



FINE LINE: MENTAL HEALTH / MENTAL ILLNESS

FORT WORTH MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND HISTORY

1501 Montgomery Street Fort Worth, Texas 76107

MICHAEL NYE
P H O T O G R A P H E R

September 23 – December 3, 2006

Free admission, Open 7 days a week

For exhibit information and hours of operation, visit

www.fortworthmuseum.org or call 817-255-9300

Presented by Mental Health Connection of Tarrant County

817-927-5200 www.mentalhealthconnection.org

“Fine Line is a departure from our usual type of exhibit. It’s a window into a segment of our community that is normally hidden. It tells stories that need to be heard. These are fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, neighbors and friends. To know them is to care for them.”

*—Van A. Romans, President,
Fort Worth Museum of Science and History*

Enter the world of business leaders and housewives, mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, rich and poor, adults and children of all ages. Hear the ways a chronic illness can affect your behavior and the way others treat you.

Fine Line: Mental Health/Mental Illness explores the mind through the art of photography with sound. It brings true human stories to life.

Through exquisite imagery and the subjects’ own voices, photographer Michael Nye gives us an exhibit that defies the labels and overcomes the stigma. He allows us to move past our fears and biases by meeting people with mental illnesses. These are your neighbors, your friends, your co-workers and possibly your family members or even you. As Michael Nye says, *“It can happen for no apparent reason and at any time. Every person has a chance of becoming mentally ill.”*

This exhibit will charm you, disturb you and give you hope for the future. Mental illness is treatable, and the people in these photos will help you understand why this treatment is so important.

“I ask each person coming into the gallery to listen carefully. Throw away your old definitions of mental illness and start over. Listen to each story as if it could be you, or your child, or your friend or some stranger you will meet tomorrow.”

—Michael Nye

What is Mental Illness?

Mental illnesses involve changes in thinking, mood, behavior or some combination of the three. As a result, people with mental illnesses often lose their ability to function fully – just as those with many physical illnesses do.

Scientists believe mental illnesses are caused by biochemical changes or disorders in the brain. These may result from genetic factors, general medical conditions, medications, the use of alcohol and street drugs and other influences such as diet and exercise. Mental illnesses also may stem from stress, emotional trauma and psychological “scars” resulting from incidents in an individual’s past. These illnesses are not unlike heart disease and strokes, which also can be triggered by life events.

The most common mental illnesses are mood disorders –including depression and bipolar disorder–anxiety disorders, attention deficit hyperactive disorder, schizophrenia, substance disorders and eating disorders. Mental illness is treatable. People can recover, going on to lead fulfilling and productive lives.

Fact: American employees used about 8.8 million sick days in 2001 due to untreated or mistreated depression, which cost U.S. businesses between \$33 billion and \$44 billion in a single year.



“One of the greatest challenges facing us is the stigma surrounding mental illness. We need a better mental health care system, but it’s going to take broad community understanding if real change is to occur. Fine Line: Mental Health/Mental Illness vividly illustrates the hearts and minds and the challenges of people struggling with mental illness. In the process, we see these individuals are really no different from the rest of us. Understanding that is how we can erase the stigma of mental illness.”

—Kenneth Barr, former Mayor, City of Fort Worth

A Widespread Disease

Mental illnesses can strike anyone regardless of age, race, gender, ethnicity or income. One in 25 Americans meets the criteria for having a mental illness each year, and one-quarter of those have a disorder that significantly disrupts the ability to function. Yet less than half of all those who need treatment receive it. Those who do receive help typically wait more than a decade to seek medical support. Often they develop additional problems as they try unsuccessfully to deal with a major illness without necessary medical treatment.

Mental illness often strikes in childhood. Half of all those who will ever be diagnosed with a mental illness show signs of the disease by age 14, and three-quarters by age 24.

(Statistics from National Comorbidity Survey Replication. Researchers conducted face-to-face interviews in the homes of 9,282 individuals between February 2001 and April 2003.)

