

**The Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC)
National Office
presents**



**March 6 –
April 21, 2006**

**Six Weeks Online
And
One Week Onsite
in Kansas City, MO**



**Unifying science, education and services to transform lives.
www.nattc.org**

What is *The Training Point*?

The ATTC National Office, funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, is excited to offer a unique new professional development opportunity to individuals in the addiction field. *The Training Point: an uncommon learning exchange for addictions trainers* is an opportunity for professionals with an interest in improving addiction and recovery services to share experiences regarding staff development, training, and education. If you are an experienced trainer, you can share your knowledge with others and pick up some new ideas too! If you are a counselor taking on the challenge of providing workshops for others, you can learn how your counseling skills can apply to teaching others what you know. If you are a researcher, you can get the feel for what it means to serve as an adult educator. *The Training Point* is meant to be a resource for trainers, educators, and clinical supervisors.....for YOU!

Why create *The Training Point*?

**Have you ever heard the expression,
"Those who can, do; those who can't, teach"?**

Unfortunately, the sentiment implied by this quote often carries over into training as well. People tend to see training as something that any content expert can do, instead of as a separate and complex expertise. If you were to ask people on the street the definition of adult education, most would assume you were talking only about remediation, when, in fact, it is an interdisciplinary field grounded in theory and research. Adult education does include adult basic education, but it also refers to higher education programs, community education, and continuing professional development (often referred to as training), among others.

Training, like any teaching, then, is not something that you do only when you can't do anything else. Rather, it is a set of skills, attitudes, ideas and talents that need to be learned and practiced in order to be done successfully. Training is also an important part of the change process. Although systems change involves more than training alone, there can be no doubt that training, and the trainer as change agent, play an essential role.

In business, training is key to improving operations and customer service. Its function has become increasingly relevant due to

rapid advances in technology. Businesses that do not invest in training often see the repercussions in their bottom line – profits fall when employees do not perform at their best. Training is also essential in the addictions field, and a lack of investment in training can have much more devastating results.

An overwhelming number of people die from the disease of addiction every year. Treatment works, but not everyone has access to treatment, and sometimes the treatment people do receive does not make use of the best treatment methods. The ATTC Network is dedicated to improving addiction treatment by unifying science, education and services to transform lives. We bring cutting-edge research in the best practices of addiction treatment to service providers. The providers are then better able to improve the treatment outcomes of their patients, and, ultimately, to save lives. Training is an essential aspect of this technology transfer process. The better we are able to train providers in evidence-based practices, the better they will understand how to improve outcomes, and the more lives we will save. Training excellence, in this context, is a matter of life and death.

What can you expect from *The Training Point*?

The Training Point is a seven week course designed to enhance knowledge and abilities in addiction training. It is grounded in adult education theory and practice, and as such is learner-centered, experiential, holistic, authentic, expressive, reflective, social, collaborative, democratic, cognitive, developmental, constructivist, and challenging (see Zemelman, Daniels & Hyde, 1998, p. 8).

The first and last three weeks of the course are held online via the Blackboard Learning System. The middle week of the course is an intensive three-day face-to-face learning exchange. Throughout all seven weeks, participants focus on the various components that create successful training experiences: the learners, the environment, the materials, and the trainer. Topics covered include learning and training styles, adult learning principles, facilitation and presentation skills, action research, and transformative learning.

The *Point* of the course is best summarized by comments from former participants.

“[This experience] allowed me to grow in a safe environment, and gave me the confidence to present, facilitate and train.”

“I am energized and even more excited about improving my skills as a trainer and collaborating with others as a perpetual learner!”

“I have learned so much about adult learners, learning and approaches to training that ... [involve] learners. Thanks to all the participants for sharing experiences and talents – from each I will copy and benefit. Amazingly, I learned so much about me.”

What will be expected from you?

Participants in *The Training Point* will:

- Participate fully in all seven weeks of the course, including attending the three-day face-to-face session in Kansas City March 28 – 30, 2005
- Participate in a conference call prior to the first week of the course online
- Utilize high levels of interaction by actively participating in the online portion of the course, including the course discussion board
- Complete a one-page written assignment
- Collaborate with colleagues
- Train a 20-minute “mini-training” with a partner
- Tap into emotions, actions, intellect, creative spirit and relationships as sources for transforming the way they teach and learn
- Be open to the experience and dedicated to the notion that we are all teachers just as we are all learners.

When and where is it offered?

Week 1	March 6 – 10, 2006	Online
Week 2	March 13 – 17, 2006	Online
Week 3	March 20 – 24, 2006	Online
Week 4	March 28, 29, 30, 2006	Kansas City, MO
Week 5	April 3 – 7, 2006	Online
Week 6	April 10 – 14, 2006	Online
Week 7	April 17 – 21, 2006	Online

Who is eligible to participate?

The Training Point is especially suited for:

- Trainers who would like to enhance their ability to conduct interactive, facilitator-led, participant-centered training sessions based on adult learning principles
- Trainers who would like to enrich their understanding of how training fits into systems change and the role of the trainer as a change agent
- Trainers who would like to experience online learning
- Beginning trainers or people who plan to train for the ATTC and/or in the addiction field

What are the costs?

There is NO FEE for this training! Your only expense will be travel, lodging and dinner expenses for the face-to-face session!

How to Apply

If you are interested in participating in this exciting new professional development opportunity, please send (via fax, email or regular mail) the attached learning contract to:

Laurie Krom
ATTC National Office
5100 Rockhill Rd
Kansas City, MO 64114
kroml@nattc.org
(816) 235-6985 – phone
(816) 235-6580 – fax

LEARNING CONTRACTS ARE DUE BY FEBRUARY 3, 2005

The Training Point is limited to 20 participants – Send in your learning contract today!