

2023 Texas Council Conference

June 21-23, 2023

The Westin Galleria, Houston, TX

Preliminary Agenda

*Information in preliminary agenda subject to change. Updated May 22, 2023.
Continuing Education credit for multiple disciplines will be provided for this event.*

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Registration	7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Consortia/Workgroup Meetings	8:30 a.m. – Noon
Consortia Meetings	
• Behavioral Health	
• Human Resources	
• IDD	
• Medical Services / Nursing Committee	
• QM/UM	
Workgroup Meetings	
• Executive Admins (BL-SIG)	
• Communications Special Interest Group (Comm-SIG)	
• MHFA Workgroup	
Lunch (ON YOUR OWN)	Noon – 1:00 p.m.
Opening Session	1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Welcome and Featured Speaker: Raven Solomon	
Concurrent Sessions	3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Ambulatory Detox and Decades of Lessons Learned	
• <i>Crystal Walker, DMSc, PA-C, Director of Substance Use Disorder Clinical Services, MHMR of Tarrant County</i>	
An In-depth Response to Security at Community Centers	
• <i>Richard Wigzell, MA, Risk Management and Program Analyst, Sedgwick / Texas Council Risk Management Fund</i>	
• <i>Jeremy Wade, Risk Services Manager, Sedgwick / Texas Council Risk Management Fund</i>	
Biopsychosocial Approach for Serving Individuals with Co-occurring IDD and Behavioral Health Needs	
• <i>Amanda Willis, MSW, LCSW-S, Practice Manager – IDD Clinical Services, The Harris Center for MH and IDD</i>	
• <i>Bryan Camphire, Program Manager of IDD Crisis Services, Integral Care</i>	
• <i>David Gunter, Senior Director of START and OBI, MHMR of Tarrant County</i>	

Concurrent Sessions		3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Care Collaboration as a Suicide Prevention Strategy		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Strang, MEd, Mobile Crisis Outreach Team Program Director, The Harris Center for MH and IDD • Elizabeth Kleeman, MSW, LCSW, Department of Veterans Affairs • Sergeant Jose Gomez, Sergeant of Behavioral Health, Harris County Sheriff's Office 		
Employee Engagement 2.0: Sustaining Employee Morale During Challenging Times		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creslyn Foster, ABD, MBA, HRPM, Chief Human Resources Officer, Spindletop Center 		
Legislative Relationship Building		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD 		
Lessons We Learned from Uvalde		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Randy Consford, MA, Director of Special Projects, Hill Country MHDD Centers • Tod Citron, MSW, MPH, Chief Executive Officer, Hill Country MHDD Centers • Landon Sturdivant, MPA, LBSW, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Hill Country MHDD Centers • Lisa Cisneros, MA, LPC-S, Director of Clinical Operations, Hill Country MHDD Centers 		
Peer Support and the Texas Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (T-CCBHC) Model		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noah Abdenour, CPS, Director of Peer Support and Recovery, Texas HHSC • Sarah Melecki, MPA, Director of Integrated Care Strategy, Texas HHSC 		

Evening Events	
Board and Trustees Reception	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Executive Directors Dinner	7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Registration	7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Exhibit Hall Open	7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Poster Sessions	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
ABA Therapy Outside the Box	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tranika Jefferson, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA, Licensed Board Certified Behavior Analyst - Doctoral, The Harris Center for Mental Health & IDD</i> 	
Best Practices for a Jail-based Competency Restoration Pilot Program	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Monica Torres, MS, LPC, Clinical Director, Justice Programs (Adults), The Center for Health Care Services</i> • <i>Edward Benavides, Vice President/Adult Behavioral Health Services, The Center for Health Care Services</i> • <i>Annie Cortez, MS, LPC, Clinical Practitioner Level I (Adult Behavioral Health Specialty), The Center for Health Care Services</i> 	
Bexar County: Answering the Call for Transformational Crisis Response	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Aimee Hicks, PhD, LPC, LCDC, ACS, NCC, MAC, Director of Crisis Response, The Center for Health Care Services</i> • <i>Jason Miller, DO, Medical Director/Crisis Services, The Center for Health Care Services</i> 	
Employee Motivation, Engagement and Recognition	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Daniel Hernandez, SHRMCP, PHR, Risk Services Manager, Texas Council Risk Management Fund</i> 	
Improving Mental Health in School-aged Children through Summer Enrichment Activities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lily Wolff-Knuffke, MA, LPC, Program Manager for School-based Services, Integral Care</i> • <i>Ingrid Perdigon Gomez, LPC, Program Manager for School-based Services, Integral Care</i> • <i>Emily Hammer, MSSW, LCSW, School-based Therapist, Integral Care</i> 	
Multicultural Counseling and Community Education	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Alaina Aaron, MA, LPC, Mental Health Therapist, The Harris Center for Mental Health & IDD</i> 	
Recruiting, Hiring, and Retaining Peer Staff	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Josh Green, RSPS, Program Manager – PeerForce, Form Communities</i> • <i>Amy Pierce, PSS, Recovery Institute Deputy Director, Via Hope</i> 	
The Anatomy of Learning: Creating Effective and Memorable Training for Clinical Staff	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Andrew Ahles, MA, LMFT-S, Clinical Training Manager, Metrocare Services</i> 	
Top 8 Cyber Security Standards for 2023	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lee Cain, Cyber Risk Services Advisor, Texas Council Risk Management Fund</i> 	

