



EMPOWERING  
SOCIAL WORKERS!

*Inspiring Action, Leading Change*

# **37th Annual Conference**

**MAY 31, 2024**

**\* MYSTIC MARRIOTT HOTEL & SPA \***  
**GROTON CT**



National Association of Social Workers

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER



## **Welcome**

On behalf of the NASW/CT Board, Conference Planning Committee and staff, it is our pleasure to welcome you to the National Association of Social Workers /Connecticut Chapters 37th Annual Conference. We proudly continue our tradition of hosting Connecticut's largest gathering of professional social workers. Our Conference Planning Committee is excited to offer another full day in-person conference and have selected speakers and presenters to cover a broad array of clinical and systemic issues that face our clients and communities. This year's conference boasts 34 workshops many of which satisfy the State of CT mandatory courses for Veterans and Cultural Competency. Attendance at the entire conference provides 6.0 CEC's

We are delighted to be back at the Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa this year, a venue that boasts extensive event space and elegant accommodations that are sure to relax and rejuvenate us as professionals. Please remember that there is a lot squeezed into one day so plan to arrive early enough to visit our Sponsors and Exhibitors who so generously support this event.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference!



## Keynote Speaker



Dr. Anthony Estreet is currently the CEO of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and is a highly esteemed leader in the field of social work. Dr. Estreet, who has more than two decades of experience in the social work profession, has made significant contributions to the field through his academic and professional endeavors.

Dr. Estreet began his career as an adjunct professor at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland, and later became the MSW Program's chair and a full professor. While at Morgan State, he co-edited a groundbreaking book on African-centered clinical interventions in social work mental health practice. He published over 40 peer-reviewed journal articles on social work education, workforce development, and social work practice.

In addition to his academic work, Dr. Estreet has held several leadership positions within the social work profession. He served as Vice President of the NASW Board of Directors and as Chair of the NASW Alcohol, Tobacco, and other Drugs Specialty Practice Sections and the National Ethics Committee. In addition, he co-chaired a committee tasked with planning and executing an innovative National Social Work Conference.

Dr. Estreet has served as a clinical director, the chief executive officer of a treatment facility, and a senior executive consultant. He is the founding President of the National Association of Black Social Workers' Baltimore Legacy Chapter.

Dr. Estreet's dedication to serving vulnerable populations and enthusiasm for the social work profession make him the ideal candidate to lead NASW. His extensive knowledge and expertise will be invaluable in advancing the organization's goals and improving the lives of those who rely on social workers for advocacy and support.

Dr. Estreet earned a bachelor's in science in psychology from Bowie State University, an MSW at Virginia Commonwealth University, a doctorate in social work at Morgan State University, and an MBA at the University Maryland-College Park. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, the oldest intercollegiate African American fraternity.

# Special Thanks to Our Keynote Sponsor Brighter Day

Brighter Day is a full service mental health provider focused on bringing a high level of care to communities across Connecticut. We focus on a person centered, humanistic approach with a special focus on group modalities and support with which we aim to repair the social deficits of the post covid era. Our behavioral health team is available to partner with your community based setting, schools, residences, nursing facilities, health centers, and beyond. We bring you care that is affordable, and available in which every client is seen, heard, and supported on their journey to healing. For more info reach out to us anytime via email: [Info@brighterdaymh.com](mailto:Info@brighterdaymh.com) or give us a call 203-568-6065



## Thank You Lunch Sponsors



SCADD is happy to sponsor the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Social Worker's conference. We depend on social workers everyday, social workers are what makes the world go round!

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**The Southeastern Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc** has been providing quality treatment services to people seeking recovery since 1966. Our treatment programs are fully licensed by the Connecticut State Department of Public Health and consist of inpatient rehabilitation (withdrawal management/detox) , outpatient services, intensive outpatient services, residential care, and recovery support services. At SCADD we strive to provide quality substance use treatment to individuals who may not be able to afford treatment otherwise. We also provide community outreach and education surrounding the dangers of alcoholism and drug addiction.

Most importantly, we are an agency that believes in second chances and the ability of people to find recovery. Our empathetic, compassionate staff are dedicated to supporting people in their recovery.

