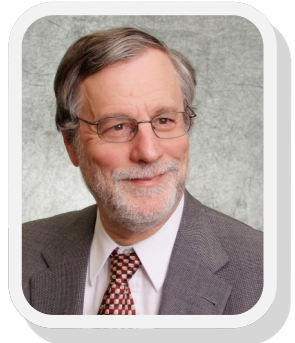


## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

### Ten years flew by – So many to thank

July 1, 2017, marked my ten-year anniversary as The Margaret Clark Morgan Chair of Psychiatry at NEOMED. This fact is remarkable to me. While Einstein's theory is beyond my comprehension, my sense of the relativity of time is that days may pass slowly, but the years fly by.

The NEOMED Department of Psychiatry has seen remarkable growth in the last 10 years. As chair I am often given credit for our accomplishments; however, the real credit goes to the remarkable faculty and staff that comprise our Rootstown-based department and to our clinical faculty throughout the region who provide teaching and training to our students and residents. The College of Medicine could not exist without the heroic efforts of our clinical faculty and so I start by thanking each faculty member for all you do for our students and other trainees.



Mark R. Munetz, M.D.

Next I must thank NEOMED's leaders. Dr. Lois Nora was the president and dean who selected me to be chair. Dr. Nora had the vision of developing a relationship with The Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation that resulted in endowing the chair in psychiatry. I am grateful that she put her trust in me to be the first person to hold that chair. The endowment allowed the chair position to grow from a very part-time position to a half-time one. Dr. Nora's successors, President Dr. Jay Gershen and Dean Dr. Jeffrey Susman picked up where Dr. Nora left off. Dr. Gershen has continued to support the department and has been a great partner to The Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation. Being the people connector that he is, he introduced the foundation to former Congressman Patrick Kennedy and helped cement an ongoing relationship among NEOMED, the foundation and the Kennedy Forum. Dr. Susman had the vision to help me turn my half-time chair position into a full-time position, and he supported my effort to become the first clinical department chair to become a tenured professor, paving the way for others. Dr. Elisabeth Young, interim vice president for health affairs and community and dean of the College of Medicine, has followed her predecessor's lead and remains an incredible support to the department and to me.

My path to NEOMED was by way of the County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board, where I had the privilege to serve as medical director from 1992 until 2012 (do the math, that includes my first five years as chair at NEOMED). Great thanks are due to Jerry Craig, the executive director of the ADM Board, for allowing me to transition to NEOMED while continuing to serve as a consultant to the board; and also to Dr. Douglas Smith, who has done a superb job as my successor as the board's medical director.

I would likely still be at the ADM Board (or retired) if not for The Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation. I am grateful beyond words. I cannot adequately emphasize how significantly The Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation has changed my professional life as well as the lives of many members of our staff doing the great work that they do. My relationship with the foundation staff and board is not that of a usual grantee and grantor. We work extremely closely together and tremendous trust has developed between us. We are both so mission-focused and our missions align so perfectly. Every day we think about how we can improve the lives of people with serious mental illness in our region, and how that work can transform mental health care everywhere.

The Best Practices in Schizophrenia Treatment (BeST) Center is the single largest program funded by The Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation. The work and growth of the BeST Center has been gratifying, and the stage is set for that work to continue and expand as we hoped and dreamed it would. The outstanding leadership and staff of the BeST Center assures its continued success in helping people with schizophrenia lead meaningful, productive lives.

In addition to the BeST Center, the foundation has worked closely and supported the efforts of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence (CJ CCoE) and the Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health. We are increasingly finding synergy across the three programs. For example, individuals experiencing their first psychotic episode may first present when in college or after being arrested for behavior related to their symptoms. Taking advantage of this synergy propels our success and makes a direct impact on the people we care about serving. This is clearly the direction we hope to take our work together.

This past June we had the great honor of hosting The Margaret Clark Foundation trustees and staff for a several-hour review of the work we have been doing at NEOMED and our future plans. Joined by Drs. Gershen and Young, we spent much time talking about the teaching and training of our students and the upward trend of NEOMED students choosing psychiatry as their specialty. We highlighted how NEOMED views psychiatry as a primary care specialty and is working on an integrated primary and mental health care track for our students. There are things NEOMED can do that larger universities cannot. We also discussed the synergy across our programs and our efforts to maximize the strengths of all our staff. While we ran out of time to talk about the flagship work of the BeST Center, it was a wonderful opportunity for all of our department staff to provide the foundation trustees with a “deeper dive” into the work we do. I know they felt the passion and commitment of our entire faculty and staff.

I need to thank many others. I started making a list of all the partners that have worked with me and our department during the past 10 years (and in many cases for much longer than that). I started with the current and former leaders at the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Ohio. The list quickly became very long as I continued with other state agencies, advocacy and non-profit organizations, mental health boards and community mental health and addiction agencies, partner colleges, universities and medical schools, hospital partners, state and national organizations and some specific individuals (I do have to mention the remarkable collaboration with former Ohio Supreme Court Justice Evelyn Stratton). There are so many that if I try to list them all, inevitably I risk leaving someone out.

