

# *South Dakota Counseling Association 2026 Annual Conference*

**2026 South Dakota Counseling Association Annual Conference**

**CELEBRATING EACH OTHER TOGETHER**



*DoubleTree by Hilton  
Rapid City Downtown Convention Center  
Rapid City, South Dakota  
April 23-25, 2026*



# Welcome to the 2026 SDCA Conference



**This year has been busy and gone by fast. So what has our board been up to this year? This year we continued to implement our board restructuring and started to streamline and formalize policy and procedures. Our focus has been to build and support our community of counselors.**

- **Membership committee created new logos, created a membership handbook for new and renewing members, and implemented a fall membership drive to bring in new members.**
- **Education committee established presenters for monthly webinars and conference speakers to bring in quality training opportunities for our members. They partnered with members to provide ethics-focused webinars and conference presentations.**
- **Government Relations committee focused on increasing counselors' impact on the legislative process. They created a handout about our organization for state legislators, developed a list of legislators to contact and develop relationships with, provided resources for online legislative training, and worked hard in advocating for professional counselors in our state during the legislative session.**
- **Professional Leadership committee connected emerging leaders with committees and developed resources to spread the word about our organization with graduate students. They also initiated a successful Leadership Training in conjunction with Day on the Hill.**
  - **Operations committee kept finances up to date and monitored any changes ACA is making that may impact our bylaws.**
  - **SDNACA welcomed new leadership.**
- **SDSCA hosted another successful Counselor Connections and worked on moving forward with conversations about a change in structure with SDCA. They hosted several Counselor Collaborations on zoom (Legislative Information, NSCW, ACT, SDMyLife) and communicated with their members via a monthly newsletter.**
- **SDMHCA focused on increasing membership. This included increased outreach to sister organizations, incentivizing new members, regional advertising, student engagement and more.**

**As leaders in this state, counselors are making a significant impact in our communities and with the individuals we interact with each day. So much is happening in this state because of the work of counselors. Thank you for all the work that you do!**

**Sara Kuchler, SDCA President**

# ***Conference Sponsors***

*These sponsors support the mission of SDCA. Our mission is to promote the development of Professional Counselors, to practice respect for human dignity, and cultural diversity. We want to thank all of our Friends of Counseling and cherish our partnership with them for their continued support as we move forward as a Professional Counseling Organization.*

## ***Platinum Level \$1500+***

*South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault of Sioux Falls, SD*

*Youth and Family Services, Inc of Rapid City, SD*

## ***Gold Level \$1200+***

## ***Silver Level \$900***

## ***Bronze Level \$600***

*St. Josephs Indian School*

*South Dakota State University College of Nursing*

*South Dakota Army National Guard*

*Ruling Our eXperiences, INC. (ROX)*

# ***Exhibitors and Advertisers***

*A special thank you to our exhibitors for joining us at the 2026 SDCA Annual Conference. We appreciate your support!*

*Western Prevention Resource Center (Youth and Family Services)*

*Anne Marie Counseling & Yoga Therapy*

*American Red Cross*

*Abbott House*

*ACT, Inc.*

*SpEd Forms*

*Essential Options ~ doTERRA Integrative Health & Wellness, Essential Oils*

*Department of Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health*

*Thrive Therapy Collective*

*Al-Anon & Alateen*

*Emily's Hope*

*Black Hills Special Services Cooperative*

*Empower Professional Home Services*

*Osteo Strong*

*Boxelder Job Corps*

*Gideons International*

*Mitchell Technical College*

*MWI Health*

*Lutheran Social Services*

*Empire Mental Health Supports*

*Council on College Admissions in SD*

*ASVAB*

*Bloom Financial Services (Principal Financial)*

## **2025-2026 SDCA Board of Directors**

*President: Sara Kuehler*

*President Elect: Danielle Schonebaum*

*Past President: Stephanie Lund*

*Secretary: Stephanie Traversie*

*Treasurer: Amy Hauge*

*Executive Director: Sadie Hanson*

### **Areas of Specialty Representatives**

*South Dakota Mental Health Counseling President: Cindy Goehring*

*South Dakota School Counseling President: Amanda Bender*

*South Dakota Native American Counseling President: Charisse Bordeaux*

### **South Dakota Counseling Association Committees**

#### **Professional Leadership Committee**

**Co-Chairs:** *Stacy Solsaa (Emerging Leaders)*  
*Carrie Jorgenson (Grad Students)*  
*Lane Madsen (Leadership Trainings)*  
*Junwei Jia (Leadership Trainings)*

#### **Operations Committee**

**Chair:** *Margie Neugebauer (By-Laws)*  
*Amanda Bender (By-Laws)*  
*Ashley Seeklander (Finance)*  
*Morgan Bain (Technology)*

#### **Government Relations and Advocacy Committee**

**Co-Chairs:** *Anne Dilenschneider (SDANW Rep)*  
*Duane Kavanaugh*  
*Ashley Seeklander (SDANW and SDSCA Rep)*  
*Brittany Henry-James*  
*Chelsey Groseclose*

#### **Membership Committee**

**Chair:** *Stephanie Lund*  
*Stephanie Traversie*  
*Rebecca Glover*  
*Carrie Reinders*  
*Tracie Ritz*  
*Lola Blue Earth*  
*Janey Appletoft-Knie*  
*Michelle Pliska*

#### **Education and Ethics Committee**

**Chair:** *Joy Anderson*  
*Sara Kuehler*  
*Rachael Anderson*  
*Adam Hardy - Ethics*



## **2026 Conference Moderators**

*Amber Skjervem*

*Kuna Mohamed*

*Jason P. Van Dyke*

*Jaden Harper*

*Isabel Reyes*

*Ryan Bachman*

*Carl Mathews*

*Johanna Harrison*

*Cole Hager*

*Kendra O'neal*

*Savannah Pewitt*

## **2027 SDCA Annual Conference**

*April 29-May 1, 2027*

*Best Western Plus Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center, Sioux Falls, SD*

# OSTEO STRONG®

1600 Mt View Rd Suite 108  
Rapid City SD, 57705  
605-389-3684

**STRONGER BONES.  
BETTER BALANCE.  
MORE STRENGTH.**

- Improve **bone density**
- Increase **strength and stability**
- Support **joint health**
- Only 10 minutes once per week



**STAND TALLER  
FEEL STRONGER  
REACH HIGHER  
LIVE HAPPIER**

## EMPOWER. HOME SERVICES

### SENIOR LIVING TRANSITIONS



Moving into Independent Living isn't just about changing addresses—it's about finding comfort, peace, and a sense of home.

- Collaborate with movers to get your home packed up and ready to move.
- Partner with Independent Living facilities to relocate you or your loved ones.
- Unpack, assemble, hang up, and more—we'll help you make your home "home" quickly

We specialize in moving clients into Independent Living Centers, and when the time comes, we also assist with transitions into Assisted Living or Memory Care Units.



In partnership with counselors and other support professionals, we help clients create organized, happy spaces whether settling in or starting fresh in an Independent Living Facility



Contact Us For More Info

- 605-323-9116
- 1609 E Cedar St, Brandon, SD 57005
- empowerproorganizing@gmail.com
- www.makingspacehappy.com

### ORGANIZATION



We know how a cluttered home can weigh on the mind and emotions. Our professional organization services are here to help you simplify your space, reduce overwhelm, and create a home that supports peace, productivity, and personal growth.

- Sort, purge, and donate your unwanted items
- Purchase and assemble closet systems, bins, baskets, hooks, and more
- Organize your space for everyday life and easy upkeep

Together, we'll create an environment that nurtures your emotional well-being. After all, when your space feels lighter, you do too.

