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Editorial: Conference Success

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EDITORIAL: CONFERENCE SUCCESS

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The ADARA 2007 conference in St. Louis was absolutely spectacular. The conference coordinators along with the planning committee did a fabulous job setting up about 50 different sessions over four days. This issue of JADARA is a small sample of the many interesting presentations offered at the conference. Presentations were available on school, clinical, and community oriented topics. My own presentation focused on issues in family forensics, and I left the workshop feeling a sense of inspiration gleaned from audience members. I hope that inspiration is reflected in the pages of this issue.

Like the diverse presentations, the topics in this issue are also varied. Berman, Guthman, and Sternfeld contributed in the area of tobacco education for deaf teens. They make critical points regarding the need for specialized tobacco education programs for deaf youth. At a time when deaf students appear to be further isolated in public schools, I hope that counselors and school psychologists will find a way to connect deaf youth with this program.

Regarding clinical issues, Gough contributes on compassion fatigue in our work with deaf clients. Many of us work hard to help others but spend little time caring for ourselves. Mayer and Cochran contribute on coaching the deaf client to improve leadership skills and reach goals. Burg and Friend contribute on late manifestations of congenital rubella syndrome (CRS). Professionals who work with adults are likely to come across clients who have had CRS.

Cantrell and Owens address the use of Certified Deaf Interpreters to assist with communication. In my own experience, many border states and heavily populated metropolitan areas appear to have a number of immigrant families. Frequently, these families emigrate from developing countries in search of an improved quality of life (Moore, 1990). Their deaf family member(s) often arrive to the United States with poorly developed communication skills, seriously delayed educational achievement, and

little exposure to societal support. The use of a CDI appears to be even more critical in today's global community.

Finally, if you are reading this editorial, you are aware that Diane Morton has passed the editorial torch to David Feldman and me. Diane, recently retired from teaching in the counseling program at Gallaudet, was both Dave's and my professor. Dave and I offer many thanks to Diane for her generous assistance for a smooth editorial transition. I expect you will hear from both of us from time to time as we take turns and perhaps jointly contribute to the Editorial section of JADARA. If you have questions regarding JADARA, we welcome your comments and encourage you to contact us at our e-mail addresses listed on the ADARA Web site.

Reference

Moore, S. (1990). Who should America welcome? *Society*, 27(5), 55-62.