

Keynote Speaker

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015

Dennis Embry, Ph.D.



Dennis D. Embry, Ph.D. is senior scientist at PAXIS Institute in Tucson and a co-investigator at Johns Hopkins Center for Prevention as well as co-investigator with the Promise Neighborhood Research Consortium, the University of Manitoba, University of South Carolina—overseeing 50 major prevention projects in the US and Canada. He is a member of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration/Center for Substance Abuse Prevention experts group, and a nominee for the President’s Advisory Council on Prevention for Health Care Reform. Current publications emphasize achieving sustainable, cost-efficient population-wide prevention effects across physical, mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders. He is an emeritus National Research Advisory Council Senior fellow of New Zealand.

Dr. Embry has personally created multiple interventions using both cultural wisdom and leading edge science to prevent multiple problems including alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. He is one of the few scientists to demonstrate such prevention scientifically across whole states, communities or countries. Dr. Embry has engaged in work with First Peoples in New Zealand, the United States and Canada. He uses cultural wisdom and anthropology to inform choices of scientific strategies to better the lives of children, adolescents, families and groups. Many of his projects focus on simple strategies for families. Dr. Embry marries that cultural wisdom with findings from evolutionary sciences, from his association with the National Science Foundation initiative called the EVOS Institute. Growing up in considerable adversity and evaluated as educably mentally retarded, he uses his experiences to inform his work and tell the story of possibility for prevention for all.