

14TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE for NYC Working Peer specialists - SAVE THE DATES

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To: Rita Cronise <rmc277@shp.rutgers.edu>

SAVE THE DATE

14TH ANNUAL NYC CONFERENCE for Working Peer Specialists



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THREE DAY ONLINE VIRTUAL
CONFERENCE

Overview

In this time of unpredictability and uncertainty, we have all discovered new ways of carrying on with what is important to us. Although we cannot convene face-to-face as we have for previous conferences, we are proud

to hold the **14th Annual New York City Conference for Working Peer Specialists**, virtually.

As our world continues to change, as working Peer Specialists we are even more dedicated to supporting people in their recovery.

Please join us for the first of three sessions in our **Summer Seminar Series**.

Dates

Thursday, July 16, 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Thursday, August 20, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Thursday, September 17, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Welcomes



Amanda Saake, LMSW, CPRP, NYCPS-P
Special Assistant to the Commissioner,
Director of Office of Consumer Affairs



Hillary Kunins, MD, MPH
Executive Deputy Commissioner Mental
Hygiene, New York City Department of
Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of
Mental Hygiene



Carlton Whitmore
Director of The Office of Consumer Affairs,
New York City Department of Health and
Mental Hygiene, Division of Mental Hygiene



Celia Brown, NYCPS
Regional Advocacy Specialist, New York State
Office of Mental Health, Office of Consumer
Affairs

Keynote Speaker



Chacku Mathai

About the Keynote Speaker

Chacku Mathai is an Indian-American who became involved in mental health and addiction recovery at the age of 15. His own experience with trauma, suicide, mental health, and substance use launched Chacku and his family towards efforts to advocate for improved services, social conditions, and alternative supports in the community.

He has accumulated over thirty years of experience in behavioral health systems transformation in a variety of roles from youth leadership and community organizing to policy and executive leadership. Chacku is currently the Project Director for the Center for Practice Innovations OnTrackNY team.

Seminars for Thursday, July 16

The following are the exciting seminars for Thursday, July 16. We will send additional e-blasts for August 20th and September 17th.

- 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Welcomes and Housekeeping

If you are new to the world of virtual workshops, we will teach you to navigate the Zoom platform to get the most out of today.

- 9:30 - 10:00 AM

We Are Rivers, Not Statues

Keynote Presentation, Room A

- 10:15-11:45

Morning Workshops

(You will be asked to choose one of three Workshops A, B, or C)

Morning Workshop A

Food as Medicine: Discussion on Food, Health and the Peer Movement

Sean Brennan, Founder & Executive Director, Brain Food Garden Project

Liz Brier, MAHAP,
CPRP, NYCPS, Senior Training &
Implementation Specialist, The
Center for Rehabilitation &
Recovery/The Coalition for
Behavioral Health

Celia Brown, NYCPS, Regional
Advocacy Specialist, NYS Office of
Mental Health, Office of Consumer
Affairs

Learn about the various ways that food can
lend itself to wellness and engage with
presenters on a harm reduction approach
to eating healthy. This information can help
you to assist individuals you are supporting
as well as yourself.

Morning Workshop B

**Stories from the Field - The Evolving
Role of Peers at NYC Dept of Health
& Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)**

Carlton Whitmore, Director, NYC
DOHMH Office of Consumer Affairs

Kevin Cleare, LMSW, CASAC Master
Counselor, Co-Response & HEAT
Community Supervisor, Bureau of
Health Promotion of Justice
Impacted Populations, NYC DOHMH

Audonelle Loreto, HEAT Health
Navigator, NYC DOHMH

Williemae Jackson, Wellness

Advocate, RELAY Team, NYC
DOHMH

Learn how the DOHMH supports partners and creates opportunities for NYC's diverse peer workforce through the experiences of the panelists.

Morning Workshop C

ABLE Plans: The New Way to Save for Health & Wellness

Regina Shoen, NYCPS, Advocacy Specialist II, NYS Office of Mental Health

Christopher Coyle, MEd, Mental Health Program Specialist, Office of Consumer Affairs, NYS Office of Mental Health

Understand the benefits of establishing and using an ABLÉ Savings Account. You will learn how to establish this type of account, along with the qualifying disability expenses for the account.

12:00-1:30 PM -

Afternoon Workshops

(You will be asked to choose one of three Workshops A, B, or C)

Afternoon Workshop A

Career Mobility: Effective Career Advancement Advocacy Within Your Agency

Jessica Wolf, Principal, Decision
Solutions Consulting

Liz Breier, MAHAP,
CPRP, NYCPS, Senior Training &
Implementation Specialist, The
Center for Rehabilitation &
Recovery/The Coalition for
Behavioral Health

Jeremy Reuling, NYCPS, Director, On
Track NY

Learn specific advocacy steps that
individuals can take within their agencies
for the creation and ongoing support of
career development opportunities that
maintain peer values.

Afternoon Workshop B

Supervision as Collaboration: Building Out Versus Measuring Up

Jonathan P. Edwards, LCSW, ACSW,
M.Phil., NYCPS, Program Consultant,
NYC DOHMH, Bureau of Alcohol and
Drug Use Prevention, Care and
Treatment

Gita Enders, LMSW, MA, CPRP,
NYCPS, Director, Consumer Affairs,
Office of Behavioral Health, NYC
Health +Hospitals

Supervisors guide professional growth and
development while honing their own skills
through a reciprocal learning process.

Attendees will engage in dialogue and role-play to problem-solve issues raised in supervision from various perspectives.

Afternoon Workshop C

Connection to Breath, Connection to Self

Michael Stipkala, NYCPS-P, Director of Supported Education, Baltic Street AEH Inc.

Supporting people who are stressed, distressed or in crisis can be trying, tiring, and exhausting to the point of burnout. Participants will be introduced to simple and accessible concepts and tools for self-care using one's own breath.

Offered at No Charge to Participants

This conference was initially designed specifically for New York City Peer Specialists working in mental health, substance use, family and youth fields to enhance their skills and obtain new knowledge and information. We also welcome allies and stakeholders, including supervisors of peer specialists, program administrators, and organizations interested in employing peer specialists or expanding their peer specialist workforce. Workshops will reflect innovative national, state, and local programs, practices, and initiatives that support the future development

and sustainability of the peer specialist workforce.

CEU Approval for Conference Attendance

CEU approval for conference attendance is pending with the NYPSCB.

Conference Sponsors

We wish to thank our Conference Sponsors. New York State Office of Mental Health, Office of Consumer Affairs • New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Bureau of Mental Health, Office of Rehabilitation Programs • New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene • Office of Consumer Affairs, Division of Mental Hygiene • New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Use Prevention, Care and Treatment • Baltic Street AEH, Inc. • CBC Coordinated Behavioral Care • The Coalition for Behavioral Health: The Center for Rehabilitation and Recovery • NYC Health + Hospitals, Office of Behavioral Health • Howie The Harp Advocacy Center, a program of Community Access, Inc. • New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (NYAPRS)

We wish to thank NYAPRS for their support in co-hosting this event.

For further questions about registration or program email Celia Brown at Celia.Brown@omh.ny.gov or call 646-784-4171.

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