So I will conclude by thanking the remarkable people in the Department of Psychiatry on the Rootstown campus. Starting with our administrative manager Debbie McConnell, who with me comprised the entire department when we started together 10 years ago, to all faculty and staff who I have the good fortune to work with every day. Thanks for the good work you have done. I very much look forward to what we will accomplish in the years to come.



Mark R. Munetz, M.D.

The Margaret Clark Morgan Endowed Chair in Psychiatry



*Trustees and Staff of The Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation visited NEOMED on June 12, 2017*

# Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence (CJ CCoE)

## Working with Clients with Mental Illness and Developmental Disabilities

The CJ CCoE held two workshops for public defenders and assigned counsel during June. In response to a request and funding from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS), a planning team, comprised of CCoE staff and representatives of organizations that co-sponsored the trainings, developed the agenda and curriculum: **Julie Spohn** (behavioral health/criminal justice program coordinator, OMHAS), **Peter Morey, M.D., Esq** (Office of the Legal Advocate, Maricopa County, AZ), **Kristen Henry** (Attorney, Ohio Disability Rights Law and Policy Center, Inc.), **Dorian Hall**, (chief, Mitigation and Investigation Division, Ohio Public Defender Office), **David Brown** (attorney, David H. Brown LLC) and **Meghan Patton** (court coordinator, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Court, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court).

One hundred and fifty-two people representing 27 Ohio counties attended the trainings on June 21 at NEOMED or June 23 at Ohio Department of Transportation in Columbus.

Attorneys in Ohio counties that have passed a *Stepping Up* resolution were the target audience for the workshop. *Stepping Up* is a national initiative aimed at reducing the number of individuals with mental illness in local jails. Ohio has adopted the initiative and currently 32 counties are engaged. Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Director Tracy Plouck provided opening remarks on June 23.

The goal of the course was to provide attorneys, primarily public defenders and assigned counsel, with the tools, materials and knowledge to better represent their clients with mental illness and/or intellectual disabilities.



Presenters for the trainings are pictured clockwise, from top left: **Douglas Powley** (retired chief prosecutor, City of Akron); **Joy Stankowski, M.D.**, (chief clinical officer, forensics, Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare); **Stephen Noffsinger, M.D.**, (associate professor of psychiatry, UH Cleveland Medical Center); **Kristen Henry** (attorney-at-law, Disability Rights Ohio), **Kathryn Zielinski** and **Tina Moreno**, (speech/language therapy services, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities), and **Megan Testa, M.D.**, (Recovery Resources and UH Medical Center).

## Dispatcher/Call-Taker Training of CIT Trainers

Emergency dispatchers are a critical link in the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program and may include call-takers, dispatchers and 911 operators. The success of CIT depends on their familiarity with the CIT program, knowledge of how to recognize a CIT call involving a behavioral crisis event, ability to solicit information that will help the community member and the responding CIT officer and appropriate dispatch of CIT officers.

Through a Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, in partnership with the Office of Criminal Justice Services and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence (CJ CCoE) provided CIT Dispatch Training on Feb. 21, 2017, and May 18, 2017. Sixty-two individuals representing 34 alcohol, drug addiction and mental health board areas participated. The goal of these courses was to provide trainers with the tools, materials and knowledge needed to hold a CIT companion course for dispatchers and call-takers in their home counties.



February 2017 participants and trainers



May 2017 participants



## Sequential Intercept Mapping Involves Targeted Action Planning

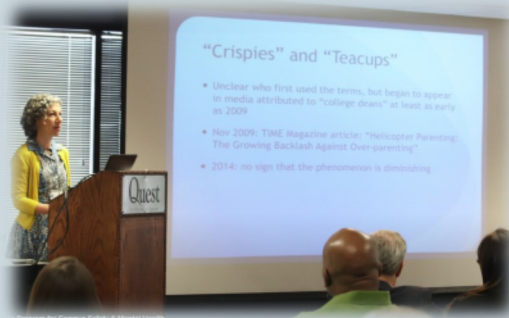
On the second day of a Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) exercise, participants work in small groups to develop action plans to address their county's top priorities for improving services, collaboration, data capacity and information-sharing across mental health and criminal justice systems. The goal of the exercise is to reduce the number of individuals with mental illness in local jails or involved in the local justice system.

Pictured, from left, at the April 19, 2017, Lorain County SIM; **Deena Baker** (Elyria Police Department), **Clare Cygan-Young** (NAMI of Lorain County), **Alonzo Vance** (Goodwill Industries), **Kelli Boda** (The NORD Center), and **Charlie Neff** (Lorain County Mental Health Board) work on a Lorain County action plan to address the need to collect and analyze data related to the incidence of individuals with mental illness involved in the criminal justice system.

Lorain is one of five Ohio counties that have completed Sequential Intercept Mapping since January 2017. Montgomery (Opiate-focused, February), Hancock (March), Athens (May) and Mercer (June) also completed SIM.



# Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health



## Statewide Conference

Spring was a whirlwind of travel for the Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health (OPCSMH). "Creating a Culture of Care," the third statewide OPCSMH conference was a huge success! The largest audience ever included nearly 150 people from more than 100 colleges, universities and community agencies. Ohio Representatives Marlene Anielski and Kathleen Clyde provided opening remarks. Doris Iarovici, M.D., from Harvard University Student Health Center presented the keynote address, "The Fragile Generation? Trigger Warnings, Mental Health Crises and Resilience on Campus."



