



Vermont Cooperative for  
Practice Improvement & Innovation

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# Open Dialogue: Learning From the Finnish Experience

*Dr. Jaakko Seikkula & Dr. Mary Olson*

**Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**8:30 am – 4:00 pm | Holiday Inn, Rutland**

476 Holiday Drive, Rutland, Vermont



**Jaakko Seikkula, PhD**

**Open Dialogue** is an innovative, network-based approach to psychiatric care that was first developed in the 1980s by Jaakko Seikkula, Birgitta Alakare, Markku Sutela and their multidisciplinary team at Keropudas Hospital in Tornio, Finland. In contrast to standard treatments for early psychosis and other crises, Open Dialogue emphasizes listening and collaboration and uses professional knowledge with a “light touch” – rather than relying solely on medication and hospitalization. It comprises both a way of organizing a treatment system and a form of therapeutic conversation, or Dialogic Practice, within that system.



**Mary Olson, PhD**

The basic vehicle of Open Dialogue is its radically altered version of the treatment meeting, which typically occurs within 24 hours of the initial call to the crisis service. This treatment meeting gathers together everyone connected to the crisis, including the person at the center, their family and social network, all professional helpers and anyone else closely involved. Throughout this process there are no separate staff meetings to talk about the “case.” Rather, all discussions and decisions take place in the treatment meeting with everyone present.

### Conference Information

8:30 – 9:00	Registration/Breakfast
9:00 – 12:00	Morning Session
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 4:00	Afternoon Session

*Breakfast and lunch will be provided.*

**5.5 CEU credits for  
LICSW, LCMHC, and Psychologists**

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# REGISTRATION FORM

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