

Registration Brochure

RCPA Presents Our Annual Conference



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*****Information listed in this brochure may change; please visit the Conference website for the most current details*****

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CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Rehabilitation and Community Providers Association is proud to serve its members by offering continuing education credits in conjunction with Drexel University College of Medicine, Behavioral Healthcare Education.



OVERALL OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of the program, participants will be able to:

- Review national and state initiatives regarding human services;
- Describe issues and solutions regarding the workforce shortage;
- Identify services that can be provided through the use of technology; and
- List strategies to prepare for Value-Based Payment models.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Registrants who will benefit from the 2023 conference workshops include:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| • CEOs / Executive Directors | • County Government Employees | • Quality Assurance / Risk Management / Compliance Officers |
| • Chief Nursing Officers / Nurses | • Financial Officers | • Psychiatrists |
| • Clinicians / Counselors / Social Workers | • Human Resource Professionals | • Psychologists |
| • Consumers / Advocates | • Medical Directors | • State Government Employees |
| • COOs / Vice-Presidents / Senior Managers | • Occupational / Physical Therapists | • Supervisors / Managers / Program Directors |

CE REGISTRATION/DOCUMENTATION

Each CE type costs \$50 (no additional fee for ethics) and should be included on the conference registration form along with all associated license numbers or using the Continuing Education form that will be sent to you following registration.

RCPA ensures that a formal validation of CE credits is sent to those who register and complete paperwork. The certificates will be generated through Drexel University and/or RCPA and will be sent to the email address indicated on returned documentation. Other questions regarding CE program offerings can be addressed to staff via email at rcpaconf@paproviders.org.

DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE EDUCATION

Behavioral Healthcare Education (BHE) was established in 1980 with contractual funding from what is now the Pennsylvania Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. The purpose of its creation was to turn clinical knowledge from biological and programmatic research into information and skills that are directly useful to practitioners in the behavioral health fields, particularly those working with persons in the public and Medicaid managed care arenas who have serious and persistent mental disorders. Since that time, BHE has added expertise in the areas of substance use disorders, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and child and adolescent diagnoses and treatment. The mission of the Division of Behavioral Healthcare Education is to support behavioral health practitioners in providing high quality services to people of all ages. We fulfill this mission through delivering continuing education, consultation, technical assistance, and conferences, using evidence-based and promising practices, research findings, and program and policy advances.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Over 90 hours of continuing education*

***includes session recordings made available post-conference**

STATEMENTS OF ACCREDITATION

National Events

APA (Psychologists): Drexel University College of Medicine, Behavioral Healthcare Education is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Drexel University College of Medicine, Behavioral Healthcare Education maintains responsibility for the program and its content. This program is being offered for up to **TBD** of continuing education.



CEU (IACET): Drexel University College of Medicine/Behavioral Healthcare Education has been accredited as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET), 11130 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 350, Reston, VA 20191. In obtaining this approval, Drexel University College of Medicine/Behavioral Healthcare Education has demonstrated that it complies with the ANSI/IACET Standard, which is widely recognized as the Standard of good practice internationally. As a result of their Authorized Provider accreditation status Drexel University College of Medicine/Behavioral Healthcare Education is authorized to offer IACET CEUs for its programs that qualify under the ANSI/ IACET Standard. Drexel University College of Medicine, Behavioral Healthcare Education, is authorized by IACET to offer up to **TBD** CEUs for this program.

Pennsylvania Events



CPRP: Drexel University College of Medicine/BHE is approved by the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (Provider #107) to sponsor continuing education for Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioners. Drexel University College of Medicine/BHE maintains responsibility for the program and its content. This program is being offered for up to **TBD** hours of continuing education.

LSW/LCSW/LPC/LMFT (PA SBSWE Licensed Social Workers in Pennsylvania): Drexel University College of Medicine is a preapproved provider of continuing education for Social Workers and Clinical Social Workers. This program is being offered for up to **TBD** hours of continuing education.

PA Educators Act 48: Drexel University College of Medicine, Behavioral Healthcare Education is recognized by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to offer continuing education credits under Act 48 guidelines. Drexel University College of Medicine, Behavioral Healthcare Education adheres to Act 48 Continuing Education Guidelines. PA educators will receive a maximum of up to **TBD** hours of credit for attending this program.

PSNA (PA Nurses): Drexel University College of Medicine, Behavioral Healthcare Education is approved as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This program is being offered for up to **TBD** hours of continuing education.

PCB (PA Certified Addictions Counselor): Drexel University College of Medicine, Behavioral Healthcare Education will award a maximum of **TBD** PCB Approved Hours of Education for this program. Our program is certified by the Pennsylvania Certification Board, Provider # 133.



HRCI (HR Certification Institute): This Program is approved for **TBD** (General) recertification credit hours toward aPHR™, aPHRI™, PHR®, PHRca®, SPHR®, GPHR®, PHRI™ and SPHRI™ recertification through HR Certification Institute® (HRCI®). For more information about certification or recertification, please visit the HR Certification Institute website at <http://www.hrci.org/>.

The use of this official seal confirms that this Activity has met HR Certification Institute's® (HRCI®) criteria for recertification credit pre-approval.



SHRM (Society for Human Resource Management): RCPA is recognized by SHRM to offer Professional Development Credits (PDCs) for the SHRM-CPSM or SHRM-SCPSM. This program has been submitted to SHRM for review for up to **TBD** PDCs for the SHRM-CPSM or SHRM-SCPSM.

Please note that in the preceding credit statements if "a maximum of" means just that, since credit is awarded according to the number of actual sessions attended during the conference. Signed validation forms attest to the number of sessions attended.

Welcome Message from Richard Edley



Welcome to the 2023 RCPA Conference — *A Decade of Unity: Enhancing Lives and Shaping the Future!* We are grateful to be back in person once again, particularly during our 10th anniversary as RCPA! Ten years ago, the Rehabilitation and Community Providers Association (RCPA) was born through a merger between two statewide associations with shared interests. Since then, RCPA and its provider members have emerged as trusted leaders, especially among our most vulnerable individuals and their families.

RCPA and its members continue to be the “go to” experts at the state and federal levels, and have successfully influenced decision makers while promoting effective, efficient, and high-quality care. We aspire to create innovative and integrative changes while facing an ever-changing health care environment, including a critical workforce shortage and tightening fiscal resources. Join us for learning and networking opportunities as we seek to improve the business of delivering high quality programs and interventions to individuals across a wide range of health and human service needs.

This year’s event features more than 60 workshops, most of which will be recorded to allow participants to take advantage of viewing sessions after the event and grant access to over 90 continuing education credit options. There will also be a vibrant Connections Hall and networking opportunities to interact with colleagues, spur creative thinking, and create change. The conference begins on Tuesday morning with workshop sessions, followed by a keynote from DHS Secretary Valerie A. Arkoosh, MD, MPH. The remainder of the day’s agenda includes a wide variety of workshops, and a plenary session with conference favorite Michael Cohen on how to become a “Destination Employer.” We are especially excited to conclude the day’s program with speaker and comedian Kirsten Michelle Cills, who is sure to end our day with a smile and a great transition to our Welcome Reception!

The week continues with more creative, exciting workshops and plenaries. Several sessions will focus on workforce development, including strategies to recruit/retain talented team members, and leadership discussions. There will be sessions on access and use of technology in service provision, the importance of data collection, Center for Excellence updates, telehealth, and trauma-informed support to service recipients and employees. Providers will share innovative ways to serve those who present challenging behaviors as well as strategies and lessons utilized to face challenges in the human services community. Discussions will include health care transformation, focus on trauma-informed care, addressing cultural barriers and ethical considerations in service provision, and community partnerships in mental health services.

Wednesday morning, we kick off the day with a panel discussion on addressing the workforce crisis: Strategy and Policy Learning from Four Organizations. The panel presentation will be followed by more valuable workshop sessions, the Awards Luncheon, Connections Hall, which opens on Wednesday afternoon, and keynote speaker Chaz Kellem, who will share his thoughts on expanding DEI efforts in organizations. Our day concludes with a reception at 5:00 pm in Caredon Connections Hall.

Thursday morning, we are pleased to announce that distinguished speaker, retired New Hampshire Supreme Court Justice John Broderick, will share his personal and professional experiences with substance use disorder and mental health challenges in his family. The day rounds out with several workshop sessions, as well as lunch and prize giveaways in Connections Hall.

Friday, the final session of workshops will be followed by a closing plenary featuring national updates from Chuck Ingoglia, President of the National Council for Mental Wellbeing and Donna Martin, Senior Director, State Partnerships & Innovation of ANCOR.

Special thanks to our sponsors, exhibitors, advertisers, and presenters, whose support along with the RCPA Annual Conference Committee makes this event possible. With your participation, this year’s conference is sure to be a success! We look forward to celebrating our 10 year anniversary with you at our conference!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Edley'.

Richard S. Edley, PhD
President/CEO

ESSENTIALS

Workshop Etiquette

When attending workshops, participants are asked to silence phones and other personal communication devices. Please be respectful of presenters and colleagues and step outside of the room if you must respond to a phone call.

Autumn in Pennsylvania provides a variety of weather, making it difficult to maintain constant temperatures comfortable for every participant. Room temperatures may vary throughout the conference center and adjusting temperatures in large meeting rooms takes time. A light sweater or jacket is helpful when rooms become too cool.

Workshops and Plenary Sessions

Executives, leaders, supervisors, financial managers, clinicians, and direct support staff will all find something of benefit from the 2023 conference workshops. More than 60 workshops, three keynotes, and four plenary sessions are scheduled. Descriptions for all events are located in this brochure. The Conference Committee has devoted considerable time and effort in developing these workshops, addressing the various systems of care and the environment where services are provided, and offering skills seminars to enhance services provided by mental health, drug and alcohol, intellectual and developmental disabilities, children's, brain injury, medical rehabilitation, physical disabilities and aging, and other human service agencies.

Wireless Internet

RCPA has secured wireless Internet access for our guests in the Conference Center. This sponsorship opportunity is still available. Please contact [Carol Ferenz](#) for sponsorship information.