## Suicidology National Conference

In April, Amy Lukes, LISW-S, director of campus mental health initiatives, presented on a panel at a preconference institute of the American Association of Suicidology National Conference in Phoenix, AZ. The panel included presenters from Pennsylvania, Virginia, Connecticut and Georgia.

Pictured, l-r: Matthew Wintersteen, Higher Education Suicide Prevention Coalition of Pennsylvania (HESPC); Jane Wiggins, Campus Suicide Prevention Program of Virginia; Heather Clinger, Connecticut Healthy Campus Initiative; Rose Milani, HESPC; Jacqueline Awe, Georgia Campus Zero Suicide Initiative and Amy Lukes, NEOMED.



## Mental Health on College Campuses

The Ohio College Initiative to Enhance Student Wellness invited Amy Lukes to speak on Mental Health on College Campuses at their annual conference in May. Forty people from 15 Ohio colleges and universities attended the conference.

## Assisted Outpatient Treatment

The NEOMED Department of Psychiatry continues to promote the practice of Assisted Outpatient Treatment. The Treatment Advocacy Center invited Mark R. Munetz, M.D., to present "Clinical Perspective on AOT" at an Assisted Outpatient Training hosted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in Detroit, Mich., in June.

## Class of 2017



*Natalie Bonfine, Ph.D., and Mark R. Munetz, M.D., gather with fellow faculty members prior to NEOMED's 2017 commencement ceremony.*

Congratulations to the College of Medicine Class of 2017. Six of the 139 NEOMED students who matched through a nationally recognized residency matching program matched with a psychiatry residency program.

Two graduates matched in the Summa Health System/NEOMED program. One matched at The Ohio State University Medical Center, one at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Calif., one with Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services in Mich., and one in Charleston Area Medical Center/West Virginia University (Medicine-Psychiatry) in W.Va.

The Department of Psychiatry wishes the best of luck to all of the members of the NEOMED Class of 2017!

# BeST Practices in Schizophrenia Treatment (BeST) Center

## BeST Center Prepares to Launch Project ECHO Programs

The NEOMED Department of Psychiatry and the BeST Center are planning to launch three Project Extension for Community Health Outcomes (Project ECHO) programs during the upcoming months, with plans to add others in the future. Project ECHO is a technological platform and methodology that aims to improve health care outcomes by facilitating connections among health care providers with academic experts and a community of providers. Using a trademarked video conferencing platform to connect multiple providers and teams of multidisciplinary experts simultaneously, Project ECHO offers didactic education, mentoring and case-based learning centered on treatment of common, complex conditions through topic-specific virtual programs. Originally developed at the University of New Mexico in 2003 to expand access to specialty care for Hepatitis C, Project ECHO now operates 120 programs that address more than 60 diseases and conditions in 23 countries.

“Project ECHO is a lifelong learning and guided practice model that increases workforce capacity to provide best-practice specialty care and reduce health disparities through virtual clinics that help clinicians provide excellent specialty care to patients in their own communities,” says Nichole Ammon, PCC-S, BeST Center manager of integrated health care initiatives.

Ammon; Amy Lukes, LISW-S, director of campus mental health initiatives; BeST Center medical director Erik Messamore, M.D., Ph.D.; and BeST Center program assistant Ms. Jami Brewer attended Project ECHO intensive training at the University of New Mexico. The BeST Center plans to offer the following Project ECHO programs:



**Integrated Care @ NEOMED (IC@N)** – “This program will promote integrated primary and mental health and addictions treatment throughout Ohio and beyond. It will be an ideal forum for providing didactic education and case-based learning to present cases for patients with complex, co-occurring psychiatric and physical conditions and for promoting integrated, team-based care,” says Ms. Ammon. Those interested in learning more may email [IntegratedcareECHO@neomed.edu](mailto:IntegratedcareECHO@neomed.edu) or call 330.325.6613.