# Our Mission

The mission of SCADD is to provide quality, affordable treatment services centered around hope, connection and empowerment for every person who is seeking recovery while making a positive impact in the communities we serve.

# Our Vision

To create a community where individuals and families are healthy, connected and resilient.

# SCADD



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# CONFERENCE NOTES

## Continuing Education Credits for: LCSWs, LMSWs, LMFT's, LPC's and Licensed Psychologists

This program has been approved for up to 6 Continuing Education Credit hours (including the keynote address) by the National Association of Social Workers CT Chapter and meets the continuing education criteria for licensure renewal for LCSWs, LMSWs, LMFTs and LPCs and Licensed Psychologists. All trainings must be attended to their entirety to earn CECs.



## EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Have your registration submitted online by midnight April 25th and you will save on your registration fee! All registrations this year must be made online. Go to [www.naswct.org](http://www.naswct.org) for more details. All registrations must be paid in advance to be considered complete.

## EXHIBITOR DISPLAY AREA

Don't miss the chance to visit and talk with our exhibitors.

They've brought information about their products and services that may prove helpful to you in your work and your life. Exhibitors are located in the conference entrance lobby and throughout the hallways adjacent to conference rooms.

# VENUE INFORMATION

**Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa**  
**625 N. Road**  
**Groton, CT 06340**

## Directions



Should you wish to stay at the Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa, the overnight rate is \$155.00 to \$218.00 plus tax.

Reservations can be made at this discounted rate until the booked by date of May 3, 2024 by 4:00 PM EST or until the block is full, whichever comes first. After that date the rate will no longer be available.

**Book your group rate for National Association of Social Workers ~ Connecticut Chapter**



**BOOK NOW**



# UPDATE YOUR HEADSHOT



**We are delighted to have social worker, Adam McReynolds, who is also a photographer available at this year's conference to capture headshots. Stop by the Conference Entrance Lobby to update your Professional Headshot.**

**Thank You  
to our 2024 Conference Planning  
Committee, Jackie Alessio, Joy  
Hollister, Diana Lombardi, Karen  
McLean, Jennifer Bennett and  
Lorraine Wozniak.**

# Thank You to Our Tote Bag Sponsors



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**Thank you to all our  
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**Don't miss the opportunity to visit and  
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those tote bags!**

# HIGHWATCH RECOVERY CENTER

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Nestled in 300 wooded acres in the lush Litchfield Hills of Connecticut, High Watch Recovery Center is a residential treatment facility that provides state-of-the-art treatment for substance use disorders and co-occurring psychiatric disorders.

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For the fifth year, we welcome High Watch as our Partnering Sponsor! HIGH WATCH RECOVERY CENTER is a residential medical facility that provides state of the art treatment for Substance Use Disorders and co-occurring Psychiatric Disorders. As the first and finest addiction recovery center founded on the 12 step principles, their substance abuse programs are tailored to each individual addiction and administrated in a safe, comfortable and healthy environment. For more information, go to their website at [www.highwatchrecovery.com](http://www.highwatchrecovery.com).

NASW proudly welcomes Silver Hill Hospital as a Partnering Sponsor! Founded in 1931 on 44 acres in New Canaan, CT, Silver Hill Hospital treats patients from around the country and across the globe. The quality of our care reflects the depth and expertise of our clinical providers and the outcomes we achieve. Our physician team includes 21 Psychiatrists, all Board Certified in Adult Psychiatry, representing the highest degree of education and training in the nation. Additional specializations represented by the SHH team include board certifications in Addiction Psychiatry, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Geriatric Psychiatry, and Sleep Medicine. We treat individuals with mood disorders such as depression and bipolar disorder, anxiety disorders, those struggling with substance use disorders, personality disorders, and those suffering with psychotic illness. We provide expert clinical care to adults and adolescents in inpatient, residential, and intensive outpatient settings. <https://silverhillhospital.org>





# SILVER HILL HOSPITAL

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*Silver Hill Hospital is located on 44 scenic acres in New Canaan, Connecticut and is accredited by the Joint Commission.*

