

WELCOME TO

*Houston*

2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
TEXAS COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY CENTERS

---



**Texas Council**  
of Community Centers

 **The HARRIS**  
CENTER for  
Mental Health and IDD  
Transforming Lives



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## ***Welcome to the 2023 Texas Council Conference!***

On the heels of the 88th Legislative Session, we gather in Houston, one of the most global cities in the world, to celebrate our 36th Annual Conference.

We look forward to seeing you at the Westin Galleria, where we will spend our days sharing, networking, reconnecting, and of course, stopping to have a little fun along the way.

The conference agenda this year will not disappoint!

We are excited to welcome our featured keynote speakers Raven Solomon, Temple Grandin, and Ron Culberson. We open with keynote speaker, thought leader, and strategist, Raven Solomon, who returns to our stage to share insights on developing a workplace culture that supports our efforts to recruit and retain the best talent across our system of care.

The following day, Temple Grandin, Ph.D., professor of animal science, author, speaker, and autism activist joins us with a talk from her latest book, *Visual Thinking: The Hidden Gift of People Who Think in Pictures, Patterns, and Abstractions*.

Humorist, former healthcare professional, and recently certified firefighter, Ron Culberson, will close out the conference with a message that will not only tickle our funny bones, but teach us how to stay balanced, manage stress, and find contentment, even when things get tough.

Each conference day offers participants new opportunities to keep up with the latest on our system of care. From breakout sessions offering insights from the recent legislative session to breakouts on topics such as mental health, crisis services, substance use, IDD, peer services, and ethics – there will be something for everyone!

As Host for the 2023 conference, The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD will be on hand throughout the conference to make sure a stellar experience is had by all.

We urge you to visit our generous sponsors and exhibitors throughout the day on Thursday. We are grateful for their support!

Have a great conference!

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Rick Crawford', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Rick Crawford, Chair  
Board of Directors,  
Texas Council of Community Centers

# 2023 EXHIBITORS & SPONSORS

- Affect Therapeutics
- Alina Telehealth
- Amerigroup
- Bigham Kliewer Chapman & Watts
- Cedar Crest Hospital & RTC
- CHES Health
- Chorus Innovations
- Cloud 9
- ContinuumCloud
- Curative Talent
- Delta-T Group
- Discovery Healthcare Consulting Group
- E3 Entegral Solutions
- East Texas Behavioral Healthcare Network
- Eleos Health
- ENA
- Enterprise Fleet Management
- FORVIS, LLP
- Gallagher
- Genoa Healthcare
- Genoa Telepsychiatry
- iCareManager
- Integrated Prescription Management
- Iris Telehealth
- ISC Group, Inc.
- Lauris Online EHR
- LocumTenens.com
- MarshMcLennan Agency
- National University
- Netsmart
- Neurelis Inc.
- Oracle Health
- Prosumers International
- Pulse for Good
- Qualifacts
- Rainbow Health, LLC
- Sex Addicts Anonymous
- Shield Healthcare
- Stoneridge Partners
- Streamline Healthcare Solutions, LLC
- Tarrytown Expocare Pharmacy
- Tejas Health Management
- Texas Applications Specialists, Inc.
- Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
- Texas Council Risk Management Fund
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- The Wood Group
- Tokio Marine HCC
- Unite Us
- ZMark Health

EVENT LEVEL



PLATINUM LEVEL



GOLD LEVEL



SILVER LEVEL



## How to Earn Continuing Education (CE) Credits

No partial CE credits will be given. Successful completion of the ENTIRE session is required to receive CE credit. Specific instructions on required documentation for each type of CE credit are detailed in sections below.

*Visit the CEU desk across from the Registration desk to pick up and return credit documents, or for more information.*

### Credits for Social Work/LPC/LMFT

*Documentation needed:*

- 1 Legible signature on sign-in sheet
- 2 Completed evaluation form returned to room monitor

**Certificates for Social Work/LPC/LMFT are provided onsite – visit the CEU desk each day to claim your certificates.**

Social Work, Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) continuing education credits are offered for all educational sessions.

### Credits for CME/CNE/PD/Medical Ethics/Psychology Ethics

*Documentation needed:*

- 1 Legible signature on sign-in sheet
- 2 Evaluation form in document packet completed
- 3 All other required forms in document packet completed

Sessions approved for these credits are annotated in the Schedule-at-a-Glance and concurrent session descriptions.

#### Continuing Medical Education:

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) through the joint providership of The Texas Department of State Health Services, Continuing Education Service and Texas Council of Community Centers. The Texas Department of State Health Services, Continuing Education Service is accredited by TMA to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Texas Department of State Health Services, Continuing Education Service designates this live activity for a maximum of 6.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

This course has been designated by The Texas Department of State Health Services, Continuing Education Service for 3.00 credits of education in medical ethics and/or professional responsibility.

#### Nursing Continuing Professional Development:

The Texas Department of State Health Services, Continuing Education Service is accredited as a provider of Nursing Continuing Professional Development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

The Texas Department of State Health Services, Continuing Education Service has awarded 6.00 contact hours of Nursing Continuing Professional Development.

#### Licensed Psychologists:

The Texas Department of State Health Services, Continuing Education Service is approved as a provider of professional development hours for licensed psychologists, per the Texas Administrative Code Rule §463.35 (f)(1). The Texas Department of State Health Services, Continuing Education Service has awarded 3.00 professional development hours. This course has been designated by The Texas Department of State Health Services, Continuing Education Service for 3.00 hours in professional ethics.

#### Certificate of Attendance:

The Texas Department of State Health Services, Continuing Education Service has designated 6.00 hours for attendance.

### Credits for Continuing Legal Education

*Documentation needed:*

- 1 Completed sign-in sheet
- 2 Credit claim form (see CEU desk)

This course has been approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE in the amount of 4.5 credit hours, of which 0.0 credit hours will apply to legal ethics/professional responsibility credit.

#### The following sessions are approved for 1.5 hours each of CLE:

- Insight into the Texas Political Landscape, Thursday, June 22 from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Trustee Roles and Responsibilities, Thursday, June 22 from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
- State Budget and Legislative Update, Friday, June 23 from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

## Credits for Continuing Professional Education (CPE) for Accounting

Documentation needed:

- 1 Legible signature on sign-in sheet
- 2 Completed evaluation form in document packet (see CEU desk)
- 3 All other required forms completed in document packet

The following sessions have been approved for 1.8 hours each of non-technical Continuing Professional Education (CPE) for Accountants. No prerequisites required.

- State and National Perspectives Panel, Thursday, June 22, 10:30 a.m. – Noon (1.8 hours)
- All 90-minute breakout sessions (1.8 hours each)

## Credits for Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselors (LCDCs)

Documentation needed:

- 1 Legible signature on sign-in sheet
- 2 Completed evaluation form returned to room monitor
- 3 All other required forms completed in document packet (see CEU desk)

The following sessions have been approved for 1.5 CEUs each for LCDCs:

- Ambulatory Detox and Decades of Lessons Learned - Wednesday, June 21 from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. (1.5 hours general)
- Ethics of Boundaries and Dual Relationships - Thursday, June 22 from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. (1.5 hours ethics)
- Ethical Issues in Dealing with Dual (and Triple) Diagnoses - Thursday, June 22 from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. (1.5 hours ethics)
- Improving Healthcare Delivery to Persons Experiencing Homelessness Using a Street Medicine Model - Friday, June 23 from 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. (1.5 hours general)

## Credits for Peers and Family Partners (MHPS/RSPS/PSS/CFP)

Documentation needed:

- 1 Legible signature on sign-in sheet
- 2 Completed evaluation form returned to room monitor

**Certificates for Peers and Family Partners are provided onsite – visit the CEU desk each day to claim your certificates.**

The following sessions have been approved for CEUs for MHPS/RSPS/PSS/CFP:

- Peer Support and the Texas Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (T-CCBHC) Model – Wednesday, June 21, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. (1.5 hours)
- Ethics of Boundaries and Dual Relationships – Thursday, June 22 from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. (1.5 hours ethics)
- Peer and Recovery Services Team: Highlights, Updates, and Goals – Friday, June 23, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. (1.5 hours)
- Peer and Family Partner Post-Conference Training - Friday, June 23, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. (4.0 hours)

Additionally, Texas Administrative Code allows individuals to also receive credit from any training approved for continuing education for a mental health or substance use disorder professional if the training is also relevant to the skills required of, or services provided by, a peer specialist. **See the CEU desk to request more information.**

## Day 1, Wednesday 21, 2023

*All meeting rooms are located on the 3rd level except where noted.*

TIME	ACTIVITIES			
7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<b>Registration</b> <i>(Breakfast - On Your Own)</i>	<b>Galleria Ballroom Foyer</b>		
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	<p><b>Pre-Conference Meetings</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Consortia Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behavioral Health <i>Post Oak</i></li> <li>• Human Resources <i>Westchester</i></li> <li>• IDD <i>Plaza Ballroom I</i></li> <li>• Medical Services <i>San Felipe</i></li> <li>• QM/UM <i>Sage</i></li> </ul> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Workshop Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Admins (BL-SIG) <i>Tanglewood</i></li> <li>• Communications Special Interest Group (Comm-SIG) <i>Bellaire</i></li> <li>• Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) <i>Galleria Ballroom III</i></li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>		<p><b>Consortia Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behavioral Health <i>Post Oak</i></li> <li>• Human Resources <i>Westchester</i></li> <li>• IDD <i>Plaza Ballroom I</i></li> <li>• Medical Services <i>San Felipe</i></li> <li>• QM/UM <i>Sage</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Workshop Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Admins (BL-SIG) <i>Tanglewood</i></li> <li>• Communications Special Interest Group (Comm-SIG) <i>Bellaire</i></li> <li>• Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) <i>Galleria Ballroom III</i></li> </ul>
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12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	<b>Lunch - On your own</b>			
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	<b>Opening Session - Welcome</b>  Featured Speaker: Raven Solomon	<b>Galleria Ballroom I &amp; II</b>		
3:00 - 3:30 p.m.	<b>Break</b>			
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.	<p><b>Concurrent Sessions</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambulatory Detox and Decades of Lessons Learned (CME, CNE, LCDC) <i>Post Oak</i></li> <li>• An In-depth Response to Security at Community Centers <i>Westchester</i></li> <li>• Biopsychosocial Approach for Serving Individuals with Co-occurring IDD and Behavioral Health Needs <i>San Felipe</i></li> <li>• Care Collaboration as a Suicide Prevention Strategy for Veterans and the Community (CME, CNE) <i>Bellaire</i></li> </ul> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employee Engagement 2.0: Sustaining Employee Morale During Challenging Times <i>Sage</i></li> <li>• Legislative Relationship Building <i>Galleria Ballroom III</i></li> <li>• Lessons We Learned from Uvalde <i>Plaza Ballroom I</i></li> <li>• Peer Support and the Texas Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (T-CCBHC) Model (Certified Peers/Family Partners) <i>Tanglewood</i></li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambulatory Detox and Decades of Lessons Learned (CME, CNE, LCDC) <i>Post Oak</i></li> <li>• An In-depth Response to Security at Community Centers <i>Westchester</i></li> <li>• Biopsychosocial Approach for Serving Individuals with Co-occurring IDD and Behavioral Health Needs <i>San Felipe</i></li> <li>• Care Collaboration as a Suicide Prevention Strategy for Veterans and the Community (CME, CNE) <i>Bellaire</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employee Engagement 2.0: Sustaining Employee Morale During Challenging Times <i>Sage</i></li> <li>• Legislative Relationship Building <i>Galleria Ballroom III</i></li> <li>• Lessons We Learned from Uvalde <i>Plaza Ballroom I</i></li> <li>• Peer Support and the Texas Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (T-CCBHC) Model (Certified Peers/Family Partners) <i>Tanglewood</i></li> </ul>
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6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	<b>Executive Directors &amp; Trustees Reception</b> <i>(Invitation Only)</i>	<b>Monarch, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor</b>		
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	<b>Executive Directors Dinner</b> <i>(Invitation Only)</i>			
	<b>West Alabama</b>			

