

Facilitating Family Engagement Through

Peer Support Entering treatment is a highly stressful, perhaps even traumatic, experience for youth and their families. We will step into a parents' shoes and get an in-depth look at their thoughts, feelings and explore strategies for connecting and collaborating with families from the beginning before treatment, through the transition back. **Presenter:** Chrissie Veerkamp, CFPS, CPSP, *Parent Partner*, Nexus

Permanency Based Family Work: A Resilient Model for Families Formed by

Adoption Families formed by adoption are 4-7 times likely to place their children in residential treatment centers than non-adoptive families. This innovative model addresses core themes: loss and grief, split-loyalty, identity, openness in adoption, transracial adoption, and rehoming. In-home and center-based family work can create a new social resilient narrative for permanency. **Presenter:** Jeff Friedman, PhD, LCSW, QCSW, *Clinical Director*, Warwick Family Services

Your Role in Life History and Its Impacts on Youth Mental Health

Come learn how to bridge the gap between the information you have as residential care staff, and the information that is available to the young person when they process their life, so it can happen in the most healing and impactful way. **Presenter:** Alisa Matheson, *Founder and Executive Director*, Power of Story

Workshop Session C

Thursday, May 18

11:30am-1pm



More Than Family Therapy - What Family Partnership in Residential Care Looks Like

Approaching families as partners in our work leads to better engagement, consistency in follow through with services, and ultimately better outcomes for children, youth, and families, especially in residential care. However, it can be challenging to shift to a family-driven approach, involving time, intentionality, and healthy discomfort for true change. It is so much more than family therapy or visits. Pulling on research, best practices, and time proven strategies from the field, we will identify the levels of engagement (involvement, engagement, and driven/partnership) and offer guidance and strategies for implementing family driven care effectively at the individual, program, and organizational levels. **Presenter:** Millie Sweeney, *Director, Learning and Workforce Development*, Family-Run Executive Director Leadership Association (FREDLA)

Erasing the Belonging Gap for Youth Who Have Experienced Trauma and Adversity

Backed by research and lived experience, this workshop is about how you can begin to erase the belonging gap for the youth you serve. You will be informed, challenged, and inspired to continue the life-changing work, but with a different perspective and intention. **Presenter:** Gaelin Elmore, *Motivational Speaker, Lived Experience Expert*

Don't Call Us "Outliers:" What Organizations Can Learn by Adopting Human Centered Evaluation Techniques

The experiences of youth and families that are considered program "outliers" are often minimized when evaluating program impact. This presentation describes our efforts to engage and learn from our outcomes "outliers" to promote data integrity and equitable treatment. **Presenters:** April Wall-Parker, MS, *Research Coordinator*, Teeh Tinsley, LMSW, *Program Director*, Michael Valenti, PhD, *Senior Research Coordinator*, and Patti McCloud, *Family Support Coordinator & Certified TFC-TOT*, Pressley Ridge



Workshop Session C *continued*

Beyond the Anecdotal - Nurturing Collaboration Across a Child's Village in Measuring Developmental Achievements and Care Outcomes Developed and published in 2012 by Drs Leon Fulcher and Thom Garfat, Outcomes that Matter (OTM) has been created as a recording instrument that builds from the half-century of research carried out by the Minneapolis-based Search Institute. This presentation will highlight key features of the Outcomes that Matter protocol as a web-based recording and reporting solution. **Presenters:** Edwina Poynton, MsS, CYC, and Shane Murdoch, TransformAction Outcomes

Healing the System: Enhancing Youth Outcomes Through Family System Approaches Serving family/caretaking systems is a key to providing holistic care to young people. This presentation explores challenging dynamics of family systems and offers guidance on integrating theories of family systems with trauma informed approaches to provide young people and their caretaking systems with highest quality outcomes. **Presenter:** Jennie Null, LMFT, RPT-S, *Institute of Learning Director*, Tanager - Meraki Institute of Learning



Workshop Session C *continued*

Ongoing Staff Development: Improving Efficacy and Retention for Direct Care and Supervisory Staff

Retention of high-quality workers is essential for residential providers. Effective on-going staff training can lead to increased staff retention while also fostering job skills. The presentation will provide 2 examples of how staff development for both direct care staff and supervisory staff can improve agency culture and increase staff retention.

Presenters: Dina McManus, LCSW-R, *Director of Clinical Services*, Camela Hughes, PhD, *Assistant Director of PQI*, LaSalle School, and Chris Delap, *Director of Behavioral Services*, Lakemary Center

Family Partners as Essential Staff in Residential Interventions: Developing the Capacity

The transformational potential of hiring family members as peer support staff is becoming more widely recognized. This workshop draws upon the expertise of family peer partners to present a short review of family driven care, address the information from a related preconference session and plenary, and discuss strategies for developing family peer partner capacity.

Presenters: Bob Lieberman, MA, LPC, *Founder & CEO*, Lieberman Group, Inc.; Mark Nickell, *Executive Director*, BBI; and Nancy Craig, *Director*, FTYNS