**QUICK GLANCE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS***A map of the Convention Center can be found on next page.***Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Conference Registration Opens *Pre Convention Area*  
7:30 p.m. SDCA Board Meeting *Private Dining*

**Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

8:15 a.m. Preconference & Conference Registration Opens *Pre Convention Area*  
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. SDMHCA Preconference Workshop *Room ABC 6.0 CE Hours*  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. SDSCA Preconference Workshop *Room FGH 6.0 CE Hours*  
6:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. SDCA Conference Opening Welcome *Room DE*  
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Opening Keynote *1.0 CE Hour*

**Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**

7:15 a.m. Conference Registration Opens *Pre Convention Area*  
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Exhibitors & Vendor Fair *Atrium Area*  
8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Opening Remarks/Sponsorship Recognition/Keynote Address *Room DE 1.5 Hours*  
9:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Morning Break  
9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Breakout Session I *1.0 CE Hour*  
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Breakout Session II *1.0 CE Hour*  
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. SDMHCA Luncheon and Membership Meeting *Black Hills Ballroom*  
SDSCA Luncheon and Membership Meeting *Room ABC*  
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Breakout Session III *1.0 CE Hour*  
2:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. Afternoon Break/Snack  
2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Breakout Session IV *1.0 CE Hour*  
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Breakout Session V *1.0 CE Hour*  
5:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. SDNACA Meeting *Room ABC*  
6:45 p.m. Opening Song and Prayer by Liv Two Lance, Miss Teen Rosebud *Room DE*  
7:00 p.m. President's Reception and SDCA Awards Banquet and Graduate Student Scholarship Fundraiser  
followed with panel roundtable discussion for entertainment.

**Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**

7:15 a.m. Conference Registration Opens *Pre Convention Area*  
8:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Exhibitors & Vendor Fair *Atrium Area*  
8:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Supervision Session *3.5 CE Hours*  
10:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. Ethics Session *2.0 CE Hours*  
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Breakout Session VI *1.0 CE Hour*  
9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Breakout Session VII *1.0 CE Hour*  
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Breakout Session VIII *1.0 CE Hour*



*anne marie*  
COUNSELING + YOGA THERAPY

2200 W. 49th St. Suite 105, Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
 annemarie@annemariecyt.com  
 Tel: 605-376-8810  
 www.annemariecyt.com



**2026 EVENTS**

**FALL COUNSELOR WORKSHOPS**

9/9	<i>Rapid City</i> South Dakota School of Mines & Tech	9/15	<i>Watertown</i> Lake Area Technical College
9/10	<i>Pierre</i> Lake Area Visitor Center	9/16	<i>Aberdeen</i> Northern State University <i>*Virtual session date as well*</i>
9/14	<i>Sioux Falls</i> Southeast Technical College	9/17	<i>Mitchell</i> Mitchell Technical College

*Topics: College & Career, FAFSA, SDBOR, PLP, ACT, Scholarships, PLUS all on-site attendees receive a free 2026 Counselor Directory.*

**20 + FALL COLLEGE FAIRS**

9/28-10/1 WESTERN SD  
 10/13-10/15 - CENTRAL SD  
 10/19-10/22 - EASTERN SD  
 10/26-10/29 - SIOUX FALLS SCHOOLS  
 & MORE EASTERN FAIRS

**Admissions Institute**

*Country Inn & Suites*  
 Watertown  
 Aug 5 & 6

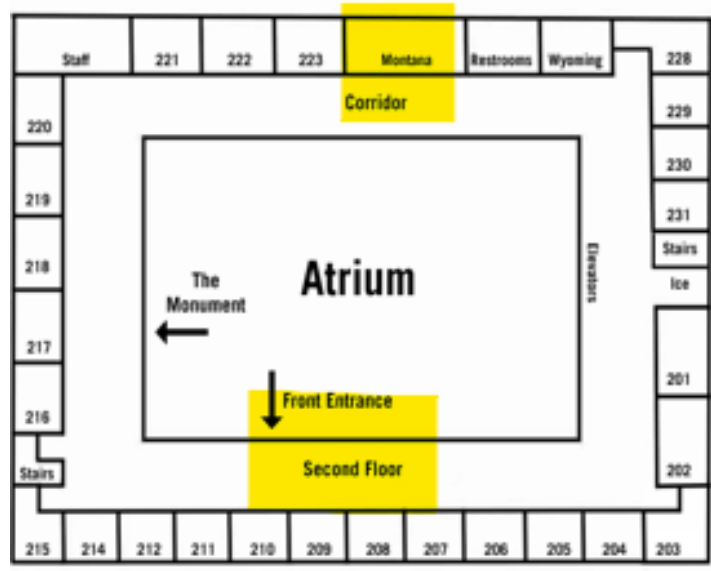
*Register for events at*

**Council on College Admission in South Dakota**  
**SDCollegeAdmissions.com**



DOUBLETREE  
by Hilton™

RAPID CITY DOWNTOWN  
CONVENTION CENTER



# ROX HELPS YOU HELP GIRLS.

Bring the evidence-based program  
to your school!

**"MY 6<sup>TH</sup> & 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS ARE ACTIVELY USING THE SKILLS THEY'VE LEARNED, ENGAGING IN MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS, AND CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER".**

Nicole Shackelford, Counselor and ROX Facilitator  
Aberdeen Middle School, Aberdeen, Idaho



**ROX**  
RULING OUR EXPERIENCES



The ROX program directly addresses South Dakota's Mindsets & Behaviors for Student Success – building self-confidence, coping skills, and advocacy in girls at **no cost**. School Counselors may also qualify for a \$1,000 personal scholarship to attend training.

**Applications Open NOW!**

[www.rulingourexperiences.org](http://www.rulingourexperiences.org)

# Keynote Speakers



**Stand Up for Mental Health**  
*presented by David Granirer, RPC, M.S.M.*  
**1.0 Contact Hours**

In this hilarious presentation, counselor and stand-up comic David Granirer, who has bipolar, looks at how comedy builds confidence and busts stigma around mental health issues. He'll show you mental health from a totally different perspective while uplifting, inspiring and educating you.



**Trauma and Healing in our Communities**  
*presented by Dr. Darryl Tonemah, Ph.D., M.Ed., B.S., B.S., B.S.*  
**1.5 Contact Hours**

This presentation explores how stress and trauma affect individuals across biological, psychological, and social levels. Participants will learn how the nervous system, brain, and stress hormones influence behavior, emotions, and health outcomes. The session also examines how family systems, culture, and social environments shape the experience of trauma and recovery. Evidence-based approaches to healing—including nervous system regulation, social connection, and trauma-informed practices—will be discussed. Attendees will gain practical insights for supporting resilience and healing in individuals, families, and communities.

***Dr. Darryl Tonemah is coming to SDCA's 2026 Conference in Partnership with South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault.***



Together, we are  
**The Network.**

South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault

# Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>

**8:15 a.m. Conference Registration Opens Pre Convention Area**

**9 a.m. - 4 p.m. SDSCA Pre-Conference Workshop Room FGH**

## **Support Grieving Students**

*presented by Genevieve Nelson, LPC, NCC, Certified School Counselor*

(12 to 1 p.m. Lunch on your own)

**6.0 Contact Hours**

It is estimated that more than 6.4 million U.S. children are bereaved. More than 200,000 children have lost parents or caregivers to COVID-19 alone. One in 11 children will experience the death of a parent or caregiver by the age of 18. Such loss can destroy a child's sense of safety, upend any sense of normalcy and completely reconfigure their understanding of the world. As school counselors, how are we serving our grieving students? Dive deeper into understanding grief and all its complications in today's world. Through an overview of new and former grief work theories, understand the needs of the bereaved, while examining the societal stigmas and barriers many grievers experience.

**9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. SDMHCA Pre-Conference Workshop Room ABC**

## **Being Funny Makes Life Easier: Using Humor, Somatic Movement, CBT, and REBT Techniques to Improve Resilience and Emotional Regulation**

*presented by Krista Arnold, MsEd, LMHCA*

(12 to 1:30 p.m. Lunch on your own)

**6.0 Contact Hours**

This workshop explores the intentional use of humor as a clinically sound tool for emotional regulation, nervous system stabilization, and cognitive flexibility. Drawing from Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy (REBT), somatic psychology, and the neuroscience of humor, participants will learn how humor—when used ethically and intentionally—can reduce stress responses, increase psychological resilience, and improve client engagement.

The presentation integrates psychoeducation with experiential components, including gentle somatic movement, rhythm-based regulation techniques, and cognitive reframing exercises. Participants will examine how humor impacts the nervous system, supports cognitive restructuring, and helps clients tolerate distress without minimizing pain. Practical applications will be provided for clinicians, educators, and helping professionals seeking evidence-informed tools to support emotional regulation, burnout prevention, and therapeutic rapport.

**6:45 p.m. - 7 p.m. SDCA Conference Opening Welcome & Membership Meeting**

**Room DE**

**7 p.m. - 8 p.m. Opening Keynote**

## **Stand Up for Mental Health**

*presented by David Granirer, RPC, MSM*

**1.0 Contact Hours**

In this hilarious presentation, counsellor and stand-up comic David Granirer who has bipolar, looks at how comedy builds confidence and busts stigma around mental health issues. He'll show you mental health from a totally different perspective while uplifting, inspiring and educating you.

**8 p.m. University Social**

All are welcome to attend with refreshments served.

**Room DE**



**SpEd Forms**  
Simply powerful education software.  
Proudly based in South Dakota.

---

SpEd Forms   MA Forms   MA Services  
504 Forms   Health Forms

“ The implementation of SpEd Forms is expected to significantly enhance our staff's ability to collaborate on IEP documents, allowing multiple team members to work on different sections of a student's file simultaneously. ”

Dr. Keyra Comer  
Director of Special Services, Rapid City Area Schools

 [www.spedforms.com](http://www.spedforms.com)

We simplify documentation, giving educators more time to focus on what truly matters - their students.

 5000 S MacArthur Lane #109  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108    866-796-1848



Youth & Family  
Services™

Counseling Center

## A TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH TO CARE

Youth & Family Services provides trauma-informed mental health services designed to support children, families, and individuals impacted by adversity.

### ***Family Violence & Intervention***

- Family violence programming
- Domestic violence perpetrator groups (men and women)
- Advocacy and support services

### **Trauma Assessment & Treatment**

- Trauma screenings and assessments
- Trauma-focused therapy
- Individual, family, and group therapy

### **Specialized Therapeutic Services**

- Equine-assisted therapy
- Play, art, and sand therapy
- Mental health and substance use counseling

We work closely with mental health professionals across the region to support referrals, collaboration, and shared care. For those interested, there are also opportunities to join our team and be part of this work.

[www.YouthandFamilyServices.org](http://www.YouthandFamilyServices.org)



# Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

<b>7:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Conference Registration Opens</b>	<b>Pre Convention Area</b>
<b>8 a.m. - 4 p.m.</b>	<b>Vendor/Exhibitor Fair</b>	<b>Atrium</b>
<b>8 - 9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Opening Remarks, Sponsorship Recognition, and Keynote Address</b>	<b>Room DE</b>

## **Trauma and Healing in our Communities**

*presented by Dr. Darryl Tonemah, PhD, MEd, BS, BS, BS*

**1.5 Contact Hours**

This presentation explores how stress and trauma affect individuals across biological, psychological, and social levels. Participants will learn how the nervous system, brain, and stress hormones influence behavior, emotions, and health outcomes. The session also examines how family systems, culture, and social environments shape the experience of trauma and recovery. Evidence-based approaches to healing—including nervous system regulation, social connection, and trauma-informed practices—will be discussed. Attendees will gain practical insights for supporting resilience and healing in individuals, families, and communities.

**9:30 - 9:45 a.m.**      **Break**

**9:45 - 10:45 a.m.**      **Breakout Session I**

**(1.0 Contact Hours)**

**Location: Montana (Second Floor)**

**Title:** Dying to Talk About Death

**Presenters** Amelia Chiarenza, INELDA trained death doula, coach, kinesiologist & founder of Cultivate Being™ and Tabatha Western, MS, LPC Supervisee, founder of Qavah Life Counseling & Coaching

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** In this session co-led by a counselor and death doula, we'll focus on how to show up with presence, humility and empathy as you journey alongside clients experiencing loss without pathologizing natural responses to grief. Participants will explore techniques to help address preparation, self-care and recovery. Discover ways to think about your own mortality; practice presence before, during and after sessions with clients; authentically honor yourself and those you serve.

**Location: Private Dining**

**\*\*\*Qualifies for Supervision CE\*\*\***

**Title:** The Effects of Executive Function and Organizational Support on the Perceived and Aspirational Wellness of Counselors with ADHD

**Presenter:** Abigail Van Patten-Freeman PhD, LMHC (IA), CCMHC, NCC

**Setting:** Clinical

**Description:** This session presents new research on how executive function and perceived organizational support shape the wellness of counselors with ADHD. Participants will learn how ADHD-related needs impact professional functioning and what organizational practices best promote sustainable counselor wellness. The workshop offers evidence-based recommendations for counselors, supervisors, administrators, and counselor educators.

**Location: Black Hills Ballroom**

**Title:** Reclaiming and Strengthening School Counselor Professional Identity

**Presenter:** Jeff Heavlin, MA

**Setting:** School

**Description:** With ever increasing demands and caseloads, school counselors must also contend with an erosion of their professional identity. This session will explore what professional identity is, the literature regarding factors diluting this professional identity, as well as share recommendations on how school counselors, counselor educators, and school leadership can mitigate these challenges. An improved sense of professional identity can increase job satisfaction and enhance school counselor effectiveness.

**Location: Room FGH****Title:** When Helping Hurts and Serving Satisfies**Presenter:** Ashley Wasserburger, Education Director at Working Against Violence Inc.**Setting:** Both**Description:** This interactive session will examine the highs and lows of helping professions. We will discuss risk and protective factors as well as everyday tools for prevention and intervention of burnout and vicarious trauma. We will also relish the positives of our work by discussing compassion satisfaction and vicarious resilience. Wellness and self-check in activities are built in.**Location: Room ABC****\*\*\*Qualifies for Ethics CE\*\*\*****Title:** Providing LGBTQ+ Affirming Mental Health Care**Presenter:** Brianna Heppler, LMFT, CSTIP**Setting:** Clinical**Description:** This training centers on defining the most commonly used terminology in the LGBTQIA2S+ community, defining the types of transitions, and what it means to provide affirming care. We will address WPATH standards of care. Lastly, we will address some of the most common myths about transgender people.**10:45 - 11 a.m. Break****11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Breakout Session II****(1.0 Contact hours)****Location: Black Hills Ballroom****Title:** Keynote Continuation**Presenter:** Dr. Darryl Tonemah, PhD, MEd, BS, BS, BS**Setting:** Both**Description:** Continuation of keynote address**Location: Private Dining****Title:** Counselor First and Teacher Second: A Full Semester High School Career Exploration Curriculum**Presenter:** Morgan Robey, MS, High School Counselor**Setting:** School**Description:** As school counselors are often asked to deliver career-focused instruction, many find themselves navigating the unique challenge of teaching full courses while balancing their counseling role. This session is designed to equip school counselors with the tools, structure, and confidence needed to successfully teach experiential and individualized career exploration lessons at the high school level, whether they need a few days or 18 weeks' worth. Participants will receive a complete semester calendar and instructional plan, along with a wide range of ready-to-use resources, lesson ideas, and activities that promote student engagement, self-exploration, and real-world career awareness.**Location: Montana (Second Floor)****Title:** Providing Services and Supports for Transition Age Youth**Presenter:** Staci Johnson, CSW-PIP, Vice President, Program Operations Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota; Andrea Heronimus, BS, Mental Health Services Program Manager Department of Social Services-Division of Behavioral Health**Setting:** Both**Description:** The intensive independent living program is intended to serve young adults identified with serious emotional disturbance (SED) or serious mental illness (SMI) as they transition into adulthood. The program will coordinate community services including housing, mental health services, and support services targeted at assisting the young adult develop independent living skills, developing community support, and obtaining employment. Many of the young adults entering this program have spent much of their life in placements, therefore have not been able to develop these skills.

**Location: Room FGH**

**Title:** Coming Together Understanding DID Nuances, Supporting System Collaboration, and Celebrating Each System's Unique Strengths

**Presenter:** Connie Nelson, MA, LPC-MH, LAC

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** This workshop reframes Dissociative Identity Disorder through a trauma-informed, strengths-based lens, emphasizing multiplicity as an adaptive response rather than a pathology. Participants will learn to recognize often-missed clinical indicators of DID, support internal communication and collaboration, and apply practical, consent-centered strategies in their work. By challenging persistent myths with modern, evidence-informed perspectives, the session celebrates every system and every part with curiosity, respect, and affirmation.

**12 - 1:30 p.m.**

**SDSCA Luncheon & Business Meeting**

**Room ABC**

**SDMHCA Luncheon & Business Meeting**

**Black Hills**

**Ballroom**

**1:30 - 2:30 p.m.**

**Breakout Session III**

**(1.0 Contact Hour)**

**Location: Montana (Second Floor)**

**Title:** Being Strength Based in a Challenging World

**Presenter:** Stacy Hayford, LPC-MH

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** Do you feel like negativity is just waiting around the corner to consume you or your clients? Be ready for any challenge by learning how to identify your own and others' strengths. Shift from thinking "What's wrong?" to "What's strong!" with practical tools to boost hope and resilience.

**Location: Private Dining**

**\*\*\*Qualifies for Supervision CE\*\*\***

**Title:** Got Interns? Removing Barriers for Military-Affiliated Graduate Students

**Presenter:** Jessica Stringfield, LPC-S, LCSW-S (she/her)

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** This interactive workshop will discuss some of the unique challenges our military community (active duty, reserve, guard, veterans, and family members) faces when trying to complete a graduate-level degree in mental health (clinical mental health, marriage and family, psychology, social work) degrees. This workshop will include current best practices for mental health graduate-level interns, degree program accreditation requirements, and positive/negative reasons for taking on interns.

**Location: Black Hills Ballroom**

**Title:** Step-by-Step Behavior Strategies to Help All Students Celebrate Success

**Presenter:** Deb Zebill, MA, MTSS Coordinator; Stephanie Weideman, BS, MSAS, MTSS Coordinator

**Setting:** School

**Description:** This session will explore potential options for developing behavioral skills, discuss effective instructional strategies for teaching these skills in individual or small group settings, and provide support for students in generalizing these skills to promote overall success.

**Location: Room ABC**

**Title:** Where Science Meets Intuition: A Human Approach to Helping

**Presenter:** Annie Graterra, LMHP, CHT, CHTP

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** This presentation has sparked many inspired conversations about what more is possible beyond traditional approaches to therapy and the helping professions. Bridging neuroscience, polyvagal theory, and quantum physics with intuition, participants will see how the universal response to stress & trauma affects our nervous system and behavior, and how accessing somatic wisdom—which transcends cultural, demographic, and diagnostic categories—creates profound, lasting change. Through a somatic meditation, participants will be guided to access their own embodied wisdom, where they'll experience this very human approach to helping that honors each person's unique truth.

**Location: Room FGH****Title:** Your State Licensing Board: Conversations with the South Dakota Board of Examiners for Counselors & Marriage and Family Therapists**Presenter:** Jennifer Stalley, JD, Executive Secretary, Board of Examiners for Counselors & Marriage and Family Therapists**Setting:** Both**Description:** This session will allow you to hear about the work of the state licensing board and ask questions you may have about your license, your practice, or areas the board is watching in the profession. The board will discuss emerging trends in the practice of counseling and provide guidance, as available, in these areas. The board also welcomes feedback from licensees and prospective licensees on the laws and rules governing their license and practice during this session.**2:30-2:45 p.m.****Break****2:45-3:45 p.m.****Breakout Session IV****(1.0 Contact Hour)****Location: Montana (Second Floor)****Title:** Better Together: Empowering Parents to Raise Kind, Happy, Resilient Children**Presenter:** Sheila Anderson, K-12 School Counselor**Setting:** Both**Description:** This session explores science-based strategies from Dr. Amit Sood's "Dancing in the Elevator" and PACE (Parent and Child Empowerment) framework to help counselors work with parents to help lessen anxiety and digital distraction in children. Participants will learn the PACE framework to nurture essential assets in youth: attention, self-worth, and resilience. Attendees will leave with practical, intergenerational tools designed to foster deep emotional connections and steady, supportive relationships.**Location: Private Dining****Title:** Some Birds Don't Fly: Reframing Distress Through Person-Environment**Presenter:** VickiLee Hansen Steffes, MS**Setting:** Both**Description:** This workshop introduces a person-environment fit framework that understands distress as emerging from mismatch between individuals and their contexts rather than from individual deficit or environmental failure. Drawing from neurodiversity-affirming practice, disability studies, Crip Theory, and narrative psychology, participants will explore how diverse bodies, brains, and processing styles interact with real-world environments through brief teaching, guided reflection, and a structured experiential activity. Using bird metaphors as a shared, non-pathologizing language, the session focuses on practical discernment around accommodation, adaptation, and ethical decision-making when mismatch persists, with time for facilitated discussion and questions.**Location: Black Hills Ballroom****Title:** Listening Differently: Play-Informed Tools for School Counselors**Presenter:** Amanda Bender, MS, NCC, SB-RPT**Setting:** School**Description:** Discover how play-informed, expressive interventions can strengthen connection, amplify student voice, and support problem-solving in school counseling settings. This hands-on session will provide participants with structured, ethical tools grounded in solution-focused practices and aligned with the ASCA National Model and MTSS. Attendees will leave with practical strategies they can confidently use to celebrate students' strengths and stories—together.**Location: Room ABC****Title:** Partners in Resilience: Mental Health Counselors in Law Enforcement**Presenter:** Thomas C. Flamboe, PhD, LMFT, QMHP, Spearfish Police Department; Heather Courage, PMHNP-BC, Nurse Practitioner, PCSO**Setting:** Clinical**Description:** Information from two embedded mental health practitioners will be offered to participants who are interested in working with First Responders. Practical ideas will be shared about the culture, the language, and becoming accepted within police and fire departments.

**Location: Room FGH**

**\*\*\*Qualifies for Ethics CE\*\*\***

**Title:** No one in Graduate School Told me I would be dealing with the Legal System (1 of 2)

**Presenter:** Duane Kavanaugh, MS, NCC, CCMHC, LPC/MH, QMHP

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** This is an ethics presentation that addresses Counselors engagement with legal system. School and Mental Health counselors hold a unique position with clients that often involves engagement with the legal system. This presentation looks at the legal system and what counselors should know.

**3:45 - 4 p.m.**

**Break**

**4 - 5 p.m.**

**Breakout Session V**

**(1.0 Contact Hour)**

**Location: Private Dining**

**Title:** Sharpening Your Counseling Edge: Skills Practice Through Play

**Presenter:** Jill Biggar, MS, LPC-Eligible, Certified School Counselor

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** Counselors support others but rarely get structured time to practice their own professional skills. This nonjudgemental, interactive session transforms key counseling skills into engaging games that build confidence, connection, and reflection.

**Location: Black Hills Ballroom**

**Title:** Honoring Ways of Being: Culturally Grounded Counseling with Indigenous Children in Oceti Šakowin Communities

**Presenter:** Charisse Bordeaux, MS, LPC, NCC, QMHP

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** This session explores culturally grounded counseling approaches for working with Indigenous children in Oceti Šakowin communities. Participants will examine how culture, history, and relational worldviews influence children's behavior, regulation, and healing beyond deficit-based interpretations. Practical strategies grounded in Indigenous knowledge and clinical experience will be shared for application in counseling practice.

**Location: Room ABC**

**Title:** Breaking the Cycle: How the Mind Directs Brain Change for Lasting Transformation

**Presenter:** Dawn Williams, MS, LPC-MH, NBCC

**Setting:** Clinical

**Description:** This neuroscience-informed breakout session provides a clear overview of how the mind directs the brain and body, and how intentional thinking drives measurable neuroplastic change. Participants will examine the distinction between the mind and brain, the relationship between thoughts and memories, the divisions of the mind, and the integrated connection between mind, brain, and body. A brief exploration and introductory overview of a scientifically supported mind-management framework will be provided.

**Location: Room FGH**

**\*\*\*Qualifies for Ethics CEs\*\*\***

**Title:** No one in Graduate School Told me I would be dealing with the Legal System (2 of 2)

**Presenter:** Duane Kavanaugh, MS, NCC, CCMHC, LPC/MH, QMHP

**Setting:** Clinical

**Description:** This is an ethics presentation that addresses Counselors engagement with legal system. School and Mental Health counselors hold a unique position with clients that often involves engagement with the legal system. This presentation looks at the legal system and what counselors should know.

# ***Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> Evening Banquet Room DE***

**6:45 p.m.**      **Opening Song and Prayer by Liv Two Lance, Miss Teen Rosebud;** Current 8<sup>th</sup> Grader attending Todd County Middle School in Mission, South Dakota

**7:00 p.m.**      **President's Reception and SDCA Awards Banquet along with Graduate Student Scholarship Fundraiser**


**Following the Conclusion of the Graduate Student Scholarship Fundraiser:**

**Join us for a Panel Discussion Themed:**

***“What I Wish I had Known” and “What is it REALLY Like”***

***Moderated by: Andrea Effling***

***Panel Members: Margie Neugebauer, Deb Langrehr,  
Debra Butman-Perkins, and Clark Perkins***



# ENTRY LEVEL AND ADVANCED NURSING PROGRAMS

## Bachelor of Science in Nursing Pathways

- Standard Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Online Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing

## Graduate Program Opportunities

- Master of Science
  - Nurse Administrator, Nurse Educator
- Doctor of Nursing Practice
  - Family Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Leader
- Postgraduate Certificate
  - Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Doctor of Philosophy

[SDSTATE.EDU/NURSING](https://www.sdstate.edu/nursing)



**SOUTH DAKOTA  
STATE UNIVERSITY**



# GET READY

When you enroll in one of Mitchell Tech's more than 35 high-demand, high-tech programs, you're not just choosing a college – you're choosing to get ready for what's next.

Why get ready at Mitchell Tech?

- Regionally Unique Programs & Numerous Accreditations
- #9 Best Community College According to SmartAsset
- #13 Best Community College According to WalletHub
- Many Dual Credit Options Available
- 99% Job Placement\*
- The Newest Campus in the Region
- Military Friendly School Since 2010

The bottom line . . . skilled careers don't happen by accident. You have to work hard, learn by doing, and gain real-world experience.

Our mission is to prepare you for a successful, skilled career. Visit campus or explore online to see how you can **Get Ready at Mitchell Technical College.**



[www.mitchelltech.edu](http://www.mitchelltech.edu) • 800.684.1969

\* Job placement is figured by: graduates employed/graduates seeking employment. Graduate outcome data is gathered through graduate surveys, faculty-collected data, and phone surveys started six months after graduation. MTC collected data from 480 of the 488 graduates in 2023-24.

# Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

**7:15 a.m.**                      **Conference Registration Opens. Pre Convention Area**

**8 a.m. - 12 p.m.**              **Vendor/Exhibitor Fair**                                      **Atrium**

**8 - 11:30 a.m.**                **Supervision Session**

## **Foundations of Clinical Supervision**

*Naomi Timm-Davis, PhD, LMFT; Hande Briddick, PhD, NCC; Kuna Mohammed; Skylar Hinricher*  
**Black Hills Ballroom**

### **3.5 Supervision Contact Hours**

Are you interested in becoming a supervisor to expand your practice, diversify your clinical work, or give back to the profession? In this session, presenters will review developmental clinical supervision models and share best practices to help you lay a strong foundation for building your clinical supervision skills. Presenters will share resources, present case studies, and facilitate community and consultation.

**10 a.m. - 12 p.m.**              **Ethics Session**

## **Spiritual and Religious Best Practices in Counseling**

*Margie Ann Neugebauer, MA, CC, CGRMS®, Licensed Brain Health Trainer,  
Certified School Counselor, ELCA Rostered Lay Leader*  
**Room E**

### **2 Ethics Contact Hours**

This session will provide the Spiritual Ethical and Religious Values in Counseling new materials on Best Practices. The ASERVIC association is a division of ACA and abides by ACE Code of Ethics. Participants will be exposed to definitions of spirituality and religion; gain an understanding of the Best Practices through the principles of The Ways Paradigm (Cheston, 1990); Ways of Being, Ways of Understanding, and Ways of Intervening. Tools to identify spiritual abuse/religious trauma will be shared and tools to begin discussions of these topics will be offered. A Resource List to support engagement in the 2025 S/R Best Practices will also be shared.

**8 - 9 a.m.**                      **Breakout Session VI**                                      **(1.0 Contact hour)**

**Location: Room ABC**

**Title:** It's Not a Party without an Elevator Speech: How to Promote the Work You Do

**Presenter:** Andrea Effling, MA, NCC, NSCDA

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** Do you ever wish people understood what you do in your line of work? Bring out the confetti, because this session will walk you through simple steps to create an elevator speech to explain and promote your line of work in counseling. Time will be set aside to create your own elevator speeches. Leave this session ready to party and share what you do!

**Location: Room D**

**Title:** ADHD Superpowers, Strengths, Struggles, and Skillful Practice

**Presenter:** E. Jason Stamper, LPC-MH, NCC, QMHP

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** This presentation reframes ADHD as a condition of regulation rather than deficit, helping participants identify and leverage individual "ADHD superpowers" while skillfully addressing areas of challenge. Integrating current research with lived experience, the presentation introduces Amen Clinics' seven types of ADHD as a practical framework for understanding symptom diversity across students and clients. Attendees will leave encouraged by evidence-based strategies they already use and equipped with an expanded, immediately applicable toolkit for supporting students, parents, teachers, and clients.

**Location: Room E**

**Title:** Understanding Emotional Abuse in Intimate Partners: What a Systematic Review of Research Reveals

**Presenter:** Tanya Brown, PhD; Fey Ramirez, BS; Kendra Reisetter, BS

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** Our presentation aims to address the current gap in the academic research that explores the subjective experiences of survivors during and after an emotionally abusive (EA) relationship. Our presentation investigates the nuances of an emotionally abusive relationship through a systematic review of the current literature. By learning about these individuals' experience in an EA relationship, we as counselors will be able to offer more inclusive and well-informed supportive measures. The idea is to provide school and clinical mental health counseling professionals with information on how to support and advocate for survivors of emotional abuse.

**Location: Room FGH**

**Title:** Prevention is Possible

**Presenter:** Brett Garland, MS, Director of the South Dakota School Safety Center; Angela Waldner, School Safety Specialist

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** Learn to recognize behaviors on the pathway to violence and engage in interventions to prevent tragedies from occurring. A key component: challenging preconceived notions about reporting threatening or concerning behaviors and engaging students to report concerns. But, when prevention isn't possible, learn how understanding the background science of how people behave in high stress events will save lives.

**9 - 9:15 a.m.                      Break**

**9:15 - 10:15 a.m.                Breakout Session VII**

**(1.0 Contact hour)**

**Location: Room ABC**

**Title:** Non-Suicidal Self-Injury in School-Aged Children: Assessing Educators' Knowledge and Professional Development Needs in SD

**Presenter:** Dr. Junwei Jia, PhD, NCC; Maria Martens, School Counselor Student

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** Non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI) among school-aged children is a growing public health concern, with 15-20% of adolescents engaging in self-harm behaviors to cope with emotional distress. Despite its prevalence and strong association with long-term mental health risks, NSSI is often under-addressed in schools. To explore this gap, a survey was conducted among K-12 school educators in SD to assess their knowledge, attitudes, and professional development needs related to NSSI.

**Location: Room D**

**Title:** Working with Adult Clients Across the Autism Spectrum

**Presenter:** Brianna Heppler, LMFT

**Setting:** Clinical

**Description:** Participants will learn practical skills for supporting adult clients across the autism spectrum. We will look at unique strengths these clients bring to sessions and how to best utilize them to encourage growth. We will address how the population has been worked with historically and the impacts that has on building trust in the therapy space. Participants will gain valuable insights into how to enhance their practice and empower autistic adults to achieve their goals.

**10:15 - 10:30 a.m.                Break**

## 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Breakout Session VIII

(1.0 Contact hour)

### **Location: Room ABC**

**Title:** Incorporating Faith in Trauma Treatment

**Presenter:** Autumnne Good, MA, LPC-MH, NCC

**Setting:** Clinical

**Description:** The number of people seeking mental health treatment has increased steadily since 2020. With this increase, more people are seeking treatment that aligns with spiritual values and beliefs. The purpose of this breakout session is to demonstrate how faith can be integrated into CBT, EMDR and IFS modalities to support clients in their mental and spiritual health, especially when trauma is involved. The goal is to provide clinicians with skills to meet clients where they are using effective and individualized treatment by incorporating faith into interventions.

### **Location: Room D**

**Title:** Together in Care: Trauma-Informed Support for Child Survivors of Parental Suicide

**Presenter:** Tanya Brown, PhD; Alandra Harreslon, Graduate Student

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** This session provides trauma-informed guidance for counseling children who have lost a parent to suicide. Participants will learn how parental suicide affects children and how to support both the child and surviving caregiver to promote resilience and reduce complicated grief. The presentation will also highlight current gaps in postvention services and offer practical intervention strategies.