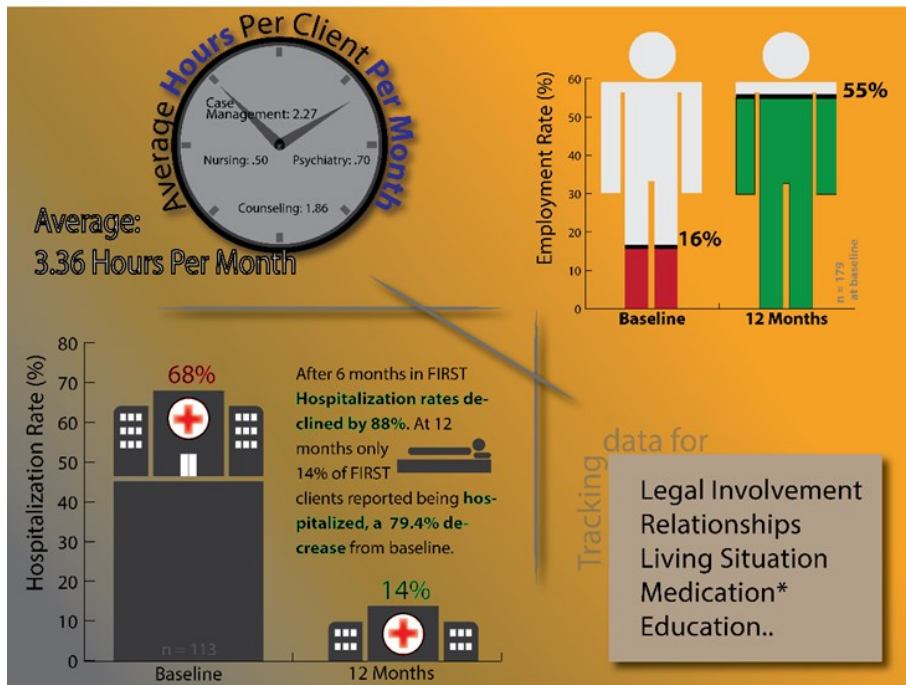


**Psychosis Recovery Teams** – The BeST Center and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services will be offering a Project ECHO program to support the statewide network of Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis teams. “We are looking forward to our multidisciplinary team of experts providing didactics, case-based learning and consultative assistance to promote the recovery of individuals experiencing an initial episode of psychotic illness,” says BeST Center director Patti Fetzer. To learn more, contact [bestcenter@neomed.edu](mailto:bestcenter@neomed.edu).

**SZconsult** – “Using case-based learning and didactic education on pharmacotherapy, pathophysiology and emerging treatment options for people affected by psychosis, a team of experts will provide prescribing clinicians with free consultative assistance and continuing education,” says Erik Messamore, M.D., Ph.D., BeST

Center medical director. “Furthermore, participants are part of an interconnected learning community, and they will receive substantial input from colleagues who may have had similar clinical experiences. And all of this is accomplished without any sponsorship from the pharmaceutical industry.” To learn more, please email [szconsult@neomed.edu](mailto:szconsult@neomed.edu).

# FIRST Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis Improving Outcomes, Expanding Treatment Services



The BeST Center and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) are collaborating to develop comprehensive training, consultation and technical assistance resources for Ohio's Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis teams. "We are excited to be joining with OhioMHAS to provide electronic training modules, a Project ECHO program, and statewide technical assistance events to support the work of FIRST and other teams providing Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis in Ohio," says BeST Center director Patti Fetzer, LISW-S. "National research indicates that Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis promotes a faster, more complete recovery from schizophrenia. We look forward to continuing to equip Ohio's teams with resources to support providing individuals with psychosis the best treatments as early in the course of their illness as possible."

Infographic by Christopher Buzzelli, Ph.D., BeST Center program evaluator

Individuals who participate in FIRST integrated, team-based treatment early in the course of psychotic illness experience significant decreases in hospitalizations and increases in employment, according to data from FIRST Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis programs throughout Ohio.

## FIRST Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis programs are now available in Jefferson, Butler, Coshocton, Perry and Noble counties:

FIRST Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis consultant trainer Nicholas Dunlap, M.Ed., LPCC, at right, presents a certificate of BeST practice to Coleman Professional Services president and CEO Nelson Burns at a FIRST Jefferson County Community Education Event. FIRST Jefferson County is a partnership of Coleman Professional Services, the Jefferson County Prevention and Recovery Board, Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the BeST Center.



Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services had joined with Butler Behavioral Health, Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the BeST Center to offer FIRST Services in Butler, Clermont and Hamilton Counties.

FIRST Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis is now available in Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble and Perry counties through FIRST Allwell Behavioral Health Services. FIRST Allwell Behavioral Health Services is promoting FIRST treatment through community education events, newspaper ads and billboards throughout its six-county service region.

**Are you or someone you know experiencing:**

- Serious problems at work or school?
- Things that others do not see or hear?
- Persistent, unusual thoughts or beliefs?
- Trouble thinking clearly or concentrating?
- Suspiciousness or extreme uneasiness with others?

**FIRST**  
Allwell Behavioral Health Services can help  
Call 740.562.3270

**Northeast Ohio Medical University**  
Best Practices in Schizophrenia Treatment (BeST) Center  
Promoting Innovation. Restoring Lives.  
neomed.edu/bestcenter

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## Integrated Care Fellowship Welcomes Three New Fellows



The NEOMED Integrated Community Psychiatry and Primary Care Fellowship program welcomed three new fellows in July. From left, fellows Aasia Syed, M.D., an adult psychiatrist at Portage Path Behavioral Health; Brooke Babyak, M.D., a family physician with Summa Family Medicine Residency program; and Shannon Perkins, Ph.D., a clinical psychologist and of behavioral science in Summa's Family Medicine Residency program; with fellowship co-directors Douglas Smith, M.D., DFAPA, and Janice Spalding, M.D., FAAFP; and fellowship coordinator Nichole Ammon, M.S.Ed., PCC-S.

“The fellowship is designed to enhance fellows’ leadership skills and promote integrated, team-based care that improves the quality of care and patient outcomes for individuals with co-occurring physical and psychiatric disorders,” says Nichole Ammon, M.S.Ed., PCC-S, BeST Center manager of integrated care initiatives. “Fellows devote a half-day each week to participating in the fellowship curriculum and supervision. As a capstone, each of the fellows will apply the knowledge she has gained from the fellowship to develop a project proposal to implement to improve care integration at their respective workplaces.”

