

2021

14th ANNUAL

GEORGIA SCHOOL OF ADDICTION STUDIES

PROGRAM BROCHURE



SUCCESS THROUGH SYNERGY

Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery

August 29 - September 2, 2021

Hyatt Regency, Savannah, GA

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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,

We finally made it to the 14th Annual Georgia School of Addiction Studies! As most of you know by now, this should have been our 15th annual conference but the pandemic had other plans. We made the very difficult decision to cancel last year's conference and when the end of August came and we were not in Savannah, our hearts ached a little and our stomachs growled for She Crab soup! But we are BACK! Myself and the GSAS Board would like to welcome you to our conference and to the beautiful city of Savannah.

Our theme this year, Success Through Synergy: Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery seems very appropriate for the times that we are living in. Since It's only through working together and collaborating that we will be successful in our various endeavors.

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.

For many attendees, the Georgia School has become a yearly tradition that 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

Zac Talbott, MSW, CAADC, MAC, CCS

Athens Technical College– Social Work Assistant Program

Betty Watts, LMSW

Council of Accountability Court Judges

Tara Zellous, LPC, NCC, CADC II, CPCS

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Jay Neal

DeKalb County Accountability Courts

Lasheika Kassa, CADC II

Georgia Addiction Counselors Association

Leanne Williams-Hall (GACA Office Administrator)

Donna Ritter, ND, CACII, BT, CCS

Georgia Association of Community Service Boards

Gina Hutto, LPC, MAC, ICGC-I, CCJP, CPCS, CCDP-D, [GSAS Secretary](#)

Georgia Association of Recovery Residences

Charmon W. Talley, NCAC, SAP

Georgia Council on Substance Abuse

Neil Campbell, MS

Jeff Breedlove

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities - Office of Addictive Diseases

Cassandra Price, GCADC-II, MBA

Kristal Davidson, LPC, NCC

Scott Dunbar, D. Min., MAC, ICCDPD

Yomi Makanjoula

Prince Malcolm Moorman, NCAC-I, CAC-II, CCS

Von WRIGHT, M.Div., MAC, CACII, CCS

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities - Office of Behavioral Health Prevention

Jill Mays, MS, LPC

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, MATS

Georgia Department of Education

Mary Lauren Salvatore, MPH, CHES

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

Amy Benson, MPA, ICPS

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

Kelly Michael Moselle, MS, MA, CAMS II

Mercy Care

Clarence Fuller, MS, MAC, CADC-II, ICADC

National Association of Social Workers- GA

Cheryl Bonneau, JD, MSW

Lucy R. Cannon, Ed.D, LCSW, LICSW, CCDP-D, MATS,

[GSAS Vice Pres.](#)

Dr. Davine S. Ricks, LCSW, MAC, E-CADC

Matt McUmber, LCSW, CADC II

Penfield Addiction Ministries

Buddy Horton (In Memoriam)

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, Ph.D., LPC, MAC, NCC

Student Representative

Iman Pew, LMSW

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



Overview

The 14th 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 Sunday, August 29th, at 2:00 p.m. and end on Thursday, September 2nd, 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. Below are the conference registration fees and registration dates.

- Registration: July 9th - August 23rd \$525
- Late Registration: August 24th - August 29th \$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 13, 2021.**

For inquiries related to registration, please e-mail 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 \$154 plus tax for single or double occupancy. **August 6, 2021 is the deadline for reserving your lodging at this rate.**

For reservations you may use the Georgia School website, www.thegeorgiaschool.org
Click on the Hotel Reservations link on the home page.

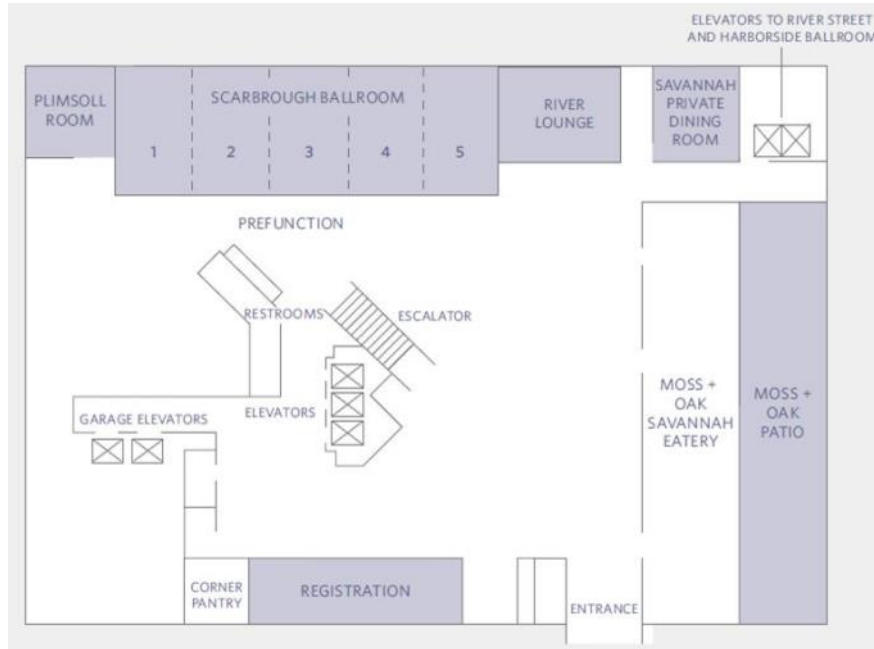
Please Note: Parking is included in your room rate if you are staying at the Hyatt Regency. Also be aware that there is no self-parking, only valet service. If you are not staying at the Hyatt Regency you will need to find parking elsewhere. To find other parking options you may visit this City of Savannah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

<https://www.visitsavannah.com/info/parking-savannah>

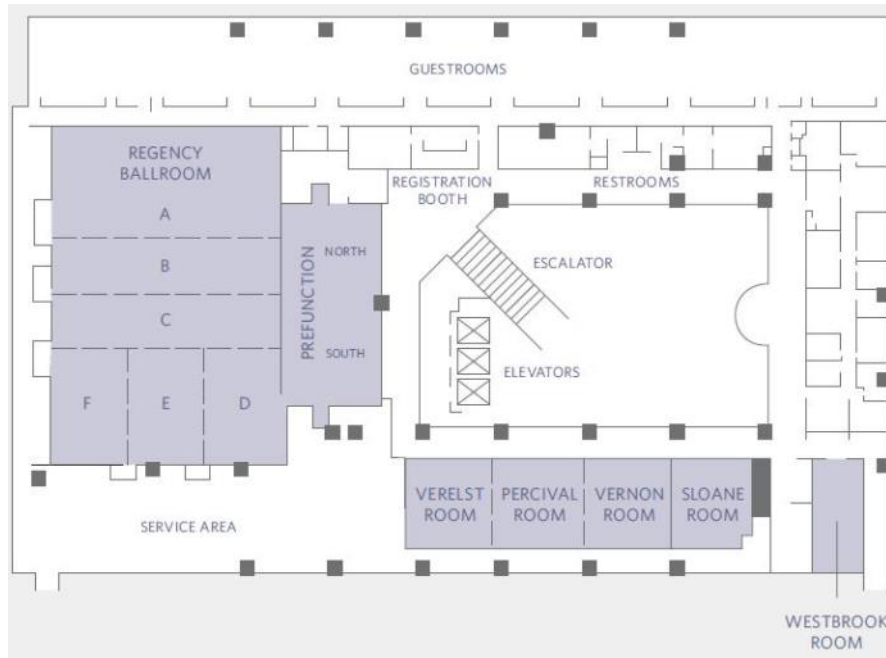


Hyatt Regency Floor Plan

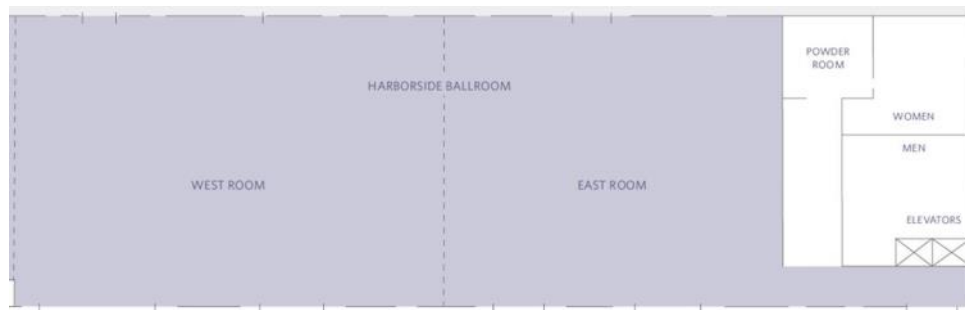
LOBBY LEVEL



SECOND FLOOR



HARBORSIDE BALLROOM



RIVER STREET

Plenary & Lunch Sessions

Monday Morning Plenary

TBD

Monday Lunch- Welcome to the Georgia School

Humor Begins & Ends with HR

Mark Lundholm



Tuesday Morning Plenary

The IMPACT of Legislation on Addiction and Recovery - A Legislative Update

Jeff Breedlove



Wednesday Morning Plenary

Prevention Update

Capt. Michael King, SAMHSA



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 and the Buddy Horton Organizational Excellence in Treatment Award



Thursday Morning Closing Plenary

2021 Georgia School Knowledge Challenge - Win Prizes!



Special Events

Monday

Silent Auction

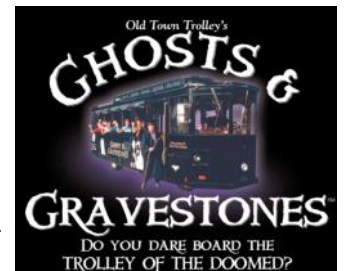
The Silent Auction begins on Monday. Please place a bid on one or more of the wonderful items and help support the Georgia School. All funds raised go to student scholarships.