Therapeutic Thursdays

Each Thursday during the *Fine Line* exhibit, Mental Health Connection will present "Therapeutic Thursdays" at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History. During these two-hour weekly sessions, experts will be available for discussions of interest to parents, mental health professionals and others.

Date	Time	Topic
September 28	10am–Noon	<i>Depression</i>
October 5	4pm–6pm	<i>Substance Abuse & Addiction</i>
October 12	9am–11am	<i>Depression in Children / Adolescents</i>
October 19	3pm–5pm	<i>Bipolar Disorder</i>
October 26	10am–Noon	<i>Art Therapy / Experiential Approaches to Treatment</i>
November 2	4pm–6pm	<i>Dual Diagnosis: Addiction & Mental Illness</i>
November 9	10am–Noon	<i>ADHD, ADD</i>
November 16	1pm–3pm	<i>Anxiety Disorders</i>
November 30	3pm–5pm	<i>Grief / Loss / Bereavement</i>

Stigma in Tarrant County

In a recent survey of 1,100 adults in Tarrant County, Mental Health Connection found:

- ❖ **More than 1/4 of all Tarrant County residents believe children have mental illnesses due to poor parenting and a lack of discipline.**
- ❖ **Almost 1/3 believe children should be placed in an alternative setting as soon as they exhibit a mental illness in school.**
- ❖ **More than 25 percent believe people should be hospitalized as soon as they show signs of mental illness.**
- ❖ **Almost 30 percent believe there is something about people with mental illness that makes it easy to tell them from "normal" people.**
- ❖ **More than 40 percent believe anyone with a history of mental illness should be excluded from public office.**
- ❖ **More than 1 in 5 believe major depression is "God's will."**
- ❖ **More than 40 percent believe major depression is caused by a lack of will power.**



LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

MHATC's Mental Health Resources Online

www.mhatc.org

Web-based searchable mental health resources provided by the Mental Health Association of Tarrant County

2-1-1 Texas

www.unitedwaytarrant.org

210 East 9th Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102

Call: 2-1-1 Alternate number: 817-258-8100

Free and confidential community information and referral service provided by United Way of Tarrant County

All Church Home for Children

www.allchurchhome.org

1424 Summit Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76102

817-335-4673 or 888-296-8099

Wide range of services for children and families in crisis, including residential care, respite care, prevention services and emergency shelter

Alliance for Children

www.allianceforchildren.org

908 Southland Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76104

817-335-7172

Assessments, case management and group counseling for confirmed victims of child abuse and their protecting parents

Catholic Charities

www.ccdofw.org

2701 Burchill Road North, Fort Worth, TX 76105

817-534-0814

Children's services, clinical counseling, emergency financial assistance and case management

Child Study Center

www.cscfw.org

1300 W. Lancaster, Fort Worth, TX 76102

817-336-8611

Diagnostic and treatment services for children who have or are at risk for developmental disabilities and related behavioral and emotional problems. Dental services and special education for children with disabilities

Cook Children's Medical Center

www.cookchildrens.org

801 Seventh Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76104

682-885-4000

Intake: 682-885-3917

Inpatient treatment for children 2 through 12, partial hospitalization program for children and adolescents 6 through 17 and outpatient services

The Excel Center for Youth

www.theexcelcenter.com

1220 Presidio, Fort Worth, TX 76102

817-333-2744

Outpatient day program for children and adolescents, offering mental health and chemical dependency care.