Annual Conference Mobile App

RCPA is offering a mobile app again this year. This sponsorship opportunity is still available. Please contact [Carol Ferenz](#) for sponsorship information.

Photo Release

By registering to participate in this event, you consent to interview(s), photography, audio recording, video recording, and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used by RCPA and its representatives. You release RCPA, its officers and employees, and each and all persons involved from any liability connected with the taking, recording, digitizing, or publication and use of interviews, photographs, computer images, and video and/or sound recordings. You also waive all rights you may have to any claims for payment or royalties and any right to inspect or approve any photo, video, or audio recording taken by RCPA or the person or entity designated to do so by RCPA.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Monday, October 9

RCPA PAC Golf Outing to be held at Dauphin Highlands Golf Course, 650 S Harrisburg St, Harrisburg, PA 17113

- 10:00 am Golf Outing Registration Opens
- 11:00 am Golf Outing Lunch
- 12:00 pm Golf Outing Shotgun Start

Tuesday, October 10

- 7:30 am – 5:00 pm Registration
- 7:30 am – 9:00 am Coffee Break
- 9:00 am – 10:30 am Workshop Session A
- 10:30 am – 11:00 am Coffee Break
- 11:00 am – 11:45 am Keynote Speaker: State of the State, DHS Secretary Valerie Arkoosh, MD, MPH
- 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch
- 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm Workshop Session B
- 3:00 pm – 3:15 pm Coffee Break
- 3:15 pm – 4:45 pm Plenary Session: Become a Destination Employer, Michael Cohen, Esq.
- 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm Comedy Session: Kirsten Michelle Cills
- 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Welcome Reception
- 8:00 pm – 12:00 am Hospitality Suite with singer/acoustic guitarist Rich Fehle

Wednesday, October 11

- 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Registration
- 8:00 am – 9:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am – 10:30 am Plenary Session: Addressing the Workforce Crisis, panel discussion
- 10:30 am – 10:45 am Coffee Break
- 10:45 am – 12:15 pm Workshop Session C
- 12:15 pm – 1:45 pm Award Luncheon
- 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm Workshop Session D
- 3:00 pm Carelon Connections Hall Opening
- 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm Coffee Break in Connections Hall
- 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Keynote Speaker: Beyond Accessibility – Diversity/Inclusion, Chaz Kellem, MA
- 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Connections Hall Reception
- 8:00 pm – 12:00 am Hospitality Suite with featured entertainment

Thursday, October 12

- 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Registration
- 7:30 am – 9:00 am Breakfast in Connections Hall
- 9:00 am – 10:15 am Keynote Speaker: Changing the MH Conversation, John Broderick, Jr., JD
- 10:15 am – 10:30 am Connections Hall Coffee Break
- 10:30 am – 12:00 pm Workshop Session E
- 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Connections Hall Luncheon
- 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm Workshop Session F
- 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm Connections Hall Snack Break & Prizes
- 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Workshop Session G
- 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm Dinner On Your Own
- 7:30 pm – 12:00 am Hospitality Suite with live band 3PH

Friday, October 13

- 8:00 am – 9:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am – 10:30 am Workshop Session H
- 10:45 am – 12:15 pm Plenary: Natl Updates, NC & ANCOR, Chuck Ingoglia / Donna Martin
- 12:15 pm – 12:30 pm Closing Comments
- 12:30 pm Travel Snacks

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Tuesday, October 10 • 11:00 am – 11:45 am

K01 | State of the State: DHS Secretary Arkoosh

Presenter(s): Secretary Valerie A. Arkoosh, MD, MPH, PA Department of Human Services

Track(s): BI, CH, DEI, EL, HR, IDD, LD, MR, MH, PDA, SUD, TH, VR

Room: Red Ballroom



The secretary will discuss current critical issues for human services providers. Trends in the field, and how PA continues the implementation of innovative treatments via VBP and telehealth, will also be discussed. Treatment model changes and upcoming initiatives for 2024 will also be addressed.

Wednesday, October 11 • 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

K02 | Beyond Accessibility: Diversity and Inclusion in the Disability Community

Presenter(s): Chaz Kellem, MA, DEI Professional

Track(s): DEI

Room: Red Ballroom



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is at the heart of inclusion and access for disabled communities. This session will engage participants in exploring the intersection of race and disability through the lens of consumers. Through storytelling and review of research, participants will enhance their knowledge of intersectionality, including how disability connects us to one another. Showing up for disability means engaging in thought-provoking conversation to assure everyone impacted by disability is included.



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS (cont'd)

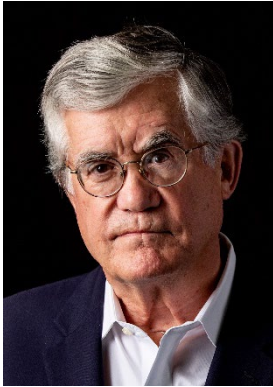
Thursday, October 12 • 9:00 am – 10:15 am

K03 | Changing the Conversation Around Mental Health: It's Way Past Time

Presenter(s): John T. Broderick, Jr., Juris Doctor

Track(s): BI, DEI, EL, HR, IDD, LD, MH, PDA, SUD

Room: Red Ballroom



Dartmouth-Health Senior Director of External Affairs John Broderick, formerly the Chief Justice of the NH Supreme Court, has been reaching out to students, educators, parents, businesses, and communities to change the conversation on mental health and to help reduce stigma. Broderick believes that “we have the ability to change the culture and the way mental health is viewed.” The R.E.A.C.T. Campaign was developed to provide clear next steps to take when someone sees some, or all, of the five signs of emotional suffering in another person. R.E.A.C.T. supplements the 5 Signs Campaign, which was developed by Barbara Van Dahlen of Change Direction. The idea for the 5 Signs was modeled on the theory that, like knowing the 5 signs of a heart attack or stroke, we should all know the 5 signs of emotional distress, and when we see those signs, we should take action.

PLENARY SESSIONS

Tuesday, October 10 • 3:15 pm - 4:45 pm

P01 | Become a Destination Employer

Presenter(s): Michael S. Cohen, Esquire, Duane Morris, LLP

Track(s): BI, CH, CO, DEI, EL, HR, IDD, LD, MR, MH, PDA, SUD, VR

Room: Red Ballroom



The fight for high-caliber talent has never been greater, and the competition for their services has never been higher. Increasingly, the success of our organizations has become dependent on retaining our stars and continually recruiting new people who will help us reach the next level. Notwithstanding this reality, too many organizations still believe that status quo — or worse, reversion to past days — will drive results. Bottom line? This is not the case. We will examine five critical (and achievable) ways your organizations can become not just an employer of choice but a true destination for the finest industry talent.



PLENARY SESSIONS (cont'd)

Wednesday, October 11 • 9:00 am - 10:30 am

P02 | Addressing the Workforce Crisis: Strategy and Policy Learnings From Four Organizations

Presenter(s): Tine Hansen-Turton, MGA, JD, Woods Services, Inc.

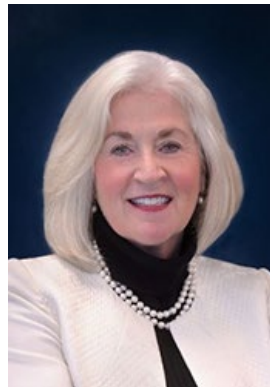
Brian Hancock, JD, Bancroft

Rita Gardner, MPH, LABA, BCBA, CDE, Melmark

Marco Giordano, CPA, Resources for Human Development

Track(s): BI, CH, DEI, EL, HRF, HR, IDD, LD, MH, PDA, SUD, VBP/R

Room: Red Ballroom



Join executive leadership of Bancroft, Melmark, RHD, and Woods, which are Life Cycle Care Management organizations that are all members of the PA and NJ Health and Disabilities Consortium, for an engaging and interactive panel discussion focusing on key aspects of the workforce crisis in our industry. These organizations are leaders in our field, serving individuals with ID/A and other complex populations with a collective workforce over 13,000 employees. The panelists will highlight policy recommendations, analyze data on DSP compensation, discuss emerging national trends in social justice and racial equity among direct care workers, and discuss how inequities are connected to both job quality for our employees and the challenges in recruitment and retention. The panel will offer concrete strategies that other organizations can learn from to build a committed workforce and enhance recruitment and retention while reducing trauma and burnout for our workforce.



PLENARY SESSIONS (cont'd)

Friday, October 13 • 10:45 am - 12:15 pm

P03 | National Update From Our Association Partners

**Presenter(s): Chuck Ingoglia, MSW, National Council for Mental Wellbeing
Donna Martin, MEd, ANCOR**

Track(s): BI, CH, DEI, EL, HR, IDD, LD, MR, MH, PDA, SUD, TH, VR

Room: Red Ballroom



Our national partner associations, ANCOR and National Council of Mental Wellbeing, will share their insights on national trends that our members need to be aware of. It can be a challenge to keep up-to-date with ever-changing federal rules and policies, particularly post-pandemic. We will also discuss promising new strategies for payment methodologies and service provision.

WORKSHOP TRACK LEGEND

BI – Brain Injury	IDD – Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities
CH – Children’s Services	LD – Leadership
CO – Compliance/Risk Management	MR – Medical Rehabilitation
DEI – Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion	MH – Mental Health
ET – Ethics	PDA – Physical Disabilities & Aging
EL – Executive Level (CEOs, CFOs, COOs)	SUD – Substance Use Disorder
FM – Financial Management	TH – Telehealth
HRF – Health Reform	VBP/R – Value-Based Purchasing/Reimbursement
HR – Human Resources	VR – Vocational Rehabilitation/Employment

Special Thanks to Our Conference Committee for Their Hard Work and Dedication!



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Tuesday, October 10

COMEDY PERFORMANCE by Kirsten Michelle Cills • 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm



Room: Red Ballroom

Kirsten Michelle Cills is a Philly native comedian, actor, upcoming docuseries subject, and podcast host & creator. With a passion for avoiding her problems and a refusal to open a savings account, Kirsten considers herself truly blessed to be navigating her 20s as a terminally ill comic who will not live to see any consequences to her actions (though she doesn't want to brag). Having over ten years of acting & writing for both the screen and the stage, Kirsten is driven entirely by her addiction to topics we aren't supposed to talk about. When not correcting people's pronunciation of her name or talking about the Philadelphia Eagles' 2018 Super Bowl LII win, Kirsten has committed her life to creating work that provides audiences with a poignant yet macabre catharsis. Thank you to Bronze Entertainment Sponsor Community Behavioral Health!

WELCOME RECEPTION • 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Room: White Ballroom

You are invited to join the RCPA Board of Directors, staff, and your colleagues for the Welcome Reception. Please help us thank member and Bronze sponsor Elwyn for support of this event. The reception features hors d'oeuvres and beverages and offers a valuable first networking opportunity with colleagues, speakers, and other guests. Conference Committee members and RCPA staff are on hand to answer questions, make introductions, and provide directions and tips for an enjoyable week.



Wednesday, October 11

ASSOCIATION AWARDS LUNCHEON

12:15 pm – 1:45 pm

Room: Red Ballroom

Please join us for lunch and hear about the association's highlights of the year and recognition of our special guest being honored for legislative leadership. The awards luncheon includes commentary by RCPA President/CEO Richard S. Edley, PhD.

Tuesday, October 10 & Wednesday, October 11 • 8:00 pm – 12:00 am
Thursday, October 12 • 7:30 pm – 12:00 am

HOSPITALITY SUITE

Room: Hospitality Suite

Relax and unwind, catch up with colleagues, and enjoy some social time at the RCPA Hospitality Suite! Live music by singer/acoustic guitarist Rich Fehle on Tuesday night, featured entertainment on Wednesday evening, and live band 3PH on Thursday night!



CARELON CONNECTIONS HALL

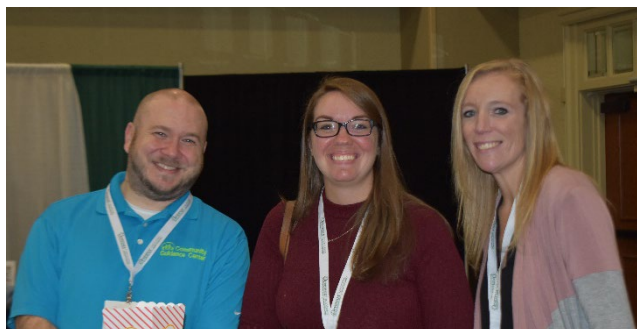
CONNECTIONS HALL HOURS

Wednesday, October 11 • 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 12 • 7:30 am – 3:30 pm

CONNECTIONS HALL RECEPTION

Wednesday, October 11 • 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm



On Wednesday, October 11, we hope you will join the Conference Committee, RCPA staff, and board members in the 2023 Carelon Connections Hall. Connections Hall is where to find innovations and solutions for all of your business needs. Play the game for the chance to win some exciting prizes while you are there! Sponsorship still available for this reception; please contact [Carol Frenz](#) for details.

BREAKFAST IN CONNECTIONS HALL

Thursday, October 12 • 7:30 am – 9:00 am

Please enjoy breakfast in the Connections Hall with the RCPA 2023 vendors. Without these vendors, this conference would not be possible. We would like to thank PA Health and Wellness for their generous support in sponsoring this breakfast!



LUNCH AND PRIZE GIVEAWAYS WITH EXHIBITORS

Thursday, October 12

Luncheon • 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Snack Break & Prizes • 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm



Participants are invited to connect with vendors to discuss business opportunities and enjoy lunch during this event. Take one last opportunity to meet with our participating exhibitors. During exhibit hours, many vendors provide guests with the opportunity to participate in drawings for special prizes.

WORKSHOPS

Session A • Tuesday, October 10, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

W01 | Moral Injury: Reframing and Repair

Presenter(s): Wendy Dean, MD, The Moral Injury of Healthcare

Track(s): BI, CH, DEI, EL, HRF, HR, IDD, LD, MR, MH, PDA, SUD

Room: Empire C

The Moral Injury of Healthcare is a nonprofit focused on alleviating workforce distress through research, education, consultation, and training. The long-standing narrative of clinician and direct support staff distress focuses on a mismatch between resources and demands. Absent in that framing are the relational ruptures of moral injury experienced by too many staff. Addressing both the transactional and relational drivers of distress is most effective when all health care stakeholders come together to coproduce solutions.

W02 | Milieu Therapist Residency Program

Presenter(s): Taylor Wellman, OTD, OTR/L, UPMC Western Behavioral Health
Michael Barfield, EdD, LSW, UPMC Western Behavioral Health

Track(s): HR, MH

Room: Empire B

Given the health care workforce crisis, there is increasing need to focus on staff engagement and retention. At UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital, we developed a Milieu Therapist (MT) Residency Program, with the objective of providing staff with pragmatic and applicable knowledge and skills commensurate with their developmental and learning trajectory. The overarching aim of the program is to increase staff's confidence in their roles, bolster engagement, and ultimately increase retention. Our program launched in January 2023; qualitative data collection is underway, via participant surveys, measuring perceived confidence and competence. Longer-term data will potentially include a longitudinal cohort study comparing each cohort with HR retention data. This presentation will overview the curriculum and data collection to provide the audience with a template to develop similar programs.



W03 | Restrictive Practices Across the States: Strategies to Advocate for Change

Presenter(s): Gloria Satriale, JD, EdD, BSL-PA, ACRE, MCPPP, QM, Mission for Educating Children With Autism
Amy Lutz, PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Track(s): IDD, PDA

Room: Crystal A

HCBS was intended to increase choice, provide wide access to community life, and promote the ability of individuals with disabilities to make decisions over their own lives. In many instances, however, state interpretation and application of the federal HCBS Settings Rule vary widely – resulting, in some cases, in significant gaps and inequities under HCBS. Of particular concern are some interpretations of the HCBS Settings Rule. Some states fail to acknowledge that some individuals, particularly those with acute behavioral and medical challenges, require specialized support that cannot be safely and efficiently provided in small, dispersed settings. This panel will review real-life examples of the struggles of individuals with severe needs and their families, demonstrate how these needs are not met under HCBS, explore the impact on access to services that restrictive interpretations have made and discuss practical solutions necessary to restore equity and parity.

W04 | Becoming a Data-Driven Provider: 10 Steps to Creating a Data-Driven Culture

Presenter(s): Jodie Esper, BSBA, MSA, Mainstay Life Services
Scott Bachik, BSIM, MAS, Enkompas BI

Track(s): CO, EL, FM, HRF, HR, LD, VBP/R

Room: Empire A

The presentation will highlight how Mainstay Life Services leveraged Business Intelligence (BI) to organize financial, human resources, quality, and operational data, to create a “balanced scorecard” approach to drive organizational performance. The presentation will outline their journey from the organization’s initial state through the transformation to having a functional Decision Intelligence System, and most importantly highlight the organizational change management efforts needed to implement and drive adoption of the technology across the enterprise and create a “Data-Driven Culture.” They will review their journey, what people, processes, and tools they used to implement the infrastructure, and they will share insights that were critical in the transformation of their organization and the results that it produced.

W05 | Devereux Ascend Career Accelerator Program

Presenter(s): Michael Ernst, MA, Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health
Kathy E. Marks, SPHR, MEd, Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health

Track(s): HR, LD

Room: Magnolia AB

There is a soaring demand for team members, anyone from direct care to teachers, to nurses, to clinicians, etc. Studies predict an even greater gap between the demand and the available workforce. Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health first went to their existing team members to hear what would make them stay or go. We found that the number one key factor that would keep them at Devereux was professional development. This coincided with a Relias Ancor Study where professional development was in the top three key factors. As a result, the Devereux Ascend Career Accelerator Program was created. Please join us for a description of this empowering, equity-driven, and career-building initiative that was launched earlier this year at Devereux.

W06 | Increasing Dental Care Access for the I/DD and ND Population With Visual Supports and Video Modeling

Presenter(s): Sean Boynes, DMD, MD, Avesis
Jill Reffett, MA, MBA, MapHabit

Track(s): BI, IDD
Room: Magnolia C

This presentation will be outcomes-focused and feature the use of the visual, audio, and video supports to assist individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and neurodiversity in accessing preventative dental care, at-home dental care, and more extensive dental interventions. This process can also be utilized to assist with other activities of daily living, such as morning and evening routines, pre-employment skills, and community engagement. Participants will see tangible, real-life uses of visual, audio, and video modeling to address self-advocacy and a circle of support goals and outcomes related to at-home dental care, medical and dental interventions, and therapeutic interventions.

W07 | The Happy Valley FitLink Approach to Inclusive Wellness

Presenter(s): Jacob Corey, PT, DPT, MS, Happy Valley FitLink
Jonna Belanger, PhD, Happy Valley FitLink
Zachary Corey, BS, Happy Valley FitLink

Track(s): BI, DEI, IDD, PDA
Room: Wild Rose AB

Physical activity is critical to promote positive long-term health outcomes for individuals with both physical and neurodevelopmental/intellectual disabilities of all ages, as it promotes improved health outcomes and increased community participation, yet these populations remain significantly physically inactive. Join Drs Jacob Corey and Jonna Belanger, and Zachary Corey as they show you how to set and meet goals to incorporate physical activity into day-to-day life for individuals of any ability level, to promote improved health outcomes, endurance, and overall quality of life. This workshop will include instruction in physical activity design, free workout plans that can be easily fit into busy day-to-day life, and access to free weekly virtual fitness classes offered by their nonprofit, Happy Valley FitLink.

W08 | OLTL Updates and Quality Initiatives

Presenter(s): Juliet Marsala, MS, MBA, CRC, Office of Long-Term Living
Larry Appel, MD, Office of Long-Term Living
Jill Vovakes, MHA/INF, Office of Long-Term Living

Track(s): BI, CO, PDA
Room: Magnolia D

OLTL executive leaders and guest speakers will present department-based updates, objectives, and priorities for FY 2024 as well as present on select OLTL CHC quality initiatives and promising practices. This interactive session will provide opportunities for attendees to engage with OLTL team leaders in advancing long-term services and supports for Pennsylvanians. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about OLTL quality initiatives, such as the Women's Health Initiative, with OLTL's medical director and gain a deeper understanding of OLTL programs, goals, and priorities.

Session B • Tuesday, October 10, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

W09 | Driving Pennsylvania's Health Care Transformation: Integrating Perspectives for Advanced Patient-Centered Care

Presenter(s): Neftali Serrano, PsyD, Collaborative Family Healthcare Association

Track(s): EL, HRF, LD, VBP/R

Room: Crystal A

This comprehensive conversation in Pennsylvania integrates diverse perspectives on health care system integration. Drawing upon attendees' prior knowledge, the aim is to synthesize discussions and explore strategies for advancing the state's health care system. Participants will consider the benefits and challenges of integration, identifying innovative strategies and collaborations to enhance health care outcomes. Through an interactive dialogue, stakeholders will collectively develop a roadmap, fostering collaboration among health care professionals, policymakers, and community representatives. The session aims to deepen participants' understanding of implementing an integrated health care system, providing actionable strategies for a more advanced, patient-centered, and efficient delivery model in Pennsylvania.

W10 | Purpose and Growth: Engaging and Retaining Your Teams in Challenging Times

Presenter(s): Lisa Friscia, SHRM-SCP, Co-Active Coach, MSL, Consulting for Human Services

Track(s): DEI, HR, LD

Room: Wild Rose AB

Retaining strong teammates has always been challenging. The economy, generational shifts, and the pandemic have made it even more so. And yet, every organization can create tangible ways to engage and connect employees to their culture with increased purpose and growth – two key factors in retention. Join us as we discuss the current workforce context, and examine actionable ways any organization can address retention issues by building a connected and engaged workforce through purpose and learning, from the tactical to the systemic.

W11 | Why Your Agency Needs A Specialized Telehealth Solution: Improving Health, Provider Cost Saving, Increased Satisfaction

Presenter(s): Maulik Trivedi, MD, FACEP, StationMD
Kim Sonafelt, MS, LPC, CADC, Mainstay Life Services
Heather Lewis, ETIS, Mainstay Life Services

Track(s): IDD, TH

Room: Magnolia D

Using specialized telehealth solutions not only creates greater health outcomes by providing equitable access to trained clinicians but also offers cost savings to providers. Hear from StationMD and Mainstay Life Services about their successful partnership that is benefiting Mainstay's supported individuals and bottom line. Mainstay has seen an improvement in overall health and wellness of the people it supports, a reduction in unnecessary hospitalization and testing, and avoided thousands of dollars in transportation and staff overtime costs. The discussion will cover what makes specialized telehealth specialized, and how those characteristics impact the individuals, their circles of support, and the provider agency. The time is now to adopt this new standard of care for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

W12 | Data Strategies for Impact and System Transformation

Presenter(s): Ginger Bandeen, LCSW, Mission Driven Data

Track(s): CH, CO, DEI, EL, FM, HRF, IDD, LD, MH, SUD, VBP/R

Room: Empire C

How can you move beyond using data for operations, productivity, and finance projects, and start using data to fuel transformational change? In this workshop, you'll learn about the stages of organizational development related to data-informed decision-making, and how to overcome obstacles along the way. Getting your essential data organized is important. However, an organization can be really good at operational, financial, and compliance data and still miss the big picture. Data processes that are well-designed to deliver required reports or monitor productivity aren't going to naturally yield transformational data. Data that will drive systemic change requires something different, but that doesn't mean it's beyond our reach. If you're on a quest to transform your system, let's make sure your data supports you on that mission!

W13 | Value-Based Purchasing: A Survival Guide

Presenter(s): Christine "Chris" Vigna-Volker MS, LPC, Pyramid Healthcare, Inc.
Andrew Wilmoth, BS, Pyramid Healthcare

Track(s): VBP/R

Room: Empire A

The world of value-based purchasing is not new. The physical health providers have been impacted by their payers wanting the dollars spent on health care to better match the desired client/patient outcome. Behavioral health services are now being impacted. This session will review what value-based purchasing really is; an effort to improve quality. In that light, it is vital that providers view their provision of care under a new lens. Value-based purchasing is something to embrace and the best way to do that is plan and be flexible. We will discuss how data can be your friend and what to do with data you can collect in real time.

W14 | Current Steps in Implementing Trauma-informed Care in Children's MH RTFs

Presenter(s): Gordon R. Hodas, MD, PA OMHSAS
Caren L. Rosser-Morris, PhD, PA OMHSAS

Track(s): CH, LD, MH

Room: Magnolia C

As part of PA's commitment to becoming a trauma-informed state, OMHSAS has been working with children's MA-funded RTFs to help them become trauma-informed. Dr. Gordon Hodas and Dr. Caren Rosser-Morris, who serve as clinical TIC consultants to OMHSAS, will describe the TIC initiative for children's mental health residential treatment facilities. The presenters will provide participants with an overview of the vision, progress to date, and steps taking place at the present time to help these RTFs be designated as "Trauma-Sensitive." Specific topics include the criteria for OMHSAS designation of a MH RTF as being trauma-sensitive and the importance of leadership and collaboration internally, with providers, and with behavioral health managed care plans. The TIC Self-Audit Tool will also be discussed, along with potential provider use of original OMHSAS TIC tools to assess and promote TI practices by staff and increase TIC satisfaction on the part of youth and caregivers.

W15 | Individual Operations: Owning Your Own Influence

Presenter(s): Juliette Ballough, MEd, UPMC Western Behavioral Health

Track(s): LD

Room: Magnolia AB

This presentation will help leaders understand what role they play in their teams' successes and failures through their own functioning. The objectives are to implement strategies to schedule and time block, use time studies and the benefits of reviewing scheduling patterns, reflect and strategically plan your day-to-day, set boundaries with your team (and when to break them), discuss our roles as leaders, and improve our own 'operations' to improve our teams 'operations.' The target audience would be new managers and leaders, and those that are struggling with their schedules controlling their day instead of them controlling their schedules. Attendees can take away how to perform time studies and use them as a strategy to determine detractors and triggers, how to prioritize and time block for the most effective use of their schedule, how to teach this to others, how to set boundaries with team members, and how that can impact your overall success.

W16 | Condition Support: Addressing Escalated Situations in the Health Care Setting

Presenter(s): Jeffrey Magill, MS, UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital

Camellia Herisko, DNP, MSN, RN, PMHCNS-BC, CRNP, UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital

David Heckman, UPMC

Track(s): EL, HR, LD, MH

Room: Empire B

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the rate of injuries from violent attacks against medical professionals grew by 65% from 2011 to 2018. Health care administrators realize the importance in developing processes to manage escalated situations. This presentation will outline the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's (UPMC) Condition Support Process that addresses situations in which patients and/or visitors are exhibiting aggressive, hostile, escalated, assaultive, and/or threatening behaviors. The Condition Support Process describes the activation process and the role of clinical staff and security/law enforcement to provide for the protection, needs, and safety of patients, visitors, and staff. We will outline the details of the response, which includes local activation, staff huddle, least restrictive intervention approaches, and post-response documentation and notifications.



Session C • Wednesday, October 11, 10:45 am – 12:15 pm

W17 | Hoarding Recovery and Maintenance Program

Presenter(s): Shannon Neal, BS CPRP, Regional Counseling Center, Inc.
Kristie Ziegler, MS, Regional Counseling Center, Inc.
Becky Flockerzi, BA, Regional Counseling Center, Inc.

Track(s): MH

Room: Magnolia D

The Hoarding Recovery and Maintenance Program (HRMP) is designed to provide in-home, team-delivered therapy and support services to individuals diagnosed with Hoarding Disorder. It is made up of a mental health therapist and a hoarding specialist. Due to the emotional connection individuals have with their hoard, they experience extreme anxiety and distress as they let the items go. The team must work together to support the individual. This team brings together the individual and professionals with differing perspectives and expertise in managing interventions. The team must understand not only their individual roles in the process, but also how the roles of others can be utilized to complement the process.

W18 | Make Difficult People Disappear: How to Reduce Stress and Eliminate Conflict in the Workplace

Presenter(s): Monica L. Wofford, CSP, Contagious Companies, Inc.

Track(s): EL, HR, LD

Room: Wild Rose AB

Difficult people can exist on all levels in any health care environment, even including patients, and while most courses teach you how to deal with them, this one introduces how to make difficult people disappear... without "going to jail" or more importantly, making it worse or getting in trouble.

W19 | Investigating the Use of Tabletop Role-Playing Games as a Potential Therapeutic Intervention for Individuals With Social Anxiety

Presenter(s): Jack Berkenstock Jr., MHS, The Bodhana Group
Colleen Madrigale, LCSW, Community Services Group
James Kirk, The Bodhana Group

Track(s): CH, IDD, MH

Room: Magnolia C

Come and discover the results of a formative research project conducted in 2020, measuring the efficacy of tabletop role-playing games for adults with social anxiety. This study, published in the Journal of Social Work with Groups in November 2022, shows data from the use of quantitative and qualitative measures highlighting the potential benefits of an innovative and fast-growing approach to therapy. We share the method structure and purpose of the study with examples of insights from two members of the study team.

W20 | A Treatment Outcome Measurement System That Helps to Get & Keep Treatment Funding

Presenter(s): Steven Kossor, MA, The Institute for Behavior Change

Track(s): CO, EL, FM, VBP/R

Room: Empire A

A simple and effective treatment outcome measurement system helps to get and keep insurance funding (including Medicaid) for larger numbers of intensive, individualized treatment for children, including IBHS Individual and IBHS ABA programs.

W21 | Addressing Cultural Barriers to Treatment: How to Be Respectfully Curious When Working With Families

Presenter(s): James Russell, MSCP, NCC, LPC, UPMC
Brittany M. Weaver, LMFT, LPC, UPMC

Track(s): CH, DEI, MH

Room: Empire B

Professionals have the unique opportunity to work intimately with families. As professionals, we have an obligation to be respectfully curious when granted this unique access. It is so easy to do harm, try to enforce our values on families, and attempt to “fix” a pattern of interaction, that we have sometimes not taken the time to appreciate the “very good reason” why our families do what they do. Participants will practice how to be respectfully curious when engaging with families. Strategies will be presented and opportunities for the audience to learn from each other will be encouraged.

W22 | Subpoenas, Court Orders, and Requests for PHI: Obligations Under HIPAA, the MHPA, and Other Statutes

Presenter(s): Jeffrey J. Worley, Esq, Gibbel Kraybill & Hess

Track(s): CO, EL, HR

Room: Magnolia AB

How should my organization respond to a subpoena? What are the limitations imposed on our response by HIPAA and other statutes? What can a clinician provide as testimony during a hearing? When do we need a consumer's release? Can we refuse to disclose a clinician's notes? This presentation will delve into HIPAA and relevant PA statutes and provide a practical answer to those and many other questions.



W23 | Enabling Technology: The Why, What, and How Needed to Make it Happen

Presenter(s): Marian Baldini, MS, MBA, KenCrest
Kellie Smith, BS, KenCrest
Timothy Bosch, KenCrest

Track(s): EL, IDD, LD

Room: Empire C

Enabling technology has the power to promote outcomes which, up until now, were elusive. As technology becomes more available and affordable, there are in fact many challenges to getting it into the lives of people we support. In this session, we will describe the methods we have used to develop our organizational capacity to provide enabling technology to those we serve who have developmental disabilities. We will describe the investments we made and our outcomes to date. Participants who benefited will speak for themselves about their experiences with selecting and using technology. We will inspire a vision of what technology can be and open up the conversation about how we can mobilize our efforts to grow outcomes with the assistance of technology.

W24 | Leadership and Navigating Change – Part 1

Presenter(s): John Amato, MEd, Familylinks, Inc.

Track(s): LD

Room: Crystal A

Learn how to lead an organization or team effectively amid significant change. The typical response to this transformation is resistance on the part of employees and leaders can inadvertently add to this resistance. This session will provide leaders with the skills to promote organizational and team change by focusing on the 'people side' of change. The ADKAR model for managing the process of change will also be presented and discussed.



Session D • Wednesday, October 11, 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

W25 | Getting Past the First Meeting to the Contract Negotiation

Presenter(s): Anna Keith, BSBM, PA Health & Wellness

Track(s): CO, EL, FM, LD, VBP/R

Room: Empire B

The number one mistake that providers make when bringing solutions to health plan payors is the lack of awareness as to what the payor needs and is willing to fund. While a provider may have a rock-star idea, it's likely that it won't get past the first meeting if it misses the key components necessary to give the proposal serious attention. This presentation is designed to walk providers through a sample vetting process in order to avoid wasting time on ideas and understand how to get an opportunity from the first meeting to the negotiation table, and preferably to a contract.

W26 | Recruitment and Retention of Front Line Workers

Presenter(s): Teresa Hewitt, MSW, Alliance for Nonprofit Resources

Shawna Mitcheltree, BA, Alliance for Nonprofit Resources

Track(s): EL, HR

Room: Wild Rose AB

The field of Human Resources (HR) always faces its challenges, but employee recruitment and retention has been a recent challenge that is now even more apparent due to contributing factors such as the pandemic, the Great Resignation, and a remote work environment. This HR course will review reasons people are leaving their jobs, ways you can positively impact your staffing situation, and potential opportunities your agency has to achieve its staffing goals.

W27 | Preparing Your Organization's Infrastructure for Selective Contracting for IDD Providers

Presenter(s): Rob Labatch, MSW, Hope Enterprises, Inc.

Suzanne Glisan, BSN, Hope Enterprises, Inc.

Track(s): EL, IDD

Room: Magnolia AB

Organizations should be assessing, developing, and transforming their infrastructure to prepare for selective contracting. This session will give insight into what organizations should be considering if the intent is to become a preferred IDD provider. Topics will include the transition to selective contracting, strategic preparations, and real-time experience from executive leaders. The presenters will give insight and tools to measure preparedness in four key areas of focus: finance & accounting systems; quality/compliance; infrastructure & risk mitigation; and leadership & organizational structure.

W28 | Not if, but When You Use AI and Machine Learning – Key Considerations

Presenter(s): Michael R. Lardieri, LCSW, Core Solutions

Track(s): CO, LD

Room: Empire A

Moving to implement some form of artificial intelligence and/or machine learning tools will be a reality for many providers. These tools show great promise in assisting to manage the workforce shortage and provide higher quality care to the clients we serve. But are all AI algorithms the same? Do you know the population that the algorithm was tested on? Does that population mimic the population you will use the AI for? How do you know that the AI is trustworthy? This session will review some of the promising uses of AI in the field today, but will focus on the questions you as a user or an administrator selecting a AI program need to be aware of and ask prior to selecting an AI program. We will explore some of the federal initiatives focused in this area which will help you make better informed decisions.

~~CANCELLED W29 | Connecting Through Movement: Bringing Accessible and Enjoyable Movement Experiences Into the Home and Community~~

Presenter(s): Corina Cleffi, BS, University of Delaware
Jacob Corey, DPT, University of Delaware

Track(s): CH, DEI, IDD, TH

Room: Empire C

Many children with developmental disabilities are at risk for motor delays, and consequently, have lower levels of physical activity than their peers. Therapy services and movement-based activities should be accessible to all individuals, despite their circumstances. During the COVID-19 pandemic, several families lost access to health care resources, further amplifying motor delays. A home-based and parent-mediated, telehealth intervention format was necessary to ensure continued access to care to promote long-term development. As the world opens up, we can integrate these ideas into other community-based settings. Community programs and families will learn to explore creative ways to spend time together engaged in physical games and activities. This innovative, collaborative approach to physical activity is a pragmatic design that increases the likelihood of long-term carryover into daily life.

W30 | A Brief Multi-Disciplinary Intervention for Supporting Adults With IDD and Co-Occurring Mental Health Conditions

Presenter(s): Steven Herr, PhD, Advanced Metrics
Kate Gallagher, MNM, Advanced Metrics
Peg Schwartz, MSW, LCSW, Community Services Group

Track(s): DEI, HRF, IDD, MH

Room: Magnolia C

This presentation reviews the implementation and utilization of the ANSA-DD (a tool for adults with developmental challenges) in a novel intervention approach that provides support for adults living with IDD and co-occurring mental health conditions. The supportive holistic intervention is a mobile treatment team approach that engages with the targeted adult and their community-based support system. This presentation will discuss how identified strengths are harnessed and paired with need areas to best support individuals. This presentation will also review more than five years of outcomes data that demonstrates the effectiveness of a brief multi-disciplinary approach when supporting adults living with IDD and co-occurring mental health conditions. Program outcomes data will be reported including the use of data to show impact and access sustainable funding.

W31 | Community Partnerships That Work: Community Mental Health Centers – School Districts

Presenter(s): James Phillips, MEd, Devereux TCV
Fran Sheedy Bost, MEd, Devereux TCV
Joe DiLucente, MEd, East Allegheny School District

Track(s): CH, LD, MH

Room: Magnolia D

Have you wondered about how we are going to help students and families that are struggling through trauma and violence? This workshop is going to focus on what a great collaboration looks like between a school district, community mental health agency, and the community, that can change the culture for the better. This occurs through a network of resources created through the Student Assistance Program, prevention programming, among others. What are the positive things that are happening in school districts? We will talk about all of this and more in this workshop.

W32 | Leadership and Navigating Change – Part 2

Presenter(s): John Amato, MEd, Familylinks, Inc.

Track(s): LD

Room: Crystal A

Learn how to lead an organization or team effectively amid significant change. The typical response to this transformation is resistance on the part of employees and leaders can inadvertently add to this resistance. This session will provide leaders with the skills to promote organizational and team change by focusing on the 'people side' of change. The ADKAR model for managing the process of change will also be presented and discussed.



Session E • Thursday, October 12, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

W33 | VBP: Ally or Enemy? Decoding Value-Based Programs, Evidence-Based Practices & the Logic Behind Them

Presenter(s): Laura Karoffa, MA, LPC, Beacon Health Options/Carelon
Napali Bridgelall, BS, Beacon Health Options/Carelon

Track(s): SUD, VBP/R

Room: Empire B

Learn about the start to finish on how value-based programs are built, and in the process gain knowledge about how to thrive in a VBP program. We will cover how evidence-based practices (EBPs) are used to create meaningful VBP models, as well as how using EBPs will help you (the provider) win better outcomes and dollars. The presenters will share outcomes from their VBPs and their work with PA Opioid Use Disorder Centers of Excellence. Participants will be invited to share their experiences utilizing various EBPs and ways to problem-solve when faced with barriers.

W34 | Bridging Generational Differences in the Workplace

Presenter(s): Stacey Nybeck, MBA, Secure Rehabilitation and Vocational Enterprises, Inc.

Track(s): DEI, EL, HR, LD

Room: Crystal A

People talk a lot about diversity today, whether it is income, ethnic, or gender; however, there is a different kind of diversity that we don't really talk about – generational diversity. In this session, we will explore the characteristics of each generation working today and how to leverage them to be your competitive advantage. Too often we stereotype, taking mental shortcuts and profiling young or old team members. This session offers practical strategies to bring out the best in each generation.

W35 | Transforming Organizational Wellness and Self-Advocacy Through an Evidenced-Based Practice: Improving the Lives of Employees and Individuals in Our Care

Presenter(s): Lynn A. Miller, MEd, Advocates for Human Potential
Lesley Corey, EdD, Step By Step, Inc.

Track(s): CH, HR, IDD, MH

Room: Magnolia AB

The presentation will address the benefits of implementing an evidence-based wellness program, to improve employee wellness and support to consumers and families served in MH/IDA. There will be examples of how implementing the WRAP training program improves the culture within an agency and offers innovative ways to promote resiliency and self-advocacy. Workshop participants will learn the steps to implementing a comprehensive wellness program across the service system and how to integrate WRAP into service delivery. Participants will also learn how to develop an agency as a WRAP Center of Excellence, benefits, and how implementing WRAP for employees and consumers strengthens services and improves quality of life for all.

W36 | Revealing the Potential of Smart Home Technologies for People With Disabilities Through Research and Resources

Presenter(s): Lindsey Morris, OTD, OTR/L, University of Pittsburgh
Ben Laudermilch, MPA, Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation
Dan Ding, PhD, University of Pittsburgh

Track(s): IDD, PDA

Room: Empire C

Smart home technologies (SHT) are rapidly evolving, resulting in dynamic and affordable devices with the potential to improve people with disabilities' (PWD) participation and quality of life. However, the expansive and continually growing selection of SHT available to purchase can make it challenging to select, install/set up, integrate, customize, and learn to use SHT to best meet PWD diverse needs and abilities. Furthermore, use of MST as AT for PWD has been hindered by a lack of evidence-based research and knowledge regarding the dynamic potential of SHT to support PWD. This session reveals two organizations' efforts to support PWD participation by enabling SHT use through expanding research and resources on SHT use as AT and shares case study examples of PWD SHT gathered from their projects.

W37 | Our HAIR (Health Access Initiative for Recovery): Making a Difference With Health Equity

Presenter(s): Lori A. Weems, MS, Community Care
Tennille Hill, MS, Hair Counselor Salon
Tim Jones, Salon Blue

Track(s): DEI, MH

Room: Magnolia C

This presentation will describe Community Care's "Our HAIR" program, which was developed as a targeted intervention to address racial disparities in access to behavioral health care. This initiative aims to improve whole person health outcomes in the Black community through increased culturally-meaningful outreach. The long-term goal is to decrease disparities between Black and White Pennsylvanians in accessing and utilizing effective behavioral health services, including prevention, early intervention, and treatment. Barbers and stylists in the African American community are often seen as mentors, confidantes, and counselors. Community Care has partnered with two black barbershop/salon owners who are also behavioral health professionals in order to provide education and resources that will assist other black barbers/stylists in becoming advocates of mental wellness in their communities. The presentation will describe a two-day Our HAIR Mental Wellness Ambassador training that offers culturally relevant information about stigma regarding behavioral health needs and services, mental health challenges and treatment, QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) gatekeepers for suicide prevention training, recognizing problematic substance use and substance use treatment best practices, and lifesaving Narcan administration along with the obtaining of NaloxBoxes in their shops. Mental Wellness Ambassadors are able to offer their clients, who may be seeking services, a list of resources and a Community Care concierge referral line. This model will be continuously evaluated for improvement and expansion opportunities. This panel-like discussion will provide the perspectives of the program manager, consultant, and a stylist involved in the program.



W38 | Implementing and Sustaining Evidence-Based Practices

Presenter(s): Deborah Bell, LPC, CenClear
Lori Yarger, MSW, CenClear

Track(s): CH, MH

Room: Empire A

Developing and sustaining evidence-based practices for childhood trauma is an ever-growing need. Creating clear and efficient clinical pathways and building internal and external supports for long-term fidelity and sustainability are key. Lessons learned during the implementation of CenClear's Healing After Trauma (H.A.T.) Program, an NCTSN Category III grant, and relevant research will be shared to assist others working to implement and sustain successful evidence-based programs.

W39 | Selective Contracting or Managed Care: Either One Will Change Your World

Presenter(s): Valerie Sellers, MHA, CHE, New Jersey Association of Community Providers

Track(s): EL, FM, IDD, VBP/R

Room: Wild Rose AB

This session will focus on the impact selective contracting and Managed Long-Term Services & Supports will have on the IDD community. Drawing on almost fifteen years of experience with managed care in the health care community, the speaker will share experiences and lessons learned that have applicability to the world of IDD. Elements necessary for contracting with MCOs or the state will be discussed.

W40 | Findings on Stakeholder Engagement for the PA Master Plan for Older Adults

Presenter(s): Kevin Hancock, MIR, PA Department of Aging

Track(s): IDD, PDA

Room: Magnolia D

Governor Josh Shapiro signed an executive order directing the Department of Aging to map out ways to serve Pennsylvania's fastest-growing population, which also includes people living with disabilities, and assess its needs, such as housing, food, health care, and community centers. We will discuss what the Master Plan is intended to accomplish and provide preliminary findings from the stakeholder engagement process. The Master Plan for Older Adults will summarize all these ideas and proposals in an actionable document that will include "quick wins," aspirational goals, and tangible initiatives that will be measurable to hold the Department accountable for their implementation and success.



Session F • Thursday, October 12, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

W41 | Ethics, Suicide, and Coercive Practices: Are We Doing More Harm Than Good? PART I

Presenter(s): Lindsay Martin, PhD, LPC, NCC, Drexel University College of Medicine/BHE

Track(s): ET

Room: Crystal A

In this course, we will consider the concept of suicidality in the context of its historical origins and evolution through modern times in terms of cultural and societal values, morals, ethics, law, and approaches to suicide intervention by behavioral health professionals. We will examine whether death by suicide and physician-assisted suicide is a human right among those with and those without mental illness. Finally, we will contemplate the use of involuntary and coercive practices to determine their utility in managing those experiencing suicidal thoughts and the desire to end their lives within the bounds of legal and ethical obligations.

W42 | Reducing Health Disparities Through a Collaborative Approach to Value-Based Contracting

Presenter(s): Shamly Austin, PhD, Highmark Wholecare
Fernando Arbelaez, PhD, Highmark Wholecare

Track(s): VBP/R

Room: Magnolia AB

In Pennsylvania, Black and Hispanic adolescents (aged 15–21) experience sexually transmitted infection (STI) rates 5.5 times higher than their White peers. Highmark Wholecare has designed and implemented, in collaboration with a group of providers, the state's health department, and the University of Chicago, an intervention aimed to reduce racial/ethnic disparities in STI screenings and diagnosis rates, through Medicaid value-based payment contracting (VBC) models that includes social determinants of health (SDOH). VBC agreements aim to incentivize providers to deliver better patient outcomes and reduce health care costs. There is not a one-size-fits-all model for these contracts, but they must be co-designed by both parties, with plausible impact on patient outcomes and on the health cost trend. This will help both service provider and payer expand their business in the future, as well as remunerate appropriately for the services provided. Highmark Wholecare strongly believes this is a method worth pursuing to provide services to our population. A method that addresses the social and health needs of the patients, technical capabilities of the service providers, availability of data, and technology to support the implementation of such contracts. We want to start the conversation with interested providers of services in the Commonwealth to expand the use of this approach.



W43 | Measurement-Based Care: Exploring the Value of a Coordinated Approach in Pennsylvania

Presenter(s): Simon Weisz, JD, Greenspace Health
Jim Spencer, MS, Northeast Behavioral Health Care Consortium

Track(s): CH, CO, EL, LD, MH, SUD, VBP/R
Room: Empire C

Implementing Measurement-Based Care (MBC) in a coordinated way can have a profound positive impact on organizations through improved treatments outcomes and collaboration, increased efficiency, and quality improvement. Simon Weisz (Greenspace Health) and Jim Spencer (Northeast Behavioral Health Care Consortium) will present on a coordinated implementation of MBC across Northeast Pennsylvania. The initiative aims to drive collaboration across providers, provide support for more successful MBC implementations, generate a shared data set on outcomes, and lead to an evaluation of MBCs' impact on cost of care and outcomes in outpatient services. This presentation will include an update on the status of this implementation, a summary of lessons learned to date, and a discussion about how MBC ties into value-based care.

W44 | Attracting and Retaining the Best Talent: Mitigating Bias in Hiring, From Sourcing Through Onboarding

Presenter(s): Lisa Friscia, SHRM-SCP, Co-Active Coach, MSL, Consulting for Human Services

Track(s): DEI, EL, HR, LD
Room: Wild Rose AB

The lack of a strong workforce impacts an organization's financials, culture, and ultimately, customer service. Now more than ever, it's imperative to mitigate bias to ensure we are finding and keeping great talent. In this session, we'll discuss the most common ways that bias presents in the hiring process and ways in which we can mitigate that bias, from the initial job posting through placement and onboarding. Participants will walk away with an increased toolbox to ensure their teams and organizations are more inclusive and thus more impactful.

W45 | The Dialectical Behavior Model of Living

Presenter(s): Robin VanEerden, MS, LPC, NADD-DDS, CC, Merakey
Dr. Michael May, EdD, BCBA, LPC, NADD-CC, Merakey

Track(s): IDD, MH
Room: Empire A

People with neurobehavioral and/or neurodevelopmental disorders can have difficulty managing their social, emotional, and environmental processes. Utilizing the Dialectical Behavior Model of Living can increase their abilities to learn and implement skills and constructs that can assist in managing emotions, distress, and relationships. By increasing these skills and structuring a living environment to be therapeutic, the frequency, intensity, and duration of crisis events can be decreased.



W46 | Debriefing: Supporting Staff and People Supported Through a Traumatic Event

Presenter(s): Staci Sypien, MS, LBS, Citizen Care
Megan McCardle, BA, Allegheny Children's Initiative

Track(s): IDD, MH, TH
Room: Magnolia D

The Partners For Quality family of agencies utilizes a multidisciplinary approach to support staff and people supported throughout the subsidiaries. Working in a residential habilitation environment or with families who experience mental health diagnoses, staff and people supported experience many traumatic events. These individuals have little to no guided assistance to help process these emotions in the most effective way to promote recovery. Debriefing is a process that can help to make use of a personal experience for the staff and persons supported learning and development. Through a guided conversation, debriefers provide information and education to promote a community of care for all employees and people supported.

W47 | Treating Problematic Sexualized Behaviors Through a Systemic Model

Presenter(s): Melanie Morgan, MS, LPC, CFBT, Pennsylvania Counseling Services

Track(s): CH, DEI, MH
Room: Empire B

Treating children and adolescents with problematic sexualized behaviors can be a sensitive topic, and is often avoided within treatment, unless the client is referred to a specialized professional for forensics treatment. However, oftentimes important warning signs are missed and intervention is not provided, which increases the risks of engaging in sexualized behaviors which pose great risk and/or engaging in sexually offending behaviors. This presentation will give an overview of assessment tools, engagement in problematic technology use, warning signs of increased risk, treatment approaches, safety planning, and ways to integrate family systems and systemic work into treatment. Cultural and ethical considerations will be identified and resources will be provided.

W48 | Machine Learning: New Tools to Improve Youth Mental Health Outcomes

Presenter(s): Kate Ryan, MSW, LCSW, Gemma Services
Robyn L. Radomicki, LCSW, Gemma Services

Track(s): CH, MH
Room: Magnolia C

Gemma Services is a nonprofit organization that accompanies over 3,000 youth and their families annually. Gemma is dedicated to collecting relevant data to improve the use of data at all levels of the organizations. Gemma has partnered with data analytics firm BCT Partners to develop a tool, the Insight Generator. This tool uses transactionally collected data, assessments, and aftercare data to create predictions on areas of focus for clinicians and front-line staff. This tool has been used in both the PRTF and Outpatient programs. Results in the PRTF have included reduced length of stays and improvement in the likelihood to stay in a community setting for one year post discharge.

EXCLUSIVE NON-CE OFFERING | Thursday, October 13, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

RCPA Captive Health Plan

Presenter(s): Krystal Hultberg, Pareto Health • Rob Lord, Imagine360 • Jennifer Johnson, Liviniti
Greg A. Robick, Corporate Benefits Consultants, Inc.

Room: Hospitality Suite

This is a non-CE Session for RCPA members to learn about the RCPA Captive Health Care program. In this session, we will review how a captive works, the benefits of being in a captive, the cost savings programs that are available, the savings potential, and the proposal process.

Session G • Thursday, October 12, 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

W49 | Ethics, Suicide, and Coercive Practices: Are We Doing More Harm Than Good? PART II

Presenter(s): Lindsay Martin, PhD, LPC, NCC, Drexel University College of Medicine/BHE

Track(s): ET

Room: Crystal A

In this course, we will consider the concept of suicidality in the context of its historical origins and evolution through modern times in terms of cultural and societal values, morals, ethics, law, and approaches to suicide intervention by behavioral health professionals. We will examine whether death by suicide and physician-assisted suicide is a human right among those with and those without mental illness. Finally, we will contemplate the use of involuntary and coercive practices to determine their utility in managing those experiencing suicidal thoughts and the desire to end their lives within the bounds of legal and ethical obligations.

W50 | Walk the Talk: Working in the Behavioral Health Field When You, Yourself, Have a Mental Illness

Presenter(s): Georgiana Staley, MCC, EdD, Community Services Group

Track(s): DEI, LD, MH

Room: Empire A

It's one thing to talk about recovery and resilience, but a different game to actually walk that talk. Dr Staley will share her story of how her mental illness almost broke her spirit, but the principles and tools of recovery saved her. Come hear how she used evidence-based strategies to thrive while working in the behavioral health field when she, herself, is on her own journey of recovery. Help her break the stigma of having a mental illness and working in the field, then go forth with a proactive plan to use your own clinical tools to walk the talk!

W51 | Disrupting the Great Resignation

Presenter(s): Nicol Grim, LSW, WellSpan
Jessica Grier, LPC, MBA, WellSpan
Michele Crosson, LSW, MBA, WellSpan

Track(s): DEI, EL, LD

Room: Magnolia AB

Health care has always been challenged with staff burnout and retention. The last several years have accelerated staff burnout and compounded staffing gaps. Leaders need to be more equipped to support staff with resiliency. This requires agile, flexible leadership to engage staff in understanding what motivates them and fits their employment and wellness wants and needs. It also requires building an inclusive and psychologically safe environment. In this workshop, we will set the stage with the competencies necessary for leaders in addressing the barriers to employee engagement and retention, offering practical tools to apply in everyday work. Throughout this presentation, attendees will learn some of the strategies WellSpan Health has deployed to build an inclusive, safe environment, promote staff wellness, and build an engaged workforce.

W52 | Applied Tabletop Role-Playing Games – Change Through Play

Presenter(s): Jack Berkenstock Jr., MHS, The Bodhana Group
Colleen Madrigale, LCSW, Community Services Group
James Kirk, The Bodhana Group

Track(s): CH, IDD, MH

Room: Magnolia D

Learn about how you can use the powers and role-playing games such as Dungeons and Dragons for capacity building, therapy, and educational goals. Learn from Bodhana's ten years of using this unique approach with real-world examples and a creative small group activity where you build your own storyline ready for therapy!

W53 | Using System-Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (SW-PBIS) to Reduce Acuity and Enhance Skill Acquisition in Individuals With Behavioral Health Challenges, IDD, and Autism

Presenter(s): Yolanda Graham, MD, FAPA, Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health
Megan Robinson Joy, PhD, BCBA, Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health
Carol Anne McNellis, PsyD, BCBA, Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health

Track(s): MH

Room: Empire B

System-Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (SW-PBIS) was initially implemented in school settings, but has since demonstrated efficacy in reducing acuity and enhancing skill acquisition in residential treatment facilities, and settings that work with youth and adults with cognitive challenges and limited verbal skills. These populations are the highest utilizers of resources, and systems are often ill-equipped to meet their needs. This results in higher levels of acuity and more restrictive interventions that exacerbate underlying trauma. This presentation will focus on contextual adaptations of PBIS to reduce major risk events and workers' compensation claims, and enhance functional levels and quality of life for youth and adults with behavioral challenges, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and autism.

W54 | Applying Augmented Intelligence to Workforce Challenges and Care Delivery

Presenter(s): Andrew Schmitt, MSW, Gaudenzia
Denny Morrison, PhD, Morrison Consulting
Todd Wilkinson, Eleos Health

Track(s): EL, HRF, HR, LD, MH, SUD, TH, VBP/R

Room: Magnolia C

This session will provide an overview of the types of augmented intelligence technologies available to clinicians in behavioral health and how organizations like Gaudenzia are using them to address workforce challenges while improving care delivery. As detailed in the American Psychological Association's (APA) 2022 COVID-19 Practitioner Impact Survey, "the demand for mental health services continues to increase while psychologists are struggling to provide needed care. Burnout among psychologists is persistently high, and almost half of respondents reported not being able to meet the demand from their patients." How can organizations alleviate administrative burden on clinicians while expanding patient access, improving the quality of care provided, and meeting increasing requirements for documentation and data? Leading organizations are turning to augmented intelligence, defined by the American Medical Association (AMA) as "technology that enhances human intelligence rather than replacing it."

W55 | Amplifying the Patient Voice: Using the Treatment Atlas Patient Experience Survey to Increase Engagement and Promote Quality Improvement at Your Facility

Presenter(s): Angad Buttar, MHA, Shatterproof

Track(s): SUD

Room: Empire C

Treatment Atlas® is a free, web-based treatment locator displaying transparent, objective information on the quality of addiction treatment facilities. Working in tandem with treatment providers, Treatment Atlas brings information to the forefront, helping individuals with substance use disorder, families, and community members alike in accessing and comparing treatment facilities based on quality metrics. The Patient Experience Survey (PES) is a unique component of Treatment Atlas, helping to amplify the patient's voice and support others in their journey to recovery. Learn strategies for encouraging completion of the PES to support your facility in better understanding patient populations, benchmark to state averages, and explore opportunities for quality improvement.

W56 | Termination Without Litigation

Presenter(s): Michael S. Pepperman, Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP

Track(s): CO, EL, HR, LD

Room: Wild Rose AB

It is easy for employees to file a lawsuit, and it is time consuming and expensive for employers to respond. Learn how you can protect yourself and your agency. Proper disciplinary practices and the importance of documentation are emphasized, and other strategies for litigation-free separations are reviewed.



Session H • Friday, October 13, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

W57 | What We Know About the Effectiveness of FBMHS: Implications for Service Delivery

Presenter(s): C. Wayne Jones, PhD, Center for Family Based Training
Steven G. Simms, PhD, LMFT, Philadelphia Child and Family Therapy Training Center
Daniel Warner, PhD, Community Data Roundtable

Track(s): CH, MH

Room: Empire B

Pennsylvania's FBMHS is a 32-week, intensive, in-home team-delivered program designed to improve the functioning of youth with severe emotional disturbance (SED) and prevent out-of-home placement. In a recently completed study of clinical efficacy with a sample of 2,164 families, those youth who completed FBMHS had significantly fewer out-of-home placements at 90 and 180 days post-discharge than non-completers or extenders, and showed significant improvement in functioning on the CANS. This presentation provides a detailed look at this study's findings and introduces the ESFT Logic Model as a framework for discussing clinical implications. The unique needs of youth and families who do not complete FBMHS or who need extensions are discussed. Strategies are provided for tailoring services to meet these families' needs more effectively early in treatment.

W58 | Don't Forget the Pharmacist! Impact of the Innovative Collaboration Between Woods Services and Synergy Pharmacy on Patients With ID/A

Presenter(s): Tine Hansen-Turton, MGA, JD (Moderator), Woods Services, Inc.
Sailaja Musunuri, MD, Woods Services, Inc. and The Medical Center at Woods
Amy E. Messner, PharmD, Synergy Pharmacy Services LLC
Tiffany Adams, MSN, CRNP, PMHNP-BC,

Track(s): BI, CO, EL, HRF, IDD, MH

Room: Empire A

Woods Services has put in place several strategies as part of its organizational transformation that are designed to strengthen its clinical services and reduce polypharmacy and medication errors. Woods serves more than 22,000 children and adults with ID/A who have complex, intensive medical and behavioral health care needs. Clients receive clinically intensive services, requiring a robust multidisciplinary team, overseen by a psychiatrist. Woods' unique model incorporates psychiatric nurse practitioners who augment the clinical team, and an innovative partnership with Synergy Pharmacy using advanced technology including EHR integration to meet complex pharmaceutical needs. Learn about strategies that enhance quality of care and improve safety for a complex population through a dynamic panel discussion highlighting the work of Woods' clinical teams and its partnership with Synergy.



