



NEWS RELEASE

Dr. Barry Duncan is Speaker at Connections Count! Professional Development Conference

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Jan. 21, 2010
CONTACT: Julio Galan, 436-9533

(Lake Charles, LA)— Barry L. Duncan Psy.D., will present two workshops and a keynote address at the 12th annual *Connections Count! Professional Development Conference*. Hosted by Family & Youth, the conference will take place Feb. 10 and 11, 2010, at L'Auberge du Lac Casino Resort Business Center.

Dr. Duncan, Director of the Heart and Soul Project, is a therapist, trainer, and researcher with over 17,000 hours of clinical experience and over 100 publications. His books include *The Heart and Soul of Change*, and the upcoming *On Becoming a Better Therapist*. Dr. Duncan has received numerous awards and, because of his books, has appeared on "Oprah," "The View," and other national television programs.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana is supporting the Connections Count! Professional Development Conference with a \$10,000 grant. Other sponsors include Bristol-Meyers Squibb Foundation, Louisiana's Children's Trust Fund, Children's Justice Act, L'Auberge du Lac Casino Resort, Alliance for Children & Families, and New Age of Aging.

Other featured speakers for the 2010 conference include Patricia Doykos, Ph.D., Director, Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation who will present the keynote address on Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2010. Also James Lukefahr, M.D., University of Texas Health Sciences Center San Antonio's Child Abuse Division and Terrence D. Walton, M.S.W., National Drug Court Institute, will each present three workshops. Other speakers include Jan Disney, Ph.D.; Linda Brannon, Ph.D.; Lakisha Williams, Psy.D.; Michael Kudla, M.D.; Jean Valliere, LCSW; Stacie LeBlanc, J.D., M.Ed.; and more.

Over the years participants have consistently given the conference high ratings. For example, Calcasieu Parish School Board employee, Jaime Hudson, said of the conference, "This event met my expectations and more. I was very impressed with the presenters, and that takes a LOT, and was eager to go from one session to the next." Sidney Theriot, another participant, said, "Excellent conference—format, materials, subject matter—all excellent!"

Some of the other topics are sex addiction, gangs, child abuse burns, play therapy, asperger's disorder, postpartum depression, counseling ethics, internet crime, *Twilight* series, criminal forensic psychiatry, and more.

Family & Youth is celebrating 40 years of service in Southwest Louisiana, and is a United Way Agency. Family & Youth believes that all individuals possess the ability to solve their own challenges and live full and healthy lives when support is available. It is the mission of Family & Youth to provide affordable and professional support through programs and services dedicated to the advocacy, counseling, and education for the people of Southwest Louisiana. Our effort and commitment to building family values will guarantee a stable and stronger community. For experienced professional assistance, contact Family & Youth at 337-436-9533 or 1-888-414-FYCA.

###

Family & Youth
220 Louie Street, Lake Charles, LA
337-436-9533 www.fyca.org