Tuesday

Ghosts & Gravestones Trolley Tour—7:00pm

The Ghosts and Gravestones© Trolley Tour is Savannah's most popular ghost tour. Your costumed Gravedigger Guide will tell you tales of Savannah's "Darker Side". With stories of haunts and hangings to murders most foul, all mixed together with some entertainment and good old fashioned fun, this truly is a tour with a little something for everybody. It may be a ghost tour, but it is family friendly and appropriate for ages six and up. Included in the 75 minute tour are two stops. The first is exclusive after-hours access to the Andrew Low House. The house is a 1840's Italianate masterpiece that was constructed on the site of the Old City Jail. Once inside you will explore the home and hear stories of the resident spirits. The second stop is the Perkins and Sons Ships Chandlery and Warehouse. There you will hear and experience tales of haunted River Street all set in a theatrical environment. Tours depart from our River Street depot. Discounted admission is \$30 per person. Admission can be paid via registration system or in-person. Please be aware there are limited seats available and they will sell out quickly.



Wednesday

Visit Savannah (www.visitsavannah.com)

We don't have anything special planned for this night but don't let that stop you from exploring this wonderful city. Take a moment and follow the link above to get some great ideas on things to do and places to see.

Prevention Credentialing Consortium of Georgia (PCCG) Board Meeting - 5:30pm

All Week

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



Program Agenda

Sunday, August 29th

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

A Dimmed Down Life - Depression in the Adolescent Brain

Mike Nerney

Mental health experts have predicted a COVID19-related increase in depression across the entire range of the population, including pre-teens, teenagers, and young adults. Diminished economic opportunities, online schooling, social isolation, sleep deficiency, and other related COVID19 issues have generated increased distress within the adolescent population. This workshop will focus on general risk factors for all adolescents (higher levels of emotional intensity) and pandemic-related risk factors. Participants will explore the unique structure and function of the human brain; examine factors that contribute to adolescent depression; understand the difference between types of depression; and discuss newer effective forms of treatment. The instructor will also identify warning signs of suicidal ideation, discuss effective language strategies for intervention, and provide elements of a suicide safety plan. (Prevention Domains) (Treatment Track)

Monday, August 30th

7:00am: Conference Check-In

8:00-9:00am: Morning Plenary

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

Internet Pornography and Its Impact on Adolescent Beliefs and Behaviors

Mindy Ackerman & Jerald Armstrong

The increase of internet enabled technology has significantly changed the way adolescents encounter and consume sexually explicit material. With the growth of the internet and social media has come easier and more access to pornography. This workshop will explore the effects of internet pornography on adolescents' sexual attitudes, beliefs, behaviors, and sexual aggression. Sexually abusive youth and youth with problem sexualized behaviors have been found to disclose more frequent and earlier exposures to pornography compared to delinquent youth. Additional topics will include the lasting effects into adulthood.



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

Black Males and Trauma - “Make you want to holler the way they do my life”

Gary Byrd

Black males today are being bombarded with trauma—from historical to present day abuse and slaughter by those who are to protect and serve. Black men hold a precarious place in American Society—they are dissed, missed, and feared. The trauma experiences of black males can extend generationally, and we must work to correct the cumulative hurt that began in 1619 to this present day. This workshop is designed to raise consciousness to the traumatic plight of black men, but it offers strategies for helping black men to heal.

Celebration to Consolation, What Drives Military Substance Abuse? Culture, Trauma, and Self Medication in 2021

Monica Turner

This workshop will provide insight into what drives substance abuse in the military by explaining cultural beliefs of the military regarding substance use, how trauma impacts use, and the stigma of receiving care to address substance abuse. Current methods of addressing addiction and steps being taken in prevention in the military will be discussed.

Recovery Advocacy and Coalition-Building: The Basics

Neil Campbell & Jeff Breedlove

What is our cause? Recovery. Sounds easy, but mobilizing a constituency and building a coalition is not. In this workshop, participants will learn how to organize in a professional way in order to work with others to build consensus around our issues. We will discuss the importance of relationship building and showing up in a consistent way, being positive rather than negative, but also to be ready to define your “opponent” when we need to, being realistic, not idealistic, and how to live our recovery values and have our values be consistent with our cause.

Alcohol: The Fatal Co-Factor

Mike Nerney

New research highlights findings that demonstrate the complex mechanisms by which alcohol interacts with other drugs in the brain and in the body, often with fatal results. While much of this research legitimately focuses on prescription drugs, an equally compelling aspect is the combination of alcohol and over the counter drugs (caffeine, cough medicine, and allergy medicines, for example), as well as alcohol combined with street drugs. The discovery of cocaethylene, the chemical created by the combination of cocaine and alcohol in the human body which generated much higher risks for fatal heart attack, signaled to researchers that the concurrent use of alcohol and cocaine was far more complex than each drug individually. In recent years, addiction research has demonstrated the potentially deadly interaction between alcohol and over-the-counter medications such as cough medicine, caffeine, tobacco, marijuana, XTC, cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, and of course, prescription drugs. Because alcohol is co-carcinogenic, anyone consuming it may face a substantial risk for seven specific types of cancer. In this workshop, participants will learn about these new, complex, and concerning discoveries so that they can better educate their clients about the risks of combining alcohol with other substances.

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

A Piece of the Puzzle- Understanding Their Turf

Monaletto C. Irby

Youth care workers have a unique job of creating a trust and building a bond with their clientele (parents and youth). This often time involves the worker entering the turf of the client, which can present other unforeseen circumstances and obstacles. Youth care workers will discuss those obstacles and understand what piece(s) of the puzzle they hold in working with their clientele outside of the normal office setting to assure a safe and healthy working relationship. Also, understanding their role and responsibility of putting the pieces together in the client's development.

Winning Proposals - Part of Prevention Sustainability Planning

Donna Dent

This workshop will focus on providing concrete hands on information and examples for participants to help improve their understanding of the review process and improve their submission skills. It will focus on providing some best practices for proposal writing, and key elements of writing and submitting successful proposals. What makes one proposal better (score higher) than another. Examples will be used to demonstrate correct and effective submissions as well as common mistakes that cost applicants points. Discussions of preparation work, writing practices, review and editing, and submission will be discussed. Guidance on finding funding resources will also be included.

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.

A Percussion Discussion - Theory and Practice of Therapeutic Drumming

Tom Harris & Tatiana Rolles

Group drumming has been used to promote community and healing for millennia. This workshop will explore the use of traditional West African drumming with challenging youth, with some connection with addiction and recovery. Information will be shared about research documenting the therapeutic benefits of drumming. Traditional use of rites of passage will be discussed as well as their relevance in working with children and adolescents in Western cultures. Participants will learn how to use simple warm-up activities with drums and found percussion items to work with groups. A traditional West African rhythm will be taught and played.

Coping With Grief and Loss

Gary Byrd

Grief is one of the deepest pains we will experience. It is the normal adaptive process of adjusting to any experience of loss or unwanted change. The loss of someone we love is always a shock, whether the loss was expected or not. The loss of someone or something important to us and grieving are inseparable. You will learn how to help your clients to be more resilient after experiencing grief or loss. Participants will learn about the 9 Critical Guidelines for conceptualizing loss and grief, six-strategies for coping with the immediate aftermath of a death, and Post Traumatic Growth in response to grief and loss.



MONDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (2:00pm-5:00pm) Sessions– B**Cultural Competence for Working with LGBTQ+ Kids and their Families****Lucia Caltabiano**

LGBTQ+ youth experience a myriad of barriers, risk factors, and mental health concerns; proximal and distal stressors as described by the minority stress model. Starting with a history of the LGBTQ+ community the framework of modern understandings is painted in clinical, social, and political detail. For youth who identify as LGBTQ+ the higher co-occurrence of substance use, survival sex, non-suicidal self-injury, suicidal ideation, and eating disorders means knowing the signs, both when they might be at risk or using these behaviors. Age appropriate interventions given including how to evaluate for a higher level of care. The language and humility to work with these adolescents is also important so that teachers, mental health providers, and other supports can hold a space for whatever the adolescent is going through.

"We Do Recover" - Connecting with Peers Receiving Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)**Beverly Ragland & Jody Dodson**

The presenters will use lecture, participant query, discussion and activities to expound on the various benefits of recovery initiatives that support peers receiving Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). We will also examine Medication Assisted Recovery (MAR) Assertive Telephone Outreach which is a program with the goal of reducing stigma and promoting inclusion of the MAT community.

ATOD and Social Justice: How Reform Can Reshape Our Communities**Michael Davis**

Alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and other drugs (ATOD) addiction does not discriminate, but the big businesses have targeted some communities harder than others. When analyzing lower socio-economic and community of color neighborhoods, you might find a higher level of density outlets, increased ATOD advertisements, and lower community resource agencies, but why is that? If we look into the social justice reasons into community conditions and acknowledge how our communities have historically been targets of the big alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana companies, we may find ways to enact social change to help prevent ATOD use in the future.

Gender Differences in Communication: What Makes Sense in Conversations with Teens?**Mike Nerney**

Adolescent males and females are difficult to communicate with under the best of circumstances. When the adolescent is at risk, the need for clear communication rises to a critical level. Differences in the ways males and females view the world, interpret events, process feelings, and communicate are generated and reinforced by biological, psychological and social factors. Social settings and expectations, cultural experiences, as well as the chemistry, function and structure of the brain, all impact on the communication styles of males and females. Neurochemical influences also vary in intensity during different developmental stages for each gender. Understanding how best to communicate with both genders of different ages and developmental stages is critically important if we are to help adolescents navigate their inner and outer worlds.

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

From Prevention to Treatment to Wellness and Recovery: The Top 10 Most Important Things to Know about Caring for the Behavioral Healthcare Needs of Georgia's Older Adults

Eve Byrd, Thom Snyder, & Jill Mays

Prescription medication misuse and abuse are growing public health problems among adults age 65 and over. These problems are associated with many serious consequences, and often go unrecognized. Older adults are less likely to access mental health treatment, whether due to stigma, lack of access to culturally competent and geriatric-skilled providers, or the misconception that conditions like depression, anxiety, or others are a normal part of aging. In this workshop, we will discuss the “Top 10” things you need to know about the behavioral health needs of this growing population in our communities, including innovative strategies for substance abuse and suicide prevention/education, age-appropriate and person-centered treatment and support services, as well as promotion of overall wellness for older adults and those who care for them.

Tuesday, August 31st

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

8:00-9:00am: Morning Plenary

TUESDAY AM 6 HOUR WORKSHOPS (9:30am-5:00pm) Sessions– C/D

Telemental Health Ethics; What Clinicians and Supervisors Need to Know and Do to Prevent Ethical Dilemmas

Lucy Cannon

During this workshop participants will be provided an overview of telehealth laws and HIPAA COVID-19 updates and learn to explore how the moral principles of ethics impact healthcare practitioners work with individuals and families. Participants will identify and explain key telehealth ethical standards from the Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage and Family Therapists, LPCA, NASW, and LMFT Associations that impact the workplace. Participants will identify 2 to 3 reasons why professional boundaries is the most common ethical violation since the implementation of telehealth services and learn to recognize common ethical challenges with supervisors, supervisees, and clients when providing telehealth services. The use of you-tube videos and experiential activities of various ethical dilemmas case scenarios will be utilized during this workshop.

Verbal Judo- The Gentle Art of Persuasion

Curtis Smith

There is a disturbing trend with health care and addiction services; those we serve seem more willing to be verbally and sometimes physically abusive. Verbal Judo is a nationally recognized program that teaches proven techniques to de-escalate tension, fear and anger from those we serve. The goal is to generate voluntary compliance from people at their worst. Verbal Judo is based on 5 universal truths . . . the first: All people want to be treated with dignity and respect. Verbal Judo originally developed for police has many benefits for all, as the goals of the course reveal: Employee Safety, Enhance Professionalism, Decrease Liability, Decrease Complaints, Lessen Stress, Increase Morale, and Improve Outcomes. Verbal Judo can help staff and volunteers successfully deal with resistant clients with de-escalation and persuasion.



TUESDAY AM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS (9:30am-12:30pm) Sessions– C

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.

Using Humor as a Healing Tool

Mark Lundholm

Attendees will receive a gently aggressive overview of the power and potency of humor, laughter, relief and release when it comes to opioid addiction. Attendees will revel in the ability to use humor to raise trust and truth and lower the shame and defense mechanisms of addicted individuals. Attendees will also be challenged with the task of “doing our own work” to stay current and relevant as the healthy, energetic, passionate presenter!

Building Communities of Recovery: Creating Cultures of Recovery, Formation of a Peer Workforce and Development of Recovery Community Organizations in Georgia

Emily Ribblett & Brian Kite

This workshop will ensure the participants understanding of how the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse’s mission has helped form and develop both the peer workforce and recovery community organizations throughout Georgia. The value of Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialists (CARES) has brought to the state can be seen in a multitude of areas today including: RCOs, CSBs, Accountability Courts, Treatment Programs, and Recovery Residences. This workshop is designed to inform, educate and inspire participants by bringing awareness to the value of creating cultures of recovery, peer support and local recovery communities.

High in Plain Sight: Current Alcohol, Drug and Concealment Trends and Identifiers

Jermaine Galloway

In this workshop Officer Galloway will cover drug trends, legal drugs to avoid detection/drug tests, alcohol/drug clothing, alcoholic energy drinks and alcopops, non-traditional alcoholic beverages, synthetic drugs, opioid trends, popular party drugs, e-cigarettes / vape pens, inhalants, concentrates, OTC drugs, drug concealment, drug paraphernalia, drug-related music, new alcohol/drug-related technology, youth party tendencies, social networking sites, new popular drug concealment methods, marijuana wax and oils, and online drug products. This session will feature more than 120 visual aids. (This workshop will be repeated on Tuesday afternoon).

You Deserve a Promotion! The Importance of Mental Health Promotion for Your Clients and YOU

Jill Mays & Nykia Greene-Young

What does Mental Health Promotion look like in a community, in the workplace, or in your life? According to the World Health Organization (WHO), Mental Health Promotion includes actions to create living conditions and environments that support mental health and allow people to adopt and maintain healthy lifestyles, giving them a greater chance of better mental health and in turn overall health! The WHO further defines Mental Health Promotion as a way to create environmental change that helps to respect and protect basic civil, political, socio-economic and cultural rights. The prevention of mental illness encompasses the reduction of incidence, prevalence, and recurrence of illness and the development of resilience and other protective factors. In this workshop you will learn about mental health promotion and its importance as a public health environmental strategy, a substance abuse prevention and treatment tool, and as a self-care gift to help you live your best life. This interactive workshop will give participants an opportunity to practice skills that you can use to immediately begin promoting your own well-being.

TUESDAY AM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (9:30am-12:30pm) Sessions– C

Generation Z Unfiltered: Facing the Hidden Realities in the Most Anxious Population

Andrew McPeak

Just who are today's teens and young adults anyway? While you can readily find data on this population of young people who grew up in the 21st century, it's hard to know how to transform that data into practical action steps that are helpful and easy to implement with today's youth. This is a problem. By examining the latest research, and uncovering some of their greatest challenges, the presenter will provide practical steps on how you can lead today's youngest population into healthy, productive lives.

TUESDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS (2:00pm-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.

Those Left Behind: The Affect of Addiction on Children of Substance Abusers

Sandy Queen

When we view the statistics of the number of children in the US who are exposed to alcohol/ drug abuse and dependence in the family environment, as well as the incredible number of those children who eventually enter treatment for their own dependence on drugs and alcohol, it makes us wonder why we have not done more, as a community, as a culture, to address the issues, attitudes and initiatives necessary to help these individuals navigate their lives. This session looks at the characteristics of children of substance abusers – physically, mentally, emotionally, socially, and how these characteristics can follow the individual through his or her life. We will look at how shame, hurt and family secrets play a role in the health and recovery of these individuals. along with their struggle throughout a lifetime for intimacy and normalcy. We will also look at how we can identify and hopefully intervene and counteract the effects of family dependency on the lives of those who have been subjected to this issue.

The Self in Shame: Healing the Wounds of Substance Use Disorders

Merrill Norton

We all feel shame. For some, shame can have a detrimental impact on the sense of self, interfering with healthy mental and emotional function. Hear from a leading expert on the many types of shame, strategies to prevent unhealthy shame cycles during recovery, and ways in which behavioral health practitioners can apply knowledge about unhealthy and healthy shame when assisting patients with their recovery. At the completion of this knowledge-based activity, participants will be able to distinguish among the following terms: healthy shame, unhealthy shame, guilt, and stigma, summarize how feelings related to shame can impact the treatment of substance use disorders and the recovery process, and describe how behavioral health practitioners can use the principles of healthy and unhealthy shame in assisting patients who are in recovery or struggling with the disease of substance use disorders.

High in Plain Sight: Current Alcohol, Drug and Concealment Trends and Identifiers (repeat)

Jermaine Galloway

In this workshop Officer Galloway will cover drug trends, legal drugs to avoid detection/drug tests, alcohol/drug clothing, alcoholic energy drinks and alcopops, non-traditional alcoholic beverages, synthetic drugs, opioid trends, popular party drugs, e-cigarettes / vape pens, inhalants, concentrates, OTC drugs, drug concealment, drug paraphernalia, drug-related music, new alcohol/drug-related technology, youth party tendencies, social networking sites, new popular drug concealment methods, marijuana wax and oils, and online drug products. This session will feature more than 120 visual aids. (This workshop is a repeat of Tuesday morning).



TUESDAY PM 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS continued (2:00pm-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.

Social & Emotional Learning Among Youth

Andrew McPeak

Self-awareness, impulse control, empathy, teamwork, and responsible decision-making are just some of the social emotional skills that help youth succeed in and out of school. Unfortunately, many youth aren't developing them. Stress, anxiety, and other challenges are now a norm for many of the youth today. Due to these challenges, youth are now overwhelmed and experiencing conflict with peers due to their inability to manage their emotions. This session collates years of research to give you a practical guide on how to instill the social and emotional skills youth need to make better decisions. Join us and discover a practical, research-based way to approach social and emotional learning and leverage it to improve your work with the emerging generation.

Using a Targeted Media Campaign to Prevent Opioid Misuse

Katherine Cooper & Grace Doeblen

Media is an important tool when addressing substance misuse. During this workshop we will be discussing how the State Opioid Response has been able to utilize media to raise awareness of the opioid epidemic and to educate Georgians on how to prevent opioid misuse. We will also discuss how we have been able to respond to overdose hotspots in real time. We will discuss the planning process to develop the State Opioid Response Prevention Campaign, the different media avenues that were utilized in the implementation of the campaign and the outcomes. We will also provide information on how to develop your own media campaign including: (1) the steps to develop a media campaign, (2) best practices using media, and (3) how to evaluate a media campaign. Various resources to support the planning and development of media campaigns for behavioral health will be provided.

Wednesday, September 1st

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

8:00-9:00am: Morning Plenary

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

The Lion King Revisited: A Look at our Personal Journey in our Circle of Life

Sandy Queen

When we look at the *Lion King* we see more than the story of a young lion dealing with the struggles in his life as he deals misplaced guilt for issues he had nothing to do with. We can also see our own story and how what has happened to us continues to show up in our lives if we do not take the time to gain the insight and clarity that can potentially free us from the “scars” that have been plaguing us. This session offers participants a way to look at life journeys in a creative and heartfelt way, as we view *The Lion King* as a metaphor for the lives of those who have dealt with difficult experiences, dependencies or abuse. It also provides participants with a powerful tool to take back with them to use with their clients.

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

Ethical Decision Making in the 21st Century

Diane Diver

The behavioral health field has become more complex over the years. Technology has evolved due to the growing use of computers, smart phones, tablets, email, texting, and social media, impacting the numerous ways to communicate with families, individuals, and organizations. These dynamics can create complicated situations to navigate within the profession. This open discussion and training will define for you the why professionals need a Code of Ethics, approaches to Ethical Decision Making, and compare the NASW, NAADAC, and ACA Code of Ethics. Key standards will include: practitioner competence, client privacy and confidentiality, informed consent, conflicts of interest, telemental health, boundaries and dual relationships, and documentation.

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.

Relationship: It's What it's All About

Dawn Allred

Our country has been divided by fear, hate, and distrust as well as having so much isolation and uncertainty. This is 'The Time' for us to get back to the core principles of helping others – It's all about the Relationship. We all want the same thing, to help people suffering from addiction to find THEIR way to recovery. Creating meaningful, therapeutic relationships based on common ground, mutual respect, dignity, and autonomy we can empower our clients as they move forward on their recovery journey. Remembering that relationships are a 2 way street, counselor self care will be at the forefront of this interactive presentation.

What are Gas Station Drugs, Their Dangerous Impacts, and Recovery Mechanisms from their Devastating Effects

Merrill Norton

"Gas Station Drugs" are prescription and non-prescription drugs of abuse commonly sold at gas stations, convenience stores, or on the Internet. Most are sold without regulations regarding their production or distribution. This presentation will consist of a three (one hour) part series that will discuss the current list of various herbal and pharmaceutical products known as "gas station drugs" and their pharmacological profiles to include their dangerous adverse drug effects. The workshop will examine the herbal drug Phenibut -the pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and adverse drug effects with a case study. Participants will also review the pharmaceutical medication, Tianeptine and its pharmacological profile and will exam Kratom, Ketamine, sexual enhancement products, and Imodium.

Let's Talk About Vaping: SAFER Does Not Mean SAFE

Lewis Ponzo, Timberlyn Roby, Barbara Dorman, Marissa Dancy & Latessa Pearson

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, alcohol, etc.). With the rise of state and national media coverage of vaping related incidences, vaping has become a major public health concern. This workshop will give an overview of vaping and tobacco prevention efforts across the state of Georgia. Workshop participants will view a presentation on updated vaping data and related trends to better understand vaping and its health-related concerns. Participants will also gain a better understanding of current practices to address vaping amongst youth and young adults; and, will receive training on a brief evidence-based tobacco prevention strategy.



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

Building a Local Policy Campaign: 10 Steps for Change

Kristin Kidd

For many who work in the field of prevention, an environmental strategy such as policy change can be foreign and intimidating. The goal of this workshop is to dispel the mystery of policy and demonstrate how a campaign could play in a local community. The first part of the interactive workshop will focus on the ‘behind the scenes,’ internal steps of a policy campaign. The second half will explore how the campaign moves into the public eye while describing media advocacy, organizing and more. With hands-on activities and small group work, together we will build a make-believe local policy campaign using tools and templates. The training will encourage attendees to think more broadly about the benefits of changing the social context and the opportunities that policy can provide to communities working to impact alcohol, tobacco and other drug (or ATOD) issues.

Youth, Social Media, and Relationships

Tania Appling & Debaja Coleman

Youth today have become obsessed with social media and being connected 24 hours. They are making videos, postings comments, pictures and socializing through this technology platform at an increasing rate daily. However, the constant impulse to be connected is leading to harmful outcomes for some youth. This addiction is causing youth the inability to build effective relationship with peers or adults. As well as this addiction is leaving youth vulnerable to risky behaviors. Participants will learn how to help youth build positive relationships outside of social media, recognize the signs of technology addiction and how provide treatment.

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.

Issues Clinicians Rarely Speak of - Dealing with Vicarious Traumatization, Compassion Fatigue, and Burnout

Gina Hutto

Clinicians face difficult issues on a daily basis. Dealing with COVID-19 both professionally and personally has compounded these issues. Sometimes the challenges faced are not discussed with anyone and may continue to build and impact the work that is being done with clients. Too often counselors fall in the role of "Do as I say and not as I do." This class will discuss some of the more challenging issues counselors may face: vicarious trauma, compassion fatigue, and burnout and ways to deal with these issues. The class will be conducted in a relaxing environment where counselors can practice self-care and hopefully leave energized and inspired.

Becoming a Prevention Influencer!

Carlton Hall

During this session we will introduce a new concept to prevention to reflect our evolving times. The overall goal of the training is to provide participants the information they can use to become a Prevention Influencer. Participants will learn about and practice skills that will enhance your abilities to engage and influence policy makers, youth and others – on those Issues that are important to you.

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

Community Resiliency Model

Linda Grabbe & Doug Jackson

The Community Resiliency Model (CRM)[®] is a low-intensity intervention which teaches easy-to-learn skills to manage the agitation, anxiety, numbness, sadness, and despair of emotional dysregulation, which can be brought on by stressful personal or professional situations. CRM is trauma-informed and resiliency-focused. CRM provides a biological, non-stigmatizing perspective on normal human reactions to stress and trauma. The primary focus of this stabilization program is to learn to reset the natural balance of the nervous system. Persons in addiction and carceral setting have found CRM useful. CRM skills are useful for self-care and may prevent burnout among frontline personnel. CRM is a valuable resource for individuals coping with chronic stressors such as physical pain, addiction, and grief and loss. A range of persons that suffer the effects of cumulative trauma (e.g., violence, poverty, racism, homophobia) benefit from these tools.

Lethal Means in Suicide Prevention

Rachel Holloman

This workshop will focus on lethal means in suicide prevention including the increase in intentional opioid overdoses in relation to suicide prevention. Research and data will be presented in regards to the most common lethal means in suicide in Georgia and discussion will be around limiting the access of lethal means to individuals in a suicidal crisis. Evidence shows that putting time and distance between lethal means and a person at risk of suicide can decrease suicide deaths. In addition, the relationship between the pandemic and its effects on limiting lethal means and suicide prevention will be discussed. In this workshop, participants will explore the different lethal means (including intentional opioid overdoses), how to start the conversation in regards to limiting an individual's access to lethal means, how to develop a safety plan and treatment plan in regards to suicidal ideations and access to lethal means, and various resources that are available to individuals at risk for suicide.

Building Resilience: An Applied Approach

Anna Blount

Using the groundbreaking work of the Harvard Center for the Developing Child and the work of trailblazers like Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, this workshop examines the resilience of the human body, brain, and biology in response to trauma. Participants will gain a deep understanding of resilience science and how to apply this science in their professional and personal relationships. Participants will then explore concrete strategies to harness the power of resilience in their interactions with clients, including how to create trauma-informed spaces, how to foster safety and mutuality, build meaningful relationships in a trauma-informed way, and understand the long-term physiological and psychological effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on the body and brain.



Thursday, September 2nd**8:00-9:00am: Closing Plenary****THURSDAY 3 HOUR WORKSHOPS (9:30am-12:30am) Sessions– G****Cultural Humility****Erin Mitchell**

In this highly interactive and introspective 3-hour workshop, participants will develop a clear understanding of cultural humility and its role in the helping process. Participants will be challenged to explore their personal worldview and biases as well as the impact of these on the therapeutic relationship. Participants should come prepared to actively participate in group and individual activities. Participants should be willing to develop through self-examination and thoughtful consideration of past experiences.

Self-Care is the Key to Living a Peaceful, Joyful and Purposeful Life**Zenobia Bass**

Self-Care is the key to living a peaceful, joyful and purposeful life. This workshop will help you prepare for the future by learning from your past. Self-Care is not selfishness. Self-Care is about focusing on you first and identifying what you need to be successful in 5-7 key areas of your life: physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, financial, intellectual and social. Self-Care is an individual journey that impacts every aspect of your life and it only requires an adaptable plan and commitment. I will share my personal Self-Care journey and the extensive research I used to develop the various methods and tools I use to maintain my Self-Care commitment. Yes, you will draft a plan during this workshop created by you to work for you. John Lennon stated it this way, "Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans." My responses to life happening to me created stressed induced medical issues - both physical and mental. It's time to stop being reactive to life and start being proactive to life - Let's build your resilience. This workshop will support your efforts to win in every area of your life. Participants will leave this session with applicable tools to apply to their daily lives and begin their Self-Care journey immediately.

Starved for Love: Growing up in an Eating Disordered Home**Jim Seckman**

Growing up in a home in which a parent has an eating disorder presents a unique set of challenges for the children. Along with the day-to-day struggles and secrecy of the disease, there are far-reaching implications for mental and emotional health that are not always easy to recognize. Utilizing a mixture of experience, therapeutic issues and approaches, and symbolic mythology as seen through common fairy tales, this workshop will address issues that arise from the experience as well as suggestions for helping clients work through their concerns.

Advanced Clinical Supervision "Challenges in Developing Competent Clinicians"**Karen Kelly**

This course provides the framework for continued effective clinical supervision and ensures that counselors are competently prepared to service clients. Clinical supervision has emerged as the foundation in which supervisors acquire knowledge and skills for managing counselors entering the counseling profession, by providing a bridge between the classroom and the work setting. Clinical supervision is necessary for the improvement of client care. Continued development of supervisory skills through training and clinical practice, is ensured by maintaining ethical standards of practice and has become the cornerstone of quality improvement and assurance.

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

Changing The Conversation: The Role of Transformational Prevention Leadership, Treatment and Recovery in A Time of National Crisis

Carlton Hall

Our nation's youth have never been more threatened than they are today. During this time of unprecedented change and challenge, emerging crisis, and evolving norms, the vulnerability of young brains are at greater risk to become involved in behaviors like substance misuse. A new, transformative approach by prevention leaders is required. The presenter will reframe perceived "gaps in the national conversation" as opportunities to change the conversation and offer "strategies" as critical skills required to specifically impact population-level reductions in inter-related behavioral concerns like, substance misuse and abuse. Discussion will cover the tools and resources, including CHC's trademarked training system, L.E.A.D. to address the Rx/heroin/synthetic opioid drug issue with scale and scope in diverse communities.

Building Meaningful Relationships with the Youth We Serve

Mary Kate Chapman

In order to build sustainable programs, it's imperative that we learn the importance of and how to build long-lasting relationships with the youth who enter our doors each day. Through discussion and activity, this workshop will provide participants with resources and tools to engage them in a way that is meaningful and builds rapport. Learn how to make connections that will change the culture of your program for the better.

An Inter-Agency Response to Addressing the Opioid Epidemic

Brian Le

Like most of the country, Georgia has experienced an unprecedented rise in use and deaths related to opioids and synthetic opioids over the last 5 years. Around two to three Georgians succumb to an opioid-involved overdose each day. Most recently during the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a substantial increase in drug overdoses, particularly Fentanyl-related overdose deaths. Emergency department visits for suspected opioid-involved overdoses has also risen throughout 2020. Leveraging federal grant funding, the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) and the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) are improving local public health approaches for addressing the crisis which includes, but is not limited to, supporting community interventions, training and partnering with law enforcement and other first responders, providing naloxone, implementing awareness campaigns, and enhancing linkages to care. Participants will walk away with a strong understanding of opioid use and overdose in Georgia, state initiatives, and steps individuals and organizations can take to prevent and respond to opioid misuse and overdose.



Speaker Bios

Mindy Ackerman is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker currently employed with the Department of Juvenile Justice as the Sexually Harmful Behavior Treatment Services Administrator. She provides oversight and clinical supervision for the treatment program at 7 YDC's across the state of Georgia. She also serves as a clinical consultant and agency expert for youth in residential placements and in the community. Mindy Ackerman has 23 years of experience with this specialized population. She has practiced in residential, community and correctional settings with both adult and adolescent sex offenders. Her experience includes performing Psychosexual Evaluations and Risk Assessments on adult and adolescent sex offenders, as well as significant experience with group, individual and family therapy. She has consulted and worked with national experts in the field on risk assessments and specific policies for this specialized population.

Dawn Allred, LPC, MAC has 30 years of experience in community mental health specializing in complex issues such as severe co-occurring disorders, crisis intervention, homelessness, and legal issues. Dawn is the owner of Sunrise Consulting, specializing in behavioral health program consultation, development, and professional trainings. She served 2 years as the Ethics Chairperson for the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Certification Board of Georgia. Dawn also is a behavioral health program surveyor with CARF. She is dedicated to bringing a holistic approach to services, understanding there are many pathways to recovery.

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 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. She was recently accepted as member into the National Society of Leadership and Success.

Jerald Armstrong currently works as the regional sex offender treatment coordinator responsible for the treatment of juvenile sex offenders at the 7 long-term juvenile facilities around the state of Georgia. Jerald also serves on the sexually harmful behavior review panel responsible for coordinating the transition of youth from secure facilities to community-based supervision. Prior to coming to DJJ Jerald spent 3 years as a substance abuse counselor for the RSAT program at Coastal State Prison (DOC) in Savannah GA. Jerald has over 18 years experiences working in secure facilities and other residential placements.

Dr. Zenobia Bass has been motivating, inspiring, educating, and counseling individuals and groups for more than 20 years; providing her services abroad and domestically, with 10 years' experience specifically dedicated to providing alcohol and drug abuse/dependence counseling and education. Her clients include non-profit and faith-based organizations, universities, foundations, financial institutions, corporations, and infinity groups. Conference attendees repeatedly share that they love her energy, humor and how she speaks as if she is speaking directly to them. Dr. Bass is a Self-

Care Coach and Certified Addiction Counselor Level II. She earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Christian Counseling, Cornerstone University and is a Licensed Clinical Pastoral Counselor. She is a member of National Christian Counselor Association. She served as president of Toastmasters United and adjunct professor at Georgia State University. Dr. Zenobia Bass is married to Dr. James W. Bass. They are the proud parents of four children, four grandchildren and one great grandson. She enjoys spending time with her family, putting together puzzles, bowling and fishing. Dr. Zenobia Bass's life message: "Embrace Your Greatness!" and "Self-Care is not selfishness".

Anna Blount completed her degree in 2006 from the University of Georgia in Biological Science while volunteering in the city of Monroe, GA with a church ministry. She had planned to attend veterinary school, but during her junior year of college, Anna recognized her own passion for working with youth through church volunteer work. More specifically, Anna had a soft spot for the children who seemed the most vulnerable and in need of the most care. She felt called to serve these children and recognized that in order to help these children succeed, they would need more than just one person helping them-- they would need a team-- thus Team Up Mentoring began. Since then, Team Up Mentoring has grown to provide 122 clients annually with long-term, case management and mentoring services. Team Up Mentoring, with Anna at the helm, has been practicing holistic, trauma-informed care for the past 14 years.

Jeff Breedlove serves as Chief of Communications and Policy for the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse. Jeff is an Assistant Scout Master for the Boy Scouts of America, and just concluded his service as Vice-President of the Maynard Jackson High School PTA. In 2018 Jeff was awarded the "God Send Award" from the Boy Scouts of America for dedication and service to the Boy Scouts. In the recent past, Jeff Breedlove served as Chief of Staff for DeKalb County Commissioner Nancy Jester. Jeff served as a senior staff member to Congressman Bob Barr in the historic 104th Congress and again in the 105th Congress. Jeff served as the Deputy Director for the Governor's Office of Workforce Development and as a policy analyst for the Georgia State Senate. In 2004, Jeff was selected to serve as a volunteer for the G-8 Summit on Sea Island, Georgia. He has served as a staff vice-chair for The National Conference of State Legislatures on the Transportation Committee and as a member of The Council of State Governments Southern Legislative Conference Committee on Economic Development, Transportation and Cultural Affairs. Jeff also served as the Georgia state director for The American Council of Young Political Leaders and was the former Georgia state director Sister Cities International and a member of the City of Atlanta Sister City Commission. Jeff is married to Kathryn Ballou; they reside in the Grant Park neighborhood in Atlanta. They have a son, Lawrence Foster "Jack" Breedlove, who was born in Gansu, The People's Republic of China. He is a person in long-term recovery with a passion to share his story so others know Recovery is real.

Eve Byrd became director of the Carter Center's Mental Health Program in February 2017. Prior to joining The Carter Center, she was a faculty member of the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University and served as executive director of the Fuqua Center for Late-Life Depression, Department of Psychiatry at the Emory School of Medicine. She has held leadership positions both nationally and locally in work aimed at eliminating stigma and improving access to care for people with behavioral health disorders. She supported the Special Advisor to the Governor on Mental Health, engaging stakeholders in the process that resulted in a settlement agreement between Georgia and the U.S. Department of Justice. Byrd has expertise in building coalitions to improve behavioral health policy. She has been a consultant to the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, the Georgia Division of Aging, the Atlanta Regional Commission, National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, and Georgia State Rep. Pat Gardner. Until she joined The Carter Center, Byrd practiced as a nurse practitioner in geriatric psychiatry, establishing onsite services in affordable housing for older adults and young disabled, as well as practicing in a patient-centered medical home for individuals with dementia. She began her career as a public health nurse in Georgia. Byrd earned a Doctorate of Nursing Practice with a concentration in health systems leadership and implementation science from Emory's School of Nursing, where she also earned a Master of Science in nursing with a concentration in psychiatric/mental health nursing. She earned her Master of Public Health in health policy from Emory's School of Public Health. She earned bachelor's degrees in nursing from Emory and in psychology from Florida State University.



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.

Lucia Caltabiano (they/them) is a non-binary mental health provider and owner of Resilient Wellness, LLC. They graduated with their Bachelor of Psychology in 2012 (GC&SU) and Master of Social Work in 2017 (UGA). They have worked post Masters in substance use, eating disorders, and HIV. Lucia now works in their own private practice which focuses on providing individual, group, and family therapy to a predominantly transgender clientele through DBT-informed interventions.