### **Location: Room FGH**

**Title:** Everyday Strong

**Presenter:** Whitney Bischoff, MSSL

**Setting:** Both

**Description:** Everyday Strong is a practical, non-clinical resilience framework that helps parents and caring adults strengthen the wellbeing of the youth in their lives through simple skill-building strategies centered on safety, connection, and confidence. Participants will learn how to teach parents concrete, everyday actions that foster trust, emotional regulation, and a sense of capability in children and teens. The program also offers counselors practical ways to apply these strategies themselves in their work with youth across home, school, and community settings.

## ***The Marvin Kemp Award for Outstanding Service to the Counseling Profession (Est. 1961)***

*Marvin Kemp is the father of counseling in South Dakota. His interests were wide and varied, but his concern and dedication were centered in one concept- service to the youth of South Dakota. He began as a teacher at*

*Faulkton High School. He went on to become a principal and superintendent- at Faulkton and then at Belle Fourche. His talents were recognized by the Governor and he was selected to become the Secretary of the North Central Association and the State High School Supervisor. He was appointed as the first Director of Guidance for the State of South Dakota and was responsible for bringing guidance and counseling services to students in SD. He was verbal and articulate, a pioneer who instilled in others the heart and the will to provide service to the people of SD. He was the driving force behind the establishment of the SD Personnel and Guidance Association. He called together the first meeting of counselors in the state. Because of him, we exist as an organization.*

*This award is meant to recognize a counselor who has been involved for a lengthy period of time in the counseling profession- someone who has been involved with the organization and has provided a high level of service both to clients and to fellow counselors. It is meant to be the top award given by our organization.*

### **Marvin Kemp Award Recipients**

<b>2025 Laura Lloyd-Smith</b>	<b>1989 Howard Peterson</b>
<b>2024 Duane Kavanaugh</b>	<b>1988 Carla Claymore</b>
<b>2023 Jolaine Bain</b>	<b>1987 Tom May</b>
<b>2022 Stacy Solsaa</b>	<b>1986 Erna Taylor</b>
<b>2019 Art Hagg</b>	<b>1985 Bill Smith</b>
<b>2016 Kim Goebel</b>	<b>1984 Leonard Colombe</b>
<b>2015 Jill Stephenson</b>	<b>1983 John Cornette</b>
<b>2014 Kelly Duncan</b>	<b>1982 James Pederson</b>
<b>2013 Andree Johnson</b>	<b>1981 Don Kennedy</b>
<b>2012 John Hegg</b>	<b>1980 Bill Hauck</b>
<b>2011 Lisa Adler</b>	<b>1979 Joan Hull</b>
<b>2009 Kathy Miller</b>	<b>1978 Janet Shelver</b>
<b>2008 Mark Britzman</b>	<b>1977 Al Lindstrom</b>
<b>2007 Jean Lakner</b>	<b>1976 Lorraine Holscher</b>
<b>2006 Clark Perkins</b>	<b>1975 John McIntyre</b>
<b>2005 Jill Schoen</b>	<b>1974 Orville Schmieding</b>
<b>2004 Debra Johnson</b>	<b>1973 Pauline Sherer</b>
<b>2003 David Johnson</b>	<b>1972 Walter Flannery</b>
<b>2002 Geri Konnenkamp</b>	<b>1971 Mary Lark</b>
<b>2001 Jean Hurlbert</b>	<b>1970 Jerry Mayer</b>
<b>2000 Jan Jirouch</b>	<b>1969 E. Gordon Poling</b>
<b>1999 Joan England</b>	<b>1968 Merrill Sly</b>
<b>1998 Sharon Colombe</b>	<b>1967 Van Johnson</b>
<b>1997 Evelyn Vitale</b>	<b>1966 E. L. Whitemore</b>
<b>1996 Mavis Booze</b>	<b>1965 Lowell Bell</b>
<b>1995 Chris Christensen</b>	<b>1964 Robert O'Hare</b>
<b>1994 Don Mattson</b>	<b>1963 Donna Brown</b>
<b>1993 Linda Allen</b>	<b>1962 C.R. Beck</b>
<b>1992 Terry Crandall</b>	<b>1961 L.R. Palmerton</b>
<b>1991 Jessie Finch</b>	
<b>1990 Howard Smith</b>	



Marvin Kemp Award Laura Lloyd-Smith

## ***Mary W. Lark Humanitarian Award (Est. 1982)***

*Mary Lark came to Rapid City, SD in 1941 as the Dean of Girls at Rapid City High School. Miss Lark always worked as a counselor, but her role as a counselor was officially recognized in the mid 1950's.*

*She epitomized everything that we are taught are the positive characteristics of the perfect counselor. She was a caring, kind, accepting person who had an enormous capacity for hard work, long hours, no complaints, and an exceptional ability to listen. Long after students had graduated from high school, they would return to visit with her. She was everybody's friend and provided comfort and assistance for several generations of high school students.*

*This award was established to recognize counselors who are true humanitarians- those who go above and beyond the ordinary. The recipient (if they are an ACA member) is then submitted as a candidate for the Gilbert Wrenn Award at the national level. National Winners are noted with an asterisk \**

### ***Mary W. Lark Humanitarian Award Recipients***

***2025 No Award***

***2024 Deb Butman-Perkins***

***2023 Amanda Bender***

***2022 Rachael Anderson***

***2021 Anna Eidem***

***2018 Margie Neugebauer\****

***2017 Valerie Horack***

***2016 Doug Hoisington***

***2015 Kelly Jones***

***2014 Brian Dannen***

***2013 Dianne Brendan***

***2012 Barb Ohleen***

***2011 Lois Walpole***

***2010 Lexi Seely***

***2009 Linda Johnson***

***2008 Penny Virchow***

***2007 Michelle Brandenburg***

***2006 Patricia Brady***

***2005 Debra Johnson***

***2004 Gloria Schulz***

***2003 Mike Cutler***

***2002 Jean Lakner***

***2000 Dana Sanderson***

***1999 Kelly Duncan***

***1998 Jill Schoen***

***1997 Chris Christensen***

***1996 Grace Ann Mims***

***1995 Joan England***

***1994 Margot Burton***

***1993 Evelyn Vitale***

***1992 Helen Jones***

***1991 Leonard Colombe***

***1990 Don Kennedy***

***1989 Diana Melvin***

***1988 Sharon Colombe***

***1987 Linda Allen***

***1985 Howard Smith***

***1984 Mary Helen Hoppenon***

***1983 Irma Becker***

***1982 Vivian Gering***

## ***C.J. Peterson Jr. Award (Est. 1973)***

*C.J. Peterson Jr. was an employment counselor in the Sioux Falls office of the SD Employment Service (Job Service). In 1972, he and his wife were killed in a fire in their home shortly after Christmas. C.J.'s father was a long time employee of the SD Employment Service, having served as a manager of the Hot Springs and the Rapid City offices. So C.J. had a longtime commitment to career development and was very concerned with working with people to maximize their potential and to select occupations which were appropriate and right for each individual.*

*He was very interested in helping to establish an Employment Counseling organization and spoke often about the fact that he felt employment counselors must be a part of the SD Personnel and Guidance Association (now the SD Counseling Association).*

*This award was established to recognize counselors who provide outstanding employment counseling, not necessarily just in employment offices, but to those who deal with the field of employment-vocational rehabilitation counselors, career learning center counselors or others who assist people in choosing careers.*

### ***C.J. Peterson Jr. Award Recipients***

***2025 No Award***

***2024 Susan Lorenzen***

***2023 Michael Hauge***

***2022 Winner Renae Oines***

***2022 Renae Oines***

***2021 Andrea Albrecht***

***2013 Jodi Sternhagen***

***2006 Glenda Nedved***

***2005 Tami Haug-Davis***

***2003 Jan Jirouch***

***2001 Ruth Harper***

***2000 Jane Kono***

***1999 Kevin Blum***

***1998 Kelly Duncan***

***1995 Gary Stofferahn***

***1994 Paul Rehfuss***

***1993 Ranah Sample***

***1992 Clayton Carlson***

***1991 Margot Burton***

***1990 Darrell Borgen***

***1989 Bonnie Traetow***

***1985 Jim Clark***

***1982 Jan Jirsa***

***1981 Jon Lincoln***

***1980 Bob Shaff***

***1979 Margot Burton***

***1978 Gail McKee***

***1977 Robert Titus***

***1976 Sharon Colombe***

***1975 Paul Rehfuss***

***1974 Wayne Sumner***

***1973 Gordon Severson***

## ***E. Gordon Poling Administrator Award (Est. 1991)***

***Formally the SDCA Administrator Award Unpublished material – USD Photograph Collection, Series 9, photograph of Dr. Gordon Poling***



*E. Gordon Poling was born to a farm family in Iowa and learned early the need for hard work. He some-times stated that he started work at the age of 13 and never stopped. He spent his early professional career in public school work in Iowa and stated his personal motto as “I have always tried to treat people fairly.” Dr. Poling served the University of South Dakota and future counselor for 29 years. He was chair-person of the Division of Educational Psychology and Counseling from 1979-1990. During his tenure at the University and through his active leadership in the profession in the state and region, he never lost his ability to nurture students and fellow professionals. He was a true counselor educator. Gordon died on August 30th, 1990.*

### ***E. Gordon Poling Award Recipients***

***2025 No Award***

***2024 Dr. Shalini Mathew***

***2023 Joan Mahoney***

***2022 Phil Schonebaum***

***2021 Patti Lake-Torbert***

***2019 Dr. Andrea Bjornestad***

***2018 Celeste Uthe-Burow***

***2017 Dr. Anna Schwan***

***2016 Wendy Smith***

***2015 Dr. Becky Guffin***

***2013 Woody Schrenk***

***2012 Mark Britzman***

***2011 JC Chambers***

***2010 Dr. Mark Hedges***

***2008 James Korcuska***

***2007 Kelly Duncan***

***2006 Jay Trenhaile***

***2005 Howard Smith***

***2004 Roy Conrad***

***2003 Belle Fourche School District***

***2002 David Fiedler***

***2001 Ruth Johnson***

***2000 Jan Nicolay***

***1999 Shelly Boughner***

***1998 Mel Schrader***

***1997 Darrell Jensen***

***1996 Wayne Thompson***

***1995 Alvin Albertus***

***1994 Evelyn Vitale***

***1993 Joan England***

***1992 Chris Christensen***

***1991 Sid Stalling & Doug Erickson***

***1990 George Kroetch***

***1987 Alvin J. Mudder***

***1986 Joseph Gertsema***

***1985 Jerry Mayer & John Biegler***

***1984 Carl Ritenour***

***1983 Dennis Coull***

***1982 Darrell Jensen***

***1981 Jim Solem***

***1980 David Bonde***

***1979 Jan Jirouch***

***1978 Ray Howe***

***1977 Ron Kratochvil***

***1976 Richard Parker***

***1975 Richard Zeigler***

***1974 Don Barnhart***

***1973 Roger Hansen***

***1972 Ray Murray***

***1971 Glen Barnes & Lloyd Dobratz***

***1970 K.J. Henseler & G.W. Neiles***

*In Memory of*



## ***Mavis Booze Mentoring Award***

***(Est. 1999)***

*Mavis Booze served as a school counselor in South Dakota for twenty-one years. She began her counseling career in Miller in 1975, moving on to Pierre in 1978 to become counselor at Riggs High School. She held the position in Pierre for 18 years before retirement in 1996. Throughout her years, Mavis dedicated a countless number of hours to the counseling profession statewide by serving on numerous boards and committees. Both SDCA and SDSCA have honored her with the highest awards that their organizations have to bestow on their members. The truly memorable thing about Mavis was her wonderful ability and willingness to help other counselors. Counselors from across the state turned to her throughout the years for support and information, and she always gladly and willingly helped them become more knowledgeable, competent and caring. Mentor, friend, advisor, and role-model- Mavis has been all of these to many people. As a result, as a way of honoring her, it seems only fitting that the Mavis Booze Mentoring Award be given annually to recognize a counselor who shares willingly and enthusiastically what they know with others.*

*Mavis, a longtime active member of both the South Dakota Counseling Association and the South Dakota School Counselor Association, passed away on June 21st, 1998 following a long battle with cancer.*

### **Mavis Booze Award Recipients**

***2025 Joy Anderson***  
***2024 Jill Janecke***  
***2023 Jessica Brockel***  
***2022 Tracey Caldwell***  
***2021 Deb Butman Perkins***  
***2019 Dr. Karyl Meister***  
***2018 Robin Svendsen***  
***2017 Jennifer Wiese***  
***2016 Rebecca Christiansen***  
***2015 Ashley Seeklander***  
***2014 Sherri Booze***  
***2013 Kurt Turbak***  
***2012 Stacy Solsaa***  
***2011 Duane Kavanaugh***  
***2010 Tami Ambroson***  
***2009 Jill Stephenson***  
***2008 Chris & Hande Briddick***  
***2007 Andree Johnson***  
***2006 Jay Trenhaile***  
***2005 John Hegg***  
***2004 Grace Mims & Jill Schoen***  
***2003 Carla Claymore***  
***2002 Frank Main***

***2001 Nancy Kennedy***  
***2000 Ruth Johnson***  
***1999 Bill Smith***



2025 Mavis Booze Award Joy Anderson

***Counselor of the Year Award Recipients  
Formerly East and West River Counselor of the Year***

***2025 Ashley Seeklander  
2024 Anne Dilenschneider  
2023 Kristine Ramsay Seaner  
2022 Shelia Anderson  
2021 Melissa Good  
2018 Stephanie Lund  
2017 Becca Dravland  
2016 Linda Schoepp  
2015 Amy Hauge***

***2013 Duane Kavanaugh  
2012 Christine Biesk  
2011 Stacy Solsaa  
2009 Brian Dannen  
2008 Heidi Evers  
2007 John Hegg  
2006 Cheri Johnke  
2005 Patty Peacock***



***2025 Counselor of the Year Ashley Seeklander***

## **Chapter of the Year Award Recipients**

***Note: The Chapter of the Year Award is chosen each year by the SDCA president to recognize those chapters who have provided excellence in programming and leadership enhancement to their members. The award has also been used over the years to recognize chapters who have made strides and improvements in their offerings to members. The last award was given in 2024.***

***2024 West River  
2023 North Central  
2021 Sioux  
2017 West River  
2016 Interlakes  
2015 Palace Pheasant  
2014 Sioux  
2011 Lewis & Clark  
2010 Central  
2009 North Central  
2008 Cornbelt  
2007 Sioux & Cornbelt  
2006 Sioux  
2005 Sioux  
2004 Sioux  
2003 West River  
2002 Sioux  
2001 West River  
2000 North Central***

***1999 Lewis & Clark  
1998 Lewis & Clark  
1997 West River  
1996 West River  
1995 West River  
1994 West River  
1993 Interlakes  
1991 West River  
1990 Coteau  
1989 Central  
1988 West River  
1987 Central  
1986 Palace  
1985 West River  
1984 West River  
1983 Interlakes  
1982 West River  
1981 Lewis & Clark  
1980 Pheasant  
1975 West River***

## ***Special Contributions Award***

***2025 Thomas Stanage***  
***2024 Molly Weisgram***  
***2023 Julie Williams***  
***2022 Megan Tatum***  
***2021 Anne Dilenschneider***  
***2019 Rapid City Police Dept & the Pennington Co. Sherriff's Department***  
***2017 April Hobert***  
***2016 NAMI***  
***2015 Senator Deb Solholt***  
***2014 Senator Tim Johnson***  
***2013 Avera Behavioral Health***  
***2012 Ginger Johnson***  
***2010 Chris Jacobson***  
***2009 Ann Lewis Henkin***  
***2008 Kelly Duncan & Dave Johnson***  
***2007 Beverly Dafler***  
***2006 Melodee Lane***  
***2005 Joseph Wehrman***  
***2004 Char Nickolas***  
***2003 Kristi Spitzer***  
***2002 Donna Kegler***  
***2001 Glenna Fouberg***  
***2000 Deb Elhard***  
***1999 Geri Konenkamp***  
***1998 Don Kennedy***  
***1996 Frank Main & Bill Smith***  
***1995 Mike Rounds***  
***1993 Richard Gowen***  
***1992 RoAnn Redlin & John Williams***  
***1991 Carla Claymore, Jerry Mayer, & Judge Rollie Grosshans***  
***1990 Sharon Colombe***  
***1989 Coteau Chapter & Russell Fleming***  
***1987 West River Chapter & A. Richard Peterson***  
***1986 Dean Schueler, Chris Lee, & Cheryl Beigler***  
***1985 Mimi Sheway***  
***1983 Bill Jones***  
***1980 Mary Globe & Gary Gullickson***  
***1979 Sharon Colombe***  
***1978 Joseph Fisher & Nonie Lytle***  
***1977 James Pederson & Cathy LeDuc***  
***1976 Al Lindstrom & Alberta Hand***  
***1975 Janet Shelver***  
***1972 Robert Knapp***  
***1971 Rev. Stanislaus Maudlin , Deconess Dellama King***  
***1970 R.Y. Chapman, Charles Montague, & Mary Mitchell***  
***1969 Pauline Sherer, E.Gordon Poling, & James L. Culey***

## **Graduate Student Scholarship Fund Award Recipients**

- 2025 *Allison Longhenry, Delaney S. Heller, Harliann Baas, Jack Wenner, Jaidyn Nelson, Jason Van Dyke, Katy Millington, Lacy Sage Steiger, Melissa Smith, Shelyssa Theel, VickiLee Hansen Steffes*
- 2024 *Meghan McNary, Traci Bates, Alandra Harrelson, Victoria Steffes*
- 2023 *Connor Doran, Regina Mrozla, Jaida Fehrman, Jasmine Schneider, Katie Dam, & Catherine Orban*
- 2022 *Charlotte Heckmann, Clinton Hewitt, Amanda Husted, Monica Miller, Michael Mohammed, Kathryn Paulson & Emma Quarshi*
- 2020/2021 *COVID Year/Virtual Event*
- 2019 *Sydney Randall, Sierra Thomas, Amanda Dalbey, & Danielle Hertel*
- 2018 *Mollie Hublou, Kirsten Krueger, Jara Decker, Amber Hennings, Jena Nelson, Danielle Johnson, Synnora Wilbur, Danielle Hertel, Jessica Dial, & Laura Beth Gatzke*
- 2017 *Kirsten Krueger, Mollie Hublou, Alicia Levesque, Morgan Robey, Kelsey Rozell, Shelby Sumner, Meghanne Anderson, Stephanie McBeth, & Bethany Tschappat*
- 2016 *Alex Dossett, Morgan Robey, Alexis Gartner, & Cecilia Storly*
- 2015 *Hope Johnson, Toril Sanford, Bailey Raml, Jordan Pater, & Kate Telkamp*
- 2014 *Toril Sanford, Sarah Heerdt, Whitney Wanderscheid, & Allison Gildner*
- 2013 *Lexi Jo Heitkamp, Natasha Keller, & Kendra Moak*
- 2012 *Elizabeth Drown, Jennifer Kirschner, Brian Mann, Randy Hilling, Amy Reyes, & Katrina Umanah*
- 2011 *Traci Freeman, Kristin Gilbertson, Andrea Diehm, Jennifer Kirchner, Elisa Lewis, Jessica Lewis, & Sylvia Trentz*
- 2010 *Kelsey Beckstrom, Janel Magnus, Yanchun XU, Jacob McDonald, & Charlene Cowan*
- 2009 *Elly Keller, Charlene Cowan, Ashley Seeklander, & Lin Lin*
- 2008 *Jessica Payer, Lindsey Schmidt, Joni Hulbert Larson, Sonal Markanda, Melissa Hoffman-Olson, & Melissa Roby*
- 2007 *Leanne Dorish, Katie Heavlin, Lane Madsen, & Kristin Fick*
- 2006 *Gerta Bardhoshi, Katie Heavlin, & Jacquiel Redingen*
- 2005 *Kathy Blaha, Rhonda Magg, & Angel Vermillion*
- 2004 *Frani Kieffer & Chris Oehlke*
- 2003 *Melissa Cronin & Holly Nikels*
- 2002 *Brenda Hansen & Rebecca Kuch*
- 2001 *Wendy Stubbs*
- 2000 *Melissa Hammer*

## ***SDCA Past Presidents***

*2024-2025 Stephanie Lund  
2023-2024 Rachael Anderson  
2022-2023 Brian Dannen  
2021-2022 Duane Kavanaugh  
2020-2021 Lane Madsen  
2019-2020 Seth Olson  
2017-2019 Cindy Goehring  
2016-2017 Erin Stolsmark  
2015-2016 Stacy Solsaa  
2013-2015 Rebecca Christiansen  
2012-2013 June Crist Reilly  
2011-2012 Dadra Avery  
2010-2011 James S. Korcuska  
2008-2010 Christopher P. Roseman  
2007-2008 Mary Pat Mueller  
2006-2007 Deborah Langrehr  
2005-2006 Marcia Aiken  
2004-2005 Jean Lakner  
2003-2004 Mike Gassen  
2002-2003 Phil Breed  
2000-2002 Ruth A. Johnson  
1999-2000 Grace Ann Mims  
1998-1999 David Johnson  
1997-1998 Stacey Kappes Henderson  
1995-1997 Evelyn Vitale  
1995 A. Spencer Davis  
1994-1995 Bill Forey  
1993-1994 Dwayne LaFave  
1992-1993 Jessie Finch  
1991-1992 Paula Tacke  
1990-1991 Marcia West*

*1989-1990 Richard Gross  
1988-1989 Linda Allen  
1987-1988 Terry Crandall  
1986-1987 Marlys Schmidt  
1985-1986 Howard B. Smith  
1984-1985 Duane Quail  
1981-1982 Leonard Colombe  
1980-1981 Al Lindstrom  
1979-1980 Ella Stotz  
1978-1979 Don Kennedy  
1977-1978 Ann Floden  
1976-1977 Bill Hauck  
1975-1976 James Pederson  
1974-1975 Janet Shelver  
1973-1974 Richard Barta  
1972-1973 Adair Callison  
1971-1972 John Cornette  
1970-1971 John McIntyre  
1969-1970 Orville Schmieding  
1968-1969 George Kroetch  
1967-1968 Jerry Mayer  
1966-1967 Don Allen  
1965-1966 Joseph Fisher  
1964-1965 Ralph Polenz  
1963-1964 Melvin Hendrickson  
1962-1963 E.L. Whitmore  
1961-1962 Robert O'Hare  
1960-1961 Merrill Sly  
1959-1960 Fred Claudon  
1958-1959 Van Johnson*

# NOW HIRING

## COUNSELOR

The Counselor is responsible for student counseling, providing communication between St. Joseph's Indian School and the family and/or guardian for each student, and coordination of services in an effort to meet the individual needs of the child. We are seeking applicants with a master's in counseling, social work or a related field.

This is a year-round, exempt position.

APPLY USING THE QR



**St. Joseph's Indian School**  
We serve and teach, we receive and learn.

**CONTACT: (605) 234-3275 OR EMAIL [APPLY@STJO.ORG](mailto:APPLY@STJO.ORG)**

# **Graduate Credit Available for Conference Attendance**

**If you are interested in gaining a graduate credit for your attendance at the 2026 conference you can register by going directly to <http://reach.usiouxfalls.edu> or using the QR code below and searching for “EDU\_SDCA”**

**Requirements to gain credit are:  
You will need to pay a \$45 fee online to the University of Sioux Falls when registering online and you must attend 15 total hours which includes one of the Preconference Workshop and the entire SDCA Conference.**





**THRIVE  
THERAPY  
COLLECTIVE**

## **EXECUTIVE FUNCTION COACHING**

ADHD-Informed • Structured  
Evidence-Based

---

**Supporting children, teens,  
& adults with:**

- Organization & planning
- Task initiation & follow-through
- Time management & routines

**VISIT OUR BOOTH**

Now Accepting Referrals

---

[thrivetherapyrc.com](http://thrivetherapyrc.com)



# 100%

State Tuition Assistance

Do you go or plan to go  
to any of these schools?



Join the Guard and be debt free when you graduate!

[NATIONALGUARD.com/SD](http://NATIONALGUARD.com/SD) ★ 1-800-GO GUARD

---