NBCC’S ENHANCED WEB SITE HELPS NCCs RESPOND TO SEPTEMBER 11 DISASTER

Because of preparations for our new Web site, we were able to respond quickly and decisively to a call from the American Red Cross for counselors to help families affected by the World Trade Center disaster. Many NCCs responded to the brochures we recently sent out requesting information on how they wanted to be listed on the new NBCC Web site features: Counselor Find and My NBCC. This information was invaluable when the director of the Red Cross Mental Health Training Program, Dr. Robert Dingman (NCC, CCMHC), contacted NBCC for help with the

COMING IN SPRING 2002

I-COUNSELING.ORG: NEW SOURCE FOR ONLINE CE PROGRAMS

CCE, a corporate affiliate of NBCC, will launch a new Web site in spring 2002. The site, i-counseling.org, will feature online continuing education programs for professional counselors. This continuing education service is a collaborative effort with NBCC and ERIC/CASS, the educational information clearinghouse for the counseling profession.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

This is a special issue of The NCC for two reasons. First, it is the first issue of the NBCC newsletter after the September 11 attacks. NBCC has played a prominent role in aiding the Red Cross in the recovery effort. Second, we are featuring several important articles on how technology is affecting NBCC and the world of counseling. As it turns out, these two topics are closely related to one another. Some of our regular features will be omitted for this special issue but will return in the spring 2002 issue in April. — Editor
“This is an exciting collaboration for us and CCE,” reports Chris Kirkman, of ERIC/CASS. “i-counseling.org has the potential to be an information and continuing education powerhouse for the counseling profession. We are enthusiastic about the growing interest in online continuing education and the new Web site.”

The continuing education information on i-counseling.org will be free for NCCs, and the site will be easy to use. Users will log on and have access to various packaged counseling topics including clinical supervision, psychodiagnosis, and school counseling. The continuing education topics found on i-counseling.org will be continually updated in an effort to provide information for counselors in all aspects of the profession.

If a user is interested in obtaining NBCC-approved continuing education contact hours, this also will be a simple process on i-counseling.org. Dr. J. Scott Hinkle, of CCE, noted that “this will be the most streamlined process available to counselors wanting continuing education credit.”

Dr. Hinkle reported that “a straightforward multiple-choice questionnaire will be offered for each continuing education program. A counselor can purchase and take the questionnaire online and receive a certificate via e-mail. There is no risk, and it’s an efficient way to obtain continuing education.”

CCE plans to include more elaborate education in the future using the i-counseling.org Web site. “We are working on online distance education that will provide counselor education courses for graduate credit,” says Dr. Hinkle. “We also plan to offer a customized course service for counselor education programs. Customized courses will be used to assist counselor education departments with scheduling issues, overloads, and developing specific courses for distance education.”

i-counseling.org also will provide an information service for counselor education departments and clinical counseling programs. “For instance,” says Dr. Hinkle, “if a program is studying disaster counseling or a clinic is helping victims, CCE and ERIC/CASS would develop informational materials on that topic that could be easily accessed on the Web site.”

Eventually, the latest information will be sent to counselors who have identified themselves to NBCC as having a particular area of practice. “This is an interesting aspect of i-counseling.org,” says Dr. Hinkle. “For example, identified grief counselors will be e-mailed new information on bereavement and trauma free of charge. This will help keep professional counselors up-to-date in their clinical skills and provide counselor education departments with the latest information.”

Look for i-counseling.org this spring. Interested counselor educators and clinical coordinators at schools and agencies can contact CCE/ERIC regarding the new Web site at hinkle@nbcc.org.
NBCC’s Enhanced Web Site Helps NCCs Respond to September 11 Disaster

From Page 1

mental health response to the September 11 disaster.

Dr. Dingman called NBCC within days after the attack to ask for our assistance in getting large numbers of volunteer NCCs to New York to aid in the effort to serve the survivors and rescue workers from the World Trade Center disaster. NBCC created a Web page and special e-mail line so that we could recruit and screen NCCs for the Red Cross. Thus far, NBCC has received e-mails from more than 340 NCCs and has sent lists to the Red Cross clearance workers who are then contacting the NCCs with instructions on where and when to report.

