



The American Family Therapy Academy (AFTA) will host its 34th Annual Meeting, accompanied by an open conference for Family Therapists from around the world.

# FAMILY RESILIENCE

## SAN FRANCISCO | MAY 16-19, 2012\*

### SAVE THE DATE

An open invitation to all those interested in the latest advances to the field of family therapy

The American Family Therapy Academy (AFTA) welcomes senior family therapists, researchers of family processes, students, and early career professionals interested in an opportunity to learn about and discuss the most innovative work in family therapy practice, theory, and research.

AFTA will convene a one-day (1) Annual Meeting for its members and their invited guests, followed by a two and one-half (2.5) day open conference which AFTA will host for the wider community, bringing together presenters and attendees from around the world. Together we will explore the theme of Family Resilience.

To ensure the event provides an intimate atmosphere for participation and dialogue, registration has been limited to 350 attendees. Those attending will hear presentations and be given the chance to reflect on innovations in therapeutic practice by those who are actively advancing our understanding of family therapy and family processes across cultures and contexts.

**\*NOTE:** Call for Submission of Abstracts for Posters, Brief Presentations and Interest Groups will be available at [afta.org](http://afta.org) later this summer. Closing date for submissions will be **October 30, 2011**.

## FEATURED SPEAKERS



### DR. GABOR MATÉ

Gabor Maté, MD, is a physician and best-selling author of *In the Realm of Hungry Ghosts: Close Encounters with Addiction*, which was awarded the Hubert Evans prize for literary non-fiction. In this latest book,

Dr. Maté looks at the epidemic of addictions in our society and proposes a compassionate approach to helping drug addicts and, for the many behaviour addicts among us, to addressing the void addiction is meant to fill. Throughout his career, Dr. Maté has been a family practitioner and Medical Coordinator of the Palliative Care Unit at Vancouver Hospital, caring for the terminally ill. For twelve years he worked in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside with patients challenged by hard core drug addiction, mental illness and HIV. His other interests encompass childhood developmental issues, childhood and adolescent mental health, and parenting issues, as discussed in his books *Scattered*, on attention deficit disorder, and *Hold On To Your Kids: Why Parents Need to Matter More Than Peers*. He also has a unique view of stress and the mind/body unity in health and illness, the subject of his most-translated work, *When The Body Says No: Exploring The Stress/Disease Connection*.



### DR. ARVIND SINGHAL

Dr. Arvind Singhal is the Samuel Shirley and Edna Holt Marston Endowed Professor of Communication and Director of the Social Justice Initiative in University of Texas at El Paso's Department of

Communication. He is also appointed as the William J. Clinton Distinguished Fellow at the Clinton School of Public Service, Little Rock, Arkansas. Singhal teaches and conducts research in the diffusion of innovations, the positive deviance approach, organizing for social change, and the entertainment-education strategy. Singhal is co-author or editor of 11 books, including *Inviting Everyone: Healing Healthcare through Positive Deviance* (2010); *Protecting Children from Exploitation and Trafficking: Using the Positive Deviance Approach* (2009); and *Organizing for Social Change* (2006). Three of Singhal's books won awards for distinguished applied scholarship. He has authored 150 peer-reviewed essays in such outlets as the *Journal of Communication and Communication Theory*. The Social Science Research Council and the International Communication Association recognized Singhal as the winner of the *Communication Research as Collaborative Practice Award* in 2009 and the winner of the *Communication Researcher as an Agent of Change Award* in 2008.



### DR. MINDY FULLILOVE

Mindy Thompson Fullilove, MD, is a research psychiatrist at New York State Psychiatric Institute and a professor of clinical psychiatry and public health at Columbia University. She has conducted research

on AIDS and other epidemics of poor communities, with a special interest in the relationship between the collapse of communities and decline in health. From her research, she has published *Root Shock: How Tearing Up City Neighborhoods Hurts America and What We Can Do About It*, and *The House of Joshua: Meditations on Family and Place*. She has also published numerous articles, book chapters, and monographs. She has received many awards, including inclusion on "Best Doctors" lists and two honorary doctorates (Chatham College, 1999, and Bank Street College of Education, 2002). Her work in AIDS is featured in Jacob Levenson's *The Secret Epidemic: The Story of AIDS in Black America*. Her current work focuses on the connection between urban dysfunction and mental health.

## THREE FEATURED PLENARIES:

1. Resilience in Couples Up Against Personal and Political Life Stressors
2. Family Resilience: Advances in Systemic Theory, Practice, and Research
3. The Crocodile Lives in the Water, Yet Breathes the Air: Adaptations of Families Across Cultures and Contexts.