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**PHOTO: StepWorks Goes to Kentucky Addiction School: Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Professionals Discuss Their Experience**

*Annual Kentucky School of Alcohol and Drug Studies at Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights, Kentucky*

For Immediate Release

LOUISVILLE, Ky./EWorldWire/Sep. 14, 2012 --- StepWorks Addiction Treatment (<http://www.stepworks.com>), a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center in Kentucky, continued an annual tradition this summer by participating in the Kentucky School of Alcohol and Drug Studies at Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights, Ky.

Sherry Coomer has been StepWorks' Administrator for ten years. Primarily, she leads the staff, but with her decades-long experience in addiction treatment, she is often intimately involved in client care. Coomer believes Kentucky School - her abbreviated moniker for the event - is a vital tool.

Coomer explained: "The education we receive is necessary to our professional standing and quality of care. It's a great opportunity to see other treatment professionals, what they do, what works, and what doesn't. It's also a time for staff to be together outside of the workplace, which cements an already strong bond."

Each day begins with a one-hour session with different speakers on addiction treatment topics. The remainder of the day is spent in intensive training. During breaks, participants can socialize with treatment providers from Kentucky and surrounding states.

Bonnie Darlington has been a member of the StepWorks team for nine years. She serves as the StepWorks intake director. She leads a team of intake specialists and personally answers phones and helps potential clients and family members navigate the admission process. Darlington, who has attended Kentucky School twice, says the classes rejuvenate her and better equip her to respond to clients and their families on the phone. According to Darlington, "My classes focused on compassion. I like being in class with people from other treatment facilities. I'm energized by them, but I'm also reminded how much I enjoy the qualities that make our team at StepWorks so unique."

StepWorks is not merely a participant in the event but a financial sponsor as well, which helps make possible the various speakers featured in the event each year. Fostering the next generation of addiction treatment professionals is important to the StepWorks leadership.

Derek Bowers, a marriage and family therapist and recent addition to the StepWorks team, attended Kentucky School for the first time this year. Bowers, who finds value in continuing education, said, "In working with marriages and families that have been affected by substance abuse, I've found that exploring different treatment approaches allows us to better serve the addict and help them address family issues as well." He enjoyed his first foray into Kentucky School: "There was definitely no lack of passion and drive in this year's speakers and presenters."

Coomer says of this year's event, "Kentucky School is always like a booster shot for me. It validates what I choose to do with my life. This year, I met up with two former StepWorks clients. Not only are they still clean and sober - they are now employed as therapists for other treatment agencies in far reaching parts of our state. That is the best of the best for me!"

Visit <http://www.stepworks.com> for more information about StepWorks Addiction Treatment programs.

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**SOURCE:** StepWorks Addiction Treatment

**AVAILABLE MEDIA:** Photo: StepWorks Addiction Treatment Team at Kentucky Sch (size: 59.0 k)  
Three drug and alcohol rehab professionals attend an annual training event.  
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Photo: StepWorks Addiction Treatment Team at Kentucky Sch (size: 316.0 k)  
Three drug and alcohol rehab professionals attend an annual training event.  
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