The Excel Center for Adults

www.millwoodhospital.com

1111 North Cooper Street, Arlington, TX 76011

817-261-3121

Outpatient day program for adults, offering mental health and chemical dependency care

Fort Worth Independent School District Family Resource Centers

www.fortworthisd.org

Four locations link FWISD students and their families to mental health resources

FRC Northside

2011 Prospect Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76106

817-740-4511

FRC Forest Oak

3250 Pecos, Fort Worth, TX 76119

817-531-4680

FRC Riverside

1550 Bolton, Fort Worth, TX 76111

817-222-7577

FRC Western Hills

8340 Mojave Trail, Fort Worth, TX 76111

817-560-5200

JPS Health Network, Trinity Springs Pavilion

www.jpshhealthnet.org

1500 S. Main, Fort Worth, TX 76104

Main: 817-927-3636

24-hour psychiatric emergency room, crisis stabilization, short-term treatment and family education for adults and adolescents ages 13 through 17. Outpatient Behavioral Health Clinics located in Stop Six, Northeast and Viola M. Pitts/Como

Lena Pope Home

www.lenapopehome.org

3131 Sanguinet, Fort Worth, TX 76107

24-hour number: 817-731-8839

Counseling, family preservation services, foster care and alternative education services

Mental Health Association of Tarrant County

www.mhatc.org

3136 West Fourth Street, Fort Worth, TX 76107

817-335-5405

Mental health information and referral available by phone and on the Web site. Community education and training, peer support and supported employment services for persons with mental illness. Advocacy and long-term-care ombudsman services

Mental Health Housing Development Corp.

603 West Magnolia, Ste. 204, Fort Worth, TX 76104

817-926-8717

Provides two apartment properties that lease to individuals with modest incomes, including those with a mental illness. On-site mental health services provided by MHMR

MHMR Tarrant County

www.mhmrtc.org

3840 Hulen, Fort Worth, TX 76107

24-Hour Crisis Number: 817-335-3022

Mental Health Warrant: 817-335-3022

Serves Tarrant County citizens with mental illness, mental retardation, autism, addiction and early childhood developmental delays

Millwood Hospital

www.millwoodhospital.com

1011 N. Cooper Street, Arlington, TX 76011

817-261-3121

Inpatient and outpatient mental health and chemical dependency care for children, adolescents, adults and senior adults; specialty programs; research department; ECT

The Parenting Center

www.theparentingcenter.org

2928 West Fifth Street, Fort Worth, TX 76107

817-332-6348

Parenting Advice Line: 817-332-6399

Counseling, including play therapy for children, parent education, case management and a telephone Parenting Advice Line (P.A.L.)

Santa Fe Adolescent Services

www.santafeyouth.org

7524 Mosier View Court, Ste. 200, Fort Worth, TX 76118

817-492-4673

Substance abuse prevention, intervention and counseling services for adolescents and their families

Tarrant Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

www.tarrantcouncil.org

817-332-6329

Serves as the gateway to drug and alcohol services and provides substance abuse education

Tarrant County Challenge, Inc.

www.tcchallenge.org

226 Bailey Avenue, Ste. 105, Fort Worth, TX 76107

817-332-6329

Coordinates efforts throughout the county to prevent substance abuse

The Women's Center of Tarrant County

www.womenscenter.info

1723 Hemphill Street, Fort Worth, TX 76110

(817) 927-4040 Help Line: 817-927-4000

Crisis counseling, rape crisis and victims services, problem solving assistance, information and referral, individual and group counseling



Mental Health Connection of Tarrant County is a collaboration of public and private agencies, mental health care providers, patients and caregivers working together to improve the mental health system for all residents of Tarrant County. Its goal is to create a highly networked system of mental health care so there is "no wrong door to the right mental health resources." www.mentalhealthconnection.org



Dedicated to lifelong learning and anchored by rich collections, the **Fort Worth Museum of Science and History** engages our diverse community through creative, vibrant programs and exhibits interpreting science and the stories of Texas and the Southwest.

The Museum features traveling exhibits and four core exhibit galleries, including DinoDig® and KIDSPACE®; the Noble Planetarium, Museum School®; and the Omni Theater, an IMAX dome seven stories high. Since the mid-1980s, the Museum annually welcomes more than 800,000 visitors, making it one of the most popular cultural attractions in North Texas. www.fortworthmuseum.org