Prospective fellows are encouraged to send a curriculum vitae and letter of interest to [IntegratedCareFellowship@neomed.edu](mailto:IntegratedCareFellowship@neomed.edu).

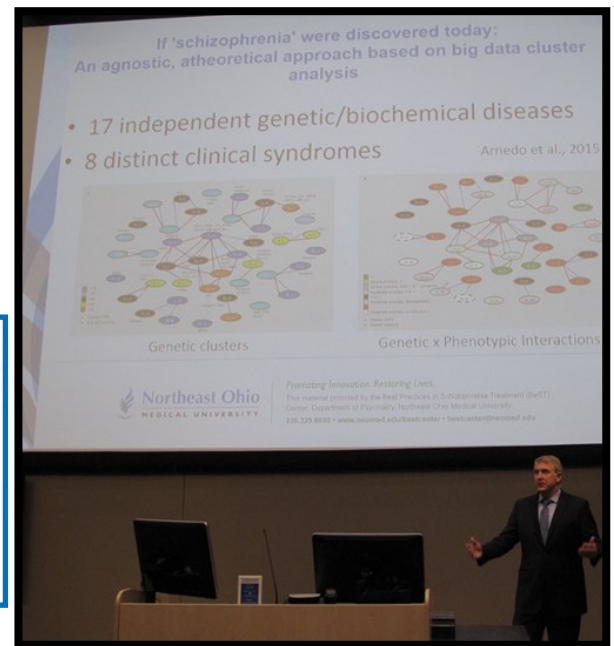
## Treating Multiple Schizophrenias

“Schizophrenia is not a singular disease. In fact, there are multiple schizophrenias, each with similar outward appearance, but different underlying pathophysiology,” says BeST Center medical director Erik Messamore, M.D., Ph.D. “Understanding this concept has important implications for pharmacotherapy. Antipsychotic medications may fail to achieve desirable outcomes because they miss the target pathophysiology.” Dr. Messamore is providing grand rounds presentations and lectures to help clinicians and trainees from a variety of disciplines to build an awareness of and appreciation for multiple treatment approaches for multiple schizophrenias.

Schizophrenia	The Schizophrenias
Single illness	Several illnesses
Varying degrees of severity or expression	Similar outward appearance, but different underlying causes
Medication failure is from mismatch between med's power and illness severity	Meds fail because they miss target pathophysiology

Infographic by Erik Messamore, M.D., Ph.D., BeST Center medical director

He is also developing a curriculum focused on treatment-resistant psychiatric disorders for Ohio State University psychiatric nurse practitioner students completing practicum training, which he will deliver during the 2017-18 academic year. “My aim is to provide practitioners a framework for systematic evaluation of seemingly treatment-resistant mental illness, and to highlight evidence-based treatment responses to assure better outcomes and improved quality of life for patients experiencing treatment resistance,” says Dr. Messamore. Dr. Messamore is also providing consultative assistance at Heartland Behavioral Health two days each month.



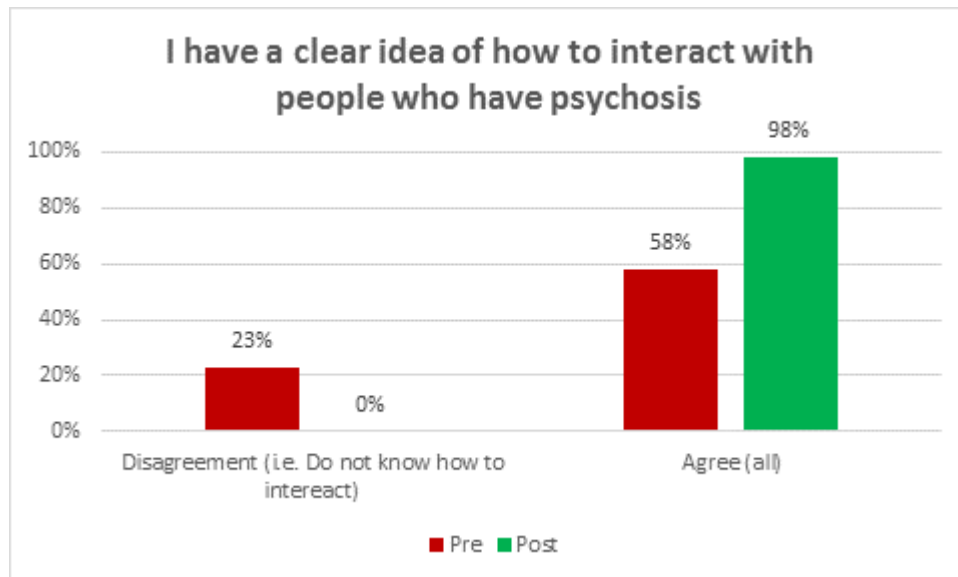


# Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Psychosis Provides Clinicians with Clear Ideas about Helping People with Psychosis

Harry J. Sivec, Ph.D., BeST Center senior managing consultant trainer for Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Psychosis (CBT-p), and Valerie Kreider, Ph.D., LPCC-S, LICDC-CS, senior consultant trainer for CBT-p, provide intensive training in CBT-p and ongoing clinical supervision to BeST Center-affiliated teams throughout Ohio.

“We ask mental health providers to rate the degree to which they have a clear idea of how to interact with people with psychosis before and after CBT-p training,” says Dr. Sivec. “These ratings suggest that many mental health providers do not have a clear idea of how to interact with people affected by psychosis before CBT-p training, but the training provides them with tools and methods that help them to feel better prepared to do so.”

## Impact of CBT-p Training on Clinicians' Attitudes



Infographic by Christopher Buzzelli, Ph.D., BeST Center program evaluator

Drs. Sivec and Kreider provided intensive training to members of treatment teams from FIRST Greater Cincinnati Area/Butler County, FIRST Allwell Behavioral Health Services and FIRST Jefferson County and to new members of other FIRST and clinical teams this spring and summer:



FIRST Greater Cincinnati Area team members service Butler County



New members of FIRST and other clinical teams



FIRST Allwell Behavioral Health and FIRST Jefferson County team members

### Cognitive Enhancement Therapy

Cognitive Enhancement Therapy (CET) is a manualized, 18-month intervention that addresses neuro-cognition (attention, memory, problem solving) and social cognition (gist, cognitive flexibility, perspective taking, strategies to control stress and ways to offer support) in ways that promote clients' achievement of personal recovery goals. Clients work in pairs to complete neurocognitive exercises and as part of a CET group to foster social cognition. Clients participating in CET have shown greater improvements in important neuro and social cognition variables when compared to clients who receive Enriched Supportive Therapy (EST).

Patients participating  
CET vs. EST  
showed **greater** improvements in

**SCHIZOPHRENIA SYMPTOMS**  
NEUROCOGNITION  
cognitive style  
*Cognitive Processing Speed*  
**SOCIAL COGNITION**    **Social**  
**Adjustment**

Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for Early Course Schizophrenia: Effects of a Two-Year Randomized Controlled Trial, Shaun M. Eack, Ph.D., Gerard E. Hogarty, M.S.W., Susan J. Cooley, M.N.Ed., Ann Louise DiBarry, M.S.N., Susan S. Hogarty, M.S.N., Deborah P. Greenwald, Ph.D., Debra M. Montrose, Ph.D., and Matcheri S. Keshavan, M.D.

BeST Center consultant trainer for CET Bryn Oldham, M.Ed., LPCC-S, has been working with clinical partners to implement CET. The BeST Center collaborated with Coleman Professional Services in Portage County to offer a pilot program in CET. Members of the first CET class have graduated, but continue to engage in supportive activities with their CET group. Coleman is now offering a second CET program. The BeST Center is also working with Child Guidance & Family Solutions to implement a CET program for FIRST Summit County clients. Ms. Oldham is sharing her expertise and experience implementing CET programs in the community with CET experts from the University of Pittsburgh who are developing CET implementation materials.

## Advocating for Policy and Funding for BeST Practices

BeST Center director Patti Fetzer, LISW-S, and managing consultant trainer for Family-based Services Danelle Hupp, Ph.D., with others from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Ohio delegation at the NAMI national convention in Washington, D.C. June 28 – July 1. In addition to joining the delegation in lobbying on Capitol Hill, Ms. Fetzer and Dr. Hupp engaged in discussions about policy and statewide funding strategies related to first-episode psychosis and family education and support with NAMI National and NAMI Ohio policy staff.



## Promoting Innovation. Restoring Lives: Increasing Awareness of Schizophrenia Recovery

During Schizophrenia Awareness Week May 2017, the BeST Center launched a public awareness campaign centered on video stories of individuals who live successfully with schizophrenia. The BeST Center posts the stories on its social media outlets and integrates them into all of its public events. "It is important to highlight that, with the right treatment, many people can and do live successfully with schizophrenia," says BeST Center director Patti Fetzer, LISW-S. "The BeST Center offers a continuum of BeST practices designed to support an improved quality of life and outcomes for *all* people with schizophrenia, including those who experience robust recoveries and those whose recoveries are less robust than we would hope."





BeST Center's Consumer Advisory Group authors hosted a book signing for "The BeST Kind of Help: Tools and Tips for Schizophrenia Recovery" and other interactive activities, including sharing video schizophrenia recovery stories, at Magnolia Club-house in Cleveland on May 17.

Follow the BeST Center for the latest information about treatment practices that help people live more successfully with schizophrenia:



@BeSTNEOMED



bestschizophreniapractices

## Welcome to Interns

The Department of Psychiatry welcomes Maria Dixon and Cecelia Moreland, who will be completing yearlong internships with the BeST Center this academic year.



For **Maria Dixon**, a University of Akron Master of Social Work student, "the glass is always half full." Born in Barbados, Maria lived in Bronx, New York, and worked for a home health care agency before the agency she worked for relocated her to Ohio. She completed her bachelor's in social work with a minor in addiction and earned a certificate in gerontology from the University of Akron. Maria's peers selected her to deliver the undergraduate commencement address. She recently presented at the Addiction Studies Institute annual conference.

Maria is a UA School of Social Work graduate assistant, and she works as a support technician for individuals with intellectual disabilities at Connections in Ohio. Previously, she was a student peer mentor and peer mentor leader with the University of Akron's Office of Multicultural Development.

Maria is working with Heather Pokrandt, M.S.W., LISW-S, consultant/trainer for Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis and other members of the BeST Center team. "I hope to be immersed in the macro experience of how organizations really disseminate best practices and provides services to the community."

Maria lives in Copley, and misses her family in New York and Barbados, but enjoys her "extended family" here in Ohio.



**Cecelia Moreland**, a senior at the Bio-Med Academy on the NEOMED campus, has a strong background in graphic design and video production. Cecelia was a member of a project team that developed a public service-type announcement focused on Ohio's heroin epidemic. Her group presented their project at Battelle headquarters in Columbus.

As an intern, she will be putting her technical and creative skills to good use. Working closely with Pamela Roeper, the BeST Center's training instructional specialist, Cecelia will be a key part of the creative process and work closely with a team of talented content experts to transform traditional learning experiences into e-content forms using industry-leading software programs.

"I am interested in learning more about psychiatry, but I am also looking at a lot of other options. I want to learn about psychology, about medications and about how the two are interrelated," says Cecelia.

Cecelia is a very busy young woman. In addition to going to school and completing an internship with the BeST Center, she works at a Rootstown restaurant, is the president of her 4-H club and a member of the Portage County Junior Fair Board. She lives in Edinburg with her parents, sister and a menagerie of goats, dogs, cats, rabbits, market turkeys and guinea pigs, some of which she shows at the Portage County Fair.

## Presentations

**Erik Messamore, M.D., Ph.D.**, associate professor of psychiatry and BeST Center medical director, presented “Listening to Clozapine: Using Patterns for Medication Response to Subtype the Schizophrenias” at Summa Health System Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds April 13.

**Amy Lukes, LISW-S**, director of campus safety health initiatives, presented “Developing Statewide College Suicide Prevention Networks” at a Pre-Conference Institute at American Association of Suicidology National Meeting in Phoenix, AZ, Apr. 26.

**Heather Pokrandt, LISW-S**, BeST Center FIRST Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis consultant/trainer and **Valerie Kreider, Ph.D., LPCC-S, LICDC-CS**, senior consultant/trainer for CBT-p, presented “Addressing the Trauma of First Episode Psychosis” at the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Trauma-Informed Care Summit held May 1 in Columbus.

**Nicholas Dunlap, LPCC**, and **Heather Pokrandt, LISW-S**, BeST Center FIRST Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis consultant/trainers, presented “Recognizing and Responding to First Episode Psychosis” at the Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health’s conference in Columbus May 23.

**Erik Messamore, M.D., Ph.D.**, associate professor of psychiatry and BeST Center medical director presented, “Listening to Clozapine: the case for numerous, physiologically distinct schizophrenias” at the Cleveland Clinic/Akron General Medical Center Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Grand Rounds May 25.

**Amy Lukes, LISW-S**, presented “Assisted Outpatient Treatment: A Clinical Approach,” Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Assisted Outpatient Treatment Conference, Rockville, MD, June 1.

**Nichole Ammon, PCC-S**, BeST Center manager of integrated healthcare initiatives, and **Holly Gerzina, Ph.D.**, executive director of NEOMED’s interprofessional education services, presented, “Teamwork for Integrated Mental Health and Primary Care: Adapting TeamSTEPPS to Build Collaborative Competency,” at the 2017 TeamSTEPPS National Conference in Cleveland June 15.

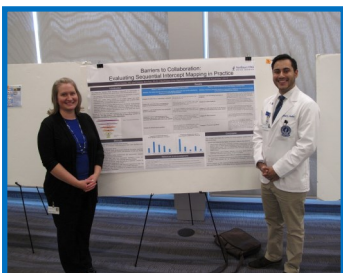
**Nicholas Dunlap, LPCC**, BeST Center FIRST Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis trainer/consultant, presented “Treatment and Recovery Supports for First Episode Psychosis” at the Ohio Promoting Wellness and Recovery (OPEC) Conference at Miami University June 26-28.

**Natalie Bonfine, Ph.D., Mark R. Munetz, M.D., and Christian Ritter, Ph.D.**, presented “Examining Mental Health Courts: Team Approaches to Identifying and Addressing Criminogenic Risk and Behavioral Health Needs of People with Severe Mental Illness” at the International Congress of Law and Mental Health in Prague July 9-14.

**Danelle Hupp, Ph.D.; Erik Messamore, M.D., Ph.D.; Ruth Simera, M.Ed., LSW; Nicholas Dunlap, M.Ed., LPCC; Bryn Oldham, M.Ed., LPCC**, and **Valerie Kreider, Ph.D., LPCC-S, LICDC-CS**, presented “Schizophrenia: Causes, Treatments and Criminal Justice” to a University of Akron Master of Social Work class July 26.

**Patti Fetzer, LISW-S**, BeST Center director, **Heather Pokrandt, LISW-S**, and **Nick Dunlap, LPCC**, BeST Center FIRST Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis consultant/trainers presented “First Episode Psychosis: Recognition and Recommendations for Treatment” a statewide webinar for ENGAGE Counties, Wraparound teams, and Family and Children First Councils hosted by Center for Innovative Practices Aug. 18.

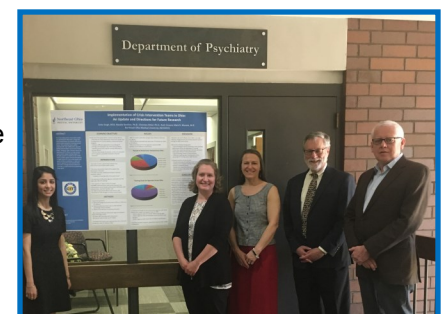
**Amy Lukes, LISW-S** was invited to participate as an expert panel participant at the SAMHSA Student Mental and Behavioral Health Issues on Community Colleges in Rockville, MD, Aug. 24.



Summer Research Fellow **Nikhil Nadler**, College of Medicine Class of 2020, (pictured at left with **Natalie Bonfine, Ph.D.**) presented the results of his Summer Research Fellowship with the Department of Psychiatry. Nikhil worked with Dr. Bonfine on a project titled “Barriers and Facilitators to Cross-Systems Collaboration: Assessing Stakeholder Perspectives of Sequential Intercept Mapping.”

**Evita Singh**, College of Medicine Class of 2018, won first place for a poster she presented in Columbus in March at the 13th Annual All Ohio Institute on Community Psychiatry.

Singh co-wrote her poster, “Implementation of Crisis Intervention Teams in Ohio: An Update and Directions for Future Research” with **Natalie Bonfine, Ph.D., Ruth Simera, M.Ed., LSW, Mark R. Munetz, M.D. and Christian Ritter, Ph.D.** (pictured at right with Ms. Singh).



## Publications

**Reed, E., Crane, D., Svendsen, D., Herman, L., Evans, B., Niedermier, J., Niedermier, J., Resch, W., Ronis, R., Varley, J., Welton, R.** (2016). Behavioral Health and Primary Care Integration in Ohio's Psychiatry Residency Training. *Academic Psychiatry*, volume 40 (issue 6), pp 880-886

**Wilson, A.B., Bonfine, N., Farkas, K., Duda-Banwar, J.** (2017). Translating Interventions that Target Criminogenic Risk Factors for use in Community-based Mental Health Settings. *Community Mental Health Journal*. In press. DOI 10.1007/s10597-017-0119-6

**Wilson, A.B., Farkas, K., Bonfine, N., Duda-Banwar, J.** (2017). Interventions that Target Criminogenic Needs for Justice-Involved Persons with Serious Mental Illness: A Targeted Service Delivery Approach. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*. In press. DOI: 10.1177/0306624X17695588

**Bonshtrin, U., Torem, M.** (2017). Forward Affect Bridge. *Intl. Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis*, 65(1), 43-51

**Markley, L.A.** (2017) Recognizing Toxidromes From Digitally Accessed Illicit Drugs. *Psychiatric Times*, Volume XXXIV (issue 4). 1-3

**Moshe Torem, M.D.** had three published chapters in a book titled "Handbook of Medical and Psychological Hypnosis," published by Springer Publishing Company (2017). His chapters are titled Autoimmune Disorders (chapter 16, pp169-177), Depression (Chapter 56, pp 505-521) and Eating Disorders (Chapter 57, pp 523-534.)

**Laura Markley, M.D.** was interviewed for an article for *Ask the Doctor*, Anxiety. Your Teen. May-June 2017

**Erik Messamore, M.D., Ph.D.**, associate professor of psychiatry and BeST Center medical director, had a paper, "The niacin response biomarker as a schizophrenia endophenotype: A status update," published in *Prostaglandins, Leukotrienes and Essential Fatty Acids*.

## Notable Achievements

Congratulations to The County of Summit on earning the NACo 2017 Achievement Award for "Bringing Mental Health to Main Street." This award honors innovative, effective county government programs that enhance services for residents. NACo recognized the county-wide collaboration of agencies in Summit County, non-profits, government and businesses to support this effort.

Congratulations to **Altaf Darvesh, Ph.D.**, who was selected to receive the 2017 College of Pharmacy P2 Teacher of the Year Award. Award recipients are selected by second-year pharmacy students.

Congratulations to **Tetyana Bodnar, M.D.** ('15), and **Rakin Hoq, M.D.** ('16), who received 2017 Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Awards. Drs. Bodnar and Hoq are both residents in the Summa Health System/NEOMED psychiatry residency program. They were presented their awards at the Student Clinicians Ceremony and Luncheon on July 28, 2017.



*NEOMED's Department of Psychiatry trains undergraduate medical students, partners with Summa Health System and Akron General Health System to offer a general psychiatry residency program and has an affiliation with a child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship based at Akron Children's Hospital. The Department of Psychiatry also serves as an incubator for bringing evidence-based and promising practices to hospitals, clinics and communities. The department is home to the Best Practices in Schizophrenia Treatment (BeST) Center, the Ohio Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence, the Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health and the Center for Community Mental Health Research.*