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for Adults and Adolescents

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- DBT-S Program for Substance Use Disorders
- Steward House for Executives and Professionals
- Triumph Program for the Treatment of Trauma
- Argent Program for Evaluation and Assessment
- Neuropsychiatric Program



*Scan to Learn More*

### **Specialized Outpatient Programs**

Intensive Outpatient Programs, Weekly Groups, and Aftercare Support

# AGENDA

**6:30AM - 7:30AM EXHIBITOR SETUP**

**7:30AM - 8:30AM REGISTRATION/ EXHIBITORS/  
LIGHT BREAKFAST**

**8:30AM WELCOME**

Cheryl Wilson, President/ NASW CT

Heidi McIntosh Chief Operations Officer/ NASW

**HONORING STEPHEN A. WANCZYK-KARP, LMSW**  
Executive Director, NASW CT

**8:50 AM- 9:50 AM KEYNOTE**

Dr. Anthony Estreet Chief Executive Officer/ NASW

**9:50 AM- 10:20 AM BREAK/ EXHIBITORS**

**10:20 AM- 12:20 PM**

2 -HOUR MORNING WORKSHOPS #1-13

**12:20 PM- 1:35 PM LUNCH/ EXHIBITS**

**1:35PM- 3:05 PM**

FIRST HALF FULL AFTERNOON #14-20 & EARLY  
AFTERNOON #21-27

**3:05 PM- 3:20 PM BREAK/ EXHIBITORS**

**3:20 PM- 4:50 PM**

SECOND HALF FULL AFTERNOON #14-20 & MID  
AFTERNOON #28-34

**5:00 PM DROP OFF CEC PARTICIPANT FORM AT  
REGISTRATION DESK**

# WORKSHOP COURSE SELECTIONS

[Speaker bios can be found here](#)

THANK YOU  
WORKSHOP SPONSORS



# Morning Workshops

## 10:20 AM to 12:20 PM

### 2 CEC

#### **1. Empowering Social Workers, Inspiring Action, Leading Change**

Dr. Anthony Estreet, Ph.D., MBA, LCSW-C

As the world keeps evolving, social workers are rising to meet the needs of their communities, advocating in the state legislature, and working on the frontlines of social change. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, social service professionals have continued to work hard to equip themselves with a wide variety of skills and knowledge they need to provide necessary care. Despite the challenges and impacts on telehealth, misinformation, and physical and mental health, our profession continues to break barriers through education, advocacy, and leadership. Dr. Estreet will highlight the importance of our work, our combined contributions, and the transformative changes in our practice that allow us to embrace our roles as changemakers. Together, we will explore the endless ways social workers and social service professionals can invigorate and strengthen our commitment to social work and its values.

#### **2. Engaging Post 9/11 Veterans as a Community Provider**

Sharon Young, Ph.D., LCSW

*This workshop meets the 2 hour Veterans Services required every six years*

This workshop will help participants understand the military experiences and specific types of trauma exposures that may bring this new generation of veterans to therapy. Through a discussion of a case study, attendees will understand how to engage veterans better and apply their existing practice methods to this population.

#### **3. Combatting Antisemitism: An Urgent Clinical Imperative**

Alexandra Solomon, LCSW, LICSW (VT); Esther Serkin, LCSW & Melissa Linden, LCSW

*This workshop meets the 1 hour licensure requirement for Cultural Competency*

Addressing rising antisemitism and generational trauma among Jews is crucial for clinicians in the Northeast. However, education about Judaism is largely left out of cultural competence coursework, and many Jews feel they cannot talk about these issues with their therapists. This presentation will help therapists address these issues.

#### **4. Protecting Privacy in the Age of Health Tech: Implications for Elder Care**

Steve Rubin, B.A., J.D., CELA & James Maroney

This presentation delves into the ethical, legal, and practical aspects of using technologies like sensors, telemedicine, and wearable devices in elder care, focusing on privacy concerns. It addresses legal frameworks like HIPPA, the CT Data Privacy Act, and the balance between autonomy and privacy. Social workers will learn best practices for maintaining privacy while leveraging health tech for to allow people to live in their homes longer and more fully.



# Morning Workshops

## 10:20 AM to 12:20 PM

### 2 CEC

#### **5. Overcoming A Fear of Religion in Social Work Education and Practice**

Dr. Frederick J. Streets, DSW, LCSW

*This workshop meets the 1 hour licensure requirement for Cultural Competency*

Social work practitioners and educators have concerns about addressing religion and spirituality in their work. This workshop presentation will explore, through discussing and by using examples, some of the challenges of and approaches to dealing with religious beliefs and spiritual practices of clients and in the teaching of social work.

#### **6. Working with Transgender and Gender Expansive Clients**

Jillian Celentano, LMSW & Rebecca Degan, LPC

*This workshop meets the 1 hour licensure requirement for Cultural Competency*

To educate and bring awareness when working with transgender and gender expansive (TGGE) clients/patients The presenters will explore issues across the lifespan of the TGNB population, including basic language, terminology, and tools that are extremely important when building rapport and trust with TGGE clients/patients.

#### **7. Latine Social Workers Reclaiming Indigeneity**

Jennifer Gereda, LCSW, DSW Candidate

*This workshop meets the 1 hour licensure requirement for Cultural Competency*

Despite decolonizing work happening around the globe, decolonizing and re-indigenizing in social work practice has not been well-developed within the United States. This experiential workshop focuses specifically on Latine people who immigrate to the U.S. and will utilize the facilitator's roots from Guatemala as the catalyst to lead to action.

#### **8. Navigating Difficult Conversations with Gentle Accountability: Facilitating Challenging Conversations Across Intersectional Identities, Power Differentials and Perspectives**

Sharlene Kerelejza, LMSW & Robyn-Jay Bage, MPA

*This workshop meets the 1 hour licensure requirement for Cultural Competency*

This workshop meets the 1-hour licensure requirement for Cultural Competency  
Become a unifying agent in the face of heightened polarization. Expand your skill set in navigating dialogues across intersectional identities and power differentials in many relationship domains through understanding and applying the principles of approaches such as: Safe and Brave Spaces; Growth-Centered Feedback; perspective taking dialogue techniques, and more.

# Morning Workshops

## 10:20 AM to 12:20 PM

### 2 CEC

#### **9. Patient Experience through a Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Lens**

B. Sudie Akinrotiba, Ph.D., LMSW

*This workshop meets the 1 hour licensure requirement for Cultural Competency*

This workshop will include a brief overview of racial disparities in health, mental health, education, and social and economic development in the United States. Service practice that alleviates interpersonal and institutional racism in the helping process will be discussed. Practical steps and techniques practitioners can implement to engage in anti-oppressive social service practice will be explained.

#### **10. Everything You Wanted to Know About Sex-Positive Social Work -But Were Afraid to Ask!**

Alberto Cifuentes, Jr., LMSW; Nilda Fernandez-Betancourt, LMSW & John Bonelli, MSW

Trauma is an event or series of events that is highly stressful, profoundly difficult to integrate and can leave us feeling overwhelmed, helpless, and profoundly unsafe. It has been said that trauma “leaves traces on our minds and emotions, our capacity for joy and intimacy, and even our biology and immune system” (van der Kolk). The landmark Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) study demonstrated that trauma is shockingly commonplace and associated with increased risk and burden from most physical and mental health conditions. Individuals who have endured trauma can experience intrusive memories and flashbacks, tendencies to avoid reminders of their trauma and physical hyperarousal as well as intense feelings of shame, self-blame, and guilt. Offering mindfulness practices to individuals who have experienced trauma can be a highly effective approach to support well-being and recovery. However, asking individuals to play focused, sustained attention to their experience can be challenging and potentially dysregulating, this, it is important to offer mindfulness in a trauma-informed manner. This workshop will offer theory, practices and skill to effectively and safely support trauma survivors.

#### **11. Supporting and Empowering Victims/Survivors of Domestic Violence**

Jessica Troy, LMSW & Amy Moylan

Domestic violence is a global crisis. However, there is little training in working with survivors of domestic violence for social workers. This workshop will focus on how to assess for domestic violence, victim defined safety planning with an intersectional lens through case studies, and understanding abuser behavior.

# Morning Workshops

## 10:20 AM to 12:20 PM

### 2 CEC

#### 12. Trauma Throughout the Life Span and End of Life

Karen Lemieux, LCSW

Symptoms of trauma can arise at the end of life: flashbacks, dissociation, fear. Not discussed in published literature. Let's begin the conversation. How to differentiate trauma from signs and symptoms of dying? How do we provide care? Impact on a trauma survivor when a perpetrator dies? Contribute knowledge, share stories, meaning and hope.

#### 13. The False Binary

Claire McCarthy

*This workshop meets the 1 hour licensure requirement for Cultural Competency*

Before understanding non-binary or transgender, one must address the question, "What is gender?" Sex involves the body; gender is a social construct. Society too often conflates the two, setting expectations, taboos, and rules instead of appreciating and encouraging diversity. The False Binary explores these concepts.



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# Full Afternoon Workshops

1:35 PM to 4:50 PM

3 CEC

## 14. Trauma Through the Lens of Attachment Theory

Edwin Renaud, LCSW, Ph.D.

This presentation gives an overview of the relationship between attachment dynamics and trauma. We will review attachment theory, discuss how traumatic stress can disrupt attachment and how this may present clinically. Finally, we will discuss ways to support your therapeutic alliance with traumatized clients using approaches derived from attachment theory.

## 15. Using Neuroscience to Create an Inclusive Culture that Sustains All Employees

Pat Wilcox, LCSW & Aminah Ali, LMSW

Awareness of the functioning of brains and bodies and their response to danger and safety teaches what people need to thrive. Science suggests working conditions that help us provide excellent service. This workshop applies these essential strategies to our efforts for greater social justice. It includes useful handouts and tools.

## 16. Adaptive Clinical Intervention to Support Neurodivergent Profiles in the Therapy Room

Sara Rodrigues, DSW, LICSW

Neurodivergent profiles are the subject of increasing research but most therapy modalities continue to focus on compliance-based interventions. Participants will be able to define key terminology related to the neurodiversity paradigm, identify alternatives to compliance-based interventions, implement strategies adapted from evidence-based practices, and develop neurodiversity-affirming goals eliminating deficit-based, ableist language.

## 17. Shinrin-Yoku/Nature Therapy, CBT, and Biofeedback: A Multiprong Approach for Tackling Anxiety and Depression

Noël Hiers, LCSW

Shinrin Yoku and nature therapy are powerful companions to cognitive behavioral therapy. Research measuring various forms of biofeedback has given us concrete evidence that mindful time in the forest helps people to re-set their parasympathetic nervous system. This workshop will explore multicultural psychoeducational components for reframing and the logistics of how to conduct outdoor walking sessions. NASW's ethical mandate for self-care will also be promoted.

# Full Afternoon Workshops

1:35 PM to 4:50 PM

3 CEC

## **18. Nervous System Regulation for Mental Health Professionals: Addressing Burnout & Self-care**

Dr. Nancy Grechko, Ph.D.

This workshop was specifically created to support mental health professionals do the work they love while taking care of themselves. During the workshop, participants will learn what self-care is, what it isn't, why it's important, and why their current self-care isn't working. This workshop is highly experiential as we complete questionnaires increasing insight into compassion fatigue and current self-care needs. Participants will also learn and practice helpful self-care tools and nervous system regulation exercises to support their emotional resiliency and a healthy nervous system. Team and department level strategies will also be discussed in order to promote systemic support.

## **19. The ABC of Special Education: The Fundamental You Need to Know to Make You a Stronger Advocate**

Dori Smith, LCSW

Confused by the process and terminology of Special Education? This workshop aims to break down communication barriers for prospective advocates by education participants in the terms, policies, practices and law within Special Education. Become an inclusive, active member in educational planning teams and better equipped to advise your clients.

## **20. The Suicide Crisis - PTSD, & Mental Health Issues for Health and Social Services Providers: Recognizing Risks, Building Strength & Resilience, and Taking Preventive Actions**

Dr. Stephanie R. Paulmeno, DNP, MS, RN, NHA, CPH, CCM, CDP

High crisis situations like the pandemic are explored using NASW's principles, ethics, and values. