

2025 AMHCA Annual Conference
BALANCING GROWTH AND CONNECTION IN
MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

The Flamingo Hotel - Las Vegas, Nevada

JUNE 24 | JUNE 27

Schedule of Events

2025 AMHCA Annual Conference

BALANCING GROWTH AND CONNECTION IN MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

The Flamingo Hotel - Las Vegas, Nevada

TUESDAY, JUNE 24 | PRE-CONFERENCE

9:00AM - 12:00PM

S **Refresh, Reframe, and Reclaim:
An Introduction to Restorative
Supervision**

with Megan Boyd, PhD, LPC, CPCS

This workshop will engage educators, supervisors, and students in learning and identifying foundational supervisor skills aligned with integrated, developmental, & restorative supervisory framework. These skills remain focused on Safety in Self, Safety in Self, and Safety in the System as clinical development occurs in the group and individual supervision session.

T **Trauma and Holistic Counseling Ethics**
E *with Gray Otis, PhD, NCC, CCMHC, AMHCA
Diplomate*

Developing accurate diagnoses and formulating integrative treatment plans is essential for ethical practice. Most clients presenting with anxiety, depression, substance use, and compulsive behaviors have experienced trauma or chronic distress. This presentation provides enhanced applications for comprehensive diagnosis and treatment.

9:00AM - 12:00PM

CF **The Impact of Counseling on the
Family Cancer Caregiver**

with Amy Halter, Ph.D, M. ED, M.A

How can we support the family cancer caregiver? This session will focus on understanding caregiver burden by utilizing the Indivisible Self Model (Myers & Sweeny, 2005) to categorize caregiver needs in order to develop strength based interventions to assist them in their caregiving journey.

2:00PM - 5:00PM

E **Beyond Compliance: DBT-Inspired
Solutions for Ethical Practice**

with Diana Partington, LPC-MHSP

This engaging workshop equips mental health professionals with DBT-inspired strategies for navigating ethical dilemmas and managing boundaries sustainably. Clinicians will learn actionable techniques for addressing therapy-interfering behaviors, setting clear limits, and handling complex ethical scenarios with clarity, empathy, and resilience—preventing burnout while upholding high ethical standards.

2:00PM - 5:00PM

S **Building Clinical Supervisor's
Professional Identity as Gatekeepers
in the Mental Health Field**
E

*with Leandrea R. Romero Lucero, PhD,
LPCC, ACS, CSOTS*

This presentation will discuss how clinical supervisors (and their organizations) can set clear gatekeeping practices from the onset of the supervisory relationship through the use of AMHCA code of ethics and gatekeeping best practices and apply it to a case study.

T **Applying Yasso's Cultural Wealth
Model to Suicide Prevention,
Intervention, and Postvention**

with Shernell Elibox, PhD, M.A., NCC

Emerging research in the suicidology and counseling canon has identified the role of culture in suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention in racially, culturally, and linguistically diverse populations.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 24 | PRE-CONFERENCE

Schedule At-A-Glance

Tuesday, June 24

9:00AM - 5:00PM: Pre-Conference Sessions

Wednesday, June 25

1:00PM - 5:00PM: Keynote Address

5:00PM - 7:00PM: Welcome Reception

Thursday, June 26

8:00AM - 9:00AM: Breakfast

9:00AM - 10:30AM: Breakout Sessions

11:00AM - 12:30PM: Breakout Sessions

12:30PM - 1:30PM: Lunch

1:30PM - 3:00PM: Breakout Sessions

3:30PM - 5:00PM: Breakout Sessions

Friday, June 27

8:00AM - 9:00AM: Breakfast

9:00AM - 10:30AM: Breakout Sessions

11:00AM - 12:30PM: Breakout Sessions

12:30PM - 1:30PM: Lunch

1:30PM - 3:00PM: Breakout Sessions

3:30PM - 5:00PM: Breakout Sessions



The American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA) has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 1012. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are identified with an asterisk. AMHCA is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.

9:00AM - 5:30PM

Forensic Mental Health Evaluation Workshop

(separate registration with NBFE required at <https://nbfe.net/event-6043488>)

Aaron Norton, PhD, LMHC, LMFT, CRC, CFMHE & Norman Hoffman, PhD, EdD, LMHC, LMFT, CFMHE, CCCE, CFBA, CFP

In support of the American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA), the National Board of Forensic Evaluators, Inc. (NBFE) announces our exclusive forensic mental health evaluator certification training event is a Hybrid Event, enabling mental health professionals across the country to attend remotely. NBFE is the only forensic certification organization officially endorsed by the American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA).

Forensic mental health evaluation is an impactful and lucrative area of specialization for licensed mental health professionals, yet few counselors, social workers, and marriage and family therapists are exposed to this unique specialty in their graduate training. Whether you plan on working full time in forensics or just wish to supplement your practice with an additional funding stream, this credential can help you establish yourself as a forensic expert. If you already work in the forensic field, this credential can boost your resume, sharpen your evaluation skills, and enhance your reputation as an expert.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will describe the certification and credentialing process for the Certified Forensic Mental Health Evaluator (CFMHE) credential.
- Participants will define "forensic mental health evaluation" and describe differences between forensic and clinical evaluations, ethical considerations for forensic evaluation, types of forensic mental health evaluations, and qualifications for administering and interpreting psychological tests.
- Participants will summarize subject matter incorporated into the CFMHE written examination, including Parental Alienation Syndrome and child custody cases, assessment and testing principles, psychopathic traits, domestic violence, competency to stand trial, malingering, civil commitment, laws and standards of forensic mental health evaluation, assessment of violence and suicide potential, interviewing techniques, personal injury cases, juvenile assessment, substance abuse evaluation, sexual abuse, expert witness standards, and resources to learn more.
- Participants will write a quality forensic evaluation report.
- Participants will describe tips and strategies for the oral examination and expert witness testimony.
- Participants will identify tests that can be used for forensic applications.

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25 | KEYNOTE ADDRESS

1:00PM - 5:00PM

Balancing Growth and Connection By Revisiting Stress and Trauma Responses in Counseling Practice

This keynote presentation examines how stress and trauma responses affect client growth and connection in counseling. Practicing clinical mental health counselors will gain insights into the empirical basis of approach, overwhelm, freeze, and fawn responses. Attendees will also learn practical, trauma-informed strategies to foster resilience and strengthen therapeutic relationships that they can use in their practices. By understanding how these reactions impact client and counselor capacity to grow and connect, clinicians will be better equipped to support regulation and resilience for themselves and their clients.

Learning Objectives

- Identify and describe the four primary stress and trauma responses: approach, overwhelm, freeze, and fawn.
- Analyze how these responses can impact a counselor and client's capacity for growth and connection.
- Apply trauma-informed strategies that foster both individual growth and the therapeutic relationship.
- Develop interventions that support client regulation, resilience, and the restoration of connection in response to stress and trauma.

Thomas A. Field

PhD, LPC, LMHC, NCC, CCMHC, ACS

Thomas A. Field, PhD, is a Department Head at Oregon State University and an expert in the integration of neuroscience into counseling practice. Dr. Field is the lead editor of the American Counseling Association's foundational text, "Neurocounseling: Brain-Based Clinical Approaches" (2nd ed., 2024) and has authored several peer-reviewed books and articles on neuroscience-informed counseling. He has presented nationally on these topics, including keynotes and webinars for the American Counseling Association and the American Mental Health Counselors Association. He has published more than 40 peer-reviewed articles in his career and has been the Associate Editor of the Journal of Mental Health Counseling since 2017. Dr. Field's expertise in trauma-informed care and neuroscience makes him well-suited to provide attendees with the tools and knowledge needed to effectively balance growth and connection in response to stress and trauma within clinical practice.



SPECIALTY AREAS

AMHCA's 2025 Conference Planning Committee is proud to present this year's schedule full of much-needed topics including Trauma, Addictions, Diversity (including Gender Identity and Immigration!), and much more. Please use this key to find presentations that interest you!

- CA** Children and Adolescents
- CF** Couples and Family
- DD** Developmental and Learning Disabilities
- D** Diversity and Inclusion
- E** Ethics
- FE** Forensic Evaluation
- GI** Gender Identity
- IM** Immigration and Human Trafficking
- IBH** Integrated Behavioral Healthcare
- M** Military and Veterans Affairs
- SCA** Specialized Clinical Assessment
- SU** Substance Use and Addictions
- S** Supervision
- TAC** Technology Assisted Counseling
- T** Trauma and Crisis Assessment and Treatment



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2025 Conference Planning Committee

AMHCA would like to say a big thank you
to all of the members of this year's
Conference Planning Committee who are
instrumental in making our event a success!
We couldn't do this without you!

Courtney Ackerson, Chair

Shannon Thompson, Vice-Chair

Cynthia Boyle

Sandra Chambers

Heather Crowell

Christopher Gentles

Stephen Giunta

Tina Marie Glover

Renee Hodgins

Marcela Kopic

Derek Parker

Alecia Rodriguez

Tammy Webb

Shama Winston Ford

Rebecca Woodson

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for all aspects of the programs.



5:00PM - 7:00PM

Come "flamingle" with AMHCA as we kick off our annual Conference with a Welcome Reception & Awards Ceremony honoring the incredible contributions of Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors and advocates in our community. The evening will begin with a warm welcome reception where attendees will have the opportunity to reconnect with colleagues, network with peers, and share experiences. Enjoy light hors d'oeuvres, beverages (cash bar), and lively conversation as we gather to celebrate the collective impact of our profession.

As the reception progresses, we will transition into the Awards Ceremony, a moment to recognize and honor the outstanding achievements of individual counselors who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to their clients, their communities, and the mental health field. The AMHCA awards will highlight the inspiring stories and hard work of individuals who continue to elevate the standards of clinical practice and advocacy. It will be a moment to recognize their unwavering commitment to enhancing mental health services and making a lasting difference in the lives of those they serve. We invite all attendees to celebrate the successes and contributions of their peers in a spirit of balancing growth and change in the field. This reception and awards ceremony are a tribute to the passion, skill, and compassion that Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors bring to the field every day.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 26 | BREAKOUT #1

9:00AM - 10:30AM

T Vicarious Trauma & Traumatic Grief for Public Service Workers

with Ryan Day, LPC, LMHC, ACS, CCTP-II

This workshop aims to increase awareness of the challenges and best treatment practices for public service workers.

Discuss strategies on how counselors can create treatment programs and connect with local public safety departments. Dr. Day is the expert trauma specialist for the City of Atlanta EAP and Public Safety Department.

S Competencies and Ethical Concerns in the Use of Artificial Intelligence During Counselor Supervision

with Cody W. Dickson, PhD, LPC-S, NCC, ACS, BC-TMH

This presentation focuses on understanding and development of Artificial Intelligence within the counseling field. The session will discuss the integration of AI into clinical supervision and training counselors and counselors-in-training. The session will provide definitions of AI related terms for supervision, discuss how to develop AI competencies, and ethical concerns.

9:00AM - 10:30AM

M Helping Our Heroes: DBT for Veterans

with Fredrick B. Dombrowski, PhD, LMHC, CASAC-M, LPC, LADC, NCC, CCMHC, MAC, ACS, BC-TMH, HS-BCP, ICADC, DCMHS

US service members experience situations where their lives are placed at significant risk. Military culture enforces a code of silence regarding mental health symptoms. When returning to civilian life, military culture persists which limits treatment outcomes. This presentation identifies how to adjust DBT to treat veterans while respecting military culture.

Empathizing with the Suicidal Wish:

SCA Improving Your Understanding, Assessment, and Treatment of Suicidal Behaviors

with Anna Lieber, LCMHC, NCC, CCMHC

Understanding the purpose behind the suicidal wish and empathizing while instilling hope can save lives. Participants learn to use empathy to build rapport, improve risk assessments, and develop treatment interventions. Case examples are shared throughout which will aid in creating a phenomenological understanding of individual expressions of suicidal behaviors.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 26 | BREAKOUT #2

11:00AM - 12:30PM

T **An Introduction to Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing for Trauma**

with Nikki Yardy, LCPC

This introduction to Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing will include an overview of the Adaptive Information Processing model and the eight phases and three prong approach of EMDR designed by Francine Shapiro. Case examples and clinical applications will illustrate how EMDR is utilized for traumatic stress and more.

E **Anti-Fat Bias in Counseling**

with Natalie Noyes, JD, LPCC

Anti-fat bias is the implicit or explicit prejudice, discrimination, and negative attitudes expressed towards fat people. This presentation encourages counselors to identify their own biases and make themselves safe and ethical for their fat clients and fat colleagues and to employ a body liberation framework.

11:00AM - 12:30PM

M **Bridging the Gap: Integrating Moral Injury into**

T **Trauma-Informed Counseling and Counselor Education**

with Amelia Mathis, NCC, LCMHCA

The presenter invites counselors, counselor educators, and researchers to join in conversation about the foundational knowledge of moral injury as it relates to trauma, traumatic events leading to moral injury, gaps in the literature, and considerations for the counseling field. Attendees will walk away with the ability to incorporate moral injury into trauma-informed counseling sessions, counselor education courses (i.e. trauma/crisis, assessment, diagnosis, etc.), and research.

SCA **Assessing Autism Spectrum Disorder in Adults:**

DD **Yes, You Can!**

with Carrie Merino, PhD, CMHC

With growing awareness of autism spectrum disorder (ASD), the demand for diagnostic services in adulthood has increased, and many master's level counselors may feel unprepared to meet this demand. This interactive session will explore assessment tools for adults with ASD that are low-cost and require minimal training.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 26 | BREAKOUT #3

1:30PM - 3:00PM

T **Breaking The Cycle: Attachment And Recovery**
D **From Intergenerational Trauma**

with Terance Dawkins, LISW-CP

Historical traumas, including discrimination and oppression, shape beliefs and behaviors passed down through generations, deeply impacting attachment patterns. These inherited wounds affect how we connect and form relationships. Acknowledging and healing from these cycles of trauma allows us to foster healthier, more secure bonds for future generations.

E **Sexual Boundary Violations In Counseling:**
A Literature Review

with Jackie Dell, PhD

This presentation will provide an overview of what we know about sexual boundary violations in counseling through a deep dive of the existing literature. We will ask for participant input and experiences while providing practical guidance applicable to clinicians, supervisors, and educators about navigating this complex issue.

1:30PM - 3:00PM

IBH **Fostering Growth and Connection: Holistic Wellness for**
D **Empowering Marginalized Clients**

with Shama Panjwani, PhD, LPC, ACS, NCC, CCMHC

This presentation explores the transformative power of holistic wellness in counseling marginalized clients. We will discuss strategies for integrating physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being into practice. Attendees will learn how to create a supportive and inclusive environment that fosters resilience and empowerment, enabling clients to thrive despite systemic challenges.

CF **Beyond Loss: Supporting Hope And Healing Through**
IVF Loss And Miscarriage

with Zoya McCants, EdD, LMHC, LPC- ACS

This presentation equips counselors with evidence-based strategies for supporting clients through fertility-related loss. Drawing from current research and clinical experience, it addresses the unique challenges of IVF grief while providing practical frameworks for fostering resilience, navigating treatment decisions, and facilitating healing through culturally-sensitive therapeutic approaches.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 26 | BREAKOUT #4

3:30PM - 5:00PM

T Perinatal Loss and Grief: Assessment and Treatment

with Nicole Wallace, LCMHC, NCC, PMH-C

The workshop equips clinicians with specialized skills to support individuals and families experiencing perinatal loss. Participants will learn evidence-based interventions and compassionate care techniques to address their clients' complex emotional and psychological needs. Through case studies and practical exercises, attendees will enhance their ability to provide effective and empathetic care.

TAC AI and the Modern Counselor: Navigating Growth, Connection, and Ethics

with Seneka Gainer, Ph.D., LPC, LMFT, NCC

This session examines AI's role in mental health counseling, exploring applications like chatbots, virtual therapists, and AI-powered tools. Attendees will address ethical challenges such as data privacy and maintaining empathy while gaining actionable strategies to balance innovation with relational care, ensuring equitable and ethical integration of AI into counseling practice.

3:30PM - 5:00PM

IBH Innovative Self-Care Interventions for MH Counselor Interns, Facilitating Healthy Lifestyle Practices That Prevent Counselor Burnout During Internship

with Sandra E. Chambers, PhD

The importance of therapeutic self-care interventions for counselors in training, including regular debriefing, mindfulness practices, boundaries, healthy lifestyle, cultivating social support, recharging, and seeking professional therapy is crucial. The presentation highlights interns' roles, underscoring the necessity of effectively equipping participants with strategies to integrate self-care practices into their routines.

CF From Conflict to Cooperation: Adlerian Strategies for Couples Counseling

with Calvin Armerding, MA, LPC-S, DNASAP

This workshop explores Adlerian principles to enhance communication and foster cooperation in couples. Participants will learn practical strategies for addressing conflict, promoting mutual respect, and cultivating emotional intimacy. Through case studies and interactive exercises, attendees will develop skills to facilitate healthier relationships and strengthen partnership dynamics.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 27 | BREAKOUT #1

9:00AM - 10:30AM

T Emerging Complexities and Challenges Surrounding
CA Childhood Trauma Narratives

with Michael Roeske, PsyD

This talk explores complexities in childhood trauma narratives, highlighting the limited causality in studies, the expanded definition of trauma, and the risks of re-traumatization through therapy. It emphasizes the importance of resilience, post-traumatic growth, culturally appropriate care, and the need for balanced discussions around trauma, adversity, and recovery.

S Building Bridges, Not Burning Them: Proactive
D Supervision Strategies for Managing Burnout in
Counselors from Marginalized Communities

with Bryon C. Pickens, Ed.D., LPC-MHSP, BC-TMH

This presentation will explore the unique burnout experiences of counselors from marginalized communities. Practical supervision strategies for helping clinicians manage burnout will be reviewed. The presentation will address how supervisors can foster identity-affirming spaces and advocate for professionals from marginalized communities by integrating greater cultural competence into their practice.

9:00AM - 10:30AM

SU Getting High Naturally: Stimulating Social
Neurochemistry Without Drugs, Alcohol, or SSRI's

with Don E. Worth, PhD, LPC, MAC, NCC, ALPS

Substances of abuse mimic the neurochemicals of relationships and chemically fill the receptor sites for relationships leaving us relational zombies, less affected by others. Discover how to naturally stimulate the very social neurochemicals that substances of abuse, alcohol, and SSRIs artificially do, and instead grow the social nervous system!

FE Intersectional Cycles: The Trauma Trap for Black
T Males in the Criminal Justice System
D

with Nicole G. Johnson, Ph.D., LPC (PA & SC), LCMHC (NC), LPC-S (SC), QS (NC), ACS, CAADC, CCDP-D, BC-TMH

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People suggests, nearly 325,000 people will return to prison within three years (NAACP, 2024). Recidivism rates for Black Males is "35.8%" (The Bureau of Justice Statistics, n.d.). This presentation will explore unaddressed trauma as a risk factor for recidivism among Black Men.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 27 | BREAKOUT #2

11:00AM - 12:30PM

Healing Through Awareness:

T D Addressing Race-Based Trauma in BIPOC Communities with Mindfulness Therapy

with Tina Marie Glover, PhD, LPC, LPCC-S, CRC, CADC II, NCAC II, C-DBT

This presentation examines race-based trauma's impact on BIPOC mental health and advocates for integrating mindfulness therapy into treatment. By combining mindfulness with culturally responsive approaches, clinicians can enhance therapeutic outcomes, foster resilience, and promote equity in mental health care for individuals affected by discrimination and systemic oppression.

CA Adolescents in a Post-COVID Digital World:

CF Developmental Challenges and Clinical Implications

with Jeremy Northrop, PhD, LPC/MHSP

COVID resulted in increased use of digital platforms among adolescents, which is accompanied by positive and negative developmental outcomes. The presentation will educate about these changes and the corresponding challenges which have ensued. Special emphasis is given to empowering clinicians to help adolescents and parents/guardians adopt more balanced behaviors.

11:00AM - 12:30PM

SU Gambling: A Hidden Problem

with Holly Sawyer, PhD, LPC, NCC, ASC, CADAC, CASAC, SAP

Gambling problems can be mild or quite severe and can worsen over time with increased rates of co-occurring substance use (including nicotine dependence), depression, and anxiety disorders. Gambling Disorder is associated with high rates of suicide ideation and attempts.

D Beyond the Mirror: Family, Identity, and Body Image in Diverse Communities

with Tiffany C. Rush-Wilson, LPCC-S, LP, CCC, BC-TMH, CEDS, ACS

This presentation explores the impact of family systems and identity on body image and eating disturbances within racial, ethnic, and class minority communities. Attendees will gain insights into intersectionality of family dynamics, cultural identity, and social determinants, while addressing unique challenges faced by marginalized groups in relation to body image.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 27 | BREAKOUT #3

1:30PM - 3:00PM

T **Cultivating Connection:
Conceptualizing C-PTSD Through an IFS-Informed Lens**

with Erin Ziegelmeyer, MA, LPC

This presentation outlines the unique challenges of using the EMDR basic protocol with C-PTSD symptomatology and highlights how to help clients create connection with their internal systems (“parts”) in order to cultivate self-compassion, increase secure attachment, and decrease self-shame. Presenters will emphasize content through experiential learning and clinical case presentations.

CA **Project EDUCATE: Education to Deliver and Utilize**
IBH **Child and Adolescent Treatment Effectively**

with Carryl P. Navalta, PhD

Project EDUCATE is a collaboration between a master's program in mental health counseling and a center that comprehensively integrates behavioral healthcare into pediatric primary care. Participants will be exposed to programmatic, curricular, and training components for students to learn how to provide counseling in community-based and integrated care settings.

1:30PM - 3:00PM

SU **Fostering Healing Through Cultural Competence:
A Trauma-Informed Strategy for Substance Use
and Addiction Groups**

with Glory Munthali, MA, MS, NCC, CSAC-S, LPC-S

This presentation explores the integration of cultural competence within trauma-informed addiction group counseling. Attendees will learn to analyze cultural factors in addiction recovery, apply trauma-sensitive strategies, and create culturally responsive group plans to enhance healing and resilience among diverse clients. Practical tools and case studies are provided.

GI **Gender Affirming Hormone Therapy:**
D **What "Second Puberty" May Be Like for
Transgender and Gender Diverse Clients**

with Bliss LJ Kern, MA

The presentation highlights thematic findings of a phenomenology study that explored the experiences of 26 transgender and gender diverse individuals with gender affirming hormone therapy (GAHT). Understanding the ways GAHT impacts adult transgender and gender diverse individuals is important to developing culturally-responsive clinical and evidence-based healing relationships and interventions.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 27 | BREAKOUT #4

3:30PM - 5:00PM

Service Dogs as a Complementary Intervention for

T Veterans with PTSD:

Evidence, Case Studies, and Counseling Implications

with Ashley Jackson, PHD, LPC, NCC

This presentation explores the therapeutic benefits of service dogs for veterans with PTSD, supported by current research and case studies. Attendees will learn about the role of service dogs in symptom reduction, counselor implications, and practical applications for integrating service dogs into trauma-focused counseling for veterans.

CA Reducing Secondary Trauma in Young Adults:

T Understanding Expressive Arts Interventions

with J'Briel Porter, M.S., LPC(TX, OK), LMHC (WA, FL), NCC

This session invites counselors to explore how Expressive Arts Therapy (EXAT) aids in managing secondary trauma in young adult. This session equips professionals with EXAT strategies to enhance client resilience and support counselors' growth. Explore how EXAT enhances the well-being of youth and contributes to the development of counseling professionals.

3:30PM - 5:00PM

SU

The Integration of Individual Placement and Support Services Within Addictions Treatment

with Jennifer McDougal, PhD, LCMHC, LCAS, CRC

This program will present the results of project Engage Eastern North Carolina, where Individual Placement and Support (IPS) vocational services are integrated within addictions services. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about how to integrate this service within addiction treatment programs and the successes and barriers to implementing IPS.

IM

When The Monster Is In The House:

CA

Human Trafficking By A Known Source

with Laura A. Dawson-Fend, N/A, Ph.D, NCC, LPC

Often, when people think of human trafficking, they picture it happening in a far-off land. Yet, human trafficking occurs in the United States all the time. Traffickers are not strangers we were taught to fear; they are parents, aunts, uncles, friends, coaches, and other trusted people.