

## For Immediate Release

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### **LARNED STATE HOSPITAL TO HOST 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE**

TOPEKA – Larned State Hospital will host its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Mental Health Conference August 12-15 in the Larned Community Center, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services Secretary Shawn Sullivan announced Monday.

“This conference is designed to aid the professional development of those working in the fields of psychology, psychiatry, nursing, social work and corrections, but it is open to anyone with an interest in mental health,” Larned State Hospital Superintendent Tom Kinlen said.

“Larned State Hospital has put together a great lineup of speakers and relevant topics. I believe this conference will enhance the knowledge and treatment skills of all who attend,” Secretary Sullivan said. Among the topics to be addressed in depth at the conference are suicide prevention and advances in the diagnosis and treatment of depression.

The conference will be co-chaired by Larned State Hospital’s Staff Training Specialist Travis Reed and Director of Activity Therapy Chris Baker.

Featured speakers at the conference include:

- Phillips J. Resnick, M.D., who is an internationally known forensic psychiatrist noted for his expertise in the assessment of violence risk and the detection of malingered mental illness. He is Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Division of Forensic Psychiatry at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio. A past president of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, he has provided consultation in many high profile cases including: Jeffrey Dahmer, Susan Smith, Timothy McVey, Andrea Yates, Scott Petersen, Brian Mitchell (kidnapper of Elizabeth Smart), Theodore Kaczynski (Unabomber) and Casey Anthony. Dr. Resnick has written more than 150 professional journal articles and book chapters.

- Jack Klott, MSSA, LISW, CSW, who brings to the conference expertise, experience and insights drawn from a mental health career spanning 45 years as a respected clinician, teacher and author. His clinical focus has been men and women experiencing co-occurring disorders of severe, persistent mental illnesses and substance-related disorders. A 35-year member of the American Association of Suicidology, he is a founder of the Michigan Association of Suicidology. Klott has authored *The Suicide and Homicide Risk Assessment and Prevention Treatment Planner*, *The Co-Occurring Disorders Treatment Planner* and the newly released *Suicide and Psychological Pain: Prevention That Works*. A nationally recognized speaker, he has trained thousands on a variety of critical mental health topics.
- Stephen S. Ilardi, Ph.D., who is an associate professor of clinical psychology at the University of Kansas and the author of more than 40 professional articles on mental illness. Dr. Ilardi received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Duke University and has spent the past two decades as a researcher and clinician. Over the past six years, Dr. Ilardi and his clinical research team have developed and refined a new, highly effective program for clinical depression. Dr. Ilardi is the author of *The Depression Cure*, a step-by-step guide to the Therapeutic Lifestyle Change program. Through his active clinical practice, Dr. Ilardi has treated several hundred depressed patients.

The conference is scheduled to be held in the Larned Community Center, 1500 Toles Street, Larned, Kansas. For enrollment information, please contact Travis Reed at [travis.reed@lsh.ks.gov](mailto:travis.reed@lsh.ks.gov) or by phone at 620 285-4010.

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*The Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services' mission is to foster an environment that promotes security, dignity and independence, while providing the right care at the right time in a place called home.*