

Reaching for excellence

Community Vision and Voices
for Western New York Health Care

Speaker Series

Kicked Out of Kindergarten: Strengthening Emotional and Behavioral Health in Early Childhood

April 2, 2009

WNED, 140 Lower Terrace, Buffalo, NY 14202



PROGRAM

3:30 PM WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ann F. Monroe

President, Community Health Foundation of
Western & Central New York

3:45 PM KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

Paul H. Dworkin, MD

Professor and Chair of the Department of
Pediatrics, University of Connecticut School of
Medicine, and Physician-in-Chief, Connecticut
Children's Medical Center

Charles Biss, MSW

Director, Child and Adolescent Family Services,
Vermont Department of Mental Health

4:45 PM AUDIENCE Q&A

5:30 PM RECEPTION

Why Are We Here Today?

Healthy early childhood development is influenced by early detection of behavioral and emotional issues. Recent studies have demonstrated the growing importance of creating continuity and collaboration in early systems of pediatric care.

How are other regions across the U.S. addressing this need for early detection and treatment?

What can Western New York learn from these models?



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Paul H. Dworkin, MD



Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, and Physician-in-Chief, Connecticut Children's Medical Center

Dr. Paul Dworkin received his A.B. from Rutgers University, his M.D. from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and his pediatric residency and fellowship training at the Children's

Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston. His vision led to the creation of Help Me Grow, a statewide initiative in Connecticut to promote the early detection of children with developmental and behavioral problems.

Dr. Dworkin has authored more than 130 journal articles, abstracts and book chapters in the fields of developmental-behavioral pediatrics and general pediatrics. His interests are at the interface among child development, child health services and child health policy; his research has focused on the value of developmentally-oriented anticipated guidance, the role of developmental surveillance and screening in the early detection of at-risk children, and the value of care coordination in the linkage of children and families to programs and services. Dr. Dworkin's honors include teaching awards, visiting professorships and named lectureships.

Charles Biss, MSW



Director, Child and Adolescent Family Services, Vermont Department of Mental Health

Charlie received his MSW from SUNY Albany, and has worked in the Vermont Department of Mental Health as Child and Adolescent Family Services Director for the past 22 years. He has 36 years of Human Services experience as a clinician, local program developer and a state level implementer of systems of care. He has secured many public and private grants to develop and sustain statewide systems of care for very young children, school age children and transition-aged young adults. He was instrumental in the implementation of the CUPS (Children's Upstream Services) program as a standard for the state of Vermont.

His personal and professional experience has taught him the importance of consumer and family involvement, building local community-based services and supports, and focusing on prevention and early intervention. Charlie has lived in Vermont for the past 30 years and is married with four children.

Community Conversations

A central component of **Reaching for Excellence** is *One Friday: Four Futures*, a series of community conversations designed to amplify the voice of all – the users of the health care system – in answering the question, “What do we want the future of health care in Western New York to look like?” Launched in January 2008, *One Friday: Four Futures* is built around four future scenarios – descriptive stories of how the health care system may look in the year 2018 based on different choices made today.

Please visit <http://rx4excellence.org> for periodic updates on this effort.

We have held 110 conversations throughout the eight county region, involving over 1,700 Western New Yorkers. Feedback from these community conversations will drive the development of key indicators of health care performance for regular monitoring and reporting to the community. Visit us online in the coming months for final reporting on this component of the project.

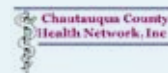
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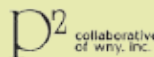
Reaching for Excellence: Community Vision and Voices for Western New York Health

Care seeks to engage Western New Yorkers in exploring possibilities and setting goals for a stronger, improved health care system for the eight-county region.

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