General Session	8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
	Frank M. Adams Awards Featured Speaker: Dr. Temple Grandin

General Session	10:30 a.m. – Noon
	State and National Perspectives Panel

Lunch (Exhibit Hall)	Noon – 1:30 p.m.
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Concurrent Sessions		1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Automating Data in the BH Setting: How to Do It and Why		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jason Cannaday, MS, Chief Finance Officer, StarCare Specialty Health System • Lucas Wilson, MBA, Chief Finance Officer, Metrocare Services 		
Breaking Down Barriers to Care		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Felicia Jeffery, MA, LPC, Chief Executive Officer, Gulf Coast Center • Ami Cotharn, MSN, RN, Chief Operations Officer, Coastal Health & Wellness 		
Diversion Center Model: Law Enforcement and LMHA Partnership		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea Hoppock, MA, BCBA, LBA, Assistant Director of Crisis Services, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services • Amanda Coleman, MEd, LPC, Director of Crisis Systems, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services • Jonathan Lemuel, QMHPC-S, Director of Jail Diversion, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services • Rosa Gragan, RN, Assistant Director of Nursing, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services 		
Ethics of Boundaries and Dual Relationships		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Gillette, PhD, Consultant, Bioethical Services of Virginia, Inc. 		
Find Them, Get Them, Keep Them: Getting Staff Hired and Getting Them to Stay		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elizabeth Stasey, MA, LPC-S, LCDC, Clinical Director of Behavioral Health, MHMR of Tarrant County • Bill Hill, MBA, Senior Director of Performance Management, MHMR of Tarrant County 		
Insight into the Texas Political Landscape		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carl Isett, Former State Representative, District 84 • Harvey Kronberg, Editor and Publisher, Quorum Report • Ross Ramsey, Consultant, Co-Founder of Texas Tribune • Moderator: Lee Johnson, CEO, Texas Council of Community Centers 		
Transitions to Adulthood – Please Log In and Enjoy Your Coffee!		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beth Duncan, MS, BCBA, Senior Manager, Texana Center • Katherine Johnson-Patagoc, MS, BCBA, LBA, Program Director, Texana Center 		
Youth Supporting Youth: Innovations in Near-Age Peer Support		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elliott Phillip Niblack, MHPS, RSPS, Chief Equity and Education Officer, The D. Wood Foundation 		

Concurrent Sessions		3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
A Culture of Innovation: Moving Beyond Measuring to Learning		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Molly Lopez, PhD, Research Associate Professor, The University of Texas at Austin • Rene Scherer, PhD, LMFT, Program Director, Team Lead and Therapist, Community Healthcare • Samantha Reznik, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, The University of Texas at Austin • Deborah Cohen, PhD, MSW, Assistant Professor, Dell Medical School and The University of Texas at Austin 		
A Deeper Dive into Military Traumas		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don Hipp, MA, LPC-S, LCCA, Provider Coordinator, Texas Veterans Commission • AB Bustos, MPH, Homeless Veteran Coordinator, Texas Veterans Commission • Jessica Del Rio, LPC, MEd, Veterans Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Texas Veterans Commission 		
Advancing Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in the NTBHA Provider Network		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walter Taylor, PhD, Chief Strategy Officer, North Texas Behavioral Health Authority • Sabrina Conner, Director of External Affairs, North Texas Behavioral Health Authority • Amy Cunningham, Director of Clinical Innovation and Equity, North Texas Behavioral Health Authority 		

