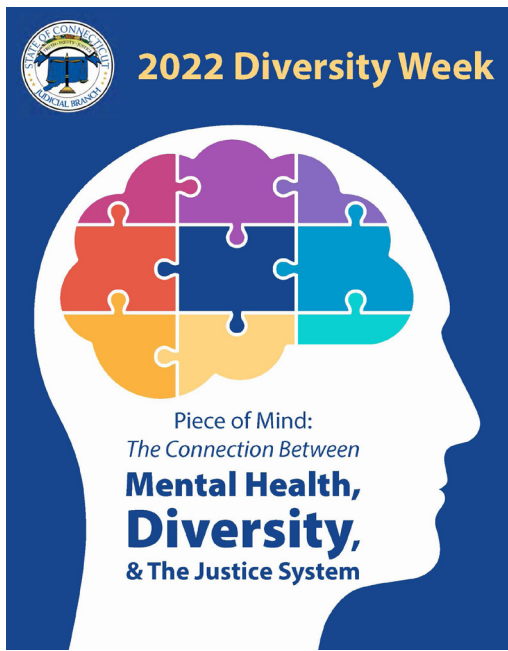


2022 Virtual Diversity Week Schedule



Monday, October 24: 9:00 am to 10:30 am Diversity Week Opening Ceremony

During the keynote, Dr. Crystal Dieleman will share her understanding of how to prevent and reduce the criminal justice involvement of people with mental health concerns, understand and improve mental health care in criminal justice settings, and define and build the potential role of Judicial Branch employees in supporting justice-involved individuals. The focus of her work has been on the criminalization of mental illness, individualizing the problem to the person. When an individual who has mental health concerns becomes involved with the criminal justice system, the person's health and wellness are only one part of the story. Research indicates that prior to these incidents, individuals and their families often try to get help, and they cannot get the necessary help they need when they need it. The mental health concerns were not addressed because, as often there needs to be some type of crisis before people can access services.

Presenter:

Dr. Crystal Dieleman is an occupational therapist and assistant professor at Dalhousie University. Her passion is mental health and criminal justice. She started her career as an occupational therapist in the psychiatric treatment centers of the Correctional Service of Canada, working with men who suffer from mental illnesses as they prepared to re-enter the community. She holds a Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Science and works tirelessly to understand the different factors contributing to the criminalization of people with mental health concerns and how to prevent or reduce their involvement in the criminal justice system as they transition from prison or forensic hospital back to community life.

CMN-DW-100
Class ID: 0000073134
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Monday, October 24: 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Cultural and Structural Competence in the Treatment of Justice-involved Individuals With Mental Illness

This session will review cultural competence, highlighting the importance of identifying and addressing cultural factors that can influence treatment outcomes. In addition, the session will introduce the concept of structural competence, i.e., examining and addressing the upstream social determinants of mental health and criminal-legal outcomes. Case examples will be used to illustrate cultural and structural competence when working with justice-involved individuals with mental illness.

Presenter:

Dr. Reena Kapoor is a Yale University Associate Professor of Psychiatry in the Law & Psychiatry Division, where her clinical work and scholarship focus on the intersection of mental illness, violence, and the criminal justice system. She has expertise in the psychiatric evaluation and treatment of violent and justice-involved individuals in a variety of treatment settings (e.g., prisons, jails, forensic hospitals, and the community). In addition, she serves as Program Director for the Yale Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship, teaching, and supervising fellows in the country's largest training program for forensic psychiatrists. Dr. Kapoor has lectured nationally and internationally on forensic psychiatry and holds leadership positions in several professional organizations. She is chair of the American Psychiatric Association's Committee on Judicial Action, president of the Association of Directors of Forensic Psychiatry Fellowships, and a past president of the Connecticut Psychiatric Society and International Association for Forensic Psychotherapy. Before joining the Law & Psychiatry faculty, Dr. Kapoor completed her residency training in psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, a forensic psychiatry fellowship at Yale, and medical school at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine.

CMN-DW-101
Class ID: 0000073155
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Tuesday, October 25: 9:00 am to 11:30 am

How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Judicial Decision-Making

Although prevalence estimates vary, there is a consensus that high percentages of justice-involved women and men have experienced serious trauma throughout their lifetime. The reverberating effects of traumatic experiences can challenge a person's capacity for recovery and pose significant barriers to accessing services, often resulting in an increased risk of criminal justice involvement. How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Judicial Decision-Making is a training program for court professionals to:

- Increase understanding of trauma
- Create an awareness of the impact of trauma on behavior
- Develop trauma-informed responses

Trauma-informed court responses can help to avoid retraumatizing individuals, and, thereby, increase safety for all, decrease recidivism, and promote and support the recovery of justice-involved women and men with serious mental illness. Partnerships across systems can also help to link individuals to trauma-informed services, including treatment.

Trainer:

John Watts is a criminal justice practitioner and educator with over 19 years of experience working in the criminal justice system. He currently serves as a Chief Probation Officer with the State of Connecticut Judicial Branch and an adjunct professor at Gateway Community College. John is a trauma trainer with the SAMHSA's GAINS Center and holds certifications as a Criminal Justice Addiction Professional (CCJP) and in Forensic Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (F-CBT). He is a recent graduate of the Transforming Youth Justice Program at the Tow Youth Justice Institute at the University of New Haven. John has a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts from Charter Oak State College, a Master's Degree in Management and Organizational Leadership from Albertus Magnus College, and is currently a Doctoral candidate at Saint Leo University.

CMN-DW-102
Class ID: 0000073158
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Tuesday, October 25: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness

On March 30, 2020, the Conference of Chief Justices and Conference of State Court Administrators established the National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness with a charge to "assist state courts in their efforts to more effectively respond to the needs of court-involved individuals with serious mental illness." State courts are too often the primary point of intersection between the community and those with behavioral health issues. Local jails and detention centers are the largest providers of mental health services for both adults and children. The Task Force has been working to examine the mental health crisis and is developing the policies, resources, tools, and other practices needed to create a more effective, fair, and timely judicial response.

In this panel, executive committee members of the National Judicial Task Force Executive Committee Members will examine state courts' response to mental illness, as well as the unit's goals and challenges as they effect changes.

Panelists:

Honorable Richard Robinson
Chief Justice Connecticut Supreme Court
Honorable Tonnya Kohn
State Court Administrator South Carolina Supreme Court
Honorable Paula M. Carey
Chief Justice Massachusetts Trial Court (retired)

Moderator:

Patricia Tobias
Principal Court Management Consultant
National Center for States Court

CMN-DW-103
Class ID: 0000073174
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Wednesday, October 26: 9:00 am to 11:30 am

QPR Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Prevention

QPR (Question, Persuade, and Refer) Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Prevention is an evidence-based program that teaches three simple steps that anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. Gatekeepers are those who are strategically positioned to recognize and refer someone at risk of suicide. Upon completion of the training, participants will receive a QPR booklet and wallet card as a review and resource tool.

As a QPR-trained Gatekeeper, you will:

1. Recognize the warning signs of suicide
2. Learn how to:
 - a. Question a person's desire or intent regarding suicide
 - b. Persuade the person to seek and accept help
 - c. Refer the person to appropriate resources

Trainer:

Heather L. Clinger is a program manager with Wheeler Clinics' Connecticut Center for Prevention, Wellness, and Recovery. Throughout her career, Heather has worked in the health and wellness field on a variety of projects, including underage and high-risk drinking prevention, opioid and stimulant misuse prevention, mental health promotion, suicide prevention, and tobacco cessation. She is an active member of many committees and boards, including the Connecticut Suicide Advisory Board. She is a certified instructor for QPR Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Prevention; Mental Health First Aid; Youth Mental Health First Aid; ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training); and Freedom from Smoking. Heather earned her Master of Public Health degree from The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services.

Wheeler Clinic is an independent, non-profit, community-based organization that provides a comprehensive continuum of integrated care, including primary and behavioral health care, mental health and substance abuse recovery services, child welfare, special education, early childhood, community justice, foster care, an employee assistance program, and prevention and wellness programs. They have more than 110 programs for individuals and families at every stage of life.

CMN-DW-104
Class ID: 0000073176
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Wednesday, October 26: 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Using Mental Health Assessment and Cultural Competency to Achieve Better Outcomes

This presentation will discuss the ways the Hartford Community Court connects people with mental health treatment services and providers to find productive solutions to cases that come before the court, as well as how cultural awareness assists in determining the treatment and disposition of cases in the community court.

The Hartford Community Court opened in 1998 to focus on quality-of-life cases in the Hartford Judicial District utilizing a restorative justice approach that combines accountability and opportunity through community service, social service, and educational opportunities to find productive solutions for these cases.

Panelists:

Honorable Michael Wu
Presiding Judge Hartford Community Court

Chris Pleasanton
Program Manager Court Operations
Hartford Community Court

Mildred Hickman
Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Liaison
Hartford Community Court

CMN-DW-105
Class ID: 0000073314
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Wednesday, October 26: 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Substance Use, Criminal Justice System Involvement, and Stigma

Drs. Earnshaw and Howell will first define stigma and provide a conceptual overview of how stigma is associated with behavioral, mental, and physical health outcomes. Next, they will summarize research on stigma in the contexts of substance use and criminal justice system involvement. Finally, they will describe approaches for intervening to address stigma. After the presentation, Drs. Earnshaw and Howell will facilitate a discussion with audience members regarding innovative approaches to addressing the stigma associated with substance use and criminal justice system involvement to improve equity.

Presenters:

Dr. Valerie Earnshaw is a social psychologist who studies stigma and substance use disorders. Her research contributes to the understanding of how individuals in recovery experience stigma and how stigma harms recovery efforts. Dr. Earnshaw is an Associate Professor of Human Development and Family Sciences at the University of Delaware and the recipient of the Early Career Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest from the American Psychological Association.

Dr. Benjamin A. Howell is a general internist and addiction medicine health services researcher. Dr. Howell is an Assistant Professor of Medicine with faculty appointments in the Section of General Internal Medicine, SEICHE Center for Health and Justice, and the Program in Addiction Medicine, all based at the Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Howell's research is focused on improving the health outcomes of individuals, families, and communities impacted by mass incarceration, increasing access to evidence-based treatment and harm reduction strategies for addiction, and developing innovative models of primary care delivery.

CMN-DW-106
Class ID: 0000073316
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Thursday, October 27: 9:00 am to 10:30 am

How Good Medicine is Using Indigenous Culture to Tackle Mental Health

In this session, we will discuss how the traditional and cultural practices found within Indigenous communities are helping to address mental health issues.

Presenter:

Scott Barton is a member of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe located in eastern CT. In one of his many leadership roles within the tribe, he serves as the Project Director for the Good Medicine Project, a SAMHSA-funded Native Connectives Grant. Before his work on the Good Medicine Project, he served as the Executive Assistant to the Tribal Council Vice-Chair for five years, a certified 911 Dispatcher, and the Collections Manager/Registrar for the Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center overseeing the museums artifacts.

Scott has experience in needs assessment, strategic planning, developing youth leadership programs, establishing government policies and priorities, and working across various sectors both within and outside the native community. Scott is also an evidence-based trainer in suicide prevention and a skilled facilitator of GONA practices, a culture-based planning process where community members gather to address community-identified issues using an interactive approach that empowers and supports American Indian and Alaska Native tribes.

In 2018, Scott co-wrote and presented research findings at the International Fields of Conflict Conference highlighting the impacts of historical trauma on Mashantucket Pequot youth. Good Medicine is currently in year two of a five-year grant. This is the second time this project has received the Native Connections grant. In the seven years, the project has been in existence, the Pequot community has experienced positive increases in readiness as well as native and non-native partnerships and decreases in stigma related to youth suicide and substance abuse.

CMN-DW-107
Class ID: 0000073318
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Thursday, October 27: 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Black Mental Health: Overcoming History and Contemporary Discrimination

The speaker will address the historical and cultural context of survival for persons of African descent in the U.S. and the impact of race-related discrimination and microaggression as well as important cultural resources.

Presenter:

Dr. Rheeda Walker is a clinical psychologist, award-winning University of Houston Professor, a fellow in the American Psychological Association, and a leading scholar who has published more than 60 scientific papers on African American mental health, suicide, and resilience. Her highly acclaimed first book, *The Unapologetic Guide to Black Mental Health*, makes sense of cultural tensions and lays out practical strategies for improving psychological well-being in the Black community. Dr. Walker's charismatic expertise has led her to appearances on Good Morning America, The Breakfast Club radio show, Red Table Talk, and NPR, to name a few.

CMN-DW-108
Class ID: 0000073320
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Friday, October 28: 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Creating Successful Partnerships: Mental Health and Law Enforcement

This panel includes mental health professionals and law enforcement practitioners, who will use their direct lived experience navigating mental health, addiction, and trauma to promote individual growth, human rights, and systems transformation.

The Police/mental health partnerships provide a valuable pre-arrest, jail diversion model to reduce the number of people with mental health issues entering our jails and prisons. These partnerships, called Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT) create working relationships between police and state-founded Mobile Crisis Teams to work collaboratively to assess the needs of people in behavioral health crises and to link them to community-based services instead of arrest, whenever possible.

The Connecticut Alliance to Benefit Law Enforcement (CABLE) is a non-profit, 501 (C)(3) research and training collaborative whose mission is to serve as an interdisciplinary resource and catalyst for law enforcement and community collaboration, support, and education. CABLE brings community and law enforcement resources together to address common issues related to mental health. CABLE's strength is its ability to bring together people from diverse perspectives who are committed to working collaboratively for the common good.

For more than 20 years, CABLE has delivered Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), Peer Support, and related mental health training to first responders, probation and parole officers, judicial marshals, dispatchers, corrections personnel as well as other state and federal law enforcement entities in Connecticut.

Panelists:

Louise Pyers, M.S., B.C.E.T.S.
Founder, Executive Director Connecticut Alliance to Benefit Law Enforcement

Katy Kleis, Ph.D.
Co-Director Connecticut Alliance to Benefit Law Enforcement
Professor & Department Chair, Criminal Justice Manchester Community College

Michael Fumiatti
Lieutenant New Haven Police Department

CMN-DW-109
Class ID: 0000073322
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Friday, October 28: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Slavery & Generational Trauma: Lanier v. Harvard University

The Lanier family and their attorneys will tell the emotional story of the legal journey to reclaim the images of their great-great-great grandfather, an enslaved man named Renty, from Harvard University. The panel will provide an update on the case and answer questions.

Panelists:

Tamara K. Lanier
Case Plaintiff

Shonrae P.G. Lanier
Lanier Family Member

Josh Koskoff
Plaintiff Attorney

Preston Tisdale
Plaintiff Attorney

Moderator:

Troy Brown
Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency

CMN-DW-110
Class ID: 0000073324
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All sessions will be virtually held using Microsoft Teams. You will need a PC or mobile device.

For questions or more information, e-mail JBACCC@jud.ct.gov.