna Rabbitthead