Neil Campbell, MS is the executive director of the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse, a nonprofit organization dedicated to building and supporting community alliances to reduce the impact of addiction through education, advocacy and training. She is a passionate advocate for recovery, using her own lived recovery experience to reach others who are struggling. Ms. Campbell's current emphasis is to influence public policy through a recovery-positive legislative agenda, to promote recovery-oriented systems of care and to increase the peer recovery workforce. In 2009, she co-founded the Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialist (CARES) Academy that to date has prepared over 400 people in recovery to deliver support services in Georgia's behavioral health system. Additional recovery initiatives include community listening sessions in partnership with the Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network and the annual Addiction Recovery Awareness Day at the capitol. Ms. Campbell has extensive experience working in criminal justice agencies, including law enforcement, adult corrections and juvenile justice. She served as the single state authority for addiction services funding in Georgia. In her current role as a recovery advocate, Ms. Campbell frequently goes to jails and prisons, domestic violence and homeless shelters to carry the message of hope for recovery. Her passion is to ensure voices of lived recovery experience are heard and stories of hope are used as a basis for changing the way addiction is perceived. In 2015, Neil was honored with the 2015 SAMHSA Voice Award for Peer Leadership. The Voice Awards program honors consumer/peer leaders and television and film professionals who educate the public about behavioral health. Through their work and personal stories of resilience, both groups of leaders demonstrate that people with mental and/or substance use disorders can and do recover and lead meaningful lives. Ms. Campbell is dedicated to growing communities that support recovery.

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.

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 an-

nual youth leadership conference, Georgia Teen Institute (GTI). Mary Kate is an Internationally Certified Prevention Specialist through the Prevention Credentialing Consortium of Georgia and regularly trains others in the Core Courses required by PCCG. Mary Kate holds a Master of Art in Liberal Studies (English) from Clayton State University and a Bachelor of Science in Communications (Media Studies) from Kennesaw State University. She has presented at local, state and national conferences and is an active member of the National Society of Leadership and Success.

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.

Katherine Cooper is a State Opioid Response Specialist for the State Opioid Response (SOR) grant awarded to Georgia's Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD). Katherine supports SOR prevention initiatives, including the planning and implementation of numerous programs and activities. She also oversees other statewide substance use prevention projects. Katherine previously served as a Regional Prevention Specialist for Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities in the Office of Behavioral Health Prevention and Federal Grants managing prevention efforts in northern Georgia. She obtained her Master of Public Health from Emory University Rollins School of Public Health with a concentration in Behavioral Science and Health Education. She is also a Certified Health Education Specialist.

Marissa Dancy is the Regional Prevention Specialist for Region 2 in the Office of Behavioral Health Prevention. She was born and raised in Augusta, GA. Her education background is in Public Health. Marissa has received a Bachelor of Science in Health Science from Georgia Southern University and a Master of Public Health from Augusta University. Before joining DBHDD, she worked for DPH for 6 years in Infectious Disease specifically HIV/AIDS prevention. Prevention is her passion and she is excited to continue that journey.

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.

Donna Dent, MS, MISM, ICPS is the Assistant Director, Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Office of Behavioral Health Prevention and Federal Grants. As the Assistant Director of the DBHDD/OBHPFG, Ms. Dent assists the Director in planning and overseeing the office's Substance Abuse Prevention and Federal Grants. The Prevention office provides statewide guidance and services addressing Substance Abuse Prevention, Suicide Prevention, and Mental Health Promotion. This includes assisting with the design, delivery, implementation and evaluation of statewide and targeted community-based prevention strategies (programs, policies, practices). We utilize



a Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) to guide our work for these interrelated areas. Prior to this position, Ms. Dent served as the SPF Coordinator for DBHDD/OBHPFG. She's served as the Southeast Resource Team Associate Director for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Center for the Application of Prevention Technology (CAPT), worked as a Senior Research Protocol Analyst & Team Lead for Emory University's Institutional Review Board, and worked as a Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) State Project Coordinator for Department of Human Resources, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Addictive Diseases. 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). Ms. Dent's work experience includes the fields of Alcohol & Drug Prevention and Treatment, Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Family Planning, HIV/AIDS Prevention and Screening, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, Sickle Cell Disease, and Behavior Regulation and Behavior Change Theory. She has worked in research, counseling, and applied psychology.

Diane Diver, MBA, CAC II, MAC, SAP, 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.

Jody Dodson, CARES, CPS, MATS works for the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse as the Recovery Coach Team Lead on the CARES Warm Line. When Jody is not at work or studying, he enjoys volunteering with various recovery community organizations and institutions. Jody is a huge advocate and champion for multiple pathways of recovery and self-directed care. He attends and facilitates meetings and groups for a multitude of recovery pathways including 12-step, Recovery Dharma, Compassionate Recovery and Y12SR (Yoga of 12 Step Recovery). Jody is excited to be part of a team that is building the first Collegiate Recovery Program for Georgia State University. He obtained his Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialist (CARES) training and became a Certified Peer Specialist in Addictive Disease in April of 2017. He then obtained his certification for Peer Specialist in Mental Health the following October, 2018. He has been trained as a Level One facilitator of Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP), is certified to provide support as a Whole Health Action Management (WHAM) facilitator and trainer, Medication Assisted Treatment Specialist (MATS) and Applied Suicide Intervention (ASIST).

Grace Doeblar is a graduate student at Emory University Rollins School of Public Health with a concentration in Behavioral Social Health and Education Sciences. She is currently participating in an internship at Georgia's Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities on the State Opioid Response Project. She assists with the development and implementation of educational materials, programming, and research. Grace received a bachelor's degree in neuroscience from Christopher Newport University in Virginia.

Barbara Dorman is the SYNAR & Special Projects Coordinator within the Office of Behavioral Health Prevention & Federal Grants. Barbara is a trusted advisor, substance abuse prevention advocate and native of Philadelphia where she obtained her undergrad degree. Barbara came to DBHDD with over 20+ years of experience in the allied health and insurance industries. A vital part of Barbara's role at DBHDD focuses on educating schools, the workforce, and communities alike on the dangers of underage tobacco use & substance abuse prevention. Barbara's training toolbox includes Strategic Prevention Framework logic model, coalition building, state drug free workplace programs, drug and alcohol basics for communities and employers and QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) among many others. Barbara's diverse background and passion for prevention affords her a unique perspective to share with others.

Jermaine Galloway (Tall Cop) - Standing at 6'9", Jermaine Galloway can look intimidating. But in fact, he's a devoted, passionate man who cares about America's (and beyond) youth and communities. That passion informs what he does with Tall Cop Says Stop™. Now a Texan by choice, Officer Galloway worked in Idaho law enforcement for over 18 years. Jermaine devotes most of his time educating professionals and communities on drug & alcohol prevention and enforcement. To date, he has trained more than 650,000 people nationwide and internationally. He has also conducted more than 8400 community scans at a variety of locations. With the help of his wife, Officer Galloway created the Northwest Alcohol Conference. This nationally recognized program provides training and enforcement strategies for community alcohol problems. Officer Galloway has created several other community-based drug/alcohol prevention programs, as well. Jermaine Galloway has published articles in American Police Beat Magazine and various newspapers. In 2015, his program You Can't Stop What You Don't Know™ was highlighted in the book Clearing the Haze by Dr. Christian Thurstone and Christine Tatum.

Dr. Linda Grabbe is a board-certified Family and Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Assistant Professor at Emory University School of Nursing. Her clinical expertise is in primary care and mental health care for homeless or incarcerated women and youth, providing Community Resilience Model (CRM) training in group settings. Her interests include public mental health, trauma-informed care, the neurobiology of trauma and resilience, social justice, and social determinants of mental health. Dr. Grabbe is a healthcare provider with Community Advanced Practice Nurses, a small non-profit organization that operates a network of clinics in Atlanta homeless shelters for women, children, and youth. Dr. Grabbe's published work includes The Trauma Resiliency Model: A "Bottom-Up" Intervention for Trauma Psychotherapy and research on the impact of a brief Community Resiliency Model training on the wellbeing of women in substance abuse treatment, as well as on wellbeing, resiliency, burnout, and effects of secondary traumatic stress in nurses, first responders, emergency department staff, and nursing students.

Nykia Greene-Young is the Substance Abuse Prevention and Mental Health Promotion Director in the Office of Behavioral Health Prevention & Federal Grants (OBHPFG) at the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD). 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 a PhD Candidate at Clark Atlanta University in the Political Science Department. In her spare time, enjoys living life to the fullest, her book club and spending time with her circle of family and friends.

Carlton Hall is the President and CEO of Carlton Hall Consulting LLC (CHC), a multi-faceted, full-service consulting firm designed to provide customized solutions and enable measurable change for communities, organizations, families and individuals. Carlton Hall has been providing intensive substance abuse prevention focused and community problem solving services to the nation for the last 25 years. His responsibilities, unique set of skills and experience have made him one of the most highly sought after instructors and guides for community problem solving in every state and territory in the nation as well as internationally, with successful achievements in South Africa, Ghana, Bermuda, Kenya and others. Carlton spent twelve years with the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) serving in several leadership positions and including most recently, Acting Vice President, Training Operations, and Acting Director for CADCA's National Coalition Institute. In this role, Carlton provided critical leadership supporting the successful design, and delivery of the community outreach component of the Drug Enforcement Administration's DEA 360 Strategy in priority cities across the country. Carlton is one of the primary architects of CADCA's National Coalition Academy. The Academy, a year-long coalition development program, is designed to increase the effectiveness of communities in drug demand reduction producing population level outcomes.



