

## Spotlight on Dr. Lynn Bufka

Each month we try to "spotlight" someone who has made a difference with the ICF. For more than three years, Lynn F. Bufka has been doing exactly that -- making a difference at the American Psychological Association (APA), located in Washington, D.C. Before coming to APA, Lynn earned her Ph.D. degree in Clinical Psychology (APA Approved) from Boston University in 1996. Her Clinical Psychology Internship was at the Brockton Medical Affairs Medical Center, which is affiliated with the Harvard Medical School. She was already well-published in major psychology journals and had taught such courses as Cross-Cultural Psychology, Case Management, and Adult Psychological Assessment, at Boston University. Since November, 2002, Dr. Bufka has been Director of Professional Development Demonstration Projects, within the APA Practice Directorate. In this capacity, she is responsible for the design, management, and coordination of large-scale projects that demonstrate the value and benefits of integrating psychological knowledge, services, and methodology in areas of expanding opportunities for professional psychology. One important focus of Lynn's work has been on facilitating adoption and implementation of the ICF within health care practice. The ICF is especially relevant to psychological practice because most psychological interventions are designed not only to reduce symptoms but also to increase individual functioning. Lynn believes that systematic clinical classification of information about functioning using the ICF will enable individual psychologists and other health care providers to use universal nomenclature to describe their work and the needs of their clients. To enable consistent application of the ICF, the APA has spearheaded an effort in collaboration with WHO and several national associations of health professionals (e.g., APTA, AOTA, ASHA, ATRA, NASW) to complete the Procedural Manual and Guide for a Standardized Application of the ICF. Lynn is setting up interactive, on-line review and comment for the Manual, and all interested individuals are invited to participate. Lynn has given many ICF presentations and taught a number of ICF workshops, and she and her APA colleague Dr. Geoffrey Reed have recently partnered with Professor John Stone to conduct ICF workshops under the CIRRIE-2 initiative. (Geoff Reed was "spotlighted" in the December, 2003 ICF Clearinghouse newsletter, and John Stone was "spotlighted" in the October, 2005 ICF Clearinghouse newsletter.) Lynn provided important information about the Manual in the January, 2006 *APA Monitor* article entitled "Changing health care's focus: A newly released APA draft manual aims to transform the way health professionals approach health care," cited above. Lynn is married, lives in Silver Spring, Maryland, and plays soccer in a women's competitive league. She says she has a "great kid in first grade and a beloved dog," and with her husband says: "We will travel to virtually any foreign destination for a wedding, including Scotland, Australia and India!" Contact information is as follows: Lynn F. Bufka, Ph.D., American Psychological Association, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-4242, tel (202) 336-5869, or [LBufka@apa.org](mailto:LBufka@apa.org)

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Be sure to send news of your ICF activities to Paul J. Placek, Ph.D., at [PJPLACEK@VERIZON.NET](mailto:PJPLACEK@VERIZON.NET) or call him at 410-643-2817. We will share your news with 900 ICF Clearinghouse subscribers.