Two NCCs from North Carolina—Dr. Scott Hinkle (NCC, CCMHC), a private practitioner and CCE Clinical Training Coordinator from Greensboro, and Dr. Sam Gladding (NCC, CCMHC), Associate Provost at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem—were among the first volunteers to spend a week in New York aiding families who were visiting Ground Zero or beginning the painful process of getting death certificates. In an October 5 interview in the Greensboro News and Record, Dr. Hinkle stated, “It wasn’t closure, but it helped them move on….I can’t describe enough just the vast collective grief.”

Mary Hodgson, an NCC from Silver Creek, New York, described her time as a volunteer: it “was truly a marvelous experience and I feel so proud and honored to have been among the many volunteers near Ground Zero. I hope more counselors will join the Red Cross in this effort.”

NBCC is proud of all the dedicated NCCs who have volunteered and who will volunteer in the weeks and months to come as America processes the human devastation from the terrorist attack and deals with the atmosphere of continued threat.

For additional information on the new and exciting features on the new NBCC Web site, please see the article “My NBCC and Counselor Find Highlight New NBCC Web Pages.”

“My NBCC” and “Counselor Find” Highlight New NBCC Web Pages

Some major new features have recently been added to the NBCC Web site that enable us to better serve counselors and the people and organizations that use counselors’ services. We hope you will visit our new pages at the NBCC Web site at www.nbcc.org and try these new features. Please let us know how you like them.

- **My NBCC** is a feature created just for NCCs so that you can access your personal records in the NBCC database and make changes and corrections to keep them current and accurate. You can now pay your annual fees online as well as get forms to change your status and verify your continuing education hours. We at NBCC hope that you will find this to be convenient and, of course, user friendly.

- **Counselor Find** is for organizations and people who are searching for National Certified Counselors. Visitors simply plug in their city and state, and the site will provide a printable list of NCCs in their local community. They can also make selections based on counseling areas or populations. This should make it much easier for the public to find those of you in private practice.

- **Other new features** include a new front page and much expanded sections for Certification, Examinations, and Recertification.

Has Your Work Been Touch by the Recent Terrorist Attacks?

NBCC is collecting true stories from NCCs who have been involved in the response to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Please share with us your account of how these events impacted you as a counselor. E-mail your contributions to nccresponse@nbcc.org.
The central objection that NBCC has to NBPTS developing a credential for school counselors, aside from the fact that one already exists, is that the profession of teaching is attempting to set standards and develop credentials for the profession of counseling. Standards for the profession of school counseling were set by the American School Counselors Association (ASCA). Standards for the NCSC credential were developed by NBCC in cooperation with ASCA. The NBPTS school counselor credential would have its criteria set primarily by people outside the profession of counseling for members of that profession. NBCC has found this to be unacceptable.

In a letter dated October 2, 2001, NBCC asked NBPTS to do the following:

- Cease development of the NBPTS School Guidance and Counseling certificate.
- Remove our discipline from its list of certificates to be developed.
- Endorse the NCSC credential. NBCC will, in turn, endorse the NBPTS credentials for teachers.

In response to our requests, the NBPTS resolved in its recent board meeting to proceed with the development of a School Guidance and Counseling credential. NBCC resolved in its November 3 board meeting to proceed with the vigorous promotion of the NCSC credential on all fronts. As part of our action plan, NBCC is developing a resource kit that we will be sending to the presidents of each state branch of the American School Counselors Association.
One of the most compelling questions facing counselors and therapists today is: Whether To Be (on the Internet) or Not To Be (on the Internet) for cybercounseling. That is the question faced by almost all practicing counselors. And it will become an even more compelling question as advances are made in cybercounseling, transportation costs rise, and the availability of qualified conventional counselors becomes more problematic.

It can be said with certainty that each counselor must decide for himself or herself whether to use cybercounseling or not, and if so, how and under what circumstances. In particular, it is important that each counselor decide what are the personal advantages or disadvantages of cybercounseling and not allow popularity or faddism to unduly influence his or her decisions.

As important as this question is and the need for each counselor to personalize it to his or her own situation, a definitive answer as to do or not to do is a perplexing one. Here are a few basic thoughts that I believe can be stated.