Tom Harris, M.S., has been working with adolescents and families in distress since 1978. Beginning in 1996 he developed a Therapeutic Drumming program based on traditional West African drumming, to be used at a residential treatment center with children and youth with significant mental health and behavioral challenges. Performing groups from his program have performed at Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, and for Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter at the Carter Center. He has developed a 12 month certification training for Therapeutic Drumming which he offers at the Joseph M. Brown Therapeutic Drumming Center in Douglasville, Georgia.

Rachael Holloman currently works for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities as the Suicide Prevention Director and previously worked for DBHDD as the Transition Coordinator for Residential Services in the Region 4 Field Office in Thomasville, Georgia, since 2016. She has a Master's Degree in Clinical/Counseling Psychology and is a Licensed Professional Counselor. She has been providing services in the field of Behavioral Health for almost 15 years. Some of her past experience includes supervising a Community Support Team in rural communities, providing leadership as the Mental Health Director of a DJJ Regional Youth Detention Center (RYDC), supervising an Intensive Family Intervention (IFI) team, as well as providing services in a private capacity for individuals involved with DJJ and DFCS, and assisting rural farmers in understanding, applying for, and receiving much needed grant funding following natural disasters. Rachael has spent her entire life both living and working in rural communities in Georgia, especially South Georgia. Rural mental health services and suicide prevention services are passions of hers.

Gina Hutto, LPC, MAC, CCDP-D, CCJP, ICGC-I, BC-TMH, is the current Director of Court Services (DUI, Drug & Family Treatment Courts) 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 treatment components of the Accountability Courts (DUI, Drug, & Family Treatment Courts) in Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale counties. 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.

Monaletto C. Irby has spent nearly 24 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 14 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 where he continues to serve. Irby supervises a team of 9 Instructors and has oversight of 11 facilities and their training schedule. Irby also serves on the agency's policy committee and the Office of Professional Development Advisory Team. Irby recently earned his Master Training Instructor Certification through the Georgia Peace Officer Standard and Training (P.O.S.T.) Irby also made good on a vision and started his own business in May of 2020. Motivated Intervention Solutions, LLC. Focused on Leadership and Staff Development Training. 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 a member of Georgia Juvenile Services Association. Irby currently serves as Georgia State Director for Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. He is married to his beautiful wife Charlisha Irby and has one daughter, Kaelyn.

Dr. Doug Jackson is currently the Clinical Program Manager for the Georgia Dept. of Juvenile Justice. During his twenty-eight years of social work, Dr. Jackson has conducted social science research, evaluation of practice, quality assurance and written grants. Dr. Jackson facilitated the introduction of Trauma Informed Yoga into DJJ facilities and facilitates DJJ involvement in Dr. Ashli Owen-Smith's NIH funded Trauma Informed , Mindfulness-Based Yoga (TIMBY) evaluation. Dr. Jackson is a certified trainer in the Community Resiliency Model® (CRM) and has participated in CRM trainings across Georgia. Dr. Jackson received his bachelor's degree at Northwestern University and his masters and doctorate at the University of Georgia. His dissertation examined factors that predict which juveniles will become involved in episodes of self-harm and/or fights. Dr. Jackson is married to Laura Leiden and has two grown children.

Dr. Karen Kelly has over 40 years of experience working in a variety of Human Service Organizations. Dr. Kelly's has held a variety of different positions and has worked in a variety of clinical settings. She is a past President of the state association's, Georgia Addiction Counselor Association. The organization is responsible for the certification of addiction counselors in the state of Ga. She is co-founder, and a past president of S.A.S.S.Y, a non-profit organization that support the special needs population. In addition, she is the founding president of Circle of Recovery, Inc. She has served as the past Project Director at the Morehouse School of Medicine, Cork Institute, Southeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center, in Atlanta, GA. In addition to her experience in mental health, substance abuse, criminal justice settings, and EAP treatment settings, Dr. Kelly's provided consultation, management, and oversight to other Substance Abuse and Managed Mental Health Care services and has taught at several major universities. Dr. Kelly currently holds multiple certifications.

Kristin Kidd, MA, serves as the Coordinator of the SAMHSA-funded Southeast Prevention Technology Transfer Center (PTTC) at Wake Forest School of Medicine. With a focus on health equity, workforce development and policy, the Southeast PTTC provides free training and technical assistance to the substance misuse prevention field in the south-east (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, and TN). Kristin is also the Director of the North Carolina Behavioral Health Equity Initiative which partners with 8 grantees working to impact a local health disparity issue. Kristin was formerly the Director of the Tobacco Control Training and Technical Assistant Team at the Colorado School of Public Health. There her team provided state-wide advocacy and policy guidance to local health agencies working to eliminate tobacco disparities. Kristin partnered with multiple Colorado communities to successfully pass local tobacco control policies such as retailer licensing and expanded smoke-free/vape-free protections. In her limited free time, Kristin enjoys mountain biking, trail running and gardening.

CAPT Michael King, Ph.D., M.S.W is a social worker and epidemiologist who has served at the intersection of behavioral and public health for over 15 years. Prior to joining SAMHSA in 2019, he supported State and Federal public health capacity at the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as an instructor and Field Supervisor for post-doctoral fellows enrolled in the Epidemic Intelligence Service. CAPT King previously served for over 10 years on the National Asthma Surveillance Team in the National Center for Environmental Health where his interests focused on chronic disease surveillance, environmental exposure and hazard assessment, and disaster mental health. As a Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, CAPT King deploys routinely following disasters and has had the privilege to lead one of five national Mental Health Response teams (Team 5) that provide crisis counseling and technical assistance to medically-underserved populations, with a focus on emergency public health response.

Brian Kite is the Project Coordinator for Recovery Community Organization Development at the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse (GCSA). He is a Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialist (CARES) CPS-AD (Certified Peer Specialist - Addictive Diseases) and has been trained in IPS (Intentional Peer Support), MATS (Medicated Assisted Treatment Specialist), and as a WHAM (Whole Health Action Management) facilitator. Brian continues to develop professionally through various training and leadership opportunities, as well as pursuing higher education through Bard College. In his role at GCSA, Brian has helped numerous communities around the state organize focused conversations



around recovery and plan for and host local recovery symposiums to create Recovery Community Organizations. He provides technical assistance and coordinates continued training opportunities for the existing RCO Network, and facilitates a monthly learning collaborative for all 30 organizations within the network. Most importantly, Brian is a person in long-term recovery. He is a father and able to be present in his family's life. He keeps his family and faith first to enable him to better serve the community.

Brian Khang Le, is Senior Coordinator for the State Opioid Response (SOR) grant awarded to Georgia's Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD). Brian oversees numerous statewide prevention initiatives, including partnering with municipalities, county agencies, and state entities across Georgia. Brian also served as the Region 1 Prevention Specialist within DBHDD's Office of Behavioral Health Prevention and Federal Grants, overseeing the 31 northern counties. Brian also oversees the Prevention Clubhouses, which provide prevention services and activities for youth ages 11-17. Before coming DBHDD, he was the Alcohol Prevention Program Coordinator for the Center for Pan Asian Community Services. Collectively, Brian has been in Prevention for over 13 years, and has worked in International Tobacco Control and Research at the American Cancer Society (focusing on tobacco prevention in Sub-Saharan Africa under Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation funding), and Patient Quality Improvement in Grady Health's Marcus Stroke & Neuroscience ICU. He has a background in Exercise Physiology, Genetics and Biochemistry at UCLA, where he graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Biochemistry. He also holds a MPH in Health Policy and Management, with a focus on Health Policy, from Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University.

Mark Lundholm - From the mean streets of Oakland, California, to stages, theaters, prisons, arenas all over the world...former convict and recovering homeless drug addict Mark Lundholm has entertained, U.S. Presidents, CEO's, inmates, families, students, inpatients, physicians and healers of all kinds all over the world. In 10 foreign countries and all 50 states, Mark's very unique style of heart, hope and healing is the core message of every keynote, comedy show and corporate workshop he delivers. Lightning fast and straight to the point of it all, no one does what he does the way he does it. Creator of the Clinical/Comical Process Group Day for treatment centers, Mark works with primary clients, families, IOP patients and adolescent populations. Issues and answers addressing shame reduction, relapse prevention, 12 step tools, co-occurring disorders, shortcuts to reintegration and to lowering ATA rates and improving client extensions and referrals are only a few of the topics tackled during a 6 hour day of original programming. Credits include: Showtime, Netflix, ABC, Disney, CBS, A&E, NBC and Fox Network and every social media outlet in existence.

Jill D. Mays is a Licensed Professional Counselor with over 30 years of experience in the behavioral health field. Her passion for helping others has led her to dedicate most of her career to developing and operating successful clinical and support service programs in Atlanta and across the country. Mrs. Mays is currently Director of the Office of Behavioral Health Prevention and Federal Grants at the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), where she provides oversight to substance abuse and suicide prevention, mental health promotion, and cultural & linguistic competency/diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. Formerly, Mrs. Mays was Assistant Director of the Office of Adult Mental Health where she provided programmatic and contract oversight for crisis services, the PATH homeless services program, Behavioral Health Treatment Court Services, the Forensic Peer Mentor Program, veterans and older adults initiatives, and other special projects, including DBHDD's collaboration with the Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC) for the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Program for law enforcement. Mrs. Mays is a sought-after nationwide consultant and trainer in the areas of behavioral health services, criminal justice and behavioral health, homeless outreach and housing services, disaster mental health, and marriage enrichment. Her new coaching group, Godly Wives Looking Up (GöWL Up!), is a monthly source of support, practical skills, and girls-night-out fun for women looking to level up in their marriages. Jill's biography has been featured in Who's Who in America, Who's Who in the South & Southwest, Who's Who among Women, and Who's Who in Medicine & Healthcare. Mrs. Mays was honored in 2002 as a recipient of Atlanta Magazine's "Women Making a Mark" Award and was recently featured in the September 2019 inaugural issue of Huami Atlanta Magazine. Among her varied life roles, her favorites are wife, mother, daughter, sister, and friend.

Andrew McPeak is a millennial researcher, author, and communicator. Developed through more than a decade of work with the next generation, Andrew's insights have helped leaders of all kinds understand how to craft their message in a way that reaches today's student. In his role as Vice President of Content, Andrew works closely with schools, universities and sports teams to implement Habitudes® as a tool to teach life and leadership skills. He is also the co-host of the Leading the Next Generation with Tim Elmore podcast. Most notably Andrew is a co-author alongside Dr. Tim Elmore of two books: *Marching off the Map* (2017) and their latest book *Generation Z Unfiltered*. Utilizing insights gained from the latest research and personal stories of successful leaders across the country, *Generation Z Unfiltered* helps adults understand how to best connect with today's youngest population and how to lead them through the nine greatest challenges they will face in the 21st century.

Erin Mitchell, LPC, NCC, CPCS is an experienced counselor, supervisor, and trainer. She enjoys working as a Professor of Psychology in the Behavioral and Social Sciences Department at Fort Valley State University. She is the owner of EDM Counseling and Professional Development, LLC. She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in psychology. She maintains active memberships with the National Board for Certified Counselors, The American Counselor Association, and the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia.

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 an EMMY winning Clinical Associate Professor Emeritus of the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy with his specialty areas to include psychopharmacology and addiction pharmacy. He was most recently honored by the Georgia Addiction Counselors Association's Board of Directors and Certification Board with being bestowed the first Certified Master Addiction Counselor (CMAC) credential in the state. His book, *Understanding Substance Use Disorders Pharmacology*, has been used to train thousands of mental health professionals nationally and his latest book, and *The Pharmacist's Guide to Opioid Use Disorders* was released in December 2018. Dr. Norton completed his undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy. He accomplished a three 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. 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 areas of specialty in addiction pharmacy are the management of chronic pain in the substance use disordered patient and the neuroscience of substance use disorders. Since his recent retirement from UGA, Dr. Norton's primary focus is to provide the latest scientific information to communities, educators, healthcare professionals, prevention specialists, treatment providers, and especially families, on the disease of substance use disorders.

Latessa Marie Pearson is the Regional Prevention Specialist for Region 4 and the Programmatic Manager for the Prevention Clubhouses. Latessa has degrees in Psychology BA (Tougaloo College '95), Developmental Education Guidance and Counseling MS (Grambling State University '99) and in Humanities Women's Studies DAH (Clark Atlanta University '10). Currently she is a resident of Jonesboro, Ga in the Atlanta Metro, where she resides with her four year old son, Odin. Latessa enjoys reading, writing, learning to play acoustic guitar and hanging out with family.



Lewis Ponzo serves as a Regional Prevention Specialist for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities - Office of Behavioral Health Prevention (DBHDD-OBHP). Mr. Ponzo's current role is to manage the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Project (ASAPP). This will be done by monitoring prevention services and programs (i.e., prevention contracting, contract deliverables, payments, reporting and evaluation) and development of community prevention infrastructure, all designed to reduce risk factors and increase resiliency to alcohol and other drug use and abuse. Specifically, region 2 which spans 7 counties in the eastern region of Georgia. Mr. Ponzo has obtained his undergraduate degree from Northeastern University in the field of Criminal Justice. Mr. Ponzo later went on to attend Argosy University for a Master's in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Prior to joining the DBHDD team Mr. Ponzo has held community and administrative roles working directly with dual diagnosed children, adolescents and adult's throughout Metro Atlanta. Mr. Ponzo is passionate about motivating, inspiring and encouraging others.

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.

Beverly Ragland, BBA, CCS, CACII, CAMS-II, CARES, CPS-MH, CPS-WH is the Program Manager for the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse CARES Warm line. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network. She has worked in the field of Addictions Recovery since 2002. She was certified as a Peer Specialist (CPS-MH) in 2012 a Certified Addition Recovery Empowerment Specialist (CPS-AD) in 2014 and a Whole Health and Wellness Coach in 2014. Beverly retired from the Atlanta Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Center in 2017 where I served as VA National Point of Contact for VA Peer Specialist in Georgia, Alabama, and South Carolina.

Emily Ribblett, Certified Peer Specialist - Addictive Diseases (CPS-AD), went through CARES #24 (Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialist) in 2017. She has a BA in Business Management and Marketing from The University of Pittsburgh. Emily completed the MBA program at Shorter University in December 2019. She is the Project Director of the federal SAMHSA grant - Building Communities of Recovery (BCOR). Six recovery community organizations have been involved in this project over three years. As part of the Recovery Community Development team at GCSA, Emily assists with listening sessions and symposium planning across the state of Georgia. The GCSA RCO development team helps communities come together to have focused conversations about recovery. Emily also facilitates Creating and Sustaining Cultures of Recovery, Recovery Messaging, Recovery Advocacy, and other recovery trainings and workshops. Ms. Ribblett is approaching five years of long term recovery. In December 2019, Emily become a Certified Peer Specialist - Mental Health (CPS-MH). This program is facilitated by the Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network (GMHCN).

Timberlyn Roby is a graduate of Alcorn State University, where she obtained a bachelor's degree in social work. Before joining the DBHDD-OBHFG she was the mPACC (Mississippi Prevention Alliance for Community and Colleges) Prevention Project Coordinator at Warren Yazoo Behavioral Health. Timberlyn work as the project coordinator for four years, while holding this position she also helped completing the Strategic plan for the grant and reached many in her community with radio PSA as well as PSA in the local movie theater. Timberlyn has a passion for helping others and she know that prevention is where it all began.

Tatiana Rolles is currently the Lead Therapeutic West African Drumming Instructor at Youth Villages, a residential treatment facility in Douglasville, GA. Tatiana started in the field of helping at risk youth in 2002 at St. Annes Institute in Albany, NY. Throughout the 10 years of her career at St. Annes, she mentored and taught African Dance with the Student Theatre Outreach Program (S.T.O.P) for the Albany NAACP branch for youth in the community. In 2016, she

took interest in learning the Djembe to expand her West African knowledge. She now provides therapeutic drumming and African Dance to over 120 children and youth every week and is co-instructor for the Therapeutic Drumming Instructors' Training.

Jim Seckman, MAC, CACII, CCS has over 30 years experience in the field of addiction treatment in a variety of clinical settings, including inpatient, outpatient and residential. He is currently the Spiritual Life Director of MARR. He has served as the CEO and Clinical Director of MARR, the Executive Director of Breakthru House, Coordinator for Addiction Services at Emory University Hospital, Clinical Coordinator for SAFE Recovery Systems, 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.

Curtis Smith was first introduced to Verbal Judo in 2001 while working for Oregon State Parks. He attended an Instructor Course by Doc Thompson . . . “it was the most interesting edge-of-your-seat training I had ever had” Curtis recalls. As a result, he helped to incorporate it as the cornerstone of the enforcement program for Oregon Park Rangers. Over the next 17 years, he was lead Verbal Judo and Defensive Tactics Instructor, teaching hundreds of staff, and leading a cadre of park instructors. The program helped keep park officers safe, professional and effective in virtually any situation. Given his unique training style and non-police background, Doc asked Curtis to join the Verbal Judo Institute as an instructor several times before his passing in 2011. “Realizing the great loss, and the gift Doc had given the world, I knew it was time to help carry his legacy” reflects Curtis. In 2015, he began working part-time as an Institute Instructor with Doug Haig. Following his 32-year retirement from parks, Curtis now works full time as the Senior Instructor for the Institute. He specializes in training government agencies, Native American/First Nations, Private Security, EMS, Health Care, Education, Business & Industry. He has trained front-line customer service staff through executives, and customizes classes according to the audience. Curtis provides a fun, interactive, challenging, humorous and thought-provoking experience in every class. Verbal Judo is not “flavor-of-the-month” training, it’s transformational, it can change and improve the culture of an organization.

Thom Snyder has worked in the field of aging since 1986, including Adult Protective Services and non-profit and government social services agencies. He currently serves as an Aging Services Coordinator at the Georgia Division of Aging Services, with responsibilities for community-based Case Management, grant writing, program performance measurements, and is Team Lead for the Caregiver Specialist, Senior Community Service Employment Program Coordinator, and the Evidence-Based Services Program Coordinator. He also serves as the Division liaison for Coordinated Transportation and Behavioral Health services. He holds B.A. from Mercer University, and a Master of Divinity in Pastoral Care and Counseling from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Monica Turner received her Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology from the University of North Florida in 1998 and her Master’s Degree in Counseling Psychology from the University of North Florida in 2001. From 2001 to 2006, she served as a Jacksonville, Florida Drug Court Liaison and Counselor for the Adult, Family, and Juvenile Programs with River Region Human Services. She also provided Court mandated DUI treatment as a Counselor with this organization’s Next Step Program from 2004 to 2010. She later worked with the Florida Prison System as a Mental Health Specialist working with both minimum and maximum security prisoners with addiction and mental health issues. After obtaining her license in Mental Health Counseling in 2010, she returned to her roots of being part of the military community, as an Outreach Team Counselor. She has been employed with Serco Inc. as an Outreach Counselor with the Psychological Health Outreach Program for the last nine years to present. She provides outreach services to include counseling, education, and resources to Navy and Marine Reservists and their family members. She also provides resources and training to the Navy Reserve Community in the United States Southwest Region.



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