

Jewish Family Service brings Expert to Cincinnati to Present Alternative Approaches to Addiction

CINCINNATI, OH January 24, 2018 -- Professionals can earn 6 CEs when Jewish Family Service presents "Alternative Approaches to Addiction: Reducing shame through a client centered approach" with renowned addiction expert and TEDx speaker Adi Jaffe, PhD. The 14th Annual Miriam O. Smith Educational Series professional development workshop will take place 8:30 am - 4 pm on Friday, March 16, 2018 at Cooper Creek Event Center, 4040 Cooper Rd, Blue Ash, OH, 45241. This year's program is sponsored by Mercy Health Partners.

Dr. Jaffe, who is a nationally recognized expert on mental health, addiction and stigma, will teach professionals how to guide their clients experiencing addiction toward improvement in a non-shaming way. This workshop will allow participants to overcome barriers to engagement while providing a toolkit to help their clients improve even if they are not interested in complete abstinence or do not identify as "addicts."

"Every clinician comes across clients whose drinking or drug use interferes with their therapeutic process. Nevertheless, most clients report not wanting to completely quit drinking and begin to withdraw when approached with abstinence options," says Dr. Jaffe. He has spent years researching new methods including non-abstinence approaches, which is a controversial, yet proven effective, model.

"A misconception is that addictions are almost impossible to overcome. If you fail one rehab with one version of treatment, it doesn't mean you can't get better," says Dr. Jaffe. He believes that different treatment methods work for different people and that addiction treatment shouldn't be a "one size fits all" approach; however, many professionals address addiction as if it is.

"In any other field, if one treatment doesn't work, another one is tried, and another. Different people with different conditions may need slightly different approaches. If no known treatment works, experimental ones are attempted. This is how medical science advances. This should be applied to addiction treatment as well," says Dr. Jaffe.

Dr. Jaffe lectures in the Psychology department at UCLA and is the President and Co-Founder of IGNTD, a company focused on alleviating suffering and inspiring hope. His views on addiction and his research on the topic have been published in dozens of journals and online publications. He also has appeared on numerous television shows and documentaries discussing current topics in addiction and the problem of addiction as a whole.

"We are excited to bring Dr. Jaffe to Cincinnati to share his passion about the role of shame in destroying lives while he also aims to greatly reduce the stigma of mental health in this country," says Susan Shorr, PhD, co-chair with Alyce Ellison of the Miriam O. Smith Educational Series program's volunteer selection committee. Social Workers, Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, Educators, Psychologists, Case Managers, Nurses, Chemical Dependency Counselors, Life Coaches, Clergy, Psychiatrists, and Occupational Therapists are encouraged to attend the workshop.

The Miriam O. Smith Educational Series was founded in 2004 to provide an opportunity for professional development as well as offer the community a chance to learn from nationally recognized mental health experts. The series honors the memory of Miriam O. Smith, a long time social worker at Jewish Family Service who provided extensive individual and family therapy, headed the adoption program, and also served as interim director of the agency.

To attend this professional development workshop, register by Wednesday, March 7 for \$140/person or \$130/person for two or more professionals from one agency. Registrations made after March 7, will be subject to a \$15 late fee. The registration fee includes choice of lunch and 6 CEs. Register online at www.jfscinti.org/moses. For questions, leave a message at 513-985-1581 or email events@jfscinti.org.

A free program on this topic is also being offered to the community at 7-8:30 pm, Thursday, March 15 at Cooper Creek Event Center when Dr. Jaffe presents "Addiction: Shedding the Shame and Stigma". Visit jfscinti.org/jaffe to register and learn more.

Jewish Family Service is a nonprofit social service agency serving greater Cincinnati. They receive funding in part from United Way of Greater Cincinnati, the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati, and The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati.