

# 2019



*13th ANNUAL*

# GEORGIA SCHOOL OF ADDICTION STUDIES

## PROGRAM BROCHURE

# FACING THE FUTURE TOGETHER



## Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery

August 26 - 29, 2019

Hyatt Regency, Savannah, GA

# Table of Contents

Welcome Letter from the Georgia School Board President.....2

Georgia School of Addiction Studies Board.....3

Overview.....4-5

Keynote Speakers.....6

Plenary and Lunch Sessions.....7

Special Events.....8

Program Agenda.....9-24

Speaker Bios.....25-38

Internship and Career Fair.....39

Sponsors.....40-42

Map of Hotel/Workshop Rooms



**PLEASE REMEMBER TO...**

- Keep name badges accessible for scanners.
- Arrive to sessions at the scheduled times.
- Silence cell phones during all sessions.

*Welcome to Savannah*



# Welcome Letter

Dear Georgia School Attendees,

I would like to welcome you to the 13th Annual Georgia School of Addiction Studies and the beautiful city of Savannah. Our theme this year Facing the Future Together: Connecting Prevention, Treatment and Recovery illustrates our commitment to ensure that we continue to work diligently toward a unified system of prevention, treatment and recovery.

Over the next four days, you will experience a wide variety of workshops, plenaries, and keynote presentations that will highlight innovative ideas, best and emerging practices, and personal journeys. We have worked hard this year to pull together a program that offers both workshops you will find interesting and workshops you need in order to meet licensing and certification needs.

We are excited to have Carnie Wilson, a member of Wilson Phillips, as one of our featured keynotes this year. As a member of Wilson Phillips, Carnie achieved unparalleled first album success, selling ten million albums with three #1 hit singles, including the song "Hold On", which was featured in her cameo role in the movie Bridesmaids. The group's second album achieved international multiplatinum success selling three million albums. Carnie, the daughter of legendary Beach Boy founder, Brian Wilson, has a varied career as a singer, songwriter, TV host, actress, voice over artist, author and public speaker. She currently is a regular co-host for CBS's The Talk, has co-hosted The View, Emmy nominated for host of The Newlywed Game, and she has also been a "special on air correspondent for Entertainment Tonight".

For many attendees, the Georgia School has become a yearly tradition which has led to many fond memories and fond friendships. We would like to welcome back and thank those people who have attended over the past 13 years and we would also like to welcome the new attendees to the Georgia School tradition. We encourage you to take advantage of the amazing networking opportunities that this conference affords and develop those relationships that will last for years. Please make sure to take time to visit our exhibitor tables and learn about the different prevention, treatment and recovery resources available in Georgia. We would also encourage you to participate in one or all of the scheduled events and even take some time to enjoy one of the most charming cities in the nation.

I would personally like to thank the members of the Georgia School Board, whose support and guidance made this event possible. I hope that you find this year's School full of new ideas and new opportunities for partnership. Please enjoy the conference, take time to celebrate our successes, and embrace the important work ahead.

Sincerely,



Christopher Wood, ICPS  
President, Georgia School of Addiction Studies



# Georgia School Board

**Alcohol and Drug Certification Board of GA**  
Matt McUmbler, LCSW, CADC II

**Athens Technical College– Social Work Assistant Program**  
Betty Watts, LMSW

**Council of Accountability Court Judges**  
Lasheika Kassa, CADC II  
Taylor Jones

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**  
Jay Neal

**Georgia Addiction Counselors Association**  
Donna Jean Williams, NCACI, CACI, GCADCI  
Donna Ritter, CACII, BT, CCS

**Georgia Association of Community Service Boards**  
Gina Hutto, LPC, MAC, ICGC-I, CCJP, CCDP-D, MATS,  
[GSAS Secretary](#)

**Georgia Association of Recovery Residences**  
Charmon W. Talley, NCAC, SAP

**Georgia Council on Substance Abuse**  
Neil Campbell, MS  
Jay Hughes

**Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities - Office of Addictive Diseases**  
Cassandra Price, GCADC-II, MBA  
Kristal Davidson, MA, APC, NCC  
Scott Dunbar, D. Min., MAC, ICCDPD  
Yomi Makanjoula  
Prince Malcolm Moorman, NCAC-I, CAC-II, CCS  
Von Wrighten, M.Div., MAC, CACII, CCS

**Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities - Office of Behavioral Health Prevention**  
Travis Fretwell, MAC, CAC II  
Donna Dent, MISM, MS, ICPS

**Georgia Department of Community Supervision**

**Georgia Department of Corrections**  
Antonio M. Johnson, MS, LPC, NCC, CADC, CCDP-D  
Chris Austin, MPA, CADC-II

**Georgia Department of Education**  
Cheryl Benefield, Ed.S.  
Krista Lowe, M.Ed., BSN, RN

**Georgia Department of Human Services - Division of Family and Children Services**  
Natalie R. Green, LMSW

**Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice**  
Christopher Wood, ICPS, [GSAS President](#)  
John Izzo, LPC, CCDP-D

**Georgia Department of Public Health**  
Sheila Pierce, MPA

**Heritage Foundation**  
Nicole Gatlin, LPC, CPCS, CRC, RPT-S, NCACII, MAC, SAP, CCS

**Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia**  
Jo Abney, LPC  
Gale Macke, LPC

**Mercy Care**  
Clarence Fuller, MS, MAC, CADC-II, ICADC

**National Association of Social Workers- GA**  
Cheryl Bonneau, JD, MSW  
Lucy Roberts-Cannon, Ed.D, LCSW, CCDP-D, ICCDPD, MATS  
[GSAS Vice Pres.](#)  
Dr. Davine S. Ricks, LCSW, MAC, E-CADC

**Penfield Addiction Ministries**  
Buddy Horton

**Prevention Credentialing Consortium of Georgia**  
Jessica Andrews-Wilson, MS, ICPS, [GSAS Parliamentarian](#)

**Recovery Place**  
Leslie Backus, [GSAS Treasurer](#)

**Southeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center**  
Dawn Tyus, LPC, MAC, NCC

**Thank you to all our Board Members for their dedication and service to the Georgia School.**



# Overview

The 13th Annual Georgia School offers a unique opportunity for professional development, information exchange, and networking. It is designed to address the need for knowledge and skill development through advanced training and will begin on Monday, August 26, at 8:00 a.m. and end on Thursday, August 29, at 12:30 pm. The Georgia School grew from many years of experience with and support of the Southeastern School of Alcohol and Drug Studies, which was among the oldest existing regional training events of its kind. The Georgia School will continue to faithfully listen to the needs of participants and diligently work to create a positive learning environment that has been an important part of the training of thousands of substance abuse prevention and treatment professionals.

## Registration

Please register early—space is limited! You can view the full announcement and register at [www.thegeorgiaschool.org](http://www.thegeorgiaschool.org). Below are the conference registration fees and registration dates.

- **Registration: June 18th- August 16th**                      \$525
- **Late Registration: August 17th - August 24th**            \$550
- **On-Site Registration:**    \$550

Partial week registrations are also available; 2-day/\$350, and 1-day/\$200.

When registering please make sure you review the workshops carefully so that your workshops do not overlap one another. There are a variety of 6 hour and 3 hour workshops being offered—all workshops must be taken in full in order to receive CEU credit. If you register for a 6 hour workshop you may not take a 3 hour workshop on the same day. You may make changes to your workshop selections after completing the registration process—deadline for making changes is Friday, **August 2, 2019**.

For inquiries related to registration, please e-mail [info@thegeorgiaschool.org](mailto:info@thegeorgiaschool.org)

## Continuing Education Hours

Application has been made for CE hours through the Alcohol and Drug Certification Board of GA (ADACB-GA); Georgia Addiction Counselors Association (GACA); Licensed Professional Counselors Association of GA; Georgia Society for Clinical Social Workers. Specific participant attendance records will be executed at the end of each workshop segment to support the award of individual CE hours certificates.

Application will also be made for credit hours through the Prevention Credentialing Consortium of Georgia (PCCG).



# Overview

## Food Service

Registered participants will have continental breakfast each day, assorted snacks and refreshments throughout the day and lunch on Monday and Wednesday. Be sure to look for our hot breakfast on Thursday morning. For those with special dietary needs please indicate this on your registration.

## Lodging

Please make your reservations as soon as possible. A limited number of rooms are being held for the Georgia School at the Hyatt Regency (2 West Bay Street, Savannah, GA) at the rate of \$152 plus tax for single or double occupancy. **August 2, 2019 is the deadline for reserving your lodging at this rate.**

For reservations you may use the Georgia School website, [www.thegeorgiaschool.org](http://www.thegeorgiaschool.org)  
Click on the Hotel Reservations link on the home page.

Please Note: Parking is included in your room rate if you are staying at the Hyatt Regency. Also be aware that there is no self-parking, only valet service. If you are not staying at the Hyatt Regency you will need to find parking elsewhere. To find other parking options you may visit this City of Savannah link:  
<https://www.visitsavannah.com/info/parking-savannah>

## Workshop Tracks/Domains

We provide treatment tracks and prevention domains to assist you with workshop selection. You will see treatment track abbreviations and prevention domain numbers after some of the workshop descriptions. Please use the key below to interpret these abbreviations and numbers.

### **Treatment Tracks:**

E	Ethics
T	Trauma
US	Update on Substances
AY	Adolescent/Young Adult
O	Opioids/Rx Drugs

### **Prevention Domains:**

Domain 1:	Planning and Evaluation
Domain 2:	Prevention Education and Service Delivery
Domain 3:	Communication
Domain 4:	Community Organization
Domain 5:	Public Policy and Environmental Change
Domain 6:	Professional Growth and Responsibility

Those workshops listed as Prevention Core Courses are the core workshops that are required for prevention certification. Information regarding prevention certification and prevention domains can be found at [www.pccga.org](http://www.pccga.org)



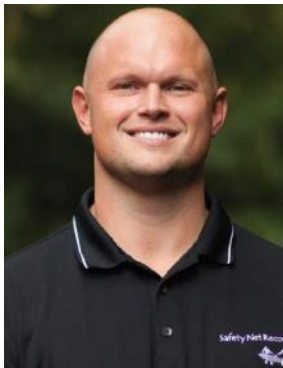
# Keynote Speakers



## Carnie Wilson

**Singer, Songwriter, TV Host, and Author**

As a member of Wilson Phillips, Carnie Wilson achieved unparalleled first album success, selling ten million albums with three #1 hit singles, including the song “Hold On”, which was featured in her cameo role in the movie Bridesmaids. The group’s second album achieved international multiplatinum success selling three million albums. Carnie, the daughter of legendary Beach Boy founder, Brian Wilson, has a varied career as a singer, songwriter, TV host, actress, voice over artist, author and public speaker. She currently is a regular co-host for CBS’s The Talk, has co-hosted The View, Emmy nominated for host of The Newlywed Game, and she has also been a “special on air correspondent for Entertainment Tonight”. Carnie’s story has been chronicled in two books, Gut Feelings and I’m Still Hungry. Carnie has also published a cookbook, To Serve With Love. Carnie has blossomed as a TV chef, preparing dishes for The Talk, The Bonnie Hunt Show, and Marie Osmond. Most recently, Carnie took 2nd place in the Food Networks’ Rachael vs Guy Challenge and is a Chopped champion. Having battled her alcoholism, addiction, weight and self-esteem issues her entire life, Carnie is devoted to lecturing and speaking to women, men and younger individuals about self-empowerment and recovery. Recently celebrating her 50th Birthday... it is more important than ever to her to speak for women of all shapes and ages for equality and having a positive voice. On July 28th 2018, Carnie received The Game Changer Award for the growing girls’ empowerment charity Girls Rising. Her love for communicating with people has been her greatest joy besides her own children Lola and Luci.



## Steven Herndon

**Former Atlanta Falcon, President/Co-Founder- Safety Net Recovery**

Steve Herndon serves as president and cofounder of Safety Net Recovery, a structured sober living community for men. Steve’s commitment to sobriety and helping others is unrivaled except for his long-time friend and partner, Taylor Hagin. Together in 2009, they formed Safety Net Recovery where they and a team of professional counselors provide support, structure and guidance to each client, giving them the best opportunity to learn and practice the spiritual principles of recovery. Steve is licensed as a Level II Certified Addiction Counselor (CACII) and Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS). Steve is a born leader. In 1999, while attending and playing football for the University of Georgia, he was elected team captain. After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in business education, his talent on the gridiron lead him to a six-year career in the NFL, playing offensive line for the Denver Broncos and Atlanta Falcons. Steve is no stranger to addiction, and is in recovery himself. His recovery journey began in the heady days of college football and ultimately culminated in a failed mandatory drug test during his time in the NFL. Steve initially declined treatment, and it wasn’t until a close friend entered rehab that he decided to pursue a sober life. Once he committed to getting clean, he gave it everything he had. After completing treatment, where he met his future-business partner, Taylor, he trained as an addiction counselor, and went on to become the executive director of Third Step Recovery. Steve’s own struggle to achieve and maintain his recovery from the grip of addiction now influences his work at Safety Net Recovery. Steve lives in Alpharetta, Georgia with his wife and three children.

# Plenary & Lunch Sessions

## Monday Morning Plenary

**Let's Talk About Sex**

Dr. Natasha LaMarr



## Monday Lunch- Welcome to the Georgia School

**Rediscovering Your Superpower**

Jason Etheridge

## Tuesday Morning Showcase Speakers

**Living Sober**

Carnie Wilson



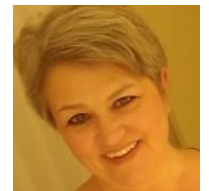
**Taking Action in Recovery**

Steven Herndon

## Wednesday Morning Plenary

**It Does What? Secrets About the Georgia Student Health Survey**

Cheryl Galloway-Benefield



## Wednesday Lunch- Awards Luncheons

**Prevention Awards Luncheon:**

Presentation of the Ray Avant Excellence in Prevention Award and the Youth Ambassador Award.



**Treatment Awards Luncheon:**

Presentation of the Paula Crane Excellence in Treatment Award, Organizational Excellence in Treatment Award, and the Bruce Hoops Pioneer in Addiction Award.

## Thursday Morning Closing Plenary

**2019 Georgia School Knowledge Challenge - Win Prizes!**





# Special Events

## Monday

### **Silent Auction**

The Silent Auction begins on Monday. Please place a bid on one or more of the wonderful items and help support the Georgia School. All funds raised go to student scholarships.



## Tuesday

### **Internship and Career Fair - 6:00pm-7:00pm**

Students, plan to attend a professional networking event just for you. Learn about internships and career opportunities in areas of prevention, addictions, treatment, and recovery. Refreshments will be served.

## Wednesday

### **Meditation Session - 7:15am to 7:45am**

Do you love your job and home life but feel like you don't have enough time to get everything done each day? Do you feel overwhelmed and want some relief from the stress? Join us for this 30-minute session dedicated to meditation techniques that can help you relax and breathe in all of life... even the difficult stuff. Please note, no meditation experience is needed!



### **Sunset Dolphin Tour - 6:00pm**

Enjoy a narrated history of Savannah's historic waterways, and savor the beauty of the scenic rivers, marshes, and barrier islands. Then...experience the excitement of watching the Atlantic Bottlenose dolphin as they play. We invite you to join us for this truly unforgettable adventure! Departing from River Street in Savannah's historic district, the tour will venture out the Savannah River towards Tybee Island. See such sights as Fort Jackson, Fort Pulaski, Elba Island, Cockspur Island, the Cockspur Island Lighthouse, Tybee Island, and the Tybee Island Lighthouse (trip route will vary depending on dolphin location and weather conditions). Tours last approximately two hours. Restroom on board. Feel free to bring food and beverages on board the tour. Admission \$30 per person (must be pre-paid via registration system).



## Thursday

### **Meditation Session - 7:15am to 7:45am**

Do you love your job and home life but feel like you don't have enough time to get everything done each day? Do you feel overwhelmed and want some relief from the stress? Join us for this 30-minute session dedicated to meditation techniques that can help you relax and breathe in all of life... even the difficult stuff. Please note, no meditation experience is needed!

## All Week

### **12 Step Meeting - 9:00pm to 10:00pm**



# Program Agenda

## Sunday, August 25th

### 1:00 - 6:00pm: Conference Check-In

Feel free to beat the Monday morning crowds and check-in on Sunday evening.

### 2:00 - 5:00PM: Pre-Conference Workshop

#### Cannabis Culture

##### Mike Nerney

What do we know about the impact of marijuana on the brain? How do factors like music, legal status, online sites, late night talk show comedy, and the rollout of new products contribute to the reduction in perceived risk of marijuana use? This program will explore new research on the neurochemical mechanisms involved in marijuana intoxication and the impact of culture change on marijuana's popularity with adolescents and young adults. Participants will also learn about advances in agriculture and synthetics, which have created new strains of marijuana; new routes of administration like vaporization, dabbing, and edibles; and the risks involved in combining marijuana with other street drugs, prescription and over the counter medications, and alcohol. (Prevention Domains 2, 6) (Treatment Track US)

## Monday, August 26th

### 7:00am: Conference Check-In

### 8:00-9:00am: Morning Plenary

### MONDAY 6 HOUR WORKSHOPS (9:30am-5:00pm) Sessions– A/B

#### Reboot: Understanding Technology Addiction & Its Treatment

##### Gary Byrd

Technology addiction is a new phenomenon which many counselors are unaware of and subsequently unprepared to treat. Technology addiction is described as an impulse control disorder, which does not involve use of an intoxicating drug and is very similar to pathological gambling. Mental health professionals need a basic understanding of technology addiction so that they can recognize it early and intervene appropriately. This workshop presents an overview of the etiological frameworks, assessment and treatments of technology addiction.

#### Blending Science with the Enduring Lived Experience of Recovery

##### Stephen Delisi and Jordan Hansen

The pillars of integrated, person-centered treatment, including issues related to utilization of medication in treatment, evidence-based treatment for both substance use disorder and mental health issues, and integration of peer recovery are addressed in this training. Through blending the scientific use of evidence-based practices and the lived experience of recovering individuals and families, this session will provide insight into a complete treatment approach that utilizes the framework of recovery-oriented systems of care to meet the needs of the people you serve.



**MONDAY 6 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (9:30am-5:00pm) Sessions– A/B****360 Degree Influencer - Lead from any Seat****Vonshurri Wrighten**

Only 360-degree influencers have positive impact at every level of an organization. Not everyone understands how to leverage influence in all direction. By learning this skill you will not only help yourself professionally and personally, but your organization as well. By the end of this session you will learn, live and lead from principles from any seat and make significant contribution to your organization. Managers and clinicians will increase their influence and be motivated to lead up, down and across.

**Communication Skills for the Prevention Professional****Jessica Andrews-Wilson and Michael Davis**

This course, approved by the Prevention Credentialing Consortium of Georgia as a Core Course, is a response to the prevention domain changes made by IC&RC. In order for prevention professionals to be prepared to interview or test for their prevention credentials, they will need this core course that will focus on interpersonal communication, facilitation, public speaking and good listening skills as well as public awareness campaigns and marketing basics. (Prevention Core Course)

**MONDAY AM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS (9:30am-12:30pm) Sessions– A**

**Note: Please review your workshop choices carefully. If you plan on attending a 6 hour workshop on this day then you will not be able to attend a 3 hour workshop.**

**It's My Life and I'll do What I Want, It's My Mind and I'll Think What I Want: Treating Substance Use Disorders in Emerging Adults****Fred Dyer**

Substance use across North American populations' peaks during emerging adulthood (i.e. ages 18-25). A developmental period which has received increasing empirical attention in recent decades (Arnett, 2004, 2005). Research on youth substance use has focused on identifying the multiple pathways through which youth initiate and maintain their substance use. Many emerging adults who develop problematic substance use during emerging adulthood have been exposed to environmental, individual as well as interpersonal stressors throughout their development that places them at risk for ongoing difficulties with substance use as they transition to adulthood. This transition into substance use interfaces with the 5 features of emerging adulthood which are not necessarily universal. Professionals however are left with the dilemma on how to proceed in addressing substance use disorders in emerging adults.

**Working with Personality Disorders in Treatment****Jim Seckman**

It's not the "good old days" anymore. Working in the modern addiction treatment facility requires a knowledge and practical expertise of how to work with many diagnoses other than substance use disorder. Some of the most difficult clients addiction counselors will encounter are those with a Personality Disorder. This workshop is intended to train addiction counselors in how to recognize Personality Disorders, successful strategies for working with these clients, and how to take care of themselves with these often confusing and stressful cases.

## MONDAY AM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (9:30am-12:30pm) Sessions– A

### Collaborative Documentation

**Davine Ricks**

This workshop is designed for social workers, counselors and other professionals who provide services in the community. Whether you have just graduated from a human service-related field or if you just need to hit the refresh button to be reminded about the evidenced-based practices of clinical documentation, this workshop is for you. Participants will learn the key components of clinical documentation regarding writing assessments, treatment plans and progress notes. Participants will also enhance their skill set regarding integrating collaborative documentation in to clinical practices, along with increasing awareness of the benefits of practicing collaborative documentation. In addition, participants will be given the opportunity to learn and practice techniques that support efficiency, i.e. decrease time spent documenting without sacrificing quality/effectiveness.

### Up in Smoke: Research Findings on Vaping

**Mike Nerney**

Based on the rapid rise of vaping among adolescents, last year Surgeon General Jerome Adams issued a rare advisory—the fourth in 10 years—from his office. “I am officially declaring e-cigarette use [vaping] among youth an epidemic in the United States,” Dr. Adams said. Technological advances have enabled e-cigarette manufacturers to create flavored nicotine products which can be readily aerosolized, inhaled into the lungs, become absorbed into the bloodstream, cross the blood brain barrier, and cause addiction to nicotine in an entirely new generation. In this presentation, participants will discover the new vaping products, explore the differences in manufacturers and their marketing strategies (JUUL vs. the others), learn the latest research regarding the impact of nicotine on the developing adolescent brain, and explore the other risks that vaping creates for young users. (Prevention Domains 2, 6) (Treatment Track US)

### People and Personalities: Mirror Mirror on the Wall - Looking at Me to find Me.

**Monaletto C. Irby**

How do we see ourselves? How do others feel after an interaction with us? Youth care workers have a unique job in dealing with youth who are vulnerable and sometimes aggressive; add their family members to the mix and it is a whole different level of work. What energy do we possess when building relationships with our youth and families? Workers must understand that their personality and relationship building skills are pivotal in the overall success and outcome of their clientele. Our personalities are often times in line with our value system and upbringing, which can be the exact opposite of our clientele value system. To assure we are making the best possible impact on their lives, Let's take a look in the mirror. (Prevention Domains 2, 6)

### Let's Talk about Alcohol: Prevention Practices in Georgia

**Mikayla Charles, Nykia Greene-Young , Cheryl Lindo, Mariah Laird, & Lewis Ponzo**

Substance use prevention in the state of Georgia is at a critical juncture with a variety of substances seeming to be in the forefront (opioids, marijuana, e-cigarettes, etc.). However, alcohol is still the number one used substance by young adults in the state. This workshop will give an overview of alcohol prevention efforts across the state of Georgia. Workshop participants will view a presentation on updated alcohol use data and trends and will then have a chance to dialogue with prevention experts on current practices in the field. The workshop will conclude with a breakout session where participants will apply what they have learned through interaction and collaboration with other workshop participants. (Prevention Domains 1, 2, 6)



**MONDAY AM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (9:30am-12:30pm) Sessions– A****Exploring Innovative Evaluation Approaches to Better Understand the Changing Faces of Rural Communities****Carlos A. O. Pavao**

How to conduct and evaluate public health work with rural communities is a challenge. One of the most difficult aspects public health agencies is how to understand and evaluate the health needs of rural populations. This workshop will expose participants to different and innovative evaluation approaches to evaluate local rural programs. For the purpose of this workshop, in general rural communities are defined as having a distinct culture and pattern of social life, often driven by cultural norms transmitted from generation to generation. In this workshop, participants will gain new knowledge on innovative evaluation approaches to better understand the health needs of the changing faces of rural communities. This session is designed for preventionists at any level. (Prevention Domains 1, 2, 6)

**Ethics 101: Review of Ethical Standards for Substance Abuse Professionals While Exploring the Importance of Practitioner Self-Care****Jennifer Talley**

This workshop will provide an overview of the ethical standards outlined in the National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors Code of Ethics. This workshop will encourage its' participants to review their individual core values and their impact on practicing within the NAADAC Code of Ethics. Finally this workshop will discuss the importance of practitioner self-care. (Treatment Track E)

**MONDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS (2:00pm-5:00pm) Sessions– B**

**Note:** Please review your workshop choices carefully. If you plan on attending a 6 hour workshop on this day then you will not be able to attend a 3 hour workshop.

**Implementing Cultural Competence in a Trauma Informed Setting for Emerging Adults with Co-Occurring Disorders****Fred Dyer**

Emerging adults belong to the developmental period known as emerging adulthood. This developmental period presents many life transitions, leaving home, identity, sexual and cultural identity exploration/development, entering and leaving educational settings. For some substance use is now a challenge, as well as mental illness, poverty, homelessness, incarceration and early parenting issues. Additionally, trauma and its effects impact emerging adults across all racial groups/cultures and gender. Studies are clear that in the Healthcare Delivery of services for emerging adults cannot be all inclusive without embracing the need for cultural competence/sensitivity, and even the best practices lack efficacy when culture is not incorporated as a trauma –informed solution (Brown, 2008). This skill building workshop will enable the participants to implement/practice cultural competence in a trauma informed setting for emerging adults with co-occurring disorders. (Treatment Track T)

**From Client to Staff: Navigating the Clinical Supervision Process****Jim Seckman**

An interesting phenomenon in the treatment field is the high incidence of clients who transition into staff positions. While it may seem like a natural progression, specific issues arise for clinical supervision. This workshop will help clinical supervisors navigate the challenging currents of making the transition from client to staff.



## MONDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (2:00pm-5:00pm) Sessions– B

### **Methamphetamine is Back; A Closer look at this Dangerous Drug and Treatment Implications**

**Dr. Lucy Cannon**

“Methamphetamine, a drug that lawmakers fought with success in the 2000s, is back — and it’s more popular, plentiful, and lethal than ever.” (Sharpe, 2018) This deadly drug is a white, odorless, bitter-tasting crystalline powder that is easily dissolved in water or alcohol. Methamphetamine is produced in two forms: white, crystalline powder or clear chunky rock crystals. This highly addictive drug which is commonly made in meth labs has slowly made its way from the deserts of California and back in the neighborhoods of Georgia. This workshop with focus on signs and symptoms of methamphetamine use, short and long term effects of meth on the body from a physical, psychological, and medical perspective, how this drug impact the adolescent brain and treatment, reasons why this drug is back and is a problem in Georgia, various Georgia laws impact on methamphetamine use and meth labs, and recommended treatment. (Prevention Domains 2, 6) (Treatment Track US)

### **Current Trends in Adolescent Substance Abuse**

**Mike Nerney**

In this workshop, participants will learn about new substance trends on the streets and in the schools, which include the rising popularity of vaping (the use of heated liquids like flavored water, flavored nicotine, and marijuana products), as well as the abuse of heroin, Fentanyl, prescription pain pills, and other opioids. Participants will also explore the return of drugs like methamphetamine and cocaine, and the expanded abuse of prescription drugs such as Neurontin, Lyrica, Tylenol 3, and Phenergan with Codeine, along with over-the-counter compounds like Imodium. Synthetic forms of marijuana and new marijuana products will also be discussed, as well as other substances at the request of the group. This workshop will allow professionals working with adolescents to become more knowledgeable about new drugs, "old" drugs in new packages, and current drug abuse trends among adolescents and young adults. (Prevention Domains 2, 6) (Treatment Track US)

### **Hit the Ground Running: Tips on Preparing a Drug Free Communities Grant Proposal**

**Ellen Gerstein and Ari Russell**

Imagine what your community could accomplish with \$250,000 a year for 5 years! Drug Free Communities coalitions have proven that they can and do reduce youth substance abuse. The DFC grants are highly competitive, but this workshop will provide insight into common mistakes and pitfalls, prevention strategies the Feds are looking for, how to meet the 100% match requirement and where to go for help. (Prevention Domains 1, 2, 4)

### **Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) and Death Data: What You Need to Know**

**Sheila Pierce and Chris Harrison**

Prior to 2017, Georgia’s Prescription Drug Monitoring program (PDMP) was not a tool used to address the Opioid epidemic. Georgia is using various data points to strengthen its PDMP. In developing the statewide opioid comprehensive strategy, diverse stakeholders across Georgia have made recommendations to improve the PDMP as part of the opioid & substance misuse response plan. Teaming with staff from Georgia Vital Records, epidemiologists and coroners, we are improving our system tracking and reporting efforts while implementing stakeholder recommendations. Learn how the program has changed resulting from legislation, stakeholder input and incorporating data from all relevant sources. Data sources with results and how the new information is used will be explained. (Prevention Domains 2, 6) (Treatment Track O)



## MONDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (2:00pm-5:00pm) Sessions– B

### The Insider's Guide to Georgia DUI Laws

Scott Dunbar

This class will present the current DUI laws in Georgia, the definitions and penalties for each type of offense including single and multiple DUI arrests, drug possession and the requirements for clinical evaluation and treatment.

### Mindfulness as a Youth Substance Abuse Prevention

Veronica Santiago-Johnston and Ellen Ward

Learn how a small non-profit in North Georgia rises to the challenge of the mental health crisis facing youth in their community. This workshop will provide an introduction into the research behind mindfulness and its applications when working with vulnerable youth. We will explore how a mindfulness practice can lead to coping skills that build long-term resilience by addressing the risk factors of substance abuse, toxic stress, depression and/or anxiety. We will discuss how to create a youth friendly mindful practice/environment and share relevant resources for starting your own mindfulness approach to working with youth. Participants will walk-away having learned basic mindfulness skills such as: teen neuroscience, self-compassion/empathy, breathing strategies and meditation. (Prevention Domains 2, 6)

## Tuesday, August 27th

7:00-9:00am: Conference Check-In

## TUESDAY AM SHOWCASE (9:00am-12:30pm) Session– C

Steven Herndon - Former Atlanta Falcon, President/Co-Founder- Safety Net Recovery

Carnie Wilson - Singer, Author, TV Personality

## TUESDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS (2:00pm-5:00pm) Sessions– D

### What You Need to Know and Do to Get Your Ideal Job; Guiding Principles to Follow

Dr. Lucy Cannon

This workshop will provide participants with an outline and working plan on how to utilize key guiding principles to help them pursue and keep their dream jobs. The use of career tests, resume writing, how to develop an Elevator Speech and networking techniques, 5 p's of marketing, how to use social media to market yourself, interviewing tips, and ethical practices in the workplace when applying for and keeping your dream job will be discussed in this training. Participants will develop an action plan on specific steps they will need to take to get that ideal job.

### Assessment and Understanding Risks Factors

Dawn Allred

For many professionals, assessment, especially crisis assessment, can seem overwhelming and to be honest a bit scary at times. When we think of crisis we immediately think suicidal and homicidal. However there are many types of crisis our clients face, in particular those with co-occurring disorders. This presentation will discuss ways to accurately assess and identify risk factors so we can develop an effective treatment plan to assist our clients.

## **TUESDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (2:00-5:00pm) Sessions– D**

**Note: Please review your workshop choices carefully. If you plan on attending a 6 hour workshop on this day then you will not be able to attend a 3 hour workshop.**

### **Following the Change with Adolescent Substance Abuse**

**Shane Garrard**

Dangerous substances are invading our State and our adolescents are being greatly affected. The changing times require a change in thinking with adolescents. With more dangerous substances, the adolescent faces what use to be considered adult problems and consequences. These difficult substances are treatable but only when we understand the underlying causes. Early intervention is important but it is not the only part of the puzzle. Wrapping services around adolescents with a person-centered plan gives our youth a fighting chance and better outcomes. This workshop will discuss substance use of the past and the severity of the present. Including the new threat of opioids, both legal and illegal. The presenter will explain how different substances may have different effects on adolescents and learn how to easily identify behaviors associated with use. Treatment modalities proven to effectively treat adolescents and how generational patterns effect treatment will be discussed. (Prevention Domains 2, 6) (Treatment Track AY, US)

### **Shades of Grey: Is Gaming the New Gambling?**

**Gina Hutto**

Internet Gaming Disorder is listed in the DSM-5 under Section 3- conditions for further study. In 2018 the World Health Organization included Gaming Disorder in the 11th revision of the ICD-11. Video games have changed tremendously over the years. The addition of loot boxes, skins, and other ways to monetize have begun to blur the lines between gaming and gambling. Further the amount of time spent playing video games, like Fortnite, can be alarming to parents and loved ones. This workshop will look at the relationship between gaming and gambling and how counselors can begin to explore if gaming might be an issue of concern for any of their clients and how to find treatment resources.

### **Understanding Military Re-Entry Needs Back into the Community**

**Elaine Dilbeck**

The objective of this presentation is to assist the audience in understanding the specific needs of the military as they attempt to re-enter their communities. Military cannot be treated as civilian clients. It will address the areas that are most in need such as marriages/relationships, roles in family and community, parenting, counseling/treatment. There is a high suicide rate among military both active duty and those who have returned home. Understanding the unique perspective of the military mind in regards to counseling, suicide, and treatment itself, understanding the bond of military.

### **The Journey from Trauma to Post Traumatic Growth**

**Gary Byrd**

Post Traumatic Growth is developed when trauma survivors' journey through the dark valley of unspeakable fears, threats, and losses to the mountain top of growth that enables them to face the present moment and future challenges. While trauma survivors have lived through highly stressful events, none would ever choose to relive these circumstances; however, many of them recognize that these events have changed them in positive ways. By integrating these positive changes into their life stories, individuals become aware that they have grown in important and meaningful ways. This session will provide participants with an overview of Post Traumatic Growth and examine some of psychological adaptive changes that facilitates a positive transformation after trauma. (Treatment Track T)



## TUESDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (2:00-5:00pm) Sessions– D

**Medication Assisted Treatment and the Opioid Crisis in Georgia****Riley Kirkpatrick, Erica Acebo-Johnston, and Brook Etherington**

With the continued prevalence of Opioid Use Disorder comes an increased need for addiction professionals to understand multiple pathways to recovery. While Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) has been utilized for decades, it is only within the past few years that we have seen a shift in perspective and acceptance from the public towards this treatment modality. In this training, we will discuss the impact of the Opioid epidemic in Georgia and provide an overview of Medication Assisted Treatment, including how it works, what its role is, the myths and stigma that surround it, and the new and emerging utilizations of peers in MAT will be discussed. Additionally we will address barriers experienced by MAT patients and professionals, as well as how MAT and non-MAT professionals might more effectively work together to address the opioid crisis. (Treatment Track O)

**Cultural Competency for the Prevention Professional– Part 1****Jessica Andrews-Wilson and Michael Davis**

*Note: Part 2 of this workshop will be held on Thursday. You must attend both sessions to get the 6 hours of credit.*

This course, approved by the Prevention Credentialing Consortium of Georgia as a Core Course, will give Prevention Professionals a refresher in cultural awareness and appropriateness in the prevention field. At a young age most people learn how to recognize differences more quickly than similarities, and how to dislike others who are not like us. In our ever-increasing diverse communities, understanding, tolerance and appreciation for differences is necessary to running effective prevention programs. This session will include activities and discussions exploring cultural diversity and prejudices in a safe environment in order to learn how to increase cultural competence and create safe spaces in your programs and organizations. Bring an open mind, as we will discuss critical diversity issues such as racism, ageism, heterosexism and sexism. (Prevention Core Course) (Treatment Track CC)

**Secrets to Developing Community Relationships****Bernetta Sweet, Carolyn Fields, and Dustin Infinger**

Prevention Specialists engage local community members to embrace community level change efforts and commitments for better youth/community outcomes. This workshop focuses on practical steps to engage the community, how to motivate people to engage in community work, methods of communication, types of community events that bind people together and open doors, volunteer and supporter recognition, and identifying hidden community champions. This workshop includes break-out activities, group discussions, pitfalls to avoid, success stories and videos. (Prevention Domains 1,3, 4)

**Leveraging the PDMP to Support Opioid Overdose Prevention****Kristin Marvin and Bianca Anderson**

Georgia, like other states, is experiencing the devastating effects of the opioid epidemic. The Georgia Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (GA PDMP) is an electronic database used to monitor the prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances. The GA PDMP helps eliminate duplicative and over prescribing and provides prescribers and dispensers with critical patient controlled-substance prescription history information. In this interactive discussion, presenters will provide an overview of the GA PDMP and its enhancements as proposed through recent legislation and made possible through funding opportunities. Session attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and engage in dialogue around patient, prescriber and dispenser perspectives of the database. Presenters will also review the GA PDMP strategic planning progress. (Prevention Domains 2, 6) (Treatment Track O)

## TUESDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (2:00pm-5:00pm) Sessions– D

### Why are Bisexual and Transgender Populations Overlooked Within the LGBTQ Spectrum?

**Carlos A.O. Pavao**

There are many different cultural competency trainings focusing on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning/queer (LGBTQ) population. How public health services are designed and delivered is largely driven by the evidence-based literature and best practices. The LGBTQ population is not a monolithic group. The bisexual and transgender populations are often highlighted but not fully understood. This workshop will discuss and explore new bisexual and transgender data from 2 completed NIH funded studies. Just like the LGBTQ community is diverse, unlike the gay and lesbian identities, the bisexual and transgender identities are changing to new multiple identity labels. This is especially the case with bisexual and transgender millennials. In this workshop, participants will gain deeper knowledge on what does it mean to be bisexual and transgender, and how to plan and provide public health services for these populations. This session is designed for preventionists at any level. (Prevention Domains 1, 2, 6)

### The Impact of Digital Media on Developing Minds

**Tania Appling and Debaja Coleman**

For the love of FaceBook, Snapchat, Twitter, Tumbler and let's not forget YouTube...it's like eating chocolate or your favorite ice cream... you just can't stop. For many teens, social media is like that craving. Many teens check their profile pages several times daily increasing the amount of time spent engaging through cybercommunication. The increased amount of time spent on social media pages have many individuals wondering how has this interaction impacted adolescent brain and behavior. Participants will gain an understanding of how social medias impacts teens through current research on social media and brain and behavior development. (Prevention Domains 2, 6)(Treatment Track AY)

## Wednesday, August 28th

**7:30-9:00am: Conference Check-In**

**8:00-9:00am: Morning Plenary**

## WEDNESDAY 6 HOUR WORKSHOPS (9:30am-5:00pm) Sessions– E/F

### Value of Clinical Supervision

**Shevander Dykes**

Clinical supervision is an important part of what mental health practitioners do. It can improve clinical practice safety, provide opportunities for skill development, and ensure that clinicians receive support. Consequently, it is an important mechanism in the provision of high quality clinical care. Can you afford to not attend clinical supervision? What's the big deal anyway? What is professional negligence or malpractice? The value of clinical supervision is targeted to clinicians or "helpers" that have completed graduate studies, practiced as independent clinicians, and or have worked under supervisors for licensing requirements. In this workshop, personal and professional development will be explored to assist participants in harnessing their strengths to flourish in a profession that often produces "untreated" burnout. Participants will; examine professional and personal development, create a development plan to increase awareness, identify specific strategies geared to harnessing strengths around resilience, review information surrounding burnout to help manage their work-life balance along with self-care.





## WEDNESDAY 6 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (9:30am-5:00pm) Sessions– E/F

### Motivational Interviewing Within the Treatment Process

**Renee Eady**

The treatment process includes a variety of experiences, challenges and opportunities. MI supports rapport building and client engagement by reducing ambivalence and increasing long term success. In this training, you will build a foundational understanding of the Change Process and Motivational Interviewing you can put into practice immediately. Training with Renee Eady is accessible, interactive and just plain fun! In this training, you will learn MI basics through real play practicing with advanced skills and strategies you can immediately put into your practice. This training is more than getting CEUs, it is designed to be a “practice” changing experiential program. It will support you in learning methodologies that builds partnerships with clients, develops your skills and provides a platform for change, by finding the words that allow authentic connections.

### Clinical Processing for Group Leaders

**David Proefrock**

This experiential workshop will instruct methods of effective processing in group counseling settings and will provide opportunities for practicing effective processing.

### The Psychopharmacology of Substance Use Disorders and Their Treatments

**Merrill Norton**

A 2018 survey by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration found that about 669,000 people over age 12 had used heroin at some point in the year. About 156,000 of those were first-time users, and roughly 467,000 were considered heroin-dependent -- more than double the number in 2002. About 4.6 million people -- about 1.8% of the teenage and adult population -- reported using heroin at some point in their lives, the survey found. The average first-time user was 23. Estimates on the number of U.S. heroin addicts range from 300,000 to 500,000, up about 75 percent from five years ago. And while that is just a minor portion of the nearly 24 million Americans that abuse drugs overall, heroin use is growing faster than all others. Combined mortality data from 28 states, encompassing 56% of the U.S. population, indicate an increasing problem with fatal overdoses from heroin/opioids from 2010 to 2018. Death rates from opioid pain reliever (OPR) declined overall but remained more than twice as high for heroin overdose death rates. Changes in heroin death rates were positively correlated with changes in OPR death rates. Mortality from overdoses of any type of drug rose slightly. This presentation will give a scientific overview of this deadly opioid epidemic and effective treatment options for the heroin/opioid addict. The presenter will also analyze the various pharmacotherapies used in the treatment of substance use disorders.

### Building a Strong Foundation with the "Legos" of Life

**Sandy Queen**

We all remember those favorite childhood building blocks - Legos. They provided hours of entertainment and taught us many lessons about important life issues - creativity, enjoyment -- and balance. We learned that for a structure to stand there were some important basic requirements. We could build massive structures if we followed the rules we learned in the process of building -- so much like our lives. We can live productive enjoyable lives if we have the benefit of great design and building blocks - protective factors. Protective factors begin early in life - even in utero! -- and continue to affect us as we build the structure of our life. What if the structure needs help to stand? How do we help? What happens if it threatens to fall? This session will present an new and informational look at protective factors throughout our lives - both on a personal and professional level. (Prevention Domains 2, 6)

## WEDNESDAY 6 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (9:30am-5:00pm) Sessions– E/F

### Ethics in the Prevention Field

**Mary Kate Chapman**

This course, approved by the Prevention Credentialing Consortium of Georgia as a Core Course, is designed to provide a basic introduction to the Principles of the Code of Ethical Conduct for Prevention, Early Intervention and Health Promotion Professionals and Volunteers. It will also provide an overview of the ethical dilemmas that Prevention Professionals encounter in their work. Using the Code of Ethics from the Prevention Think Tank as a framework, participants will explore ethical principles using interactive methods and role-plays that encourage and support adult learning. (Prevention Core Course)

## WEDNESDAY AM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS (9:30am-12:30pm) Sessions– E

**Note: Please review your workshop choices carefully. If you plan on attending a 6 hour workshop on this day then you will not be able to attend a 3 hour workshop.**

### Addiction In The Church: Bridging the Gap Between Christianity and Recovery

**Pamela Morgan**

This training is for individuals interested in improving skills & increasing knowledge pertaining to eliminating barriers and bridging the gap between the Christian community and the process of recovery. Participants will be equipped with insight pertaining to the link between the clinical and a systematic biblical approach to recovery, in an effort to assist the client with bible based background to transition from treatment to recovery. Substance abusing clients with a religious history, with all of their religious experience, have not been able to maintain abstinence from addictions, yet they may have a hard time embracing clinical and recovery perspectives. Participants will be equipped with enhanced perspectives and biblically based solutions to highlight the relationship of biblical perspectives with clinical treatment and 12 Step recovery as well as to assist the client who may not be able or willing to embrace a 12 step recovery process, thus enhancing the possibility of ongoing recovery and diminishing the risk of floating out of recovery on a religious zeal.

### Compassion Fatigue and Burnout

**Diane Diver**

Compassion fatigue and secondary traumatization are some of the leading causes for otherwise well trained and talented counselors to leave our field. Anyone with a heart is susceptible to this subtle foe. Research shows that those working within the field of substance use disorders are at most risk. The good news is there is a solution. Join me on this journey of taking care of our field's most precious resource our COUNSELORS!!! We need you, our clients need you, and most importantly You need You. This session will give you experiential tools to better care for yourself and manage your organization. This session is a must see for supervisors, seasoned counselors and especially newer counselors in the field. (Treatment Track T)

### Sustainability- Strategies for Maintaining Your Organization's Success Over Time

**Ari Russell and Ellen Gerstein**

You're doing good work and it should continue. This interactive workshop will provide helpful tips and tools to build your organization's sustainability. Participants will learn strategies for building key partnerships, increasing their funding base, recruiting and retaining volunteers/members, developing a comprehensive communications plan and looking outside the box for new opportunities to sustain their work. (Prevention Domains 1, 3, 4, 6)



**WEDNESDAY AM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (9:30am-12:30pm) Sessions– E****The Truth about Adolescent Crisis!****Shane Garrard**

The substance abuse field is often plagued with crisis of different magnitudes and the handling of these crisis can either create more trauma or create an atmosphere of recovery/resiliency in which the staff and the adolescents being served feel protected and heard. Simply stated, the use of proper techniques and behavioral interventions can ease any stressful situation and simplify an already stressful working environment. Simple listening skills and knowing my teammates allow us to remain professional while walking through any crisis. Topics to be discussed include; what constitutes a crisis and how to develop an action plan, how Motivational Interviewing (MI) can be useful when handling crisis, and how effective listening skills can create an environment of recovery for the individual receiving services and the clinician. (Treatment Track T, AY)

**Best Practices in Alcohol Policy****Dylan Ellerbee**

This session will review the established best practices in alcohol policy. Utilizing Alcohol No Ordinary Commodity and the CDC Community Guide on Excessive Alcohol Consumption, participants will be taught what policies work and in reducing excessive and underage alcohol consumption. In addition to reviews of best practice policies, participants will be introduced to the advocacy techniques that have worked at the state and national level in moving alcohol policy. (Prevention Domains 1, 2, 4, 5)

**Prime For Life 420: Time to Clear the Air****Colleen Carter-Lunceford, PhD**

This workshop explores some of the unique challenges many professionals face in preventing or intervening in the progression of THC (marijuana)-related health and impairment problems. Given these issues and the emotional charge within the marijuana culture, research-based information is seldom enough to effect change. This workshop is designed to help participants apply the Transtheoretical Model's Tasks of Change within the Stages of Change with the goal of reducing high-risk THC use. The workshop includes a brief overview of the new Prime For Life® 420 program and employs research-based information on health and impairment risks of THC to raise perception of personal risk/vulnerability from THC use while increasing a sense of personal power to prevent those problems. (Prevention Domains 2, 6)

**WEDNESDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS (2:00pm-5:00pm) Sessions– F**

**Note: Please review your workshop choices carefully. If you plan on attending a 6 hour workshop on this day then you will not be able to attend a 3 hour workshop.**

**Opioid Strategic Planning and Surveillance Efforts in Georgia****Stephanie Gitukui and Irene Walker**

This session will provide an overview of the opioid epidemic nationally and in Georgia based on recent statistics. Presenters will describe fatal (mortality) and nonfatal (morbidity) opioid-involved overdoses in Georgia during 2017, including those involving prescription opioids, and illicit opioids such as heroin, fentanyl, and fentanyl analogs. Control and Enforcement recommendations from Georgia's Multi-Stakeholder Opioid and Substance Use Response Plan will be highlighted, and an overview of HIDTA's ODMAP will be provided, along with a summary of progress made in the statewide implementation of the application program. (Prevention Domains 2, 6) (Treatment Track O)

## WEDNESDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (2:00pm-5:00pm) Sessions– F

### **Tools for Nicotine Reduction – Helping Adolescents Make a Change**

**Tara Boone**

This training will provide attendees with the basic skills needed to implement adolescent nicotine reduction groups in their schools and agencies in Georgia. Current nicotine trends and smoking rates amongst youth will be discussed and an already developed curriculum-based program will be taught. We will enhance the confidence level and skill set of program participants so they will feel comfortable with group facilitation. (Prevention Domains 2, 6)

### **Community Approaches to Alcohol Policy: Social Host and Outlet Density**

**Dylan Ellerbee**

This workshop will delve into two of the most common policies pursued at the local level to address access to alcohol. Social host policies aim to address the home environment where young people often obtain alcohol. Alcohol outlet density laws are designed to reduce the number of outlets where people can buy alcohol. Participants will be taken through the key policy variables with each policy as well as successful local techniques to move these policies forward. (Prevention Domains 1, 2, 4, 5)

### **Treatment Planning: Finding Meaning in the Process**

**Dawn Allred**

This presentation discusses ways to find meaning in treatment planning. We can empower the client and affect change by developing a path with clear action steps. Treatment plans become meaningful therapeutic tools allowing both the professional and client to view their progress on the way to long term recovery.

### **Compulsive Eating and Substance Abuse**

**Pamela Morgan**

This training is for individuals interested in increasing knowledge about food addiction, especially as it relates to substance abuse recovery as a relapse factor. Professionals will be equipped to assist clients in identifying compulsive eating and recognizing this disorder as a replacement addiction and substance abuse relapse trigger. This training will enhance the participant's ability to assist clients in adapting new behaviors to cope with life's issues rather than using food as a replacement.

## **Thursday, August 29th**

**8:00-9:00am: Closing Plenary**

## THURSDAY 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS (9:30am-12:30am) Sessions– G

### **Transforming Our Approaches with Families Affected by Substance Abuse: What Works and What Doesn't**

**Jan Ligon**

Families and significant others who have a person with a substance abuse problem in their lives are profoundly affected (economically, emotionally, physically) and often struggle with what to do, what to say, or how to cope. This workshop will first review commonly used terms and approaches that do not have evidence of helping, followed by models and methods that are more likely to be useful. Links to resources and free materials will be provided.



## THURSDAY 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (9:30am-12:30am) Sessions– G

### Let's Have Fun - Using Experiential Therapy

**Diane Diver**

Come and play!!! If you are bored with your groups guess who else is bored with them, YOUR CLIENTS!!!! Join us in this session as we learn the powerful art of therapeutic play. Experiential group and recovery based intervention is a powerful way of introducing skills, rehearsing skills, and uncovering powerful insights that are otherwise unexplored. So much comes up when utilize this powerful technique properly. In this session, participants will learn about experiential therapy, its assumptions, different types, uses, and practice with the actual skills as well as learn the art of debriefing. You will walk away with several new group ideas that will change the way you and your clients approach group counseling.

### Telemental Health Ethics: What Healthcare Professionals Need to Know and do to Prevent Ethical Dilemmas in the Workplace

**Dr. Lucy Cannon**

This workshop will focus on the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics and Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCA) Code of Ethics, telemental health laws and technology that impact NASW/LPCA Code of Ethics, healthcare professionals will learn key challenges of ethics and telemental from a supervisee and client perspective, supervisors will also learn how to develop necessary ethics and telemental health organizational policies and procedures, and how to recognize and prevent telemental health and ethical dilemmas in the workplace. Case scenarios and Youtube videos will be used to help participants learn how to problem solve ethical dilemmas. (Treatment Track E)

### Retaining and Treating Women with Substance Use Disorders: Being Gender Responsive and Culturally Sensitive

**Dawn Tyus and Buddy Horton**

In the current landscape of substance abuse treatment, there has been a significant increase in awareness of gender-specific issues, as related to the treatment of women of all races, cultures and socioeconomic levels. This insightful workshop will address the demands of providing treatment to women. Women face unique issues during treatment and early recovery, and helping professionals need to be equipped with as many tools as necessary to provide quality treatment and compassion to this population. During the first half of the session, such issues as trauma, adverse childhood experiences, the “father/mother wound”, family/relationship dysfunction and other gender-specific problems will be discussed. This will be followed by a discussion of the various clinical tools that can be used to give women the best opportunity for long term recovery. Facts and statistics based on current research will be utilized to analyze the barriers to treatment that women experience. The second half of the session will discuss the many obstacles that exist and challenges the success of women in treatment and recovery. Although many of the roadblocks are often unintentional, they still exist. Research demonstrates, that culturally there are certain things that women must have to be successful in treatment and recovery. This part of the presentation is designed to educate the workforce on how to culturally encourage, empower and engage women and their gender-specific needs.

### Eating Disorder to Eating Recovery

**Madeleine Shaver**

Oftentimes our clients struggle with more than one mental health issue. If you are interested in learning about eating disorders (ED) or would like a refresher on ED, this course is designed for clinicians to become familiar in recognizing disordered eating in a clinical outpatient setting. Content focuses on practical treatment methods and co-occurring mental health and substance use issues to treat and support clients in ALL aspects of their recovery.



## THURSDAY 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (9:30am-12:30am) Sessions– G

### Co-occurring Disorders: Personality Disorders and Alcohol in Couples' Counseling

**Dawn Echols**

In this workshop, participants will explore the interaction of personality disorders and substance use as they present or emerge in a couples' counseling setting. Working with couples can frequently be viewed with dismay by clinicians; personality disorders are almost universally recognized as difficult, while addiction is often a specialty requiring both knowledge and skill in treatment. A combination of these three factors can be challenging indeed. Particular attention will be given to the use and abuse of alcohol by one or both partners in couples' therapy and how the role of alcohol or other substances may affect treatment. Common substance-related defense mechanisms employed by partners in couples' therapy, as well as obstacles to treatment when personality disorders combine with various addictions, will be discussed. Personality disorders co-occurring with substance use and abuse pose increased risk; however, couples' therapy offers unique intervention opportunities.

### Cultural Competency for the Prevention Professional– Part 2

**Jessica Andrews-Wilson and Michael Davis**

*Note: This workshop is part 2 of the session held on Tuesday. You must attend both sessions to get the 6 hours of credit. (Prevention Core Course)*

### Recovery Remastered

**Jermaine Hughes, Unique Dickson, Rich Lee, Jordan Hussey, and Emily Ribblett**

This session examines the advantages of combining traditional, acute care and recovery- oriented systems of care. Using real-world data, Recovery Remastered clearly and concisely explains the broader range of support needed for people seeking multiple pathways to recovery. Multiple pathways that range from Medication Assistant Treatment, traditional treatment, counselors, clinicians, recovery coaches, and NA/AA. Participants can expect to learn the similarities and differences between the two care models as well as the comprehensive benefits of empowering individuals to have input on what will help make their recovery sustainable.

### Georgia Adolescent Drug Use: What's Popular Now

**Bethany Moistner**

Slang terms, drug popularity, and methods and concealment of substance use change regularly. Anyone who spends a significant amount of time with young people should keep on top of these trends so that they can better identify and refer students who may require help. In this proposed workshop, program participants will be updated on the latest significant drug trends with Georgia youth, as well as signs and symptoms of use and where to go with concerns about a student. The discussion of new products and current usage will include a focus on popular culture, social norms, and environment. (Prevention Domains 2, 6) (Treatment Track AY, US)

### Ethics for Prevention Recertification

**Ari Russell**

This workshop is intended for individuals seeking prevention re-certification from PCCG or IC&RC. It does NOT meet the core course requirement for those seeking initial certification. The content is based on the Prevention Code of Ethical Conduct. It explores ethics as they relate to prevention competencies, management and responsibilities to the field. (Prevention Domain 6)



**THURSDAY 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (9:30am-12:30pm) Sessions– G****Making Your Presentation POP!****Mary Kate Chapman**

An engaging presenter, a visually appealing presentation and just the right combination of content and activity can make even the driest of content come to life. By participating in this highly interactive workshop, you'll gain tips and tricks to enhance your presentation style, PowerPoints and more so that participants leave raving about your session. Designed for those new to presenting or looking for new ways to liven up existing presentations, this session will have you playing, laughing, creating and exploring ... and leaving ready to make your next presentation one to remember. (Prevention Domains 2, 3)

**Youth Perspective: Feedback, Insights and Advice from OUR Target Audience****Donna Dent and Youth Panelists**

Hear what youth really think about prevention and prevention programs. Hear directly from the youth panel what they think are the biggest problems, best solutions, and best ways to connect with youth. Here's your chance to gain some valuable knowledge to select and create successful prevention strategies targeting youth. Also, hear providers present some strategies they've used in the past and have the youth panel provide their insight and perspective. Bring your questions and an open minds and hear what youth really think. (Prevention Domains 2, 3, 5, 6)



# Speaker Bios

**Erica Acebo-Johnston** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker at Alliance Recovery Center in Decatur, an outpatient medication assisted treatment program for opioid use disorder and has been working in the field of medication assisted treatment since 2013. Previously she was employed as a Licensed Placement Specialist for the Department of Family and Children's Services. Originally from Tampa FL, Erica relocated to Athens, GA to complete her Masters of Social Work (MSW) at the University of Georgia. She earned her undergraduate Bachelors of Science degree in sociology from the University of Florida. Erica is trained in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Trauma Therapy and is an advocate for trauma informed care and treatment. Erica is a Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor through the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Certification Board of Georgia. She is passionate about the field of substance abuse; specifically, harm reduction and stigma education/reduction, and is a committed advocate for patients in MAT.

**Dawn Allred** has worked 28 years in community mental health. She specializes in working with people living with co-occurring disorders as well complex issues such as homelessness, severe poverty, legal problems, and poor health. Dawn has provided professional trainings on co-occurring disorders, recovery oriented systems of care, understanding addiction and recovery, MH/SA assessment and treatment planning, and suicide assessment and intervention. She has provided clinical training within her agency and has presented at numerous professional conferences on the local, state, regional, and national levels. Dawn is living in long term recovery with a passion for helping others with their recovery process.

**Bianca S. Anderson, MPH** is the Comprehensive Opioid and Substance Use Program Evaluator, at the Georgia Department of Public Health. Since the departure of the previous Opioid Program Director in February 2018, she has carried a major portion of the Opioid Grants Program and has supported the PDMP Program, in addition to her role as the Program Evaluator. In her current position, Ms. Anderson is helping lead the development of Georgia's Opioid Strategic Plan. As a graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn and Georgia State University's School of Public Health, her interests focus on program development, implementation, and evaluation, as well as behavioral health. As a practicum student at Georgia State University's Center for Leadership in Disability, Ms. Anderson completed a process and outcome evaluation for a school-based behavioral health consortium developed by a health system servicing residents in west Georgia and east Alabama.

**Jessica Andrews-Wilson, ICPS** began as a participant at GUIDE's summer youth leadership program, Georgia Teen Institute (GTI), served as summer staff for GTI and, eventually, GTI Director, a role she held for 12 years. After a few years planning and implementing professional development events as the Director of Training and Capacity Building, Jessica assumed the role of Executive Director at GUIDE in 2014. In addition to the multitude of other roles that come with her job, Jessica loves to train, serves as the co-lead of the Georgia Afterschool and Youth Development initiative and works with the Camp4U planning committee. Jessica has her Master's Degree in Organizational Development and is an Internationally Certified Prevention Specialist.

**Tania Appling, Ph.D.** is the Deputy Director of Leadership Development of the Leadership and Professional in the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) where she oversees DJJ's leadership and professional development courses and serves as the DJJ Academy Director. Dr. Appling has been employed with DJJ since 1997 and has worked in several capacities within the DJJ. As Manager of the Leadership and Professional Development Unit, Dr. Appling has been instrumental in developing, launching, and overseeing several mid-executive level management leadership specialized training programs. Dr. Appling is an active member American Parole Probation Association, serving as the Region 6



Representative and Juvenile Justice Committee Chair. Ms. Appling is the current Council Training Chair for the Central Georgia Council of Boy Scouts of America. She holds memberships in American Counseling Association, American Correctional Association, Georgia Juvenile Services Association, and is a candidate for National Society of Leadership and Success. Dr. Appling received her Ph. D. in Educational Psychology from Walden University as well as Master's degrees in Educational Psychology and Public Administration from the State University of West Georgia. Dr. Appling holds several certifications and is John Maxwell-Certified Coach, Teacher, and Speaker.

**Cheryl Galloway - Benefield, Ed.S.,** joined the Georgia Department of Education in 2015, following 23 years as an educator, administrator, and family engagement coordinator in Northwest Georgia. Cheryl now serves as the Program Manager for Safe and Supportive Schools in the Office of School Safety and Climate at GaDOE where she focuses on providing support and training in the areas of school safety, school climate, and student safety and well-being to schools and districts throughout the state. In addition, Cheryl represents GaDOE on a number of state and national organizations and groups dedicated to school safety and child well-being.

**Dr. Gary K. Byrd** is President and CEO of the Anger Management Institute and High Impact Training and Counseling. Dr. Byrd received his undergraduate degree from the University of South Carolina and his Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling from West Georgia State University. Dr. Byrd received his Ph.D. from The American Graduate School of Positive Psychology. Dr. Byrd is a Certified Master Addiction Counselor, a Certified Clinical Supervisor, a Certified Grief Specialist, a Certified Anger Management Specialist, a Certified Happiness Coach, and is trained in E-Therapy. Dr. Byrd is the author of several participant manuals: Choice-based anger control manual for adults. A Teen Anger Management Facilitators Guide titled ACT Right; Family Violence Intervention Participant Workbooks for men and women; Dr. Byrd authored Treating and counseling pathological gamblers participant workbook and facilitator manual for the State of Georgia; and Dr. Byrd's latest book that will be released in December 2018 titled Choice-Based Positive Recovery for people suffering from substance use disorders.

**Dr. Lucy R. Cannon** is the CEO/Owner of LEJ Behavioral Health Services, LLC, a training and consulting company in Metropolitan Atlanta. She has provided direct services and directed mental health programs in various inpatient and outpatient organizations in the United States. She is an Adjunct Professor at Clark Atlanta University School of Social Work. She is also a speaker/facilitator for Department of the Navy Reserve and Yellow Ribbon Program. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the states of Georgia and Alabama and has a Co-Occurring Disorders Professional-Diplomat Certification (CCDP-D), and Medication Assisted Treatment Specialist (MATS) Certification. She serves on various healthcare organizations boards of directors and advisory boards in Metropolitan Atlanta.

**Colleen Carter-Lunceford, Ph.D.** has over 30 years of experience in the field of substance abuse prevention and developed prevention programs for three college campuses. Colleen earned a Master's degree in Adult Education from Florida Atlantic University in 1991 and a PhD from Georgia State University in 1998. She has presented at national and state conferences, including the Georgia School of Addiction Studies, and has published in the Journal of American College Health. Colleen conducted alcohol and drug studies at Emory University and chaired thesis committees while teaching graduate courses. She is an accomplished grant writer and wrote several grants funded for prevention in higher education. Colleen began teaching the campus version of Prime For Life in 1994, has been a certified Georgia Risk Reduction (DUI) Instructor since 1999, and a contract trainer, writer, editor, and consultant with Prevention Research Institute (PRI) since 2000. Colleen joined The Lovett School in Atlanta in 2013 and partnered with PRI to revise, update and pilot Prime For Life for Parents released in 2018, and she continues to do consulting and contract work in prevention for a variety of audiences.

**Mary Kate C. Chapman** serves as GUIDE's Associate Executive Director of Positive Youth Development. Mary Kate is responsible for oversight of the Youth Advisory Board; customized training events for both youth and adults; the coordination of various conferences including the Georgia Afterschool & Youth Development Conference; and GUIDE's annual youth leadership conference, Georgia Teen Institute (GTI). Mary Kate began her journey with GUIDE when she was 17 years old as a GTI participant. She continued to volunteer and serve as a trainer for GUIDE in various capacities and is now happy to call GUIDE home.

**Mikayla Charles** serves as a Regional Prevention Specialist for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities - Office of Behavioral Health Prevention (DBHDD-OBHP). Ms. Charles developed her love for Public Health during her years in undergrad. She volunteered her time often as a mentor to adolescent girls at the local middle school, which triggered her interest in adolescent health. Ms. Charles went on to receive her Master's in Public Health from Morehouse School of Medicine where she worked primarily in underserved communities. Mikayla's work in these communities spiked her interest in health, wellness and prevention. Ms. Charles' background is in research and evaluation and she has worked in prevention for the past 4 years. Before joining the DBHDD team, Mikayla worked as a research assistant at the Prevention Research Center, focusing on chronic disease prevention efforts. Later, she went on to work in substance abuse prevention as the Information Analyst for Emory's Center for Maternal Substance Abuse and Child Development.

**Debaja Coleman, M.Ed.** is the Director of Victim and Volunteer Services with the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice. Ms. Coleman has worked with the Department of Juvenile Justice for over 15 years in various roles including education, counseling, community services and training. As the Director of Victim and Volunteer Services, she is primarily responsible for providing oversight for volunteer recruitment and victim services statewide. In addition to this, DeBaja's responsibilities include but are not limited to developing policies, training and community outreach materials. DeBaja received her Bachelor's of Arts degree in sociology with minor in Criminal Justice and Masters of Education degree with a concentration in history from Georgia State University. She serves on the Board of Directors for American Probation and Parole Association. Ms. Coleman is a certified trainer for John Maxwell and has various other certifications including Post Senior Instructor, Firearms Instructor, Darkness to Light and Balance and Restorative Justice.

**Michael W. Davis** serves as GUIDE's Associate Executive Director of Prevention. In this role, Michael is responsible for oversight of all GUIDE's prevention strategies, activities and campaigns. As a student at Buford High School, Michael participated in Georgia Teen Institute, GUIDE's summer leadership conference, and has been involved with GUIDE and GTI as a volunteer ever since. In August 2018, Michael was thrilled to join the GUIDE family as a full-time employee in his current role. Michael holds a Ph.D. in Education from Iowa State University, a Master of Science degree in Professional Counseling from Georgia State University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of West Georgia. Michael has presented on the local, state, and national levels on leadership, education, prevention and social justice issues. Michael is thrilled to return to Gwinnett County and the state of Georgia and serve the communities that helped him grow and develop throughout his life.

**Dr. Stephen Delisi** is the Medical Director, Professional Education Solutions, and Assistant Professor - Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation. Dr. Delisi has served as a clinical psychiatrist for the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation since 2005 and is board certified by both the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and the American Board of Addiction Medicine. For the two years prior to becoming the Medical Director of Professional Education Solutions, Dr. Delisi was the Assistant Dean of the Hazelden Betty Ford Graduate School of Addiction Studies. He has also served as the Midwest Regional Medical Director for National Recovery Services at the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, and he has held faculty positions with Rush University Medical Center and more recently with the Hazelden Betty Ford Graduate School of Addiction Studies. Dr. Delisi has co-authored numerous presentations and published abstracts, many of which focus on the use of evidence-based treatments for substance use disorders and co-occurring mental health disorders. Prior to





joining the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, he held positions as Director of Psychiatric Services at Rush Behavioral Health-DuPage and Associate Director of the Psychiatric Residency Program at Rush University Medical Center.

**Donna Dent, MS, MISM, ICPS** is the Assistant Director, Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Office of Behavioral Health. As the Assistant Director, Ms. Dent assists the Director in planning and overseeing the office's Substance Abuse Prevention, Suicide Prevention, and Mental Health Promotion efforts across the state of Georgia. This includes assisting with the design, delivery, implementation and evaluation of statewide and community-based prevention strategies as part of the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) for these interrelated areas. Ms. Dent's education includes a Master's in Clinical Psychology and a Masters in Computer Information Systems Management. She has an Internationally Certified Prevention Specialist Certification (ICPS) from the Prevention Credentialing Consortium of Georgia (PCCG) and maintains Human Subjects Review Board certifications for Social Behavioral, Bio-Medical, and Good Clinical Practices and ICH from the CITI Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative.

**Elaine Dilbeck, EdD** is a bestselling published author. I received my EdD in Counseling Psychology from Argosy University in Sarasota FL - 2013; a post-doctoral certificate in Clinical Foundations of Trauma. A Licensed Professional Counselor with the state of GA, a certified Clinical Supervisor with the LPCA. I am certified as a Trauma Service Specialist, a Certified Family Trauma Professional. I have worked in the mental health field for more than 10 years. I currently have over 100 hours in training in trauma and PTSD including training with Star providers. A presenter at several conferences on trauma/PTSD. I hold trainings and workshops on PTSD/ trauma. I have 5+ years working with corrections as a mental health counselor and working with addictions.

**Diane Diver, MBA, CAC II, LCSW** is the Chief Operating Officer and Executive Clinical Director at Recovery Place, Inc. Diane has over thirty years of experience in the medical field. She has held top posts for companies such as Bayer Consumer Care and Mead Johnson Nutritionals. In her capacity as a counselor, Diane has worked at Willingway Hospital in Statesboro, The Recovery House Services in Statesboro, and Coastal Harbor Health System in Savannah before joining the Recovery Place family in 2010. She received her CAC II in 2004 and LCSW in 2015. Ms. Diver is responsible for the day-to-day operations of Recovery Place, Inc. and Recovery Place Community Services. She oversees all clinical services.

**Unique Dixon** is an Atlanta native. She is an open book, has a huge heart, and is willing to help anyone in need. She has offered many volunteer services with Hosea Help, Women Resource Center of Domestic Violence, Senior Citizen homes, and a few others. Unique has shared her powerful story with people in treatment, prisons, and schools. Unique found recovery in 2016 and just wanted to serve others and be used in a positive and effective manner. In 2017, Unique became a Certified Peer Specialist- MH. She then worked for a private agency and within a short period of time, she was promoted to Peer Center Manager. In 2018, Unique became Whole Health and Wellness (WHAM) certified and was accepted into the CARES 31 Cohort. She recently became a Certified Peer Specialist-AD and now serves as a Recovery Coach for the CARES Warm Line. Unique speaks out about her recovery because losing both parents to addiction has propelled her to become the advocate she is today for recovery. Unique says she has broken the cycle of addiction in her family and recovery has afforded her to live two lives in one lifetime.

**Dr. Scott Dunbar**, is a Master Addiction Counselor and an Internationally Certified Co-occurring Disorders Professional and has worked in the addiction treatment field for over 40 years. He has a private practice in Dunwoody, GA and is the administrator of Georgia's DUI Intervention Program. He has written numerous articles and led hundreds of national, regional, and statewide workshops on a variety of addiction topics. Scott is a United Methodist clergyman and collects jokes.

**Fred Dyer Ph. D. CADC** is a trainer, speaker, consultant, author and Founder of Executive Director of Hope Recovery Center in Minneapolis Minnesota. Fred attend and graduated Carver college in Atlanta GA with a bachelor's degree. He has worked with adolescents and adults in multiple settings. Fred Graduated from Grant Hospital Clinical Training Program for Addiction Counselors in 1994 as well as the Illinois School of Professional Psychology with a Certificate in Mental Health Counseling in 1995 along with a Master's in Psychology/Counseling from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology obtained in 1997. Fred attended Adler School of Professional Psychology from 1999-2002 PsyD Program and then went on to graduate from Richardson University in 2005 with a Ph.D. in Psychology. Fred has been a Certified Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor since 1996 and has trained throughout the United States as well as consulted and trained at numerous substance use treatment conferences and several alcohol and drug studies schools, juvenile justice/criminal justice symposiums, child and adolescents mental health conferences. Fred has consulted and trained for the Department of Drug Control in Bermuda from 2006 to Present.

**Shevander Dykes** is the Founder and Director of Surviving Transitions, LLC. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in Georgia and National Certified Counselor (NCC) through the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC). Additionally, Shevander is a Certified Clinical Trauma Professional (CCTP), Master Addiction Counselor (MAC), Certified Anger Management Specialist (CAMS), and Certified Professional Clinical Supervisor (CPCS). She earned an undergraduate degree in Management from National-Louis University, and graduate degree in Community Counseling from Argosy University (formerly known as Georgia Professional School of Psychology). Shevander previously served as a Clinical Director for CORE agencies, lead therapist, case manager, and community support staff before opening a private practice in Douglas County. She is the Past President of NAMI Cobb. Shevander also works closely with the Douglas County Coroner's Office to provide support around suicide awareness and prevention as well as grief counseling. Her specialty areas include mood disorders, trauma, substance abuse, and anxiety.

**Renee Eady** is a behavior change specialist and is a member of MINT, Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers. She has several startup businesses designed to help clients learn to change behavior, reduce problematic behaviors and drive safe. She is the owner of The Ready Train, Inc an innovative training company with a hands-on approach and interactive approach to learning practical skills. Currently, Renee and her team are concentrating on Motivational Interviewing, Telehealth, and Electronic Records for Court ordered assessments. She is the designated trainer for UNUM - a software developed for DBHDD Clinical Evaluators and Treatment Providers. Renee is also a contract trainer for Prevention Research Institute and trains instructors and counselors for PRIME for Life, PRIME Solutions and Motivational Interviewing. When not working, Renee is an avid outdoors enthusiast. She hikes several 14ers a year, rides a few centuries and is always training for a new quest. She is passionate for the environment, helping others, and loves to create tasty vegan dishes from her garden.

**Dawn M. Echols, M.S., LPC, CPCS** is the owner and executive director of Dawning Phoenix, a private counseling practice based in Gainesville, GA. Dawn specializes in couples counseling, and in individual counseling for adults. Her practice offers accessible and affordable counseling for the greater north Georgia community by supervising emerging counselors and began offering online counseling through an experienced clinician credentialed in telemental health in September 2018. She voluntarily sat for the NCMHCE in 2014, earning additional clinical recognition with this exam. A graduate of Brenau University, Ms. Echols conducted her thesis research on empathy and aggression in male domestic violence offenders. She has worked in mandated as well as medication assisted treatment for those suffering with substance abuse. Ms. Echols was a registered neutral (mediator) with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution, specializing in divorce conflict resolution, and taught DUI school as a certified instructor in Prime for Life, a program she believes helps create motivation for positive change through a research based approach to alcohol use and abuse. Ms. Echols has presented at various conferences on a variety of mental health topics.



**Dylan Ellerbee** is an expert in community level change, policy advocacy and underage drinking prevention. Dylan has been a Research Associate at UNC Greensboro and Wake Forest School of Medicine; he has coordinated and worked on the North Carolina Preventing Underage Drinking Initiative for 12 years; he serves as treasurer on the US Alcohol Policy Alliance Board of Directors; is a trainer for Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA); and is the founder and serves as Chair of the Board for the North Carolina Alcohol Policy Alliance. Dylan travels the country speaking and training on substance use and public health. He holds a BA from Beloit College and a Masters in Political Management from George Washington University.

**Brook Etherington** is the President of Alliance Recovery Centers, an outpatient opioid treatment program, located in Decatur, Conyers, & Athens, Georgia. He is also President of the Opioid Treatment Providers of Georgia (OTPG), a non-profit organization representing the interests of Opioid Treatment Providers and the patients they treat. He has been working in the field of medication assisted treatment since 2003 and has served on the board of OTPG since 2010. Brook served on the AATOD conference planning committee for the 2015 Atlanta conference and has been very involved in legislative activities that impact the field of MAT in Georgia. Brook graduated from Boston University School of Medicine with a master's degree in medical science and studied psychology, biology, and chemistry in undergraduate at Georgia State university. He is dedicated to making the field of medication assisted treatment a positive and respected force in the healthcare field.

**Carolyn Fields** has been in prevention for 39 years! For 35 of those years, Carolyn worked in child abuse prevention for Jenkins County DFCS in various roles, including Case Manager, Social Services Supervisor and County Director. Carolyn was a founding committee member of CASA of the Ogeechee Circuit and served at their Executive Director for two years. Carolyn joined HEARTS for Families, Inc. in 2014 as a part of the ASAPP, becoming the Community Involvement Specialist for Jenkins and Emanuel Counties in 2017. Carolyn chairs the STEP Up Millen and STEP UP Swainsboro Workgroups (CPAW).

**Shane Garrard, LMSW, ICCS, ICADC II** is the Director of Alcohol and Drug Services for Region One Mental Health. He oversees all clinical operations for Sunflower Landing, an adolescent long term alcohol and drug treatment; Fairland Center, a residential Treatment center for adults including expectant mothers and men and women who wish to have their children with them; Recovery Support Services throughout the region; and Prevention Services throughout the region. Shane has experience in substance abuse counseling with both adolescents and adults and has over seventeen years of experience. Shane received his BSW from Delta State University and his MSW from MVSU. He is a Licensed Master Social Worker and is certified through the Mississippi Association of Addictions Professionals as a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor level II and a Certified Clinical Supervisor. He is trained as a trainer in Motivational Interviewing, CPI and Mental Health First Aid. Shane works on a specific grant with the Arc of Mississippi ensuring that people with disabilities get the services they need. Shane sits on the Circuit 11 Drug Court board and has done numerous trainings with the Mississippi School of Addictions and Social Work Conferences on methamphetamine and Motivational Interviewing. He is a peer ambassador for the State and is willing to share his experience with anyone willing to hear. Shane is the co-chair of the Executive Steering Committee for adolescents in the State. He was just approved to become a board member for Disability Rights Mississippi. He also has experience in presenting on Ethics, HIV/STD's, addiction in general and co-occurring disorders in conferences, Mississippi judges association, Southern National Association of Attorney Generals and the Mississippi Legislature. Shane was awarded the Katherine Turcotte Addiction Professional of the year in 2013 and is a true believer in Narcotics Anonymous and is an active member himself. Shane is married and has two children and two step children.

**Ellen Gerstein** has been the Executive Director of the Gwinnett Coalition for Health and Human Services since 1991. During her tenure, she founded the Gwinnett Neighborhood Leadership Institute, the Non-Profit CEO Roundtable, the Gwinnett Helpline and the Gwinnett Great Days of Services, all local initiatives that are going strong. The Coalition was

a Drug Free Communities grantee for 10 years and has received two STOP Act grants and eight DFC Mentoring grants. Ellen is a well-recognized consultant on coalition-building in Georgia and throughout the Southeast.

**Stephanie Gitukui, MPH** is the Public Health Analyst for the Atlanta-Carolinas High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program (HIDTA) in Georgia. Under the Overdose Response Strategy (ORS), she is responsible for assessing the current epidemiology of opioid use and overdose in Georgia and facilitating collaboration across public health and public safety agencies to reduce drug overdoses in the state. She works closely with the Drug Overdose Surveillance Unit at the Georgia Department of Public Health to collect, analyze, and disseminate opioid-related mortality and morbidity data. Additionally, she provides support for the statewide implementation of HIDTA's Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP), a real-time overdose surveillance system that supports public safety and public health efforts to mobilize an immediate response to an overdose spike. Lastly, Stephanie is an active member of several state workgroups and collaboratives that meet regularly to address the opioid epidemic in Georgia.

**Nykia Greene-Young, MA** is the Substance Abuse Prevention Senior Coordinator for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) in the Office of Behavioral Health Prevention (OBHP). She has over 16 years of experience in research, public policy, behavioral health and prevention. Nykia has worked with diverse populations and underserved communities on a wide variety of issues including quality of life and health disparities. She holds a Master's Degree in Political Science and is currently completing coursework at Clark Atlanta University towards a PhD in Political Science. In her limited free time, she enjoys interacting and engaging with her book club and attending her son's college football games.

**Jordan Hansen** is the Clinical Director of the Professional Education Solutions team at the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation and a person in long-term recovery from substance use disorders and mental illness. He leads the national training and consultation efforts for Hazelden Betty Ford, conceptualizing and managing large-scale training and technical assistance projects with federal, state, regional, and local stakeholders. His background includes working to bring abstinence-based and harm-reduction providers together into integrated, recovery-oriented systems of care; using technology solutions to engage people seeking health and happiness; and working to affect cultural change in recovery systems. He is a graduate of the Woody Guthrie Academy, the University of Saint Thomas, and the Hazelden Betty Ford Graduate School of Addiction Studies.

**Christopher Harrison, MPH** State Registrar, Georgia Department of Public Health, State Office of Vital Records. Mr. Harrison received his bachelor's degree in Biopsychology from the University of Michigan and master's degree in Public Health, Epidemiology concentration from the University of Michigan School of Public Health. Mr. Harrison started his career as an Infection Control Analyst at the University of Michigan Health System in 2008. Mr. Harrison moved to Atlanta, Georgia in 2013 when he was employed as the Data Quality Liaison for the State Office of Vital Records. Since then Mr. Harrison served in various roles within the State Vital Records Office and was promoted to the State Registrar in January 2019.

**Steve Herndon** serves as president and cofounder of Safety Net Recovery, a structured sober living community for men. Steve's commitment to sobriety and helping others is unrivaled except for his long-time partner, Taylor Hagin. Together in 2009, they formed Safety Net Recovery where they and a team of professional counselors provide support, structure and guidance to each client, giving them the best opportunity to learn and practice the spiritual principles of recovery. Steve is licensed as a Level II Certified Addiction Counselor (CACII) and Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS). A talented public speaker, Steve shares his personal journey to recovery to motivate others to achieve their best. Steve is a born leader. In 1999, while attending and playing football for the University of Georgia, he was elected team captain. Steve's dedication on the field also earned him the Leon Farmer Strength and Conditioning award, given annually to the player whose commitment to the strength and conditioning program results in a significant contribution to the



football team. Off the football field, his academic efforts earned him recognition as an Academic All-American and a three-time Academic All-SEC. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in business education, his talent on the gridiron lead him to a six-year career in the NFL, playing offensive line for the Denver Broncos and Atlanta Falcons. Steve is no stranger to addiction, and is in recovery himself. His recovery journey began in the heady days of college football and ultimately culminated in a failed mandatory drug test during his time in the NFL. Steve initially declined treatment, and it wasn't until a close friend entered rehab that he decided to pursue a sober life. Once he committed to getting clean, he gave it everything he had. After completing treatment, where he met his future-business partner, Taylor, he trained as an addiction counselor, and went on to become the executive director of Third Step Recovery. Steve's own struggle to achieve and maintain his recovery from the grip of addiction now influences his work at Safety Net Recovery. Steve lives in Alpharetta, Georgia with his wife and three children.

**Buddy Horton** serves as the director of the Penfield Addiction Ministries' Women's campus. Prior to working in the field of substance abuse treatment, Buddy worked in the education and criminal justice arenas. He received his BA from Georgia College and State University and he has more than 12 years experience in substance abuse treatment, which includes the treatment of males and females. Buddy is a CADIC II, ICADC and a CCS. Mr. Horton facilitated the construction of the current Penfield Addiction Ministries psychoeducational curriculum, among his other duties as campus director. He has been employed at Penfield for the last 11 years.

**Jermaine Hughes** was introduced to multiple pathways to recovery and enrolled in the CARES program. Upon completion of the program Jermaine applied for a position at the Georgia Council on Substance and was subsequently hired as the CARES Team Lead. Jermaine enjoys the work he does at CARES and lives by the mantra that says, "Until we all free, ain't none of us free." It is the spirit of that mantra that fuels Jermaine's commitment to developing a robust peer workforce throughout the nation, and eventually the world, that provides experienced peer support to those with substance use disorder.

**Jordan Hussey** is a person in long term recovery that loves the life recovery has afforded her. Before finding her own recovery, Jordan couldn't see a way out, she felt like there were no options. People believed in her until she was able to believe in herself. She uses her voice to speak up for those that may still be struggling to help educate others and support them as they find their path to recovery. Jordan's desire is to be the voice that speaks up and says "I've been here before, you are not alone. I will walk beside you and together we are stronger." Jordan is a Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialist (CARES 31). She is currently a peer recovery coach through the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse; working with Northeast Georgia Community Connections in the NICU department at the Gainesville and Braselton campuses. Her goal is to end the stigma and offer hope by spreading the knowledge that life beyond substance use disorder is possible and attainable. She believes that recovery should be made available to everyone.

**Gina Hutto, LPC, MAC, CCDP-D, CCJP, ICGC-I, BC-TMH**, is the current Director of Addictive Diseases for View Point Health. Gina has been with View Point Health since 1996, working with substance abuse, mental health, and co-occurring clients. Prior to coming to work for View Point Health, she worked for 5 years as a Counselor Offender Rehabilitator with the Georgia Department of Corrections. Gina currently manages the Court Services and Lawrenceville Addictive Diseases Programs in Gwinnett County, and directs the treatment programs that provide services for the Gwinnett County DUI and Drug Courts. She also supervises the team that provides treatment services to the Newton County Drug Court. Gina has a B.A. in Psychology, as well as an M.A. in Education/Community Counseling from the University of Georgia. Gina specializes in working with substance abuse, gambling and other addictive diseases, as well as court mandated programs and clients.



**Dustin Infinger** is a Community Involvement Specialist with HEARTS for Families. He is currently focused on the Georgia Suicide Prevention Project and formed the STEP Up Grady suicide prevention coalition and workgroup to help reduce the suicide burden in South Georgia. Although new to the prevention field, Dustin Infinger has been involved in volunteer advocacy work for some time. He has a degree in creative writing and English from the Florida State University with a focus in human rights literature. Dustin is passionate about how narratives and storytelling can be used as a vehicle for positive messages and awareness for social issues and is a staunch advocate for mental health awareness.

**Riley Kirkpatrick**, CARES/CPS-AD, MATS, is a person in long term recovery who currently works as a Peer Specialist for Alliance Recovery Center and liaison for Georgia Council on Substance Abuse. After almost 20 years of living with active opioid use disorder, Hepatitis C and having multiple failed attempts in traditional treatment settings, Riley has been able to find and maintain long term recovery with the help of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT.) Riley is also an outspoken member of the LGBTQ Community, a founding member of Athens Queer Collective, (a 501c3 non-profit,) and co-facilitator of a transgender support group and LGBTQ youth group for middle and high school students. Mr. Kirkpatrick teaches workshops and trainings specific to gender identity for local businesses, clinicians, medical professionals, treatment centers, recovery residence, or anyone else trying to ensure their place of business truly accommodates and is accessible to everyone. Mr. Kirkpatrick is also passionate about the need for networking, inclusion, education and unconditional support for clients regardless of their recovery pathway.

**Monaletto C. Irby** has spent over 21 years working in the Youth Service Field in Alabama and Georgia. Mr. Irby has served in several capacities to include Case Manager (Mental Health), Counselor and Program Director (Drug Treatment Center), and Director (Youth Challenge Academy) servicing youth in Alabama; before moving to Georgia in 2007. He is currently employed with Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice for over 11 years serving as a Juvenile Probation/Parole Specialist for almost 4 years before moving to the Office of Training, where he has served as a Regional Training Coordinator for the Southern and Northern Regions. Irby also served as the Program Coordinator for the Basic Community Service Training( Probation/Parole Specialist) from 2014-2016. Irby was promoted in July 2016 to the Northern Region Training Program Manager. Irby has oversight of 11 facilities and its training schedule. He is invested in his community and lends a great deal of time speaking to groups on at-risk youth behaviors, facilitating at youth summits and youth conferences on gang activity/violence, and bullying. Irby is often featured as a guest panelist at boys self-improvement conferences as well as mentorship conferences. Irby is dedicated to encouraging youth to seek their full potential and also training youth service workers on the best practices of dealing with at risk youth and their families. Irby believes in encouraging youth and challenging them to face their fears and overcome obstacles. He is often quoted as saying, "I encourage, because I was encouraged". Irby is the newly elected Georgia State Director for Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. He is married to his beautiful wife Charlisa Irby and has one daughter, Kaelyn.

**Mariah Laird** completed her Master of Public Health from Rollins School of Public Health in 2019 and currently serves as a Regional Prevention Specialist for The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. Her background is in research and program evaluation. Her prevention work began two years ago with Emory University focusing on obesity prevention and program evaluation. Following this she worked as a research assistant with The PEAR Institute developing a Social Emotional Learning curriculum to build resilience in at-risk youth. Simultaneously, she worked as a health equity intern with The American Cancer society in smoking prevention within socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals.

**Rich Lee** is a person in long term recovery. What that means to me today is that it has been since September 17, 2015, that I have chosen to put any mind altering drugs or alcohol into my body. I am also the proud parent of twin 20 year old daughters Lindsey and Cameron. I am an Atlanta native and graduate of The Lovett School. I am a proud alumni and graduate of the Hall County Drug Court Program. I am an active member in the Gainesville / Hall County Recovery Community. I participate in the Drug Free Hall Campaign and I work with 9 of the most special people on the planet every-



day I am a very proud and thankful team member for the GCSA. I work on our ED Team supporting NEGMC in Winder, Braselton and Gainesville.

**Jan Ligon PhD, LCSW** is an Associate Professor of Social Work at Georgia State University. He served for eight years as a Composite Licensure Board member and currently serves as a member of the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities board. His previous social work experience is in behavioral health services with two of the state's CSBs, a state hospital, and Grady. He has presented on the topic of families and substance abuse both nationally and internationally.

**Cheryl Lindo** completed her MPH at Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) in 2016 and has been working in prevention for the past 4 years. After graduation she worked at MSM as a Community Health Coordinator at the Prevention Research Center, focusing on Substance Abuse and HIV Research. In 2017, she moved on to Emory University Hospital where she served as the Pre-certification Specialist for the Cardiology team. She later joined the Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities in 2018, where she works as a Regional Prevention Specialist for Region 3, in addition to coordinating events for the State Opioid Response Project.

**Kristin Marvin, BS, CPhT** is the PDMP Program Specialist with the Georgia Department of Public Health's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. Kristin has been with the program since it came to the Department of Public Health in 2017. As a Certified Pharmacy Technician for over 10 years, she previously worked with the Alabama Medicaid Agency Lock-in Program where the PDMP was used daily. Kristin is a 2019 Master of Public Administration candidate with a concentration in Public Health Administration.

**Bethany Moistner** has worked at Caron Treatment Centers as a Student Assistant Specialist for five years facilitating groups with at-risk adolescents in schools and youth serving organizations. In addition, Bethany implements the Botvin LifeSkills® program and a variety of drug prevention education lessons in public and private schools in the Metro Atlanta area. In conjunction with Kennesaw State University and the Cobb County Schools, Bethany trains interns to facilitate Project CONNECT®, a psychoeducational nicotine cessation 8-week curriculum, at their individual internship sites. She is a licensed social worker who is actively pursuing her clinical license.

**Pamela Morgan, MBA, BSHS, CADC, CPRM** is a nationally known trainer and substance abuse professional - providing services since 1993. She is the owner of KEY INSIGHTS, LLC., an approved professional development training provider with the Michigan Certification Board of Addiction Professionals (MCBAP). Best known for her training Toxic Relationships: Another Addiction, she develops and facilitates various topics including Addiction to Crime, Enhancing Motivation for Change, Recovery Relapse and the 12 Steps and Addiction in the Church. With more than 27 years of personal recovery, over 23 years of experience working with treatment, prevention, correctional and adolescent populations, and more than 18 years providing professional development training, Morgan offers a wealth of personal and professional experience.

**Michael Nerney** is a consultant in substance abuse prevention and education, with over thirty years' experience in the field. As the former Director of the Training Institute of Narcotic and Drug Research, Inc. (NDRI), his responsibilities included the management of a statewide training system which delivered more than 450 training programs to substance abuse treatment and prevention professionals annually. Mike's particular areas of expertise include Psychopharmacology, Adolescent Chemical Dependency, Relapse Prevention, Gender Differences in Communication, and Managing Violent Incidents. He is an internationally known lecturer, and has served as consultant to a number of federal and state agencies. He has been a consultant for two of the major television networks and has appeared on the ABC program "20/20."

**Dr. Merrill Norton** is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy with his specialty areas to include psychopharmacology and addiction pharmacy. He has also been a faculty member of the Fairleigh-Dickinson University Postdoctoral Training Program in the Masters of Psychopharmacology, Alliant International University of San Francisco College of Psychology, University of Georgia School of Continuing Education, and Berry College in the areas of Psychopharmacology and Addiction Pharmacy. His area of specialty in addiction pharmacy is the management of chronic pain in the substance use disordered patient. Dr. Norton completed his undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy. He accomplished a 3 year addiction medicine fellowship under the direction of Douglas Talbott MD at Ridgeview Institute and has state, national, and international credentials in the treatment of mentally ill/addicted/chronic pain individuals. Recently, Dr. Norton received an Emmy from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences' Southeastern Chapter for his work on the Spanish language documentary Prescription Drugs, Legally Dangerous. The award was presented to a collaboration of experts in the field of addiction pharmacy and medicine for their participation and contributions to the production, which describes the dangers of prescription drug abuse in Latino populations. His new books, *The Pharmacology of Substance Use Disorders* and *The Practitioners' Guide to Opioid Use Disorders* were released in December 2018.

**Carlos A. O. Pavão** is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the School of Public Health at Georgia State University. Dr. Pavão has more than 20 years of public health practitioner experience both at the local and national levels. Throughout his career, he has focused on the nexus between dissemination research and innovative public health programming. He has coordinated and developed several substance misuse community coalitions Dr. Pavão has worked with CDC, NIH, HRSA, and SAMSHA funded public health promotion programs. Prior to embarking on his doctoral degree, he worked for 10 years on a national SAMHSA's CAPT technical assistance to provide trainings and strategic technical assistance to Single State Agencies (including Caribbean territories and Tribes) on public health planning and implementation, capacity building, sustainability planning, and evaluation. Dr. Pavão has also worked for the DeKalb County Board of Health, building community school partnerships with the Mayor's Office of New Bedford, Massachusetts, and several non-profits. In 2007, Dr. Pavão was selected by Dr. Elias A. Zerhouni, Director at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to serve a four-year appointment on Director's Council of Public Representatives (COPR) - and served under three NIH Directors.

**Sheila Pierce** is the Opioid Program Coordinator and Director of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program for the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH). She previously served as Deputy Director of the Department's Office of Vital Records within DPH. Before coming to DPH, Ms. Pierce worked in the EPA Region IV Superfund and Water Management programs. She served in Fulton County as the Deputy County Manager and Purchasing Agent and Director of the Purchasing Department. Pierce also worked as Deputy Commissioner for the Atlanta Department of Watershed Management. Ms. Pierce, a native Georgian, is a graduate of Spelman College. She received her MPA from Georgia State University and is a Certified Lean Six Sigma Green Belt.

**Dr. David Proefrock** has been a forensic psychologist and a child and adolescent psychotherapist for nearly 40 years. He recently retired as a Clinical Director for the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice. He currently serves on the Georgia Psychological Association Ethics Committee. He has a long-time interest in experiential, adventure, and wilderness therapies and has served as a consultant to the North Carolina Outward Bound School. He has presented numerous workshops on group experiential therapy with adolescents, processing experiential groups, ethics and the use of mindfulness as an adjunct to adolescent groups.

**Sandy Queen** has presented at Schools for Alcohol and Drug Studies since the early 1980s on topics including the importance of humor in recovery, family treatment issues, resilience and protective factors. She has been a speaker for the past 40+ years throughout the US, Canada, Australia and Singapore with audiences from pre-schoolers to senior citizens, teachers, clinicians parents, and over two million young people all over the world. Her motto continues to be "You are Good Stuff" which is evident in the presentations as she invites people to come learn and leave enriched.



**Emily Ribblett** is a person in long term recovery. Her recovery started on March 5, 2015. Emily's life in recovery has been incredible. It is providing her the opportunity to rebuild lost family relationships and live a life beyond her wildest dreams. Emily was born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania and has been a Georgia resident since 2008. She currently live in Sandy Springs, GA. Emily graduated from The University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown with a BA in Business Management/Marketing. She is currently pursuing a Master's of Management degree with concentration in Human Services Non-profit from Shorter University. She enjoys volunteer work in her off time, including bringing a message of hope to The Sunrise Detox facility in Alpharetta. She works with others in recovery and believes strongly in the importance of peer support. Since completing her Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialist training (CARES 24), Emily has had the opportunity to actualize her passion for peer support in a career setting. Emily became a Certified WHAM facilitator on January 11, 2019. Emily is the Building Communities of Recovery Grant Coordinator (BCOR) for the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse (GCSA). She is excited to be building relationships around the benefits of long term recovery in recovery communities across Georgia while also providing training and technical assistance. She believes in advocacy and is a supportive voice in the area of development and sustainability of recovery communities.

**Dr. Davine S. Ricks, LCSW, MAC, E-CADC** is a dedicated and enthusiastic leader with over 25 years of experience in planning, developing and implementing behavioral healthcare systems mental health, criminal justice, substance abuse and co-occurring disorders in multimillion dollar complex public and private sector organizations. Her primary responsibilities include grant writing, project management and evaluation of comprehensive program designs, teaching in higher education, human resource management, development and implementation of policies and procedures, budgetary responsibilities, staff training, providing direct clinical services, supervision and facility administration.

**Ari Russell, ICPS**, is a prevention consultant, grant writer and trainer with A&E Consulting. She served as the Executive Director of GUIDE, Inc., a community-based substance abuse prevention agency, for over 28 years. During that time, she worked extensively on community-level change strategies to reduce youth substance use and founded the Georgia Teen Institute. She was a co-founder of the Georgia Prevention Credentialing Consortium and is an Internationally Certified Prevention Specialist by IC&RC and PCCG. She has co-authored sixteen grant applications related to the Drug Free Communities Support Program that were all funded, including seven DFC grants, seven DFC Mentoring grants and two for the STOP Act.

**Veronica Santiago-Johnston** is a native of Puerto Rico who graduated from Tufts University in Massachusetts with a B.A. in Clinical Psychology and Child Development. She has dedicated her career to the service of others through roles with the Dept. of Mental Health, Children with Special Needs, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Atlanta and the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention. Combining her background in psychology and social work with operational and leadership expertise, Veronica has served as Project Manager for the National Foundation of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and as Director of Community Action & Prevention Alliance. Veronica brings over 20 years of experience working with vulnerable youth and their families, developing, delivering, implementing and managing community based programs. As the Development Director of Next Generation Youth Development (NxTG), along with Bindy Auvermann, (NxTG Executive Director) they fully developed and opened in 2013 the only Prevention Clubhouse in North Georgia. Veronica utilizes her expertise, creativity and passion for empowering youth to continue to design and develop innovative youth-focused programs at NxTG.

**Jim Seckman, MAC, CACII, CCS** has over 30 years experience working in the field of addiction treatment in a variety of clinical settings, including inpatient, outpatient and residential. He is currently CEO of MARR, Inc. He has served as Clinical Director of MARR, the Executive Director of Breakthru House, Coordinator for Addiction Services at Emory University Hospital, Clinical Coordinator for SAFE Recovery Systems, the President of GARR, and on the GACA Ethics Committee. Jim's goal for training is to equip counselors with the insight, knowledge, and skills necessary to provide the best possible services to their clients.



**Madeleine Shaver, LCSW, MAC** works in a private practice setting specializing in Binge Eating Disorder and Chemical Dependency. Treatment focus also includes resolving underlying trauma and subsequent codependency issues. Madeleine has a passion for helping others understand themselves, their relationships with loved ones, and finding freedom through recovery. Her practice, Low Country Counseling, serves the recovery community in Savannah, GA.

**Bernetta Sweet** is a veteran after serving 8 years in the United States Army. She is passionate about working with youth and using her gifts and education to strengthen families and communities. Bernetta has a passion for her community where she serves as Life Coach, mentor, and personal advisor. She currently serves on the boards of Mitchell County Head start Advisory Board, and the "I Choose Me" mentoring program. She began working with youth in the field of abstinence education in 2000 and later began working with families in homeless prevention in 2012. Bernetta joined the HEARTS for Families, Inc. team as part of the ASAPP in 2017 as the Community Involvement Specialist for Moultrie, GA and chairs the STEP Up Moultrie Workgroup (CPAW).

**Dr. Jennifer Talley** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) and works as a LCSW for the Atlanta Veterans Medical Center; Fort McPherson Community Based Outpatient Clinic. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from Rutgers University in 1993 and her Master's Degree in Social Work from Clark Atlanta University in 1996. Dr. Talley earned her Doctorate in Social Work, Policy, Planning and Administration, May 2018 from Clark Atlanta University, Whitney Young School of Social Work. Dr. Talley provides clinical supervision to social workers seeking licensure. Dr. Talley has worked as an adjunct professor at Clark Atlanta University, School of Social Work. Dr. Talley was a contracted auditor for the State of Georgia and has more than 20 years of experience working in mental health, medical social work, substance abuse, crisis intervention and counseling. In addition to her employment with the Atlanta Veterans Health Administration, she works at Grady Memorial Hospital's Marcus Trauma Center as medical social worker. Dr. Talley is active in her church and has worked in several ministries. She has a yellow belt in Tae Kwon Do and she has run in the Atlanta Peachtree Road Race eight times.

**Dawn Tyus** is a Licensed Professional Counselor in the State of Georgia, a Master Addiction Counselor and a National Board Certified Counselor. She is the Project Director of the Southeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center (SATTC) at Morehouse School of Medicine, located in Atlanta, Georgia. Dawn has been affiliated with Morehouse School of Medicine and SATTC for ten years, starting as a Project Consultant, and promoted to lead the team as the Project Director and Principal Investigator in 2011. Dawn has an impressive background in which she brings a wealth of experience from various perspectives. Her background spans many disciplines which include: nonprofit organizations, government, corporate, mental health counseling services, consulting, strategic planning, group and individual coaching. She was certified as a Personal and Executive Coach through the CaPP Institute, received a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, and a Masters of Education degree in Community Counseling from Mercer University, and she is currently writing her dissertation to obtain her Ph.D in Counseling Studies from Capella University.

**Irene E. Walker, MPH** is an epidemiologist for the Opioid Misuse Program at the Georgia Department of Public Health. She assists in the collection, analysis, reporting, and dissemination of opioid misuse morbidity, mortality, syndromic surveillance, and emergency medical services data. In her role as an opioid drug overdose epidemiologist, she analyzes opioid drug overdose data and conducts epidemiological studies. Ms. Walker is a native of Lawrenceville, Georgia. She completed her master's in public health at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia.

**Ellen Ward** is a Georgia native, currently residing in Dahlgonega. Ellen graduated Summa Cum Laude from Kennesaw State University with a degree in Early Childhood Education. During her practicum and student teaching experience, she participated in the Technology in Urban Education emphasis track where she worked first hand with children in poverty in the Marietta City school system. Ellen worked in a variety of fields both as photographer and information specialist before discovering Next Generation Youth Development, Inc where she found her passion for working with youth. Ellen is proud to have been a part of Next Generation for nearly 5 years where she now serves as the Programs





Director. Since the first day the Clubhouse hosted youth in its program in 2013, Ellen has been thrilled at seeing the Clubhouse blossom into a powerful force for change both in the lives of the youth it serves, as well as the community. Other passions of Ellen's that weave into her work at NxTG include yoga and mindfulness, both disciplines in which she has taken several courses and incorporated into her own practice. Ellen is a Certified Youth Instructor through Yoga Calm.

**Carnie Wilson**, daughter of legendary Beach Boy founder, Brian Wilson, has a varied career as a singer, songwriter, TV host, actress, voice over artist, author and public speaker. She currently is a regular co-host for CBS'S THE TALK, has co-hosted THE VIEW, Emmy nominated for host of THE NEWLY WED GAME, and she has also been a "special on air correspondent for ET". As a member of Wilson Phillips, Carnie achieved unparalleled first album success, selling ten million albums with three #1 hit singles, including the song "Hold On", which was featured in her cameo role in the movie BRIDESMAIDS. The group's second album achieved international multiplatinum success selling three million albums. Carnie's story has been chronicled in two books, Gut Feelings (released in 2001) and, I'm Still Hungry (released in 2003). Carnie's cookbook, To Serve With Love, was published in the fall of 2005. Since then, Carnie has blossomed as a TV chef, preparing dishes for THE TALK, THE BONNIE HUNT SHOW, & MARIE OSMOND. Most recently, Carnie took 2nd place in the FOOD NETWORK'S Rachael VS GUY CHALLENGE and is a CHOPPED CHAMPION. Carnie has now developed a dessert national dessert company called "Love Bites by Carnie" that are delicious bite size desserts - [Lovebitesby-carnie.com](http://Lovebitesby-carnie.com) Love Bites By Carnie will be available in major grocery chains in 2019. Carnie rejoined Wilson Phillips for a new CD for COLUMBIA RECORDS called "CALIFORNIA." Wilson Philips then went on to record CHRISTMAS IN HARMONY, and their most recent CD featuring songs of their parents called "DEDICATED". Wilson Phillips are currently touring the US and appear in concert monthly. Having battled her alcoholism, addiction, weight and self esteem issues her entire life, Carnie is devoted to lecturing and speaking to women, men and younger individuals about self empowerment and recovery. Her love for communicating with people has been her greatest joy besides her own children Lola and Luci.

**Rev. Dr. Vonshurii S. Wrighten**, M Div., MAC, CACII has more than thirty years of experience as an addiction professional. He is a certified John Maxwell life coach, trainer, and speaker. Rev. Wrighten is the former Director of Fuqua Hall of the Atlanta Union Mission, where he assisted in building one of the premier faith based recovery centers in the state of Georgia. As the Assistant Project Director of the Southeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center, at Morehouse School of Medicine, Rev. Dr. Wrighten helped to forge one of the nation's largest faith-based conferences. He has fifteen years of Pastoral leadership in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. In addition, he is the Coordinator of Addictive Diseases Initiatives and the State Opioid Treatment Authority for the Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities. Reverend Wrighten is known for his visionary leadership and his ability to initiate and execute from vision to realization.



# Special Event



## Georgia School of Addiction Studies INTERNSHIP and CAREER FAIR

Attention Students...

Make plans to attend a professional networking event just for you!

Join us Tuesday, August 27, 2019  
6:00pm to 7:00pm

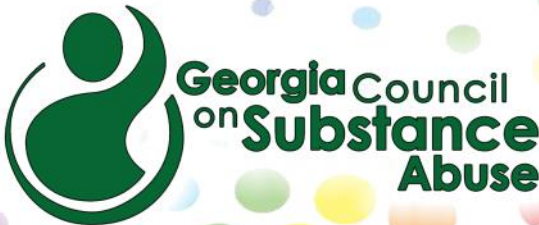
Learn about internships and career opportunities in areas of prevention, addictions, treatment, and recovery.

Refreshments will be served.




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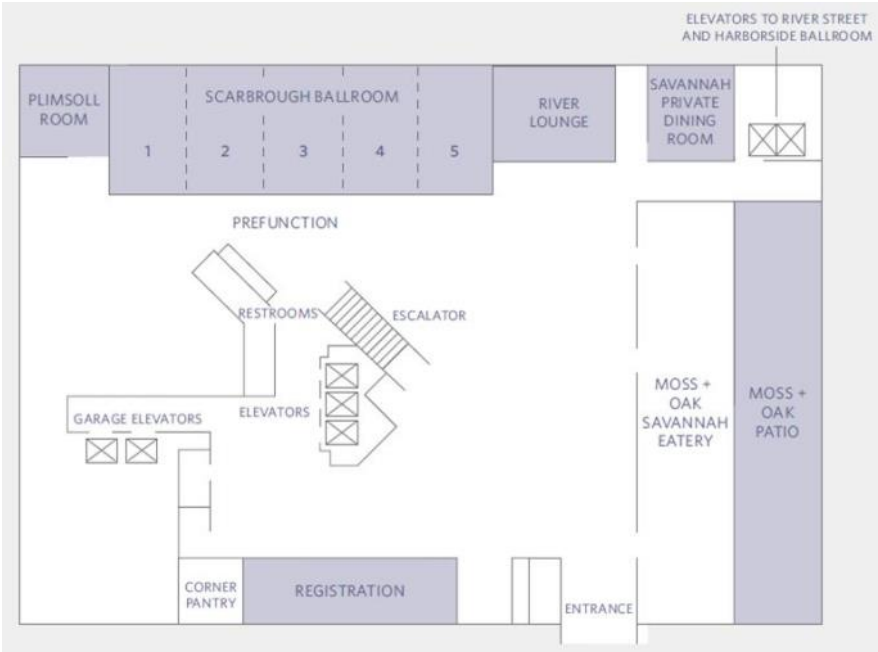
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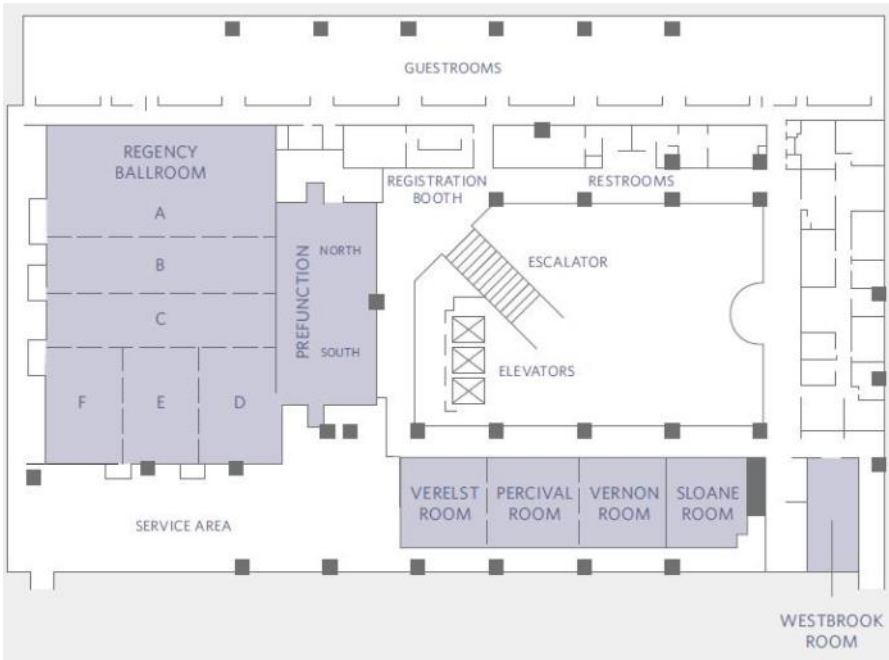


# Hyatt Regency Floor Plan

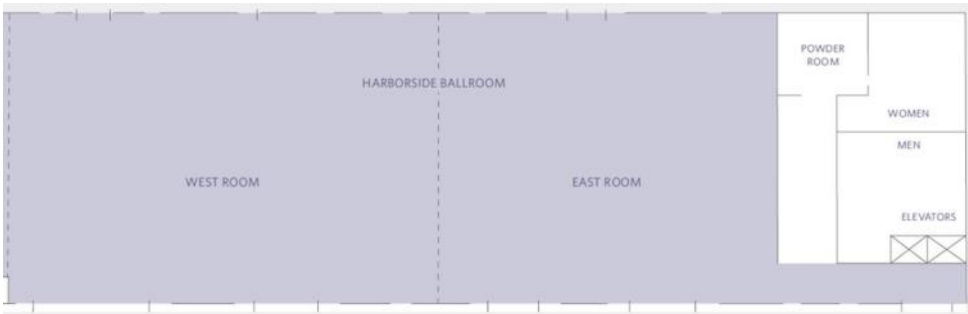
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