

Dual Diagnosis Professional Conference Series

Invisible Disabilities: Understanding What You Can't See

What is the Dual Diagnosis Professional Conference Series?

The Department of Human Services' **Office of Developmental Programs (ODP)** and the **Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS)** are pleased to announce the Dual Diagnosis Professional Conference Series, which offers presentations focused on supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism (ID/A) and mental health needs. The selected presenters share their expertise on best and promising practices as well as provide general knowledge. Session topics, which focus on increasing capacity to serve individuals with dual diagnosis in the community, are chosen based on identified needs and with input from the field of professional stakeholders.

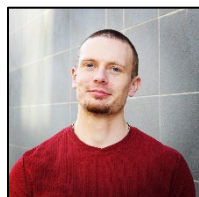
- The invited audience of all professional stakeholders, including direct and clinical supporters for individuals with ID/A are encouraged to attend.
- Registration is required and at no charge to attendees.
- Two (2) hours of training credit and a certificate of achievement is provided.

Invisible Disabilities: Understanding What You Can't See

August 9, 2023, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Session Description: It is vital to put a first-person narrative of living life with mental illness in the forefront of professionals' minds in order to promote and practice person-centered and trauma-informed care.

Presenter: Russell Lehmann



Named the 2022 Advocate of the Year by the Autism Society of America, Russell showed signs of autism as a newborn, however, he was not formally diagnosed until the age of 12 after suffering through 5 weeks in a lockdown psychiatric facility. He subsequently withdrew from the world due to being hurt and misunderstood, resulting in prevalent isolation for the next 15+ years. He currently travels the world spreading hope, awareness, and compassion in a raw and dynamic fashion, while also setting his sights on erasing the stigmas and stereotypes that come with having a disability. Russell's passion is to be a voice for the unheard, for he knows how difficult and frustrating it is to go unnoticed.

For more information on Russell, view his [Ted Talk](#).

How to Attend:

Registration is on the MyODP website. A Demographics Form will need to be completed before the registration link will become available.

[**REGISTER HERE**](#)

The session will be offered virtually, via the Zoom © platform. To participate, you will need access to a computer, with a web camera and microphone that meets the Zoom system requirements.

Read about [Zoom Technology Requirements](#) to be able to participate in the session.

For questions on registration, email: patraining@columbusorg.com.