

Guest Speakers

Law and Justice Interim Committee
October 1, 2007

Polly Peterson, Ph.D.

Clinical Psychologist
Anaconda
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pollyelaine@msn.com

Dr. Polly Peterson is a native Montanan who received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Montana in 1986 and is licensed as a clinical psychologist in Montana, Florida, and Indiana. She has held a number of academic and clinical positions including Assistant Professorships and Clinical Director for a large, nationally-based managed mental health care corporation. She established a full-time private practice in 1992, returning to Montana in August 2001 to assume the Chief of the Psychology Department position at Montana State Hospital. During her tenure at MSH, Dr. Peterson served on the state Policy Team for Co-Occurring Disorders and was a founding member of the Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) Steering Committee. She is a consultant and trainer for the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) for the Montana Department of Law Enforcement and regularly conducts DBT training for a variety of agencies throughout the state.

Deb Matteucci

Behavioral Health Program Facilitator
DPHHS & DOC, Helena
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Deb Matteucci has served as the behavioral health program facilitator for DPHHS and DOC since 2006. From 2004 to 2006, she was executive and development director for the Montana Mental Health Association. She earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and post-graduate training in association management, strategic planning, and group dynamics.

INTERCEPT FILTER 1 - COMMUNITY/ LAW ENFORCEMENT

Cheryl Liedle

Sheriff, Lewis and Clark County
406-447-8235
cliedle@co.lewis-clark.mt.us

Cheryl Liedle has been the Lewis and Clark County Sheriff since 2003. Sheriff Liedle has spent most of her life in the Helena area. She holds a Bachelor Degree in Forestry and a Master's of Public Administration. She started her career in law enforcement in 1984, is the past president of the Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officers Association, and has spent years promoting solid

ethical policy for all law enforcement officers, especially with respect to services to the mentally ill. She has been instrumental in developing the ***Crisis Intervention Team*** concept in Montana, which consists of law enforcement training specifically aimed at recognizing the unique needs of mentally ill individuals within the community.

Dan Tronrud

Sheriff, Sweetgrass County
406-932-5143
sgsheriff@mtintouch.net

Joyce DeCunzo

Administrator, Addictive and Mental Health Disorders Division
DPHHS
Helena
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The mission of the Addictive and Mental Disorders Division (AMDD) of the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services is to implement and improve an appropriate statewide system of prevention, treatment, care, and rehabilitation for Montanans with mental disorders or addictions to drugs or alcohol. The division provides chemical dependency and adult mental health services by contracting with behavioral health providers throughout Montana. It also provides services through three inpatient facilities-the Montana State Hospital in Warm Springs, Montana Chemical Dependency Center in Butte, and Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center in Lewistown.

INTERCEPT FILTER 2 - COURT PROCESSES

Brenda Desmond, J.D.

Standing Master, 4th Judicial District Court
Missoula
406-258-4728

Missoula Mental Health Court:

- Only mental health court in the state at this time
- Funded by a federal grant
- Offense must be a misdemeanor or non-violent felony offense
- An offender's participation in the court is voluntary
- Offender is diverted from incarceration into court-ordered treatment
- Involves intensive case management by a team overseen by the judge

Leslie Halligan, J.D.

Deputy County Attorney
Missoula County
(406) 258-4952
lhalliga@co.missoula.mt.us

Leslie Halligan has been working in the areas of mental health, developmental disabilities, adult protective services, child abuse and neglect , youth drug court and youth court prosecution since 1991. Additionally, she teaches Child Advocacy Law as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Montana School of Law. She earned her law degree from the University of Montana School of Law in 1986; a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science at the University of Montana in 1983; and was awarded a Truman Scholarship in 1981.

Dr. Laura Wendlandt

Consultant, Office of State Public Defender
406-523-5147
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Dr. Laura M. Wendlandt, Ph.D. is a 1993 graduate from the University of Wyoming. She is currently a licensed clinical psychologist in Montana and Nevada as well as credentialed by the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology. Dr. Laura is the Mental Health Consultant for the Office of the State Public Defender.

INTERCEPT FILTER 3 - COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Kelly Speer

Corrections Manger, DOC
Helena
406-444-0401
kspeer@mt.gov

Kim Christiansen

Probation and Parole Officer, DOC
Polson
406-883-7138

INTERCEPT 4 - INCARCERATION/SECURE TREATMENT

Mike Mahoney

Warden, Montana State Prison
Deer Lodge
406-846-1320 ext. 2200
mmahoney@mt.gov

David Schaefer, M. D.

Director, Mental Health Services Unit
Montana State Prison
Deer Lodge
406-846-1320 ext. 2224
dschaefer@mt.gov

Dr. Schaefer is a board-certified psychiatrist who graduated from the University of Colorado School of Medicine in 1988 and completed his internship and psychiatry residency at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in 1992. Following that, he left his longtime home of Colorado to move to Billings, Montana and work for Deaconess Behavioral Health Clinic. In 1994, he left Billings to serve as the first full-time psychiatrist at Montana State Prison in Deer Lodge, taking a brief hiatus from 1997-1999 to work at Golden Triangle Mental Health Center in Helena as the medical director. He has worked again full time at Montana State Prison since August, 1999. Dr. Schaefer is a past president and treasurer of the Montana Psychiatric Association, and a recipient of the Association's Gladys V. Holmes award "For outstanding contributions in the field of mental health to the state of Montana and to its citizens." He has been a speaker at several conferences for mental health advocacy groups and for the Montana Bar Association.

Jo Acton

Warden, Montana Women's Prison
Billings
406-247-5100
jacton@mt.gov

Warden Acton has been the warden of the Montana Women's prison since 1997. She is a certified Chemical Dependency Counselor, Master Level Instructor in Non-Violent Crisis Intervention, MS in Personnel and Guidance Services.

Dawn DeVor, MSW

Mental Health Counselor
Montana Women's Prison

(406) 247-5153
ddevor@mt.gov

Dawn DeVor, MSW, has worked as a Mental Health Counselor at Montana Women's Prison for the past eight years. Dawn has over twenty years experience in serving persons with disabilities in various capacities, including teaching, vocational training, case management, and civil rights advocacy.

Ed Amberg

Administrator, Montana State Hospital
Warm Springs
(406) 693-7010
eamberg@mt.gov

INTERCEPT 5 - RE-ENTRY/TRANSITION SERVICES

Kelly Speer

(see above under Intercept 3)

Kim Christiansen

(see above under Intercept 3)

Ed Foley

Institutional Probation & Parole Officer
Montana State Prison
Deer Lodge
406-846-1320 ext. 2348
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Louise Goss

Community Mental Health Liaison
Billings Mental Health Center
(on contract with DOC)

Ms. Goss has been serving as a mental health community liaison for the past seven years. In her position, she works with offenders released from the Montana State Prison and the Montana Women's Prison and facilitates community service group outreach to provide community support for offenders in transition. Prior to holding this position, Ms. Goss supervised the Residential Program for the Mental Health Center. She has worked with dual diagnosed clients for eighteen years. Other positions have included job coach, group home supervisor, and case manager, and work in crisis intervention.

Timothy B. Conley, Ph.D., L.C.S.W.

Associate Professor of Social Work
University of Montana

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Tim Conley, earned his Masters degree in Social Work from Syracuse in 1987 and a Ph.D. in Social Work from Boston College in 2001. He has provided substance abuse and mental health treatment services since 1987. He is licensed to practice social work in Montana where he is a professor and was recently promoted to Associate Professor at the University of Montana. He is an author and editor for several social work journals and most recently prepared a research report for the Montana Department of Corrections titled: Predicting and Reducing Recidivism: Factors Contributing to Recidivism in The State of Montana Pre-Release Center Population and The Issue of Measurement: A Report with Recommendations for Policy Change; this established the prevalence rate of mental illness in the prerelease population.

Advocate Panel

Gary Mihelish, D.D.S

President, National Association for the Mentally Ill of Montana
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sandym@mt.net

Dr. Mihelish is a practicing dentist and the state president of the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Montana. For the past sixteen years, he and his wife Sandra have been passionate advocates for individuals living with severe mental illnesses. They live with their son who has lived with severe mental illness for twenty-three years.

Anita Roessman, J.D.

Attorney, Montana Advocacy Program
Helena
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Anita Roessmann is staff attorney at the Montana Advocacy Program, a private, non-profit legal advocacy organization for people with disabilities. A 1994 graduate of the University of Oregon law school, Anita Roessmann practiced criminal law in Oregon before joining MAP in 1998.

Tracy Velazquez

Executive Director
Montana Mental Health Association
Bozeman
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Eve Franklin, B.S.N, M.S.N.

Mental Health Ombudsman

Governor's Office, Helena
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Appointed the state's mental health ombudsman in 2007. Executive director of the Registered Nurses Association. Served in the senate from 1991-2001 (including as Senate Majority Whip 1997-1998). Served in the house from 2003-2007.