- Many persons who have experienced cybercounseling speak favorably of it.
- Cybercounseling should not be thought of as a singular entity—rather it offers a number of tools/resources, which can augment traditional counseling.
- Valid evidence supporting the efficacy of cybercounseling is hard to come by.
- Major challenges exist with the use of cybercounseling in regard to such matters as ethical principles, certification, requisite training, safeguarding of clients' rights and personhood, third-party payments, etc.
- There has been a huge proliferation of sites and organizations offering cybercounseling leaving a prospective client with a difficult choice in acquiring an appropriate therapist/counselor.
- A major responsibility of organizations promoting cybercounseling is client preparation—or informing clients of appropriate expectations and what they need to look for to decide if a particular therapist/counselor is right for them.

Given all that has been said, pro and con, and given the burgeoning literature on cybercounseling, it does appear that cybercounseling offers an additional source of help to clients who might otherwise be unable to obtain any assistance because of cost, distance, or unavailability. Further it would seem that many of the technological components of cybercounseling, such as Web sites, Internet communications, and video imaging, can make conventional counseling even better.

To answer our original question, To Be or Not To Be cybercounselors, the answer would seem to be a nod “To Be” if both counselor and client understand that they are engaged in an emerging interaction that holds much promise but also includes many unknowns.

Voluntary Audits

The following NCCs have passed the NBCC® Voluntary Audit for special recognition in continuing education. While 100 hours of continuing education are required for recertification, these NCCs have completed and documented more than 130 hours in the five-year certification period.

They have received a special certificate citing this achievement and are to be congratulated for their dedication to excellence. NBCC salutes them!

Patricia D. Bond, 43016, Leakesville, MS
E. Sue Brown, 42024, Newnan, GA
Judy P. Cannon, 42880, Blakely, GA
Sherri M. Cohen, 41755, Owings Mills, MD
Mimi Domenica Cortese, 3443, Brooklyn, NY
Olga Guerra 39200, Pennlyn, PA
Maureen L. Haggerty, 23554, Madison, NJ
Debbie Ann Leonhardt, 23803, Hiddenite, NC
Kenneth W. McCown, 40324, Trinity, AL
Glenda Reynolds, 45272, Montgomery, AL
Robert J. Tambone, 51415, Annandale, VA
Charles Everett Taylor, 43290, Mason City, IA
Chadwick H. Wilson, 40269, Winder, GA
Judith Barr, NCC, CCMHC, of North Salem, NY, presented her workshop, “The Cycles of Life,” at a staff intensive at the Omega Institute in Rhinebeck, NY, on August 13–14. The workshop was a rich, deep, and co-creative experience of learning, healing, and transformation. Barr identifies herself as a Spiritual Midwife and specializes in work that “assists the birthing of feelings in purposeful, healthy ways.”

Olga Guerra, MS, NCC, of Penllyn, PA, was recently promoted to the position of director of the Counseling Department at Manor College, Jenkintown, PA. She received the Ken Child Counselor of the Year Award presented by the Montgomery County Counseling Association (MCCA) in May 2000. She currently serves as president of MCCA, a chapter of the Pennsylvania Counseling Association. In addition to her position at Manor College, she maintains a private practice in Lafayette Hill, PA, and facilitates a group for intermarried couples at Congregation Beth Or in Springhouse, PA.

A. Dean Porter, NCC, NCCC, of Long Beach, CA, has received the National Career Development Association’s 2001 Merit Award, which recognizes significant contributions to the field of career development. Porter was recognized for her continued commitment to a standard of practice for career counselors in California, for serving as the volunteer executive director of the Registry for Professional Counselors and Paraprofessionals, and for ringing the “wake-up bell” concerning counselor licensure. She was nominated for the award by the California Career Development Association, which also honored her in 1997 as Practitioner of the Year. The NCDA Awards Committee is comprised of career counselors from across the country.
In response to the events of September 11th,
we have compiled and specially priced our
previously recorded interviews on the subject of ...

“GRIEF WORK: A Collection”

Robert Neimeyer, Ph.D:  “Grief: A Narrative Constructivist Approach”
Dennis Shelby, Ph.D:  “Mourning in AIDS Partners”
Froma Walsh, Ph.D:  “Death in Families”
John Weaver, LCSW:  “Disaster Mental Health”
Irmgard Wessel, MSW:  “Families of Murder Victims”
Colin Webber, MA:  “Parent Loss in Adolescence”

Plus an interview with Mila Tecala, LCSW, who counsels American Airlines employees.

7 CEs $75 Cassettes $85 CDs (plus $8 shipping)
A portion of each sale will be donated to the American Red Cross

2 Convenient ways to order:
CALL: 1-800-835-9636
ON THE WEB: www.ongoodauthority.com

Approved for CE credit through PsychoEducational Resources (PER).
NBCC has approved PER to provide continuing education to counselors nationally (#05536). PER maintains responsibility for these programs.

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LABAN'S TRAININGS

full page/pull film from Summer/Fall 2001 issue page 6
NEWLY APPROVED PROVIDERS

AmeriNet Central, Warrendale, PA, #5973
Bert Rodriguez (VideoEd), Dallas, TX, #5975
DigitalCEU.com, Richmond, KY, #5955
Foundation for Human Enrichment, Lyons, CO, #5980
Lifespan Learning Institute, Los Angeles, CA, #5981
McCormick Family Life Institute, Columbia, MD, #5979
National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN, #5984
Program Services (Division of Family Passages), Miami, FL, #5978
Sand Tray Training Institute of New Mexico, Corales, NM, #5972
Spring Lake Heights Counseling Center, Spring Lake Heights, NJ, #5971
Susan M. Vandenberg, Cleveland, OH, #5983

PROVIDERS NOT RENEWING NBCC APPROVAL 2001

AEquanimitas Foundation, #5570
Alabama Council on Child Abuse, #5564
Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs, #5594
Boston Career Link, #5359
Central Carolina Technical College, #5683
Center for Body Oriented Psychotherapy, #5710
C.G. Jung Center for Professional Development, #5744
Conway Hunter, MD, #5864
Charter Behavioral Health System at Cove Forge, #5743
Christie School, #5661
Community College of Allegheny County, #5226
Family Therapy Institute, #5668
Gary L. Lemmon and Associates, #5722
Highlands Program, #5656
Infectious Disease Research Institute (IDRI), #5853
Institute for Ayurvedic Sciences, #5839
Key Bridge Therapy and Mediation Center, #5327
Marc Janoson, #6040

University of AZ Foundation for the Benefit of Extended University, Tucson, AZ, #5977
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, #4485
National Association of Cognitive Behavior Therapists, #5742
New Age Publishing, #5794
New England Consultants, #5667
Orchard Park, #804
Organizational Resources, #5799
Otis R. Bowen Center for Human Services, #5649
Psychiatric Center of Albuquerque, #5578
Puerto Rico Occupational Information, #5281
Riverbend Youth Center, #5779
School for Dispute Resolution, #5712
Sisters of Charity, #5753
Starbright Training Institute for Child and Family Play Therapy, #5738
Summit Ridge, #5527
Tressler Lutheran Services, #5347
University of Alabama Huntsville, #5184

HOME STUDY PROGRAMS

For complete information on home study programs, you must directly contact the NBCC Approved Providers who have been approved for home study programs. We are now maintaining a list of these providers on our Web site (on the Continuing Education page) and on the NBCC Fax Information Line (1-800-324-6222, request document #4001). Please take advantage of this convenient list to contact these providers and see what they have to offer.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

The following NCCs were adjudicated by the NBCC® Ethics Hearing Committee for violating the NBCC Code of Ethics. Sanctions are listed after each name.

Robyn Peters, placed on two-year probation
Beverly Matthews, placed on two-year probation
Robert Goddard, placed on two-year probation
Harry Elger, certification suspended for two years
Sherry Humphrey, certification revoked
Windee Cagle, certification suspended for two years
Jerry Hargrove, certification revoked

OTHER ACTIONS

Surrender of Certification:
James LaCoursiere, #50812, surrendered all NBCC certifications and designations previously granted him, effective May 21, 2000.