Concurrent Sessions		3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Building Your Data Toolbox for Patient Care		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Kirk Broome, PhD, Senior Director of Transformation, MHMR of Tarrant County</i> • <i>Camille Patterson, PhD, Director of Research, MHMR of Tarrant County</i> • <i>Linda Perna, PhD, Senior Evaluation Specialist, MHMR of Tarrant County</i> • <i>Julia Brown, BSN, RN, Nurse Informaticist, MHMR of Tarrant County</i> • <i>Greg Basham, Director of Care Coordination, MHMR of Tarrant County</i> 		
Ethical Issues in Dealing with Dual (and Triple) Diagnoses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Michael Gillette, PhD, Consultant, Bioethical Services of Virginia, Inc.</i> 		
School-based Crisis Intervention Team: Expanding on the CIT Concept and Specializing Crisis Response		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Andres Arvizu, MEd, LPC, LCDC, Assistant Director of Crisis Intervention Teams, Emergence Health Network</i> 		
State Strategies to Support Local Stakeholders at the Intersection of Behavioral Health and Justice		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jennie Simpson, PhD, State Forensic Director, Texas HHSC</i> • <i>Matthew Lovitt, MSW, Senior Policy Advisor, Texas HHSC</i> • <i>Catie Bialick, Senior Advisor, Office of Forensic Coordination, Texas HHSC</i> 		
Trustee Roles and Responsibilities		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pamela Beach, JD, MBA, BSN, General Counsel, Texas Council Risk Management Fund</i> 		
Evening Event		
Center Party		6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Friday, June 23, 2023

Registration	7:30 a.m. – Noon
Staff Continental Breakfast	7:30 – 8:30 a.m.
Concurrent Sessions	8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
988 Meets 911: A Powerful Collaboration	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mark Ware, Senior Director of Crisis Services, MHMR of Tarrant County</i> • <i>Jennifer Battle, MSW, Vice President of Access and Community Engagement, The Harris Center for MH and IDD</i> • <i>Tara Blunk, QMHP, Crisis Call Center Director, Emergence Health Network</i> • <i>Nicole Warren, PhD, LMFT, Helpline and Crisis Line Practice Manager, Integral Care</i> 	
Community Collaboration – Bridging the Mental Health and Criminal Justice Nexus	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Andrea Kovarik, MS, LPC, Mental Health Service Director, Nueces Center for MHID</i> • <i>Mark Hendrix, MS, LPC, Director of Operations, Nueces Center for MHID</i> • <i>Shawn Barnes, Senior Officer & CIT International Certified Crisis Coordinator, Corpus Christi Policy Department</i> 	
Crisis Intervention Services: Addressing Disparity of Mental Health Services for the IDD-MH Population	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jessica Hernandez, MSW, Director of Crisis and Emergency Services, Emergence Health Network</i> • <i>Deborah Alvidrez, MA, CIS Program Manager, Emergence Health Network</i> 	
Improving Healthcare Delivery to Persons Experiencing Homelessness Using a Street Medicine Model	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Amy Chairez, MA, Street Medicine Program Manager, MHMR of Tarrant County</i> • <i>Linda Perna, PhD, Senior Evaluation Specialist, MHMR of Tarrant County</i> 	
Peer and Recovery Services Team: Highlights, Updates, and Goals	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Felicia Mason Edwards, MA, CFP, Workforce Manager, Peer and Recovery Services, Texas HHSC</i> • <i>Noah Abdenour, CPS, Director of Peer Support and Recovery, Texas HHSC</i> • <i>Elizabeth Castañeda, MHPS, LMSW, Manager of Recovery Programs and Services, Texas HHSC</i> • <i>Robert Sepulveda, Program Specialist V, Texas HHSC</i> • <i>Niki Prince, RSPS, PSS, Peer Support & Recovery Coordinator, Texas HHSC</i> • <i>Javier Soto, RSPS, PSS, Program Specialist V, Texas HHSC</i> 	
School-related Violence: A Preventive Medicine Model and Response	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ricardo Irizarry, MD, MMM, LCDR, Psychiatrist and Medical Director, Tropical Texas Behavioral Health</i> • <i>Daniel Gutierrez, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Tropical Texas Behavioral Health</i> • <i>German Corso, MD, MBA, Medical Director of Child and Adolescent Services, Tropical Texas Behavioral Health</i> 	
State Budget and Legislative Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Eva DeLuna Castro, State Budget Analyst, Every Texan</i> • <i>Lee Johnson, CEO, Texas Council of Community Centers</i> • <i>Danette Castle, Senior Advisor, Texas Council of Community Centers</i> 	
Wash, Rinse and Repeat: A Three Step Approach to Effective Leadership	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Brent Lawless, EdD, MA, LPC, Practice Manager, The Harris Center for MH and IDD</i> 	
General Session	10:30 a.m. - Noon
Featured Speaker Ron Culberson and Send-Off	