W59 | Independence and Wellness Through Employment

Presenter(s): Jaimee E. Moshe, LSW, Inglis
Barbara Duffy, MSW, ACRE, Inglis
Christine Weikel, ACRE, Inglis

Track(s): VR

Room: Magnolia D

Employment is considered one way that Americans contribute to their communities and create foundations for self-reliance. For those with disabilities, having access to meaningful employment and maintaining a job that is fulfilling can be challenging. Inglis has developed a person-centered approach to job finding that incorporates a person's interests, vision, and skills, and drives their employment engagement process toward job attainment, increased personal independence, and improved quality of life. This session will illustrate the strategies of person-centered employment readiness and seeking, deconstruct the complex process of identifying jobs beyond the "usual entry level" positions, and describe a whole-person approach to employment that takes into consideration natural support systems, physical and mental health, and ADLs that lend to success in the competitive employment environment.

W60 | Building the Framework: The Interactions of Ethics, Bias, & Cultural Humility

Presenter(s): Brittney (Britt) Schmoyer, MSW, LCSW, Pyramid Healthcare, Inc.
Valerie Gualazzi, MS, Pyramid Healthcare, Inc.

Track(s): DEI, LD

Room: Magnolia AB

It is common to hear the phrase, 'meet a client where they are at,' and a common goal we want to ensure as providers is that our services are affirming and inclusive. To build this strong foundation of client-centered care, it is vital that we are operating from a lens of cultural humility, rooted in ethical practice. This presentation will provide participants with a space for an introspective exploration of ethical principles, bias, and the interplay between commitment to self-evaluation, lifelong learning, and maintaining personal accountability.

W61 | Sustainable Development Preventive Planning in Mental and Behavioral Health

Presenter(s): Nadine Wilches, LCSW, CIMHP, Mind the Class

Track(s): CH, MH

Room: Empire C

This engaging workshop provides professionals with a sustainable development model to protect children against the rising risks of developing mental and behavioral disorders. This is applied as a public health approach to community capacity building with diverse task force development, psychoeducation, reflection practices, strategic planning, and local and technical resourcing. To explore the application of this model, participants are grouped into simulated communities to develop a preventive population health plan. Teams use risk factor data and measurable protective wellbeing factors that were identified in a thematic analysis of integrative studies and interviews and constructed into a framework to inform decision making. The experience of participatory planning from a new perspective expands opportunities for preventive mental and behavioral health sustainable development practices in one's own community.

W62 | Moving From Great Resignation to Great Retention

Presenter(s): Anthony Zipple, ScD, MBA, INCITE Consulting Solutions
Kara Guerriero, MPH, INCITE Consulting Solutions

Track(s): EL, HR, IDD, LD, MH

Room: Wild Rose AB

Many behavioral health organizations today have turnover rates that exceed 35%. This makes providing great services difficult, and it has a significant adverse impact on the organization's financial health. While most providers have a well-developed business strategy and specific business metrics for measuring success, most lack a well-articulated and effective approach to employee recruitment, engagement, and retention. This workshop will describe the implications of staff turnover and disengagement and suggest a way to build a robust "people strategy" that improves every aspect of organizational performance. Developing policies and procedures that support employee well-being and the use of behavioral assessments to improve talent management will be discussed.

W63 | Adapting Interventions for Neurodiversity Effectiveness

Presenter(s): Summer Krochta, LCSW, Children's Service Center
Jessica Sachs, Children's Service Center

Track(s): BI, CH, IDD, MH

Room: Magnolia C

FASD affects an estimated 1 in 20 children, making it more prevalent than autism or any other birth condition. This suggests that at least 640,000 Pennsylvanians, the majority of whom are undiagnosed, have an FASD. As a result, persons with FASD frequently fail in our care systems. The Pennsylvania FASD Task Force, along with Luzerne and Wyoming Counties, and the Children's Service Center, collaborated on the development of a pilot program to identify children who may have FASD. This presentation discusses the interventions, modifications, and adaptations for family-based, PCIT, and education systems to improve outcomes for the children, their families, and the support providers who work with them. Statistics obtained to this point, along with accomplishments and challenges, are reviewed.

W64 | Suicide in a Chaotic World

Presenter(s): Govan Martin III, Suicide Prevention Alliance
David A. Rogers, PhD, Hershey Psychological Services

Track(s): MH

Room: Crystal A

We live in a chaotic world, and national statistics regarding suicide demonstrate the need for awareness and training in suicide prevention. Govan A. Martin, III, is the founding member and chairman of the Suicide Prevention Alliance. His passion and dedication to suicide prevention stems from the loss of his brother, Michael, to suicide in January 1980. In this session, we will discuss strategies and possible solutions to prevent suicide in the workplace as well as the general community. Suicide prevention is everybody's business, and anyone can help prevent the tragedy of suicide. The importance of conversation, language, and listening to help those who are having thoughts of suicide by connecting through hope will be discussed.

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HOTEL INFORMATION



Photo courtesy of Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Company.

Hershey Lodge | 325 University Drive, Hershey, PA 17033 **WELCOMES... Rehabilitation and Community Providers Association**

Hotel room reservations are at a discounted conference price and will be available for Sunday, October 8, to Friday, October 13, 2023. Please be sure to use only the link below to make your reservations. Copy and paste the link into a new browser any time you need to visit the site. The link will not work in Internet Explorer.

<https://reservations.hersheypa.com/HRSAApp/HRSHome?groupCode=RCPA2023L&venue=hersheyLodge>

****** Due to the high volume of guests at Hershey Lodge on Monday, October 9, you may not be able to book a room. As an alternative, Hershey is offering a one-night stay at the Hotel Hershey for the same rate. Please utilize the link below to make a reservation for **ONLY** Monday, October 9 at the Hotel Hershey as needed. We apologize for the inconvenience, and are hoping that additional rooms may become available closer to the date, as room block holds for other groups may change closer to their events as well. This link must be shared exactly as shown. If you click on the link and then copy a URL from the browser, the link will not work for group attendees.

<https://reservations.hersheypa.com/HRSAApp/HRSHome?groupCode=HHRCPA2023H&venue=hotelHershey>

Guests who prefer to call to make reservations may call 855-729-3108 and ask for the room block for RCPA's 2023 Conference at Hershey Lodge. Their reservations team is available seven days a week, from 8:00 am – 8:00 pm, to assist you. Our group's room rate is \$199 per room per night, plus 11% taxes = \$220.89. Credit cards will be charged a one night's advance deposit including tax at time of booking a room reservation. The room block cut-off date is Monday, September 18, 2023. After the cut-off date, rooms and/or group rate may no longer be available. Cancellations must be made two (2) days prior to the day of arrival. No changes or cancellations are permitted within two (2) days of arrival.

******* Hotel Rooms are also available for RCPA Conference attendees at the Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott in Hershey at a special rate of \$159, plus taxes. The Fairfield is only a five minute drive from Hershey Lodge. To book online, guests can use the link below to make their reservations.

[Book your group rate for RCPA Conference](#)

Guests may also make reservations by calling the hotel directly at 717-520-5240. Press 0 for the front desk. When calling to make reservations, please reference the RCPA Conference group block. This rate is only available if reservations are made by September 25, 2023.

Additional questions? Contact Carol Ferenz, Conference Coordinator, [via email](#).

2023 RCPA Conference: *A Decade of Unity*

October 10–13 • Hershey Lodge

[Use this link](#) for quick, convenient online registration!

REGISTRATION FORM

PAYMENT MUST BE INCLUDED WITH REGISTRATION. The form must be completed in its entirety and submitted with payment. Continuing Education (CE) payment **MUST** be included with this registration form. **Registrations submitted without full payment are not complete and individuals will not be registered.**

Quick and secure credit card registration is available from the [RCPA conference website](#). Registering online saves processing time and instantly confirms your place at conference. Online registration closes on September 29. Registrations with credit card information included may be faxed to the office until October 6 at 5:00 pm. Registration and payment for the RCPA conference is accepted on-site at the Hershey Lodge and Conference Center, provided space and materials remain available.

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Special Accommodations Required: _____

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

☐ Full Conference (Tuesday–Friday)

☐ Tuesday Only ☐ Wednesday Only ☐ Thursday Only ☐ Friday Only

Early Bird Rates (Through September 8, 2023)

	Full	One Day (T, W or TH)	Friday
Member	\$ 450	\$ 325	\$ 225
Non-Member	\$ 535	\$ 350	\$ 275

Regular Rates (After September 8, 2023)

	Full	One Day (T, W or TH)	Friday
Member	\$ 530	\$ 380	\$ 275
Non-Member	\$ 640	\$ 420	\$ 330

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE)

The fee is \$50 for each CE type. Ethics certificates are not a separate fee. Pre-payment is recommended but on-site payments will be accepted.

REGISTRATION FORM (cont'd)

Please enter appropriate rate in the calculation field below. Member rates are available to those individuals who work for an RCPA member organization that has paid its 2023/24 membership dues.

FEE CALCULATIONS

\$ _____ Conference fee (from previous page)
\$ _____ CE fee (add \$50 per CE type, if desired; ethics certificates are not a separate fee)
\$ _____ Conference presenter discount (*if attending full conference only – \$90*)
\$ _____ **Total Due**

CANCELLATIONS

No refunds will be issued after September 29. Substitutions are permitted. Please notify RCPA in writing, Attn: Allison Brognia, prior to September 29, of substitutions.

PAYMENT METHOD

Paying with MasterCard or Visa? Consider using our quick and secure online registration to save processing time and instantly confirm your place at conference!

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ON-SITE REGISTRATION

Registration and payment for the RCPA conference is accepted onsite at the Hershey Lodge and Conference Center, provided space and materials remain available.

Questions regarding registration or other components of the conference should be directed to [Allison Brognia](#), Conference Registrar.

Remit registration and payment to:

Rehabilitation and Community Providers Association
Attn: Allison Brognia, Conference Registrar
777 E Park Dr, Ste G4

Harrisburg, PA 17111
Fax 717-364-3287