

**2024 Texas Council Conference**  
**June 17-19, 2024**  
**Grand Hyatt San Antonio – San Antonio, TX**

**Preliminary Agenda**

*Information in preliminary agenda subject to change. Updated April 18, 2024.  
Continuing Education credit for multiple disciplines will be provided for this event.*

**Monday, June 17, 2024**

<b>Registration</b>	<b>7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Consortia/Workgroup Meetings</b>	<b>8:30 a.m. – Noon</b>
<b>Consortia Meetings</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDD</li> <li>• HR</li> </ul>	
<b>Workgroup Meetings</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Admins (BL-SIG)</li> <li>• Communications Special Interest Group (Comm-SIG)</li> <li>• Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)</li> </ul>	
<b>Lunch (ON YOUR OWN)</b>	<b>Noon – 1:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Opening Session</b>	<b>1:00 – 3:00 p.m.</b>
Welcome and Featured Speaker: Dr. Geeta Nayyar	
<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>	<b>3:30 – 5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Community Center AI Panel</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Felicia Jeffery, Chief Executive Officer, Gulf Coast Center</li> <li>• Shena Ureste, Incoming Chief Executive Officer, Texana Center</li> <li>• Carlos Ortiz, Chief Financial Officer, Emergence Health Network</li> <li>• Moderator: Jolene Rasmussen, Chief Strategy Officer, Texas Council of Community Centers</li> </ul>	
<b>Data-Driven Approaches to Engaging the Medically Disenfranchised</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shawna Scully, DO, COL (ret.), Chief Medical Officer, Emergence Health Network</li> </ul>	
<b>Grants and Development Tips, Tools, and Lessons Learned</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twanda Wadlington, DrPH, MPH, Senior Director of Development, MHMR of Tarrant County</li> <li>• Panel to be finalized</li> </ul>	
<b>Increasing Access and Quality of Reentry Peer Recovery Support Services in Texas</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jose Flores, LCDC, Recovery Support Services Lead, HHSC – Texas Targeted Opioid Response</li> <li>• Richard Hamner, LMSW, RSPS, LCDC-I, Program Manager of Recovery Support Services, Be Well Texas</li> </ul>	
<b>NCQA Accreditation: Preparation, Collaboration, and Lessons Learned</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sarah Kuykendall, MS, IDD Practice Manager, Integral Care</li> </ul>	
<b>Office-based Opioid Treatment Program</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brian Clark, MS, Senior Physician Assistant, The Center for Health Care Services</li> </ul>	

<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>		<b>3:30 – 5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>School-based Crisis Intervention Teams: A Multidisciplinary Response for Children and Adolescents</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Bridgette Leyva, LMSW, Manager of School-based CIT, Emergence Health Network</i></li> <li>• <i>Alyssa Flores, LPC-A, MS, MA, CIT School-based Program Manager, Emergence Health Network</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Trustee Roles and Responsibilities</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Pamela Beach, JD, MBA, BSN, General Counsel, Texas Council Risk Management Fund</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Wanna Be the CEO? How to Develop Future Leaders Within a Culture of Inclusivity</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Kelli Laos, MSW, LCSW, Chief Operating Officer, Metrocare</i></li> <li>• <i>Ariana Rosado, MS, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, Chief Human Resources Officer, Metrocare</i></li> <li>• <i>Tameka Cass, MS, Chief Development and Diversity Officer, Metrocare</i></li> <li>• <i>Tate Ringer, MA, Chief Strategy Officer, Metrocare</i></li> </ul>		

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

## Tuesday, June 18, 2024

<b>Registration</b>	<b>7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</b>
Exhibit Hall Open	7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

<b>Poster Sessions</b>		<b>8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Bridging the Gap Between Behavioral Health and Primary Healthcare</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Gloria Ramirez, MA, PSS, LPC, NCC, Clinician, PermianCare – Bridges Behavioral Health</i></li> <li>• <i>Janice Begley, Supervisor, PermianCare – Bridges Behavioral Health</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Community Center Profile Through the Years</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Tim Sneed, PhD, LPC, Healthcare Analytics Specialist, Texas Council of Community Centers</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Empowering Employment: Building Careers through Strategic Excellence</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>LaToya Kindred-Ray, MEd, Program Manager Employment Services, Integral Care</i></li> <li>• <i>Ryan McDaniel, MA, LPC-S, Practice Manager, Integral Care</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Incorporating Volunteer Opportunities for Individuals Within the ISS Program</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Colleen Wentworth, Program Manager – ISS, The Center for Health Care Services</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Integrating Trauma-Informed Care in Specialty Courts</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Nancy Tamburo-Trevino, MA, MSW, LPC-S, LCSW, LCDC, Clinical Operations Manager, The Center for Health Care Services</i></li> <li>• <i>Daniel Benavides, MS, LPC, Clinic Administrator – Outpatient Services, The Center for Health Care Services</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Mastering Career Fairs: How to Secure 25 Offers in One Day</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>J'Neen Addison, MBA, Recruiting Manager, Metrocare</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Peer Professional Role in Crisis Intervention</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Octavia Pitts, CPS, Peer Support Specialist, The Center for Health Care Services</i></li> <li>• <i>Lacey Martin, Peer Support Specialist, The Center for Health Care Services</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Tina Cisneros, LPC, Program Director of Community and Crisis Response, The Center for Health Care Services</i></li> </ul>		

<b>Poster Sessions</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Upskill Dallas: Creatively Reaching Our Future ABA Workforce</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Justin Kimble, MA, BCBA, LBA, BCBA – Clinical Supervisor and Upskill Leadership, Metrocare</li> </ul>	
<b>General Session</b>	<b>8:30 – 10:00 a.m.</b>
Frank M. Adams Awards Featured Speaker: Dr. Michael Gillette	
<b>General Session</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. – Noon</b>
State and National Perspectives Panel	
<b>Lunch (Exhibit Hall)</b>	<b>Noon – 1:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>	<b>1:30 – 3:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Care Coordination in a Fragmented World</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greg Basham, Director of Care Coordination, MHMR of Tarrant County</li> <li>Grace White, MSN, RN, APHN-BC, Chief of Quality Services/Chief of Nursing, MHMR of Tarrant County</li> </ul>	
<b>Insight into the Texas Political Landscape</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carl Isett, Former State Representative, District 84</li> <li>Harvey Kronberg, Editor and Publisher, Quorum Report</li> <li>Ross Ramsey, Consultant, Co-Founder of Texas Tribune</li> <li>Moderator: Lee Johnson, MPA, Chief Executive Officer, Texas Council of Community Centers</li> </ul>	
<b>Making Employment Programs that Work for Everyone</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gina Pena, IDD Services Director, Nueces Center for MHID</li> <li>Johnite Ryen De Jesus, Guiding Point Program Manager, Nueces Center for MHID</li> <li>Melinda Garza, Advance Employment Services Manager, Nueces Center for MHID</li> <li>Adrian Alvear, Apprenticeship Program and CIE Supervisor, Nueces Center for MHID</li> </ul>	
<b>Navigating the Intersection of Lived Experience and Professionalism</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Felicia Mason-Edwards, MA, CFP, Peer Support and Recovery Behavioral Health Services Manager, HHSC</li> <li>Janet Paleo, Director of Government Relations for Recovery-based Services, Texas Council of Community Centers</li> </ul>	
<b>Nurturing Compassion: Investing in Trauma Informed Care by Community Engagement</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Andrew Ahles, MA, LMFT-S, ICGC-I, Clinical Training Manager, Metrocare</li> <li>Tate Ringer, Chief Strategy Officer, Metrocare</li> </ul>	
<b>Overview of Mental Health Litigation: The Civil Commitment Process</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daniela Chisholm, JS, Senior Trial Attorney, El Paso County Attorney's Office</li> <li>Roberto Kutcher-Diaz, MD, Psychiatry Resident, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso</li> </ul>	
<b>Preventing Readmission Using Proactive Coordination between CMHCs and Hospitals</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jasmine Brown, MS, LPC, Director of Outpatient Operations, Metrocare</li> <li>Kristin Peterson, Director of Social Work, Parkland Hospital</li> </ul>	
<b>The Power of Mental Health First Aid Training: Exploring the Benefits of MHFA</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracy Baker, MHFA Outreach Coordinator, Spindletop Center</li> <li>Denise Lucas, MA, LPC, MHFA Outreach Worker, Helen Farabee Centers</li> </ul>	

<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>		<b>1:30 – 3:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Who Are These BH PPL?</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Brandalyn Haggerty, MS, LPC, Behavioral Health Partnership Program Liaison, The Center for Health Care Services</i></li> <li>• <i>Alex Robles, MS, LPC, Behavioral Health Partnership Program Liaison, MHMR Concho Valley</i></li> <li>• <i>David Baker, MS, LPC-S, Behavioral Health Partnership Program Liaison, Heart of Texas Behavioral Health Network</i></li> <li>• <i>Stephanie Duer, MA, LPC-S, Behavioral Health Partnership Program Liaison, Tri-County Behavioral Healthcare/Region 6 Education Service Center</i></li> <li>• <i>Rocio Bickei, MA, Behavioral Health Partnership Program Liaison, Emergence Health Network</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>		<b>3:30 – 5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Be in the Know: Texas CCBHC Criterion Updates</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Sarah Melecki, MPAff, Director of Integrated Care Strategy, HHSC</i></li> <li>• <i>Suzie Brady, MMT, MT-BC, Senior Integrated Care Specialist and Policy Lead, HHSC</i></li> <li>• <i>Kenneth Placke, MSW, LCSW-S, Integrated Care Specialist and Data &amp; Quality Lead, HHSC</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Beyond Silence: Confronting Suicidal and Homicidal Thoughts in the IDD Community</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Jessica Morales, MSW, Director of Crisis and Emergency Services, Emergence Health Network</i></li> <li>• <i>Deborah Alvidrez, MA, Crisis Intervention Services Program Manager, Emergence Health Network</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Does Telehealth Really Tele-HELP?</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Celerina Cervantes, MPh, BSN, RN, Registered Nurse – Quality Management, Tropical Texas Behavioral Health</i></li> <li>• <i>Carlos Alicea, MD, JD, MBA, Staff Psychiatrist and Medical Director, Tropical Texas Behavioral Health</i></li> <li>• <i>Jose Ledezma, MD, Physician – Primary Care, Tropical Texas Behavioral Health</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Implementing Mental Health First Aid in a Crisis Intervention Team World</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Alison Boudreaux, MA, QMHP-CS, Manager of MHFA Education and Outreach, Gulf Coast Center</i></li> <li>• <i>Shari Forward, Crisis Services Trainer, Gulf Coast Center</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Integrating and Developing a Healthy Peer Workforce Within CCBHCs</b>		
<i>Erinn Graber, MA, LPC, LCDC, PSS, Peer Services Manager, The Center for Health Care Services</i>		
<b>MDRT Teams: Answering the Call to Community Crisis</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Jason Miller, DO, Medical Director of Crisis Services, The Center for Health Care Services</i></li> </ul>		
<b>The Call with Rights-based Treatment</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Janet Paleo, Director of Government Relations for Recovery-based Services, Texas Council of Community Centers</i></li> </ul>		
<b>The Opioid Epidemic: How We Got Here and How We Can Help</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Denise Lucas, MA, LPC, MHFA Outreach Worker, Helen Farabee Centers</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Evening Event</b>		
<b>Center Party</b>		<b>6:00 – 7:30 p.m.</b>

# Wednesday, June 19, 2024

<b>Registration</b>	<b>7:30 a.m. – Noon</b>
Staff Continental Breakfast	7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

## **Concurrent Sessions** **8:30 – 10:00 a.m.**

<b>Innovating Service Delivery through Telemedicine and Partnerships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Elda Hudson, MSN, RN, Director of Care Coordination, Metrocare</i></li><li>• <i>John Burruss, MD, Chief Executive Officer, Metrocare</i></li></ul>
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<b>Monitoring Caseloads for Early Crisis Intervention in Individuals with IDD and MH</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Jessica Morales, MSW, Director of Crisis and Emergency Services, Emergence Health Network</i></li><li>• <i>Deborah Alvidrez, MA, Crisis Intervention Services Program Manager, Emergence Health Network</i></li></ul>
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<b>Overcoming Tragedy: Community Centers' Role in Family Resiliency</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Danielle Sneed, MA, LPC, Deputy Clinical Officer, LifePath Systems</i></li><li>• <i>Chandra Wiginton, LPC-A, NCC, Program Director – Family Resiliency Center of the Permian Basin, PermiaCare</i></li><li>• <i>Amanda Groller, MEd, LPC, Director of Innovative and Special Projects, Gulf Coast Center</i></li><li>• <i>Veronica Sanchez, MA, LPC-S, Executive Director, Camino Real Community Services</i></li><li>• <i>Rene Hurtado, Chief of Staff, Emergence Health Network</i></li></ul>
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<b>RetentionRx: Prescriptions to Reduce Turnover and Foster a Thriving Workplace</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Elizabeth Ackley, Senior Director of Learning and Development, The Center for Health Care Services</i></li><li>• <i>Lauren Rodriguez-Thompson, RN, Occupational Health and Wellness RN, The Center for Health Care Services</i></li></ul>
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<b>Saving Lives through Mental Health Education and Crisis Intervention</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Jonathan Bohannon, LCDC-I, Director of Military and Veteran Services, Emergence Health Network</i></li></ul>
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<b>Staff Resiliency: Being Trauma Informed Without Being Trauma Avoidant</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Elizabeth Stasey, MA, LPC-S, LCDC, Clinical Director of Behavioral Health, MHMR of Tarrant County</i></li><li>• <i>Martha Sanderford-Smith, MSN, RN, MA, Director of Nursing, MHMR of Tarrant County</i></li></ul>
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<b>State Budget and Legislative Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Lee Johnson, MPA, Chief Executive Officer, Texas Council of Community Centers</i></li><li>• <i>Danette Castle, MPA, MEd, Senior Advisor, Texas Council of Community Centers</i></li><li>• <i>Eva DeLuna Castro, Senior Budget Analyst, Office of State Representative Trey Martinez Fischer</i></li></ul>
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<b>State Hospital Step Down: A Transitional Approach to Serve the Whole Person</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Dalia Villa, Director of Crisis Services, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services</i></li><li>• <i>Briana Porter, Program Manager – State Hospital Step Down, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services</i></li><li>• <i>Sandra Morris, Director of Residential Nursing, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services</i></li><li>• <i>Christopher Donatto, Director of Peer and Veteran Services, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services</i></li></ul>
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<b>General Session</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. - Noon</b>
Featured Speaker: Kirsten Farrell and Send-Off	

## **Peer Post-Conference Training** **12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