RECERTIFICATION NEWS

ANNUAL FEES TO RISE BY $1 PER MONTH—NCC STILL THE MOST ECONOMICAL CREDENTIAL IN COUNSELING

The NBCC Board voted recently to increase the annual fee for the NCC credential from the current $3 a month to $4 a month beginning in November 2001. At the same time, board members voted to decrease the fee for specialty credentials (CCMHC, NCSC, and MAC) to $2.50 a month from the current $3. This means that NCCs will pay $48 a year, and the three active specialty credentials will each cost $30 a year. This is the first significant increase for the NCC credential in nearly five years. It reflects not only a commitment to fiscal responsibility but also increased services to NCCs and the public through NBCC’s recently enhanced Web site at www.nbcc.org. Even with this increase, the NCC credential is still the most economical and portable credential in the field of counseling.
Richard A. Blumenthal, M.S., NCC, president of Thinkwell Corp., has recently launched HypnoSoft™, a new Web site enabling visitors to create a custom, talking hypnosis on the Internet. The hypnosis, which is delivered via e-mail, may be used as either self-help, or as an integral part of a counseling treatment strategy. Blumenthal’s prior work, embodied in numerous journal articles relating to Rational Suggestion Therapy (RST), has led directly to the development of patent pending HypnoSoft™ and its use in counseling. HypnoSoft™ can be found at www.hypnosoft.com.

Brenda Crawford-Clark, M.S., MPH, NCC, is celebrating the publication of her first book, Body Sense: Balancing Your Weight and Emotions (Beyond Words Publishing, 2001). Crawford-Clark combines her writing and counseling backgrounds to provide a book that she says will tell you why diets don’t work and what does. She is a former Florida Counselor of the Year and developer of the interactive Web sites: ForgetAboutDiets.com and RecoveryPaths.com. These sites feature articles on weight concerns, eating disorders, stress, depression, substance abuse, relationships, and parenting. You can order her book at her Web site or through major bookstores. E-mail Crawford-Clark at Brenda@forgetaboutdiets.com.

David L. Delmonico, Ph.D., NCC, assistant professor at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA, recently published In the Shadows of the Net: Breaking Free of Compulsive Online Sexual Behavior by Hazelden Press. A workbook titled Cybersex Unhooked, also distributed by Hazelden, is available as a companion to the book. A graduate of Kent State University’s Counselor Education Program, Delmonico is a nationally known authority in the area of sexually compulsive behavior including cybersex. You may contact Delmonico at delmonico@duq.edu or visit www.hazelden.com for more information about his books.

Margaret P. Dunbar, NCC, LPC, a private practitioner in Michigan, has published a book, Remembering Love: A Widow’s Inside Journey (Pentland Press). The book is a personal account of the author’s journey through the loss of her husband, the resultant widowhood, and raising her then six-year-old daughter alone. The book offers not a how-to guide to healing but an intimate portrait of the so often unspoken feelings connected with loss, grief, and mourning. To order, call Pentland Press at 1-800-948-2786.

Dorothy McCoy, Ph.D., NCC, LPC, CCBT, AAETS-Diplomate private practitioner, has recently completed her fourth Cognitive Behavioral Workbook with the accompanying relaxation/guided imagery CD. The workbooks are Fear of Flying, Social Phobia, Anxiety Management, and Anger Management. She is currently working on an additional workbook called Weight Loss: A Side-Effect of Adaptive Wellness. The workbooks are designed to be used by clients and therapists. She is a diplomate with the American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress and a Certified Cognitive Behavioral Therapist. Her workbooks and CDs may be ordered directly from her Web site at www.Counseling.com/DrMcCoy.

STATE LICENSURE BOARDS TO MEET AT NBCC
NBCC will once again host a meeting of representatives from state counselor licensure boards at NBCC headquarters in Greensboro, NC, on February 22–23, 2002. This will be the fourth meeting of this kind designed to promote communication and cooperation between the leaders in professional counselor credentialing in the United States.
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD POSITIONS

Four director positions will be open July 1, 2002, on the NBCC, CCE, and RACC boards. Two positions are open on the NBCC Board. RACC and CCE each have one position open. Terms of office vary from three to five years. All interested NCCs are encouraged to apply. Additional information and nomination packets may be obtained from our Web site at www.nbcc.org and from our NBCC Fax-On-Demand Line at 1-800-324-6222, document 6001.

Completed nomination packets MUST be received no later than March 1, 2002.

The NBCC is an organization that values differences in background, perspective, beliefs, and traditions in order to assist a diverse constituency in offering exemplary and viable counseling services. We seek NCC applicants whose exchange of ideas represents as many experiential backgrounds as possible.

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