Daytime

Evening



## Day 2, Thursday 22, 2023

*All meeting rooms are located on the 3rd level except where noted.*

TIME	ACTIVITIES
7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	<b>Registration</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Galleria Ballroom Foyer</b></span>
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	<b>Continental Breakfast</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Woodway, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor</b></span>
7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	<b>Exhibit Hall Open</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Woodway, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor</b></span>
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	<p><b>Poster Sessions</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Woodway Foyer, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor</b></span></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ABA Therapy Outside the Box</li> <li>• Best Practices for a Jail-based Competency Restoration Pilot Program</li> <li>• Bexar County: Answering the Call for Transformational Crisis Response</li> <li>• Employee Motivation, Engagement and Recognition</li> <li>• Improving Mental Health in School-aged Children through Summer Enrichment Activities</li> <li>• Multicultural Counseling and Community Education</li> <li>• Recruiting, Hiring, and Retaining Peer Staff</li> <li>• The Anatomy of Learning: Creating Effective and Memorable Training for Clinical Staff</li> <li>• Top 8 Cyber Security Standards for 2023</li> </ul>
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	<p><b>General Session</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Galleria Ballroom I &amp; II</b></span></p> <p>Frank M. Adams Awards Featured Speaker: Dr. Temple Grandin</p>
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	<b>Break</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Woodway, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor</b></span>
10:30 a.m. - Noon	<b>State and National Perspectives Panel</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Galleria Ballroom I &amp; II</b></span>

## Day 2, Thursday 22, 2023 (cont.)

*All meeting rooms are located on the 3rd level except where noted.*

TIME	ACTIVITIES	
<b>Noon – 1:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Woodway, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor</b>
<b>1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>	<p><b>Concurrent Sessions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breaking Down Barriers to Care (CNE) <i>Bellaire</i></li> <li>• Diversion Center Model: Law Enforcement and LMHA Partnership (CNE) <i>Westchester</i></li> <li>• Ethics of Boundaries and Dual Relationships (CME/Medical Ethics, CNE, PD/Psychology Ethics, LCDC Ethics, Certified Peer/Family Partner Ethics) <i>Plaza Ballroom I</i></li> <li>• Find Them, Get Them, Keep Them: Getting Staff Hired and Getting Them to Stay <i>Post Oak</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insight into the Texas Political Landscape <i>Galleria Ballroom III</i></li> <li>• Power of Partnership: A Collaborative Approach to Automating Data in the Behavioral Health Setting <i>Sage</i></li> <li>• Transitions to Adulthood – Please Log In and Enjoy Your Coffee! <i>Tanglewood</i></li> </ul>
<b>3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Woodway, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor</b>
<b>3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.</b>	<p><b>Concurrent Sessions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Culture of Innovation: Moving Beyond Measuring to Learning <i>Bellaire</i></li> <li>• A Deeper Dive into Military Traumas <i>San Felipe</i></li> <li>• Advancing Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in the NTBHA Provider Network <i>Westchester</i></li> <li>• Building Your Data Toolbox for Patient Care (CNE) <i>Post Oak</i></li> <li>• Ethical Issues in Dealing with Dual (and Triple) Diagnoses (CME/Medical Ethics, CNE, PD/Psychology Ethics, LCDC Ethics) <i>Plaza Ballroom I</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School-based Crisis Intervention Team: Expanding on the CIT Concept and Specializing Crisis Response <i>Sage</i></li> <li>• State Strategies to Support Local Stakeholders at the Intersection of Behavioral Health and Justice <i>Tanglewood</i></li> <li>• Trustee Roles and Responsibilities (CLE) <i>Galleria Ballroom III</i></li> </ul>
<b>6:00 – 7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Center Party</b>	<b>Galleria Ballroom I &amp; II</b>

Daytime

Evening

# Day 3, Friday 23, 2023

All meeting rooms are located on the 3rd level except where noted.

TIME	ACTIVITIES
7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	<b>Registration</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Galleria Ballroom Foyer</b></span>
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	<b>Continental Breakfast</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Monarch, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor</b></span>
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	<p><b>Concurrent Sessions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 988 Meets 911: A Powerful Collaboration <i>Plaza Ballroom I</i></li> <li>• Community Collaboration – Bridging the Mental Health and Criminal Justice Nexus <i>San Felipe</i></li> <li>• Crisis Intervention Services: Addressing Disparity of Mental Health Services for the IDD-MH Population <i>Westchester</i></li> <li>• Improving Healthcare Delivery to Persons Experiencing Homelessness Using a Street Medicine Model (CME, CNE, LCDC) <i>Post Oak</i></li> <li>• Peer and Recovery Services Team: Highlights, Updates, and Goals (Certified Peers/Family Partners) <i>Tanglewood</i></li> <li>• School-related Violence: A Preventive Medicine Model and Response (CME, CNE) <i>Sage</i></li> <li>• State Budget and Legislative Update (CLE) <i>Galleria Ballroom III</i></li> <li>• Wash, Rinse and Repeat: A Three Step Approach to Effective Leadership <i>Bellaire</i></li> </ul>
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.	<b>Break</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Galleria Ballroom Foyer</b></span>
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	<p><b>General Session - Send-off</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Galleria Ballroom I &amp; II</b></span></p> <p>Featured Speaker: Ron Culberson</p>
12:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<p><b>Peer Post-Conference Training</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Galleria Ballroom III</b></span></p> <p>The Slippery Slope of Peer Support</p>

Daytime

Wednesday 21, 2023

### CONSORTIA MEETINGS

8:30 a.m. – 12:00p.m.

- Behavioral Health Consortium  
*Post Oak*
- Human Resources Consortium  
*Westchester*
- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Consortium  
*Plaza Ballroom I*
- Medical Services Consortium and Nursing Committee  
*San Felipe*
- QM/UM Consortium  
*Sage*

### CLOSED WORKGROUP MEETINGS

8:30 a.m. – 12:00p.m.

- Executive Administrators/Board Liaison Special Interest Group (BL-SIG)  
*Tanglewood*
- Communications Special Interest Group (Comm-SIG)  
*Bellaire*

### MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID (MHFA) SESSION

8:30 a.m. – 12:00p.m.

#### Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Session

*Galleria Ballroom III*

This presentation will provide MHFA updates on state and national levels from the National Council for Mental Wellbeing and Texas HHSC.

- Tramaine El-Amin, MA, Vice President, Mental Health First Aid USA,  
National Council for Mental Wellbeing
- Janicanne Shane, Director of Client Success, Mental Health First Aid USA,  
National Council for Mental Wellbeing

## Wednesday Opening Session | 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

### Harris County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard



#### Welcome : Sheriff Ed Gonzalez

Sheriff Ed Gonzalez was elected as the 30th sheriff of Harris County in 2016 and is currently serving his second term. He leads the largest sheriff's office in Texas, overseeing more than 5,000 employees who protect the 4.5 million residents of Harris County. As a lifelong Houstonian, Sheriff Gonzalez began his long career in public service at the Houston Police Department, serving as a peace officer for nearly two decades before being elected as a city councilman for three terms. As sheriff, he prioritizes mental health, substance abuse, and rehabilitation programs, both inside and outside the agency. He has established counseling support services for agency employees; invested in training and a telehealth program to help deputies de-escalate crises and provide behavioral health support in the field; and expanded programs such as jail diversion, outreach for individuals experiencing

homelessness, and support services veterans in transition. Sheriff Gonzalez continues to identify critical tools and search for creative ways to improve public safety. His commitment to a more effective, equitable, and thoughtful approach to peacekeeping has served as a model across the state and country.



**DR. RICK CRAWFORD**  
*Chair, Board of Directors, Texas Council of Community Centers*



**WAYNE YOUNG**  
*Chief Executive Officer, The Harris Center for MH and IDD*



**LEE JOHNSON**  
*Chief Executive Officer, Texas Council of Community Centers*



#### The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD Choir

The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD Choir is a component of the agency's Texas Home Living Waiver program. The choir provides a unique opportunity for members to learn social and leisure skills, while also incorporating opportunities for increased physical activity through singing and dancing. Choir members recite a poem entitled "I Am Somebody" at the end of each practice to emphasize the idea that individuals with IDD are defined by their strengths and abilities, not by their disabilities.



#### Raven Solomon

Raven Solomon is a global thought leader and nationally recognized keynote speaker who helps organizations get future-ready by understanding generations, racial equity, and their intersection. Raven's mission is simple -- to solve workforce challenges by breaking down systemic barriers in the workplace, replacing them with empathy and synergy that fosters productive working relationships, drives business results, and prepares organizations to compete in the not-so-distant future.

# Thursday General Sessions | 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

## Welcome Back

Texas Council of Community Centers and The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD warmly welcome you to the second day of the Texas Council Conference.



**LEE JOHNSON**  
*Chief Executive Officer, Texas  
Council of Community Centers*



**WAYNE YOUNG**  
*Chief Executive Officer, The  
Harris Center for MH and IDD*



## Frank M. Adams Award Ceremony

This award honors individuals and organizations who best exemplify the late Frank M. Adams' spirit of caring through volunteerism on behalf of persons with serious mental illness, substance use disorders and intellectual disabilities.



**DR. RICK CRAWFORD**  
*Chair, Board of Directors,  
Texas Council of Community Centers*



**CARY HOUSTON**  
*Chair, Public Information, Education  
and Training Committee  
Board of Directors, Texas Council of  
Community Centers*



## Dr. Temple Grandin

Temple Grandin, Ph.D., is one of the most accomplished and well-known adults with autism in the world. Her life was brought to the screen with the HBO full-length film *Temple Grandin*, starring Claire Danes. Dr. Grandin has been inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences September 2016, featured on NPR, and she has a 2010 TED Lecture titled "The World Needs ALL Kinds of Minds." She has also been featured on the BBC special "The Woman Who Thinks Like a Cow", ABC's "Primetime Live", "The Today Show" and more. Grandin developed her talents into a successful career as a livestock-handling equipment designer, one of very few in the world. She also speaks on both autism and cattle handling. Dr. Grandin's current bestselling book on autism is *Visual Thinking: The Hidden Gifts of People Who Think in Pictures, Patterns, and Abstractions*. She also authored *The Way I See It: A Personal Look at Autism and Asperger's*; *Unwritten Rules of*

*Social Relationships*; *Animals Make Us Human*; *Animals in Translation*; *Thinking in Pictures*; and *Emergence: Labeled Autistic*. Grandin is considered a philosophical leader of both the animal welfare and autism advocacy movements.

## Thursday General Sessions (cont.) | 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

### State and National Perspectives Panel | 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

State and national leaders will share their perspectives on opportunities and challenges in the changing healthcare environment and the health and human service system in Texas.



**CHUCK INGOGLIA**  
*President and CEO,  
The National Council for  
Mental Wellbeing*



**JONAH CUNNINGHAM**  
*President and CEO, National  
Association of County Behavioral  
Health and Developmental  
Disability Directors*



**SONJA GAINES**  
*Deputy Executive  
Commissioner, Behavioral  
Health Services, Texas HHSC*



**HALEY TURNER**  
*Deputy Executive  
Commissioner, Community  
Services, Texas HHSC*



**LEE JOHNSON**  
*Chief Executive Officer, Texas  
Council of Community Centers*

## Friday General Session | 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



### Ron Culberson

Ron Culberson, MSW, CSP, CPAE is a speaker, humorist, and author of four books including *Do it Well. Make it Fun. The Key to Success in Life, Death, and Almost Everything in Between*. His mission is to change the workplace culture so that organizations are more productive and staff are more content. By combining excellence with humor, Ron helps organizations attract and retain great employees, develop excellent leaders, and deliver extraordinary products and services.

For ten years, Ron worked in a large hospice organization as a social worker, Counseling Manager, and Senior Director of Quality Services. Through these roles, he gained experience on the front line, in middle management, and ultimately in senior management. He has a proven track record as a successful member of a multidisciplinary team and as an effective senior leader.

Ron also dedicates a significant portion of his time to volunteer service. He was the 2012-2013 President of the National Speakers Association (NSA). He has also served on numerous boards and committees for organizations such as Capital Hospice, the Art Gliner Center for Humor Studies, and Rotary International where he chaired his club's largest fundraisers. Ron has received the Rotarian of the Year, and the Four Avenues of Service Awards, two of the highest awards given by Rotary. More recently, he has become a certified EMT and firefighter as a way to serve his local community.

## Wednesday, June 21, 2023

### **Executive Directors and Trustees Reception (Invitation Only)**

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. | *Monarch, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor*

Honorary Lifetime Membership In Memoriam Recognition



COLONEL HOWARD DANIEL, JR



HARTLEY SAPPINGTON

Texas Council Risk Management Fund Award Ceremony

### **Executive Directors Dinner (Invitation Only)**

7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. | *West Alabama*

## Thursday, June 22, 2023

### **Poster Sessions**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. | *Woodway Foyer, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor*

Browse posters or strike up a discussion with a colleague in this open educational setting. Presenters will come and go but the posters will be available all day!

Full poster session descriptions are available on page 16.

### **Center Reception**

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. | *Galleria Ballroom I & II*

The Center Reception is casual dress and open attendance. Drop in for snacks and refreshments!



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# Friday, June 23, 2023

## **Peer Post-Conference Training: The Slippery Slope of Peer Support**

*12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Galleria Ballroom III*

This 4-hour training will examine how easily a peer supporter can be seduced away from providing peer support without realizing what has happened. Peers play a non-clinical role inside of a clinical setting. People can be uncomfortable with not fitting in, so a peer may begin to align their language and actions with the clinical perspective. The peer may start helping instead of supporting, causing them to slip into the clinical and therapy world and reduce their effectiveness as a peer supporter. How do you guard against the desire to fit into the clinical side of the integrated care team or becoming the expert for someone else's life? What can you do if you catch yourself moving away from peer support, and how can you assist others facing the same challenge? This training will teach how to fortify yourself against the slippery slope by gaining role clarity, examining state and national practice guidelines, and discussing how to uphold professional boundaries in everyday work situations.

*Guest Speaker: Cherene Caraco, QMHP, QDDP, CPSS, Founder, Chief Global Strategist and Executive Officer, Promise Resource Network*

*Anna Gray, MEd, Executive Director, Prosumers International*

*Felicia Mason Edwards, MA, CFP, Manager for Workforce Development, Peer and Recovery Services Programs, Planning and Policy, Texas HHSC*

*Janet Paleo, Director of Recovery-based Services, Texas Council of Community Centers*

### **Learning Objectives:**

- Articulate the professional requirements and boundaries of the peer support role as directed by the National Practice Guidelines and Texas state law.
- Implement the National Practice Guidelines in common professional situations experienced by peers to protect against Falling into the realm of clinical.
- Explain the concept of role clarity and how it promotes alignment with state and national practice standards, as well as effectiveness in carrying out the peer supporter role.

***Thank you to the Peer/Family Partner Steering Committee for their hard work to provide this training.***

Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Woodway Foyer, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

### **ABA Therapy Outside the Box**

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy is the study of behavior using scientific methodology to change behavior. ABA is used to increase desirable behaviors, decrease unwanted behaviors, and teach new behaviors. ABA typically is used to treat individuals who are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and/or IDD who have deficits in social skills, communication and language, and excesses in maladaptive behaviors. However, ABA therapy can be used in numerous settings, including outside of clinics, with different populations to address a large magnitude of behavioral challenges. This poster will provide a better understanding of ABA therapy and the populations and settings that can benefit from it.

*Tranika Jefferson, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA, Licensed Board Certified Behavior Analyst - Doctoral, The Harris Center for Mental Health & IDD*

### **Best Practices for a Jail-Based Competency Restoration Pilot Program**

In Bexar County, mental health treatment needs have outstripped resources, and thousands of youth and adults with serious mental illness, or co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders, do not have access to timely, appropriate care. At any given time, the Bexar County Detention Center houses 150-175 inmates who are on a waitlist for a treatment bed and inpatient competency restoration services from one of Texas' state hospitals. Wait times average 18-24 months costing \$651,240 per month, and this expense is borne by the Bexar County Sheriff's Department. The Center for Health Care Services developed a strategic plan designed to reduce the number of inmates who are in jail, found incompetent to stand trial, and are on the waitlist for a treatment bed and awaiting inpatient competency restoration services. Visit the poster to learn more about this strategic plan.

*Monica Torres, MS, LPC, Clinical Director, Justice Programs (Adults), The Center for Health Care Services*

*Edward Benavides, Vice President/Adult Behavioral Health Services, The Center for Health Care Services*

*Annie Cortez, MS, LPC, Clinical Practitioner Level I (Adult Behavioral Health Specialty), The Center for Health Care Services*

### **Bexar County: Answering the Call for Transformational Crisis Response**

Amidst the national backdrop of calls for social justice and police reform, public health authorities across the state of Texas are looking for better ways to address mental health crises and reduce emergency detentions for individuals with severe mental illness. This poster will share the collaborative approach The Center for Health Care Services used to respond to mental health crises, by creating Multidisciplinary Crisis Response Teams (MDRT) which include mental health professionals, police officers, and paramedics. MDRTs respond to non-violent mental health related emergency calls, promote a reduction in emergency detentions and provide much needed services to the individuals in crisis in Bexar County.

*Aimee Hicks, PhD, LPC, LCDC, ACS, NCC, MAC, Director of Crisis Response, The Center for Health Care Services*

*Jason Miller, DO, Medical Director - Crisis Services, The Center for Health Care Services*

**Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

*Woodway Foyer, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor*

### **Employee Motivation, Engagement and Recognition**

After hiring and onboarding, a manager's job is just starting. Retaining employees is vital to the success of managers and supervisors. To retain employees, managers must motivate, engage and recognize staff and create a positive team culture. This poster provides managers with useful techniques and skills to foster a motivational work environment and provide opportunities for engagement and recognition.

*Daniel Hernandez, SHRMCP, PHR, Risk Services Manager, Texas Council Risk Management Fund*

### **Improving Mental Health in School Aged Children through Summer Enrichment Activities**

In September 2022, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) and Children's Hospital Association (CHA), representing over 77,000 physicians and 200 children's hospitals, penned a joint letter to the Biden administration requesting a federal declaration of a National State of Emergency for children's mental health. Rates of depression, anxiety and suicide attempts among children are increasing. The Integral Care school-based program provides primarily individual therapy during the school year, but in the summer, students and families needed opportunities to reduce isolation, practice social skills and have fun. This poster will share about the school-based summer program, including funding, activities, and survey results by parents.

*Lily Wolff-Knuffke, MA, LPC, Program Manager for School Based Services, Integral Care*

*Ingrid Perdigon Gomez, LPC, Program Manager for School Based Services, Integral Care*

*Emily Hammer, MSSW, LCSW, School Based Therapist, Integral Care*

### **Multicultural Counseling and Community Education**

This poster presentation will explore cultural considerations and culturally competent modalities for working with African American clients and their families and support systems. Key topics include: the impact of African American culture on mental health diagnoses and stigmas; desegregation of data to support the work of therapists with African American clients and their families and support systems; and practical strategies for implementing mental health treatments.

*Alaina Aaron, MA, LPC, Mental Health Therapist, The Harris Center for Mental Health & IDD*

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**Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

*Woodway Foyer, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor*

### **Recruiting, Hiring, and Retaining Peer Staff**

As the demand for peer services grows, so does the need for effective strategies to recruit, hire, and retain peer staff. PeerForce and Via Hope, two leading organizations in the Texas peer movement, will provide program data, case examples, and expert opinions on best practices regarding recruitment, hiring, and retention of peer staff.

*Josh Green, RSPS, Program Manager - PeerForce, Form Communities*

*Ms. Amy Pierce, PSS, Recovery Institute Deputy Director, Via Hope*

### **The Anatomy of Learning: Creating Effective and Memorable Training for Clinical Staff**

Training clinical staff is a time-intensive and critically important component to a successful organization. Any clinician is faced with a myriad of details – Electronic Health Records, specific agency procedures, and various curricula, for example –all of which must be integrated into the clinician’s daily workflow to be successful. This poster explores the primary attributes necessary for effective and memorable trainings: defined learning objectives, evidence-based information and models, passionate trainers, and interactive components. Viewers will gain an understanding of general training principles they can apply to their organization.

*Andrew Ahles, MA, LMFT-S, Clinical Training Manager, Metrocare Services*

### **Top 8 Cybersecurity Standards for 2023**

The Texas Council Risk Management Fund will provide an update on cybersecurity standards that can reduce cyber-attacks on Community Centers. Learn more about critical infrastructure and security components for networks, clouds, and applications, with real world examples of security standards in use.

*Lee Cain, Cyber Risk Services Advisor, Texas Council Risk Management Fund*

Wednesday, June 21, 2023 | 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

### **Ambulatory Detox and Decades of Lessons Learned**

*Post Oak*

Available CE Credits: CME, CNE, LCDC

Ambulatory detoxification programs have been a hot topic of discussion amongst the many agencies who are certified or are trying to become a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC). This session will discuss how a Center may incorporate an ambulatory detoxification program into their existing treatment service options. The presentation will touch on topics such as staff structure, group counseling curriculum examples, program exclusionary criteria, medically managed withdrawal for alcohol use disorder and opioid use disorder, and overdose prevention efforts.

***Crystal Walker, DMSc, PA-C, Director of Substance Use Disorder Clinical Services, MHMR of Tarrant County***

Learning Objectives:

- Explain how medically managed withdrawal differs in outpatient and inpatient settings
- Describe the five options for buprenorphine induction in the treatment of opioid use disorder
- List the various options for staff structure and curriculum schedules for a functional ambulatory detox program

### **An In-depth Response to Security at Community Centers**

*Westchester*

There has been increased need for Community Centers to prepare for and prevent active shooter events and violent encounters. Through direct work with Centers, the Texas Council Risk Management Fund will present best practice responses, lessons learned from real Center experiences with violent encounters, and a security checklist developed through security assessments of eight Centers over the last two years.

***Richard Wigzell, MA, Risk Management and Program Analyst, Texas Council Risk Management Fund***

***Jeremy Wade, Risk Services Manager, Texas Council Risk Management Fund***

***Mike Davis, MS, Executive Director, Nueces Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities***

***Pam Gutierrez, Executive Director, Denton County MHMR Center***

***Eunice Davis, Director of Risk Management, The Harris Center for MH and IDD***

***Panel Facilitator: Catherine Hood, Leadership Trainer, Texas Council Risk Management Fund***

Learning Objectives:

- Implement best practices and security checklist to help prevent and respond to active shooter and violent encounter events at Centers.

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Wednesday, June 21, 2023 | 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

## **Biopsychosocial Approach for Serving Individuals with Co-occurring IDD and Behavioral Health Needs**

*San Felipe*

The Outpatient Biopsychosocial Services approach for IDD Services (OBI) pilot program, funded by HHSC appropriation from the 86th Texas Legislature, serves children and adults with IDD and a co-occurring mental health condition, substance use disorder, or behavior support need. The program focuses on biopsychosocial assessment, collaborative care case management (CCCM), skills training, and training and education for professionals. Person-centered, trauma-informed, and cross system approaches are incorporated to treat individuals according to their unique needs and current life circumstances. Learn about the benefits of the OBI program's unique and innovative approach to crisis prevention and how the program may be replicated at your Center.

***Amanda Willis, MSW, LCSW-S, Practice Manager – IDD Clinical Services, The Harris Center for MH and IDD***

***Bryan Camphire, Program Manager of IDD Crisis Services, Integral Care***

***David Gunter, Senior Director of START and OBI, MHMR of Tarrant County***

Learning Objectives:

- Explain the benefits of a cross-systems approach to service delivery to address the unique needs of individuals with IDD with complex behavioral health needs.
- Describe the collaborative care case manager role in supporting individual program participants and their systems of support, along with other members of the treatment team.

## **Care Collaboration as a Suicide Prevention Strategy for Veterans and the Community**

*Bellaire*

Available CE Credits: CME, CNE

Suicide deaths are preventable. A public health approach to suicide prevention integrates mental health and wellness interventions into non-mental health settings and recognizes the importance of collaboration between health care systems. Through vital community coalition building, Houston and Harris County populations have experienced increased health and resilience and reduction in crisis, including during disasters. This presentation will discuss key strategies of care collaboration, include suiciding screening, lethal means counseling, family engagement, and ensuring follow-up -- all of which allows a community to respond effectively to mental health needs of its members and prevent suicide deaths.

***Sarah Strang, MEd, LPC, Mobile Crisis Outreach Team Program Director, The Harris Center for MH and IDD***

***Elizabeth Kleeman, MSW, LCSW, Department of Veterans Affairs***

***Sergeant Jose R. Gomez, Sergeant of Behavioral Health, Harris County Sheriff's Office***

Learning Objectives:

- Articulate risk factors, protective factors, and risk mitigation strategies, including lethal means safety, in suicide risk identification.
- Identify opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration across systems and institutions to facilitate engagement in mental health care and prevent suicide deaths.

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Wednesday, June 21, 2023 | 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

## **Employee Engagement 2.0: Sustaining Employee Morale During Challenging Times**

*Sage*

The global pandemic brought unprecedented challenges for everyone and changed norms for the operation of our society. This new environment challenged leaders within organizations to maintain employee morale while simultaneously navigating uncharted territory. Spindletop Center will share their strategies for enhancing employee morale and engagement that help leaders actively listen and take action.

*Creslyn Foster, ABD, MBA, HRPM, Chief Human Resources Officer, Spindletop Center*

Learning Objectives:

- Utilize strategies, such as technology applications, employee feedback platforms, growth opportunities, and active listening, to engage employees and enhance morale.

## **Legislative Relationship Building**

*Galleria Ballroom III*

Building relationships in local communities and at the state legislature is an essential skill for Community Center leaders. Strong engagement with key community stakeholders and state legislators is foundational to the future of the Community Center system. To be successful, we must strengthen existing relationships and build new ones. Lee Johnson, CEO of Texas Council of Community Centers, will lead a panel of experienced Community Center leaders to share strategies and best practices for building stronger community relations at the local, state and federal levels. This session will challenge Center leadership to look up from Center operations and become the public face of their organizations to develop deeper and stronger relationships at every level.

*Lee Johnson, MPA, Chief Executive Officer, Texas Council of Community Centers*

*Special guest speakers*

Learning Objectives:

- Apply strategies to connect and build relationships with local legislative representatives and their offices in support of the Community Center system

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Wednesday, June 21, 2023 | 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

## **Lessons We Learned from Uvalde**

*Plaza Ballroom I*

On May 24, 2022, Hill Country Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Centers was turned upside down by the mass shooting tragedy at Robb Elementary School. Leaders of the Hill Country disaster response team will share lessons learned from the perspective of a Local Mental Health Authority and Local IDD Authority and discuss their disaster response plan, including a modified Incident Command Structure. There will be time for Q&A.

***Randy Consford, MA, Director of Special Projects, Hill Country MHDD Centers***

***Joan Cortez, MA, LPC, Director of Crisis Services, Hill Country MHDD Centers***

***Landon Sturdivant, MPA, LBSW, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Hill Country MHDD Centers***

***Lisa Cisneros, MA, LPC-S, Director of Clinical Services, Hill Country MHDD Centers***

Learning Objectives:

- Outline Hill Country's process for deployment to the mass shooting incident in Uvalde according to its disaster response plan.
- Describe the key interagency collaborations needed during a mass shooting incident emergency response.

## **Peer Support and the Texas Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (T-CCBHC) Model**

*Tanglewood*

**Available CE Credits: Certified Peers, Certified Family Partners**

Making peer services accessible across the state is a work in progress, and Texas Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (T-CCBHC) implementation is an opportunity for advancement. Peer specialist and family partner services, required to be utilized within the T-CCBHC model, produce high-quality outcomes for the people served, and further T-CCBHC goals for all services to be person-centered, family-centered, recovery-oriented, trauma-informed, and evidence-based. This session will provide best practices and resources for providing peer support services in a T-CCBHC integrated care environment as well as future opportunities to unlock the full potential of peer services.

***Noah Abdenour, CPS, Director of Peer Support and Recovery, Texas HHSC***

***Sarah Melecki, MPAff, Director of Integrated Care Strategy, Texas HHSC***

Learning Objectives:

- Describe peer support requirements and essential components within the T-CCBHC model.
- Analyze the use of peer support in an integrated care environment.



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Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

## **Breaking Down Barriers to Care**

*Bellaire*

**Available CE Credits: CNE**

Integrating primary and mental health care services is a key goal of the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) model that can necessitate effective collaboration between community agencies. In this presentation, Gulf Coast Center and Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) partner, Coastal Health & Wellness, will share insights and lessons learned from their service co-location pilot program that has resulted in boosted reach of mental health and substance use disorder services in the community, increased criminal justice diversion, and more efficient and equitable service delivery.

*Felicia Jeffery, MA, LPC, Chief Executive Officer, Gulf Coast Center*

*Ami Cotharn, MSN, RN, Chief Operations Officer, Coastal Health & Wellness*

Learning Objectives:

- Initiate community collaborations to address populations with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorder needs, or mental health and intellectual and developmental disability needs.
- Explain how to migrate co-located care services to an integrated care model that improves access to person-centered care and equitable service delivery.

## **Diversion Center Model: Law Enforcement and LMHA Partnership**

*Westchester*

**Available CE Credits: CNE**

The Bluebonnet Trails Community Services Diversion Center helps those experiencing acute psychiatric crises and has diverted individuals from jail, general medical hospitals, and psychiatric hospitals. This presentation will share how Bluebonnet Trails collaborated with the community at-large and how the Diversion Center was developed, as well as learning moments, data regarding current service numbers and diversions, and plans for continued growth. There will be time for Q&A.

*Andrea Hoppock, MA, BCBA, LBA, 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 Forensic Services, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services*

*Rosa Gragan, RN, Assistant Director of Nursing, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services*

Learning Objectives:

- Explain the structure and benefits of the Bluebonnet Trails Community Services Diversion Center model for individuals needing crisis care.
- Articulate how the community partnerships between law enforcement, local psychiatric hospitals, general medical hospitals, and the local mental health authority system each contribute to the diversion center model's success.

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Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

## **Ethics of Boundaries and Dual Relationships**

*Plaza Ballroom I*

**Available CE Credits: CME/Medical Ethics, CNE, PD/Psychology Ethics, LCDC Ethics, Certified Peer/Family Partner Ethics**

This highly interactive, case-based seminar will explore a variety of ethical issues regarding professional boundaries and dual relationships. Participants will consider the appropriate roles and relationships of service providers as they interact with individuals served, families and colleagues. While it is important to be friendly with individuals served, it is also important to maintain proper professional relationships, and this session will help participants identify the ethical limits of interpersonal relationships.

***Michael Gillette, PhD, Consultant, Bioethical Services of Virginia, Inc.***

Learning Objectives:

- Define the concept of a dual relationship and contrast it to morally non-problematic double relationships
- Identify boundary violations as they relate to individuals served and their family members

## **Find Them, Get Them, Keep Them: Getting Staff Hired and Getting Them to Stay**

*Post Oak*

This presentation will share the marketing and hiring strategies implemented at MHMR of Tarrant County to help fill staff vacancies and improve onboarding, ongoing training and supervision of staff to support retention and competency of Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) staff.

***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***

Learning Objectives:

- Explain how hiring fairs and marketing strategies are implemented in MHMR of Tarrant County's new hiring process.
- Describe the comprehensive onboarding and clinical supervision protocol of QMHP staff at MHMR of Tarrant County.
- Utilize lessons from implementation successes and failures to improve hiring, onboarding, supervision, and retention strategies at your organization.

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Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

## **Insight into the Texas Political Landscape**

*Galleria Ballroom III*

Available CE Credits: CLE

*Of particular interest to Trustees and Chief Executive Officers/Executive Directors, Management and Communications Staff.*

Leaders from the most notable publications in Texas, Quorum Report and Texas Tribune, will share their views on the current and future political landscape in our state. Moderated by Lee Johnson, CEO of Texas Council, this session will feature Harvey Kronberg, Editor and Publisher of Quorum Report, Ross Ramsey, Co-Founder of Texas Tribune, and Hon. Carl Isett, former State Representative, District 84. If you want to know what's really happening and what's ahead in Texas politics, don't miss the chance to hear and interact with these experts!

***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, MPA, Chief Executive Officer, Texas Council of Community Centers***

Learning Objectives:

- Identify current trends in Texas politics impacting the delivery of health care, special populations, and the Community Center system.

## **Power of Partnership: A Collaborative Approach to Automating Data in the Behavioral Health Setting**

*Sage*

Behavioral health data points and reimbursements have long been pulled in the direction of higher volumes and levels of data analysis. Centers need to collect, transform and report using more data points and in more complex manners than even existed just years ago. Now that Electronic Health Record (EHR) upgrades are well underway at all Centers, there is an opportunity to use data reporting automation to transform the ways Centers provide services, measure outcomes, and tell the stories of the system of care. In this session, Center Chief Financial Officers will share their vision for state-wide data automation in the Community Center system, demonstrate current examples of producing automated cost reports and the future of data sharing for all Centers.

***Jason Cannaday, MS, Chief Finance Officer, StarCare Specialty Health System***

***Lucas Wilson, MBA, Chief Finance Officer, Metrocare Services***

Learning Objectives:

- Explain how stories about the system of care can be illustrated and reflected by effective data collection and transformation.

Describe the vision for using data visualization and reporting to improve service provision and health outcomes in the Community Center system across Texas.

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Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

**Transitions to Adulthood – Please Log In and Enjoy Your Coffee!**

*Tanglewood*

Only a few years ago, Texana Center had a dream of developing programs to address a significant area of need: helping young adults with IDD or autism spectrum disorder advance to a successful adulthood. Today, two of Texana Center's newest programs are a paid internship program to build vocational skills at the full service coffee shop, Texana Café, and Center for Advancement classes that teach adults skills important to living more independent lives and pursuing their goals and dreams, such as computer programming, money management, and social skills. This session will present the development of these projects from dreams to reality.

***Beth Duncan, MS, BCBA, Senior Manager, Texana Center***

***Katherine Johnson-Patagoc, MS, BCBA, LBA, Program Director, Texana Center***

Learning Objectives:

- List challenges faced by individuals with IDD who graduate from high school without preparation in vocational and practical life skills.
- Explain how to develop a similar program providing vocational and practical skill training for young adults with IDD.

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Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

## **A Culture of Innovation: Moving Beyond Measuring to Learning**

*Bellaire*

Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) is a team-based approach to early intervention for youth and young adults experiencing psychosis, and it is growing rapidly in Texas. In the past two years, 15 CSC programs across Texas have joined with 3 academic institutions to create a collaborative culture of innovation and growth within a Learning Healthcare Network called EPINET-TX. Learn how a Learning Healthcare Network works and how this framework can be applied across different programs. Explore how CSC teams are using their shared experiences and wisdom, along with shared measures and data systems, to identify opportunities for improvement and innovation!

*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*

Learning Objectives:

- Identify the components of Coordinated Specialty Care and its implementation in Texas
- Define the characteristics of a learning healthcare system and its relevance to public mental health services
- Describe the ways in which the learning healthcare system model is being used to advance the recovery of young people experiencing psychosis

## **A Deeper Dive into Military Traumas**

*San Felipe*

Service providers usually have a basic idea of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), military sexual trauma, and moral injury. However, their quality of care can greatly benefit from a more thorough understanding of these prevalent military traumas. This training takes a deeper dive into understanding the diagnosis criteria, assessments, and current interventions or benefits available to veterans for each condition.

*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*

Learning Objectives:

- List PTSD diagnosis criteria and appropriate treatment modalities.
- Explain appropriate interventions for moral injury and military sexual trauma.

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Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

## **Advancing Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in the NTBHA Provider Network**

*Westchester*

North Texas Behavioral Health Association (NTBHA) began engaging in cultural competence work in 2018. Like many organizations, as a result of the George Floyd murder in 2020, their focus sharpened on culturally and linguistically appropriate services (CLAS) internally and in the NTBHA provider network. The agency is now developing and implementing a Cultural and Linguistic Competence Plan based on the National Enhanced Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services, with the goal of advancing health equity in the urban and rural areas that we serve. This session will share lessons learned from this process, key implementation strategies, and the outcomes observed as a result of implementing CLAS.

***Walter Taylor, PhD, Chief Strategy Officer, North Texas Behavioral Health Authority***

***Sabrina Conner, Director of External Affairs, North Texas Behavioral Health Authority***

***Amy Cunningham, MS, LPC, LMFT-S, Director of Clinical Innovation and Equity, North Texas Behavioral Health Authority***

Learning Objectives:

- List challenges and successes experienced by NTBHA during implementation of CLAS.
- Identify key strategies for overcoming CLAS implementation challenges.

## **Building Your Data Toolbox for Patient Care**

*Post Oak*

**Available CE Credits: CNE**

Data-driven healthcare is a promising goal, but its full value has not been realized. Prioritizing and integrating data into practice remains a challenge for agencies due to limited availability of data tools and uncertainty in implementing strategies to use data effectively. My Health My Resources of Tarrant County has built a robust data infrastructure to enhance data-driven strategies that improve service delivery and health outcomes. Determining core vs. nice-to-have pieces of data is critical to staff buy-in, extreme usability, and better patient outcomes. Presenters will provide examples of data toolboxes used to improve outcomes in high need and hard to reach populations. The audience will be equipped to develop their own data toolbox to assess and manage the needs of their patients and be encouraged to participate in an interactive Q&A to share strategies and potential challenges.

***Kirk Broome, PhD, Senior Director of Transformation, MHMR of Tarrant County***

***Camille Patterson, PhD, Director of Research, MHMR of Tarrant County***

***Linda Perna, PhD, Senior Evaluation Specialist, MHMR of Tarrant County***

***Julia Brown, BSN, RN, Nurse Informaticist, MHMR of Tarrant County***

***Greg Basham, Director of Care Coordination, MHMR of Tarrant County***

Learning Objectives:

- List 8 key steps to selecting and using data to improve patient care.
- Describe design elements for developing tools, such as dashboards, reports, and EHR “widgets,” that improve population health strategy and inform clinical decision-making with individual patients.
- Explain how data-driven strategies – such as identifying population health needs, patient risk stratification, and Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycles – improve outcomes in high need and hard-to-reach populations.

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Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

## **Ethical Issues in Dealing with Dual (and Triple) Diagnoses**

*Plaza Ballroom I*

**Available CE Credits: CME/Medical Ethics, CNE, PD/Psychology Ethics, LCDC Ethics**

This highly interactive, case-based session will consider the ethical complications that develop when individuals present with multiple diagnoses across the fields of mental health, substance use disorder services, and IDD services. Participants will examine case studies to consider the ethical implications of making a primary diagnosis of one type when individuals face multi-factor challenges, and discuss the practical results of serving individuals in a system that encourages this type of categorization.

***Michael Gillette, PhD, Consultant, Bioethical Services of Virginia, Inc.***

Learning Objectives:

- Identify ethical issues that emerge when managing cases involving DD/ID, MH, and SUD diagnoses
- Resolve ethical issues regarding the cross-platform delivery of services
- Manage these types of cases while considering the ethics of trauma informed care

## **School-based Crisis Intervention Team: Expanding on the CIT Concept and Specializing Crisis Response**

*Sage*

In August 2022, a school-based crisis intervention team (CIT) initiative was launched in partnership between Emergence Health Network (EHN) and the El Paso Independent School District, the largest school district in El Paso County. The school-based CIT initiative requires collaboration between EHN-trained CIT specialists, school district police, campus counselors, and administrators to provide real-time emergency crisis response and intervention services. This presentation will provide an overview of the multi-disciplinary approach implemented by this initiative to address the diversity of needs for complex interventions for children and adolescents that involve suicidal ideation, violent behaviors, homicidal ideation, autism, and IDD, both diagnosed and undiagnosed, and the criteria and protocols for school-based CIT dispatch and response.

***Andres Arvizu, LPC, LCDC, Director of Crisis Intervention Teams, Emergence Health Network***

***Victor Talavera, Chief of Crisis and Emergency Services, Emergence Health Network***

Learning Objectives:

- Explain key advantages of having a multidisciplinary response during School-Based CIT encounters.
- Identify three major differences between the de-escalation approach and interventions for students with autism spectrum disorder and IDD in schools.

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Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

## **State Strategies to Support Local Stakeholders at the Intersection of Behavioral Health and Justice**

*Tanglewood*

People with mental health and substance use disorders are overrepresented in the criminal justice system. However, resource limitations and conflicting priorities between criminal justice and behavioral health providers can create challenges in connecting justice-involved people with care. The HHSC Behavioral Health Services Office of Forensic Coordination will present multiple statewide initiatives that leverage local expertise, resources, and relationships to support coordination and collaboration between entities that operate at the intersection of criminal justice and behavioral health. Executive leaders of Centers that have participated in community engagement initiatives will discuss their experiences, key takeaways, and early outcomes.

*Jennie Simpson, PhD, State Forensic Director, Texas HHSC*

*Matthew Lovitt, MSW, Senior Policy Advisor, Texas HHSC*

*Catie Bialick, MPAff, Director of Behavioral Health and Justice Initiatives, Office of Forensic Coordination, Texas HHSC*

*Tod Citron, Chief Executive Officer, Hill Country Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Centers*

*Johnnie Wardell, MS, Executive Director, Central Counties Services*

*David Evans, Chief Executive Officer, Integral Care*

Learning Objectives:

- Describe statewide initiatives that address systems-level challenges at the intersection of behavioral health and justice, including competency restoration.
- Explain state and local challenges at the intersection of behavioral health and justice.
- Identify opportunities for innovative local initiatives that address the overrepresentation of people with behavioral health issues in the criminal justice system.

## **Trustee Roles and Responsibilities**

*Galleria Ballroom III*

Available CE Credits: CLE

This session will generally discuss the legal role that Trustees play in the Texas Community Center system and the statutory responsibilities of Trustees as set out in Chapter 534 of the Texas Health and Safety Code. Time will be allotted for a Q&A session to cover practical issues of Board operations and Community Center governance.

*Pamela Beach, JD, MBA, BSN, General Counsel, Texas Council Risk Management Fund*

Learning Objectives:

- Define the legal role trustees play within the Texas Community Center system.
- Identify the statutory responsibilities of trustees as set out in Chapter 534 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- Explain how the requirements of the Texas Public Information Act and Open Meetings Act apply to Community Centers and trustees.



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Friday, June 23, 2023 | 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

## **988 Meets 911: A Powerful Collaboration**

*Plaza Ballroom I*

There is a significant push to foster healthier collaborations between mental health agencies and PSAP 911 Dispatch (Public Safety Answering Points) in recent years, due to catalysts including public stigma, need for trauma-informed police dispatch, triaging of more appropriate care, and more. This panel of Center crisis line leaders have begun to delve into tough conversations and plan how to lay the foundation for these relationships to flourish, with collaborations created by 988 as an example. Panelists will highlight the natural compatibility and strengths of this working relationship, as well as discuss how to overcome barriers to establishing it. Come ready to learn how to shake hands with your local PSAPs!

***Mark Ware, Senior Director of Crisis Services, MHMR of Tarrant County***

***Jennifer Battle, MSW, Vice President of Access and Community Engagement, The Harris Center for MH and IDD***

***Tara Blunk, QMHP, Crisis Call Center Director, Emergence Health Network***

***Nicole Warren, PhD, LMFT, Helpline and Crisis Line Practice Manager, Integral Care***

Learning Objectives:

- Identify local barriers to a collaboration amongst mental health professionals and 911 dispatch
- Construct a local partnership between mental health professionals and 911 dispatch using 988 collaborations as an example.
- Utilize strategies to solve logistical challenges, including training needs, funding, and contracts/agreements.

## **Community Collaboration – Bridging the Mental Health and Criminal Justice Nexus**

*San Felipe*

Collaboration between mental health authorities and the criminal justice system can reduce costs associated with incarcerating the mentally ill, avoid hospitalizations, and reduce time spent in county jails. This session will discuss collaborative strategies that can expand crisis services, crisis intervention teams (CIT), jail-based competency restoration (JBCR), jail diversion programming, and on-demand physician access in the right place at the right time.

***Andrea Kovarik, MS, LPC, Mental Health Service Director, Nueces Center for MHID***

***Mark Hendrix, MS, LPC, Director of Operations, Nueces Center for MHID***

***Shawn Barnes, Senior Officer & CIT International Certified Crisis Coordinator, Corpus Christi Policy Department***

Learning Objectives:

- Initiate collaborations within your community to help increase diversions from jails and hospitals and reduce costs associated with incarceration.
- Collect and analyze data to show outcomes and advocate for increased diversion programming from alternative funding sources.

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Friday, June 23, 2023 | 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

## **Crisis Intervention Services: Addressing Disparity of Mental Health Services for the IDD-MH Population**

*Westchester*

Compared to the general population, the IDD population is much more likely to be vulnerable and subjected to abuse, but mental health services for the IDD population tend to not utilize as many clinical tools to identify suicidal or homicidal ideations borne from anxiety, depression or other disorders developed through trauma. Crisis Intervention Services team members from Emergence Health Network will share their strategies to address the gap in assessing and addressing mental health needs for the IDD population in their community.

*Jessica Morales, LMSW, QMHP, QIDP, Director of Crisis and Emergency Services, Emergence Health Network*

*Deborah Alvidrez, MA, CIS Program Manager, Emergence Health Network*

Learning Objectives:

- Explain the causes and effects of disparity of mental health services for the IDD population.
- Identify tools and strategies to address crisis risk factors and trauma in individuals with IDD.
- Describe and differentiate the three main challenges individuals with IDD experience when accessing or receiving mental health services.

## **Improving Healthcare Delivery to Persons Experiencing Homelessness Using a Street Medicine Model**

*Post Oak*

Available CE Credits: CME, CNE, LCDC

Persons experiencing homelessness (PEH) are among the most underserved and vulnerable social groups. To increase access to healthcare and address challenges experienced by PEH, MHMR of Tarrant County created a Street Medicine program dedicated to providing integrated, individualized mobile services including psychiatric, medical, mental health, substance use, care coordination, and outreach services in homeless encampments and on the streets throughout the County. Program staff will discuss barriers, challenges, and successes of implementation and describe evaluation data and outcomes. There will be time for Q&A.

*Amy Chairez, MA, Street Medicine Program Manager, MHMR of Tarrant County*

*Linda Perna, PhD, Senior Evaluation Specialist, MHMR of Tarrant County*

Learning Objectives:

- Explain the structure and benefits of the MHMR of Tarrant County Street Medicine model of care for persons experiencing homelessness.
- Identify key components to an integrated, comprehensive mobile behavioral health unit.
- Design data collection and evaluation methods to effectively gauge outcomes of the Street Medicine model.

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Friday, June 23, 2023 | 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

## **Peer and Recovery Services Team: Highlights, Updates, and Goals**

*Tanglewood*

**Available CE Credits: Certified Peers, Certified Family Partners**

Join the Peer and Recovery Services unit of Texas HHSC as they share updates and upcoming plans for peer and recovery services in 2023. Highlights will include team goals, contract provider support, program service delivery, workforce development, certification process and updates, leadership program, training curricula revision, and a look into future development plans.

***Felicia Mason Edwards, MA, CFP, Workforce Manager, Peer and Recovery Services, Texas HHSC***

***Noah Abdenour, CPS, Director of Peer Support and Recovery, Texas HHSC***

***Elizabeth Castañeda, MHPS, LMSW, Manager of Recovery Programs and Services, Texas HHSC***

Learning Objectives:

- Articulate goals and future development plans of the HHSC Peer and Recovery Services Unit for advancing peer and recovery services in Texas.
- Apply updated information regarding ongoing programs and support for peer services in Texas to current work as a peer service provider, supervisor or organizational director at a Community Center.

## **School-related Violence: A Preventive Medicine Model and Response**

*Sage*

**Available CE Credits: CME, CNE**

Shrink Box, a nonprofit organization founded by medical directors of Tropical Texas Behavioral Health to expand mental health awareness, is developing a school shooting and violence prevention model based on the medical prevention model. The model coordinates the three pillars of the framework – schools, the legal system, and mental health services – and educates the community, schools, and first responders on their roles in preventing a school shooting and developing adequate threat assessment programs. Learn from the Shrink Box founders about the development and application of their new preventive model.

***Ricardo Irizarry, MD, MMM, LCDR, Psychiatrist and Medical Director, Tropical Texas Behavioral Health***

***Daniel Gutierrez, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Tropical Texas Behavioral Health***

***German Corso, MD, MBA, Medical Director of Child and Adolescent Services, Tropical Texas Behavioral Health***

Learning Objectives:

- Explain the coordination of the three pillars of the school violence prevention model framework: schools, legal system, and mental health services.
- Describe how to apply preventive strategies adopted from the medical prevention model based on current evidence of school shootings.

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Friday, June 23, 2023 | 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

## **State Budget and Legislative Update**

*Galleria Ballroom III*

Available CE Credits: CLE

*Of particular interest to Trustees and Chief Executive Officers/Executive Directors, Management and Communications Staff.*

Presenters will discuss highlights of the 88th Legislative Session. This presentation will also feature perspectives on current and future state budget outlooks.

***Eva DeLuna Castro, MPA, State Budget Analyst, Every Texan***

***Lee Johnson, MPA, Chief Executive Officer, Texas Council of Community Centers***

***Danette Castle, MPA, MEd, Senior Advisor, Texas Council of Community Centers***

Learning Objectives:

- Identify new state laws impacting the delivery of health care, special populations, and the Community Center system.
- Discuss the impact of these laws on Medicaid and indigent care programs and Community Center resources and operations.
- Describe additional legal requirements and constraints created by the state budget and corresponding riders.

## **Wash, Rinse and Repeat: A Three Step Approach to Effective Leadership**

*Bellaire*

New managers need guidance. Tenured managers need reminders that leadership can be simple, practical and repeatable. Every manager needs to know when effective leadership is enacted through quality relationships with the team members they serve, impactful outcomes can be achieved. This presentation will provide a framework for achieving positive outcomes while empowering staff to create their own solutions. No gimmicks or tricks to learn during this interactive presentation; just a simple, three-step relationship model, based on routine supervision meetings, that has proven successful for the presenter and team members he has managed for the past 17 years.

***Brent Lawless, EdD, MA, LPC, Practice Manager, The Harris Center for MH and IDD***

Learning Objectives:

- Differentiate the concepts of leadership and management.
- Define the role of a supportive relationship within a three-step framework for providing effective leadership.
- Define the role of a leader within routine, documented supervision meetings to achieve desired outcomes.



**Outstanding Volunteer Service Awards**

**General Session**

Thursday, June 22, 2023  
 Begins at 8:30 a.m.

The Frank M. Adams Outstanding Volunteer Service Award was established in 1990 in honor of the late Frank M. Adams, a founding member of the Texas Council of Community Centers.

The FMA Award is presented in four categories: Individual, Community, Media, and Board Service. The award recognizes a level of volunteerism that is representative of long-term commitment, is exceptional and far-reaching in scope, diversified in effort, and worthy of statewide recognition.

In 2021, the Gladdie Fowler Award for Outstanding Board Service was added in memory of Ms. Gladdie Fowler, who served the Spindletop Board of Trustees for 35 years and was a longstanding member of the Texas Council Board of Directors.

**Nominees**

**Individual**

**Gus Harris**  
 Nominated by Spindletop Center

**Richard Hopkins**  
 Nominated by Integral Care

**Shawn Barnes**  
 Nominated by Nueces Center for MHID

**Community**

**Chula Chaser for the Kids**  
 Nominated by My Health My Resources of Tarrant County

**Henderson County**  
 Nominated by Andrews Center

**Montgomery County Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention Task Force**  
 Nominated by Tri-County Behavioral Health

**The Center for Pursuit**  
 Nominated by The Harris Center for MH and IDD

**Board Service**

**Dr. Lois Moore**  
 Nominated by The Harris Center for MH and IDD

**Margaret Jones**  
 Nominated by PermianCare

**Sidney Burns**  
 Nominated by Community Healthcore

**Judge Willis V. Smith**  
 Nominated by Texas Panhandle Centers

## Frank M. Adams Outstanding Individual Volunteer Service Officer Shawn Barnes



There is no one more deserving of the Frank M. Adams award than Senior Officer Shawn Barnes, an innovator and champion for people with mental health conditions. An officer by trade, who has sworn to serve and protect the community, he goes well beyond the call of duty to make our community a better place and policing a better experience for people who interact with law enforcement.

When Officer Barnes initially applied for the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) officer role, he thought his job would consist of typical CIT officer duties - responding to crisis calls with co-responders, assisting officers on patrol by relieving them from mental health calls, and providing annual CIT training to his departments.

In his free time, Officer Barnes expanded his role by fighting to gain resources and tools to help individuals living with mental health (MH) conditions, intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), and substance use disorders (SUDs). He has secured 1,200 gun locks to keep lethal means from individuals battling suicidal ideations, volunteered to train multiple businesses, service providers, agencies and officials in de-escalation, and worked with the faith community to coordinate reunification programs and respite options. He was able to secure pedestrian signage on a local bridge, in collaboration with the Texas Department of Transportation, for the local and national crisis hotline. These are just a few examples of initiatives he has led or participated in, but you will never hear Shawn take any credit for the work he has done. Despite his sacrifices and dedication, he is always the first to acknowledge his team and affirm that their success is due to the team's effort.

Officer Barnes has had an enormous impact on the Corpus Christi community by shifting a culture of people apprehensive of dealing with police, to a culture of people requesting the police and approaching them without hesitation. By doing so, he became a leader in the law enforcement community and paved the way for a shift in response to individuals living with MH conditions, IDD, and SUDs.

Officer Barnes has been a light to his community. You will hear it directly from the members he serves daily. He continues to push for real change in the way the community approaches crisis and this population by introducing manageable projects partners can participate in. He encourages and brings community leaders together to work on improving the lives of community members, especially those who have their own experience, or know someone living with a MH condition, IDD, or SUD. To sum up, Officer Barnes in a few words: he is open-minded, supportive, encouraging, selfless, humble, a big picture thinker, and a change leader. For these reasons, Officer Shawn Barnes was selected as the recipient of the Frank M. Adams Award for Outstanding Individual Volunteer Service.

## Frank M. Adams Outstanding Community Volunteer Service

### Chula Chaser for the Kids



The Chula Chaser for the Kids motorcycle club is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to raising money for kids served by My Health My Resources (MHMR) of Tarrant County. Starting with a \$300 donation in 1990, Chula Chaser has been a generous supporter of our Community Center for more than 30 years.

Through two major functions and ongoing annual events, the Fort Worth-based organization estimates it has raised more than \$1 million in funds that go directly to MHMR for kids in early childhood intervention,

youth mental health services, disability services and youth substance use disorder services. Chula Chaser funds also are used when our youth have an immediate need for items such as clothing, shoes, hygiene products, or even a new mattress.

In addition to their numerous fundraising efforts, Chula Chaser members are exceedingly generous with their time. They volunteer at MHMR of Tarrant County events and engage directly with people we serve and their families. Examples include: participating in a Day at the Zoo for nearly 1,000 families served; attending dance parties for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and playing carnival games with participants at Day Habilitation. Each holiday season, they host a “toy run” to help raise funds, which means each year youth can attend the Chula Chaser holiday event and receive gifts from “Biker Santa.”

Considered VIPs that participants look forward to seeing, Chula Chaser members are a welcome presence at events and celebrations that enrich the lives of the people we serve - events we would not be able to host without Chula Chaser’s support. In fact, participants ask, “When are the bikers coming?” at the start of each event!

On behalf of staff and families at MHMR of Tarrant County, we are grateful to Chula Chaser for decades of support, partnership, and friendship. They are the embodiment of the spirit of giving and outstanding volunteerism represented by the Frank M. Adams Award for Community Volunteer Service.

## Gladdie Fowler Award for Outstanding Board Service

**Margaret Jones**



Margaret Jones exemplifies the spirit of servant leadership. As PermiaCare's longest-tenured board member, she is instrumental to the success of the Center. In her 27 years on the PermiaCare Board of Trustees, Margaret has served in almost every role. Currently the Chair of the Board, she provides helpful insight and guidance to PermiaCare staff and Board members. She provides leadership by example and is always willing to express her valued opinion. She has been a stalwart proponent of employee engagement and wellbeing. Margaret has represented PermiaCare on the Board of Directors of the Texas Council of Community Centers since 2008, serving as Chair during the 2020-2021 biennium, where she is known for upholding the same values and dedication in support of statewide initiatives.

Margaret's experience as a former Executive Director of Samaritan Counseling Center gives her a unique perspective into the complexities of mental health care. Her passion for quality behavioral health care is infectious. She is a dedicated advocate for the behavioral health community, both participating in and facilitating numerous important conversations through the years on behalf of PermiaCare and the Texas Community Center system with local, state, and federal government officials, in support of essential behavioral health initiatives.

Margaret has been involved in the West Texas community as a part of many other community agency Boards, often in a leadership capacity. In 2016, she was honored with the esteemed Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest Women of Distinction Award, an award given to those who exemplify women of courage, confidence, and character, making the world a better place.

Margaret exemplifies Gladdie Fowler's spirit of servant leadership through her service and dedication to PermiaCare, the West Texas community, and the Community Center system. She shows a strong respect and compassion for all people and works tirelessly for the causes important to PermiaCare and the community.



**1991**

Individual: Judge C. L. Abernethy (Central Plains MHMR Center)  
Media: Abilene Reporter News (Abilene Regional MHMR Center)  
Community: Tanglefoot Extension Homemakers (Central Counties Center for MHMR Services)

**1992**

Individual: Betty Hardwick (Abilene Regional MHMR Center)  
Media: KLBK-13 Television (Lubbock Regional MHMR Center)  
Community: No Nomination

**1993**

Individual: Jodie E. Stavinoha (Riceland Regional Mental Health Authority)  
Media: Galveston County Daily News (The Gulf Coast Center)  
Community: Methodist Hospital School of Nursing (Lubbock Regional MHMR Center)

**1994**

Individual: Felice S. Klein (MHMR Authority of Brazos Valley)  
Media: KTAB-TV (Abilene Regional MHMR Center)  
Community: No Nomination

**1995**

Individual: Charley H. Shannon, PhD (MHMR Services for the Concho Valley)  
Media: Denison Herald (MHMR Services of Texoma)  
Community: Gatesville Community Volunteers (Central Counties Center for MHMR Services)

**1996**

Individual: Suzanne Lasko (Tarrant County MHMR Services)  
Media: KFXK Fox 51, Longview (Sabine Valley Center)  
Community: Troy 4-H Club (Central Counties Center for MHMR Services)

**1997**

Individual: Norma Henry (The Center for Health Care Services & San Antonio Alliance for the Mentally Ill)  
Media: Leslie Sowers, The Houston Chronicle (MHMR Authority of Harris County)  
Community: United Service Club, Denison High School (MHMR Services of Texoma)

**1998**

Individual: Helen Dishongh (Tri-County MHMR Services)  
Media: KXII Broadcasters, Inc. (MHMR Services of Texoma)  
Community: Lufkin Alliance for the Mentally Ill (Burke Center)

**1999**

Individual: Mary Lou Caldwell (The Gulf Coast Center)  
Media: Bonham Daily Favorite (MHMR Services of Texoma)  
Community: South Liberty State Center Advisory Board (Tri-County MHMR Services)

**2000**

Individual: Donald L. Dumas (Austin Travis County MHMR Center)  
Media: Herald Democrat (MHMR Services of Texoma)  
Community: Llano Crawfish Open, Inc. (Hill Country Community MHMR Center)

**2001**

Individual: William E. Hall, Jr. (Tri-County MHMR Services)  
Media: Fort Worth Star-Telegram (MHMR of Tarrant County)  
Community: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Sherman (MHMR Services of Texoma)

**2002**

Individual: Frank K. Collins (Spindletop MHMR Services)  
Media: Eastland/Callahan County Newspaper Network (Central Texas MHMR Center)  
Community: Fayette County Commission for the Mentally Retarded (Bluebonnet Trails Community MHMR Center)

**2003**

Individual: Genevieve Tarlton Hearon (Austin Travis County MHMR Center)  
Media: The Galveston Daily News (The Gulf Coast Center)  
Community: Longview AMBUCS (Sabine Valley Center)

**2004**

Individual: Blanche Ridley (Tri-County MHMR Services)  
Media: San Antonio Express News (The Center for Health Care Services)  
Community: San Antonio Police Officers Association (The Center for Health Care Services)

**2005**

Individual: Robert Jimenez (The Center for Health Care Services)  
Media: Corpus Christi Caller-Times (MHMR Center of Nueces County)  
Community: Brown McCarroll, LLP (Austin Travis County MHMR Center)

**2006**

Individual: Hartley Sappington (Bluebonnet Trails Community MHMR Center)  
Media: Howard County ARC (West Texas Centers for MHMR)  
Community: Melissa McEver (Tropical Texas Center for MHMR)

**2007**

Individual: Beth Holt (Community Healthcare)  
Media: Trenton Tribune (MHMR Services of Texoma)  
Community: First Baptist Church of Conroe (Tri-County MHMR Services)

**2008**

Individual: Jamie Travis (The Gulf Coast Center)  
Media: Gainesville Daily Register (MHMR Services of Texoma)  
Community: Tarrant/Dallas County Toy Run Board of Directors (MHMR of Tarrant County & Metrocare Services)

**2009**

Individual: George Hernandez (The Center for Health Care Services)  
Media: Mike Henry - KBST News (West Texas Centers for MHMR)  
Community: Mayor's Mental Health Task Force Monitoring Committee (Austin Travis County MHMR Center)

**2010**

Individual: Karen M. Garber (MHMR Authority of Brazos Valley)  
Media: The Van Alstyne Leader (MHMR Services of Texoma)  
Community: The Arc of Greater Beaumont (Spindletop Center)

**2011**

Individual: Mary Ernestine Butler (Texana Center)  
Media: Victoria Advocate (Gulf Bend Center)  
Community: Alcoa Fastening Systems (Heart of Texas Behavioral Health Network)

**2012**

Individual: Barbara Duren (Tri-County Services)  
Media: Karin McCay - KCBF News (StarCare Specialty Health System)  
Community: The Rural East Texas Health Network (Burke Center)

**2013**

Individual: Eileen McDowell "The Art Lady" (Texana Center)  
Media: North Texas e-News (Texoma Community Center)  
Community: The Marc Center (Central Counties Services)

**2014**

Individual: Stephanie Contreras (Tropical Texas Behavioral Health)  
Media: Joe Pollaro (Texoma Community Center)  
Community: Mental Health Connection of Tarrant County (MHMR of Tarrant County)

**2015**

Individual: Judge Polly Spencer (The Center for Health Care Services)  
Media: KTEN News (Texoma Community Center)  
Community: Legacy Ford (Texana Center)

**2016**

Individual: Harold Wright (Texoma Community Center)  
Media: Midland Reporter-Telegram (Permian Basin Community Centers)  
Community: Abilene Christian School (Betty Hardwick Center)

**2017**

Individual: Marjorie "Ms. B" Boniface Balz (Central Counties Services)  
Media: KTRE-TV (Burke)  
Community: Lubbock County Sheriff's Department (StarCare Specialty Health System)

**2018**

Individual: Jacqueline "Jackie" Shannon (MHMR Services for the Concho Valley)  
Media: NBC 5 (Metrocare Services)  
Community: VFW Post 3278 (Metrocare Services)

**2019**

Individual: Colonel Howard Daniel, Jr. (Burke)  
Media: Nicole Hickl, KGBT-TV CBS 4 News (Tropical Texas Behavioral Health)  
Community: Grace Creek Church (Community Healthcare)

**2020**

Individual: Dianne Hickey (StarCare Specialty Health System)  
Media: KMHT Radio 103.9 (Community Healthcare)  
Community: Some Other Place (Spindletop Center)

**2021**

Individual: Wendy Perrott (LifePath Systems)  
Media: Shrink Box Podcast (Tropical Texas Behavioral Health)  
Community: UTEP Collegiate Services - Ric Romero (Emergence Health Network)  
Board: Brian Shannon (StarCare Specialty Health System)

**2022**

Community: Binky Patrol (LifePath Systems)  
Board: Jill Martinez (Metrocare Services)

## Texas Council of Community Centers Public Information, Education and Training Committee

Cary Houston, Chair  
*MHMR Services for the Concho Valley*

Larry Adams  
*Texas Panhandle Centers*

Elijah Anderson  
*Betty Hardwick Center*

Kenneth Bernstein  
*Metrocare Services*

Joann Brechtel, LMSW-AP  
*Camino Real Community Services*

Shane Britton  
*Center for Life Resources*

Tom Brown  
*Lakes Regional Community Center*

Frank Coffin  
*Spindletop Center*

Bonnie Hellums, JD  
*The Harris Center for MH and IDD*

Randi Leffall  
*Community Healthcore*

Louella Tate, PhD  
*Central Counties Services*

## Texas Council of Community Centers 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Planning Committee

Ryan Adams  
*Heart of Texas Behavioral Health Network*

Kevin Barker  
*Texana Center*

Heather Champion  
*Spindletop Center*

Mark Janes, MD  
*Bluebonnet Trails Community Services*

Tashina Landis, MBA, BSN, RN  
*Denton County MHMR Center*

Sean Mantey, LPC, LCDC  
*MHMR of Tarrant County*

Carrie Parks  
*Metrocare Services*

A. Marcelo Rodriguez-Chevres, MD  
*Emergency Health Network*

Brent Worthen, PhD  
*Texana Center*

Maria Rios  
*Texas Council of Community Centers*

Jacquelin Wang  
*Texas Council of Community Centers*

Pat Holder  
*Professional Event Services*

Tara Brown  
*Texas Council of Community Centers*

## The Harris Center for MH and IDD 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Host Center Committee

Nicole Lievsay, MPH  
*Senior Director of Strategic Communications and Development*

Ninfa Escobar, PhD  
*Director, Talent Acquisition & Organizational Development*

Jazmin Almanza  
*Communications Manager*

## Texas Council of Community Centers 2023 Frank M. Adams Awards Selection Panel

Angela Baker  
*Center for Life Resources*

Jessica Dodds  
*Gulf Bend Center*

Drue Farmer  
*StarCare Specialty Health System*

Elizabeth Lawrence  
*Pecan Valley Centers*

Nicole Lievsay  
*The Harris Center for MH and IDD*

Brent Phillips-Broadrick  
*LifePath Systems*

Sheree Prather  
*Texana Center*

Tate Ringer  
*Metrocare Services*

Daniel Thompson  
*Heart of Texas Behavioral Health Network*

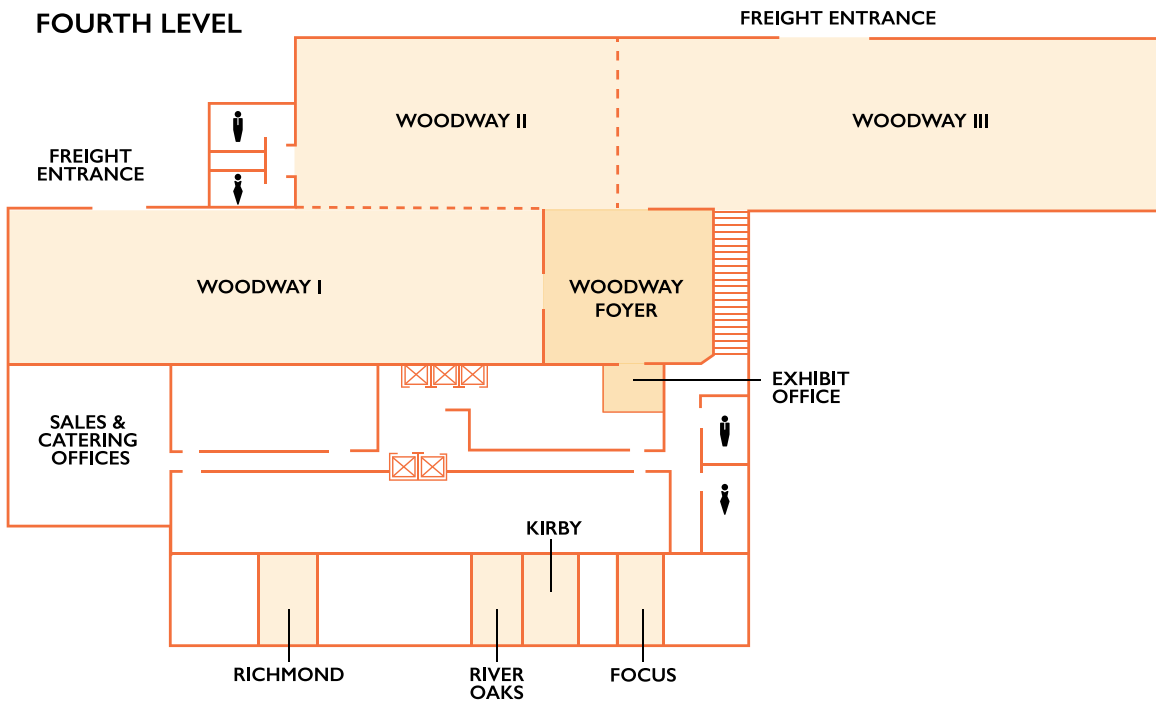


*See You  
Next Year!*

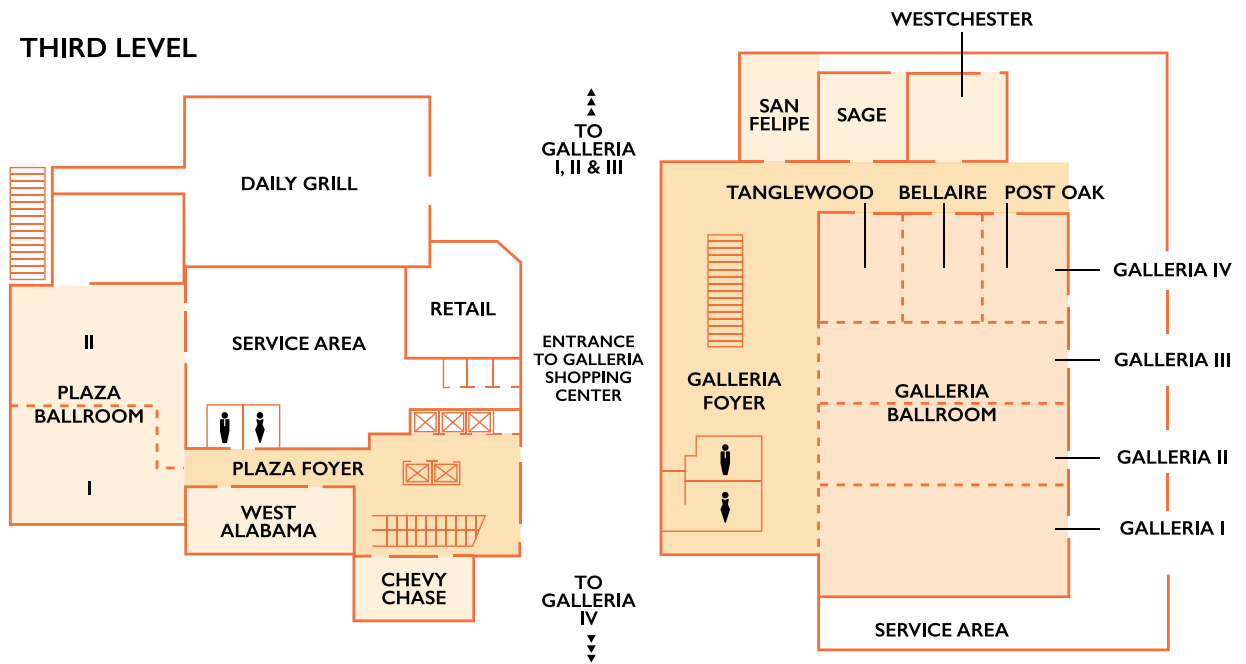
**37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TEXAS COUNCIL CONFERENCE  
GRAND HYATT SAN ANTONIO  
SAN ANTONIO, TX  
JUNE 17-19, 2024**

# HOTEL FLOOR PLAN

## FOURTH LEVEL



## THIRD LEVEL



## TWENTY FOURTH LEVEL

