Brain Injury Family Intervention (BIFI/BIFI-A): An Evidence-Based Approach

March 28, 2011
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

This workshop will focus on clinical intervention skills for professionals who work with youth and adults who have sustained an acquired brain injury (ABI) and their families.

This workshop is presented by IWK Health Centre Psychological Services as part of the G. Wayne MacDonald Professional Lecture Series. It is also supported by Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital and Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center.

Workshop Objectives:
- Introduce the Brain Injury Family Intervention for families of adults affected by ABI (BIFI); and the newly modified version designed specifically for adolescents ages 13 to 19 years (BIFI-A).
- Provide a theoretical framework and structured approach for working with families after ABI.
- Teach clinical intervention techniques, case problem solving, and evaluation strategies.

Topics Will Include:
- Impact of adult and pediatric ABI on family.
- Assessment and engagement.
- Intervention and theoretical frameworks.
- Effectively managing difficult cases and situations.
- Objectively evaluating change and therapeutic benefit.

Psychological Services and the Neuro Response Team at the IWK Health Centre are delighted to bring this experienced team of international facilitators to the Maritimes.

Following three sold out workshops in Toronto in 2009 and 2010, past participants have reported feeling more confident and better equipped to address the complex needs of families affected by acquired brain injury.

This workshop will be of interest to professionals who work with adolescents and/or adults with ABI and their families.

Faculty:
Caron Gan, RN, MScN, AAMFT Clinical Member & Approved Supervisor, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehab Hospital
Caron Gan is an RN and a marriage and family therapist, registered with the Ontario and American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. For the past 20 years, she has worked exclusively with clients with ABI providing psycho-therapeutic intervention to youth, adults, couples and families in both public and private sectors. Ms. Gan is the lead investigator in BIFI-A development.

Jeffrey S. Kreutzer, Ph.D., ABPP is a Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), Medical College of Virginia Campus. Dr. Kreutzer serves as Director of the Virginia’s federally designated Traumatic Brain Injury Model System and coordinates VCU Health System outpatient services for families and persons with brain injury. Dr. Kreutzer is a neuropsychologist and family therapist with more than two decades experience developing and implementing brain injury family support services.

Emilie E. Godwin, Ph.D., LPC, MFT is the Family Support Program Coordinator at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), Medical College of Virginia Campus, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Dr. Godwin is a Licensed Professional Counselor with a special focus in the area of couples and family therapy. Currently, she is the coordinator and primary therapist for the Brain Injury Family Intervention (BIFI) at VCU. She has published manuscripts in the fields of both rehabilitation and counseling. Additionally, she has provided BIFI training internationally as well as locally. Her primary research focus involves investigating family functioning and effective therapeutic support practices following Traumatic Brain Injury.

Registration Fee:
Before March 1st $110 ($70 for students)
After March 1st $125 ($85 for students)
Registration includes two nutrition breaks and extensive handouts: lunch is on your own.
Please register early ~ Space is limited.
Registration Form Attached

For Further Information:
Theresa Colbear (902) 470-8924
theresa.colbear@iwk.nshealth.ca
Brain Injury Family Intervention (BIFI/BIFI-A): An Evidence-Based Approach
March 29, 2011
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

This one-day workshop is being offered exclusively to clinicians who have attended the BIFI/BIFI-A workshop on March 28, 2011. Small group interactive sessions will teach clinicians who work directly with families affected by ABI (psychologists, social workers, rehabilitation counselors, family therapists) how to implement the BIFI/BIFI-A approaches. There will be a focus on practical assessment and intervention strategies as well as problem solving complex case scenarios.

The development of this workshop has been supported by the IWK Health Centre SEED fund, as well as Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital and Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center.

Program Outline:
Participants will choose to attend either the BIFI workshop for adults OR the BIFI-A workshop for adolescents (13-19 yrs).

Both Interventions:
- Focus on skill building, psychosocial support, and education about ABI.
- Use protocol that is structured and manualized to facilitate implementation by clinicians.
- Draw upon family discussion, vignettes, role plays and interactive exercises.

Sample Topics for BIFI:
- Understanding recovery.
- Mastering the art of patience.
- Coping with loss and change.
- Strategies for effective communication.
- Managing stress and intense emotions.
- Taking care of yourself.
- Focusing on goals and accomplishments.

Sample Topics for BIFI-A:
- What happens after brain injury.
- Brain Injury happens to the whole family.
- Being a teen and achieving independence.
- Coping with loss and change.
- Managing intense emotions.
- Setting s.m.a.r.t. goals and tracking progress.
- School and transition planning.

Faculty:
Caron Gan, RN, MScN, AAMFT Clinical Member & Approved Supervisor, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehab Hospital
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Kathy Gravel, MSW, RSW, AAMFT Clinical Member, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital. Kathy Gravel has been a social worker on the Brain Injury Rehab Team in the Outpatient Program for 11 years. She is also a marriage and family therapist, registered with the Ontario and American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. Today she provides psychotherapy to children, youth & families living with ABI in both the public and private sectors.

Registration Fee: $175
Please register early – Space is limited.
Registration includes, lunch and BIFI kit or BIFI-A manual (valued at over $130).

Registration Form Attached
REGISTRATION FORM

Please register early – Space is limited.
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

1. Contact Information

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Position: _________________________________________________________

Organization: ______________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

City: ________________________   Province: _____ Postal Code: ____________

Phone:  ___________________________________________________________

Email: ____________________________________________________________

(Email will be used to confirm registration whenever possible)

2. Session Registration

Please choose the session(s) you are registering for:

☐ BIFI/BIFI-A Family Intervention Workshop (March 28, 2011)

  Before March 1st $110 ($70 for students)
  After March 1st $125 ($85 for students)

☐ Advanced Workshop (March 29, 2011) Must have attended March 28

$175.00

  Please select one of the following:
  ☐ BIFI (intervention for adults with ABI and their families)
  ☐ BIFI-A (modified version for working with adolescents ages 13-19)

3. Payment

☐ Pay by Cheque

If registering for both workshops, please put entire amount on one cheque.

Your cheque must be payable to IWK Psychology Workshop

Incorrect payments will be returned.

Send cheque with completed registration form to:
Theresa Colbear
Psychology, IWK Health Centre
5850 University Avenue PO Box 9700 Halifax NS B3K 6R8

If sending by mail, please allow ample time for delivery

REGISTRATION FEES

BIFI/BIFI-A Workshop
March 28, 2011

Before March 1st $110 ($70 for students)
After March 1st $125 ($85 for students)

Registration includes two nutrition breaks, handouts, you are responsible for your own lunch.

BIFI/BIFI-A Follow-Up Workshop
March 29, 2011

$175

Registration includes nutrition breaks, lunch and BIFI kit or BIFI-A manual, valued at over $120.

Due to the small group interactive nature of the Follow-up workshop, spaces will be very limited so early registration for both days is strongly recommended.

REFUND POLICY

A refund - minus a $30 administrative fee - will be given for cancellations received in writing before 9:00 am on Monday, March 14, 2011.

No refunds will be given for cancellations received after 9:00 am on Monday, March 14, 2011, although delegate substitution will be allowed.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Theresa Colbear (902) 470-8924
theresa.colbear@iwk.nshealth.ca

A room block has been arranged with the Lord Nelson hotel at a special rate of $118.00 per night. Just go to the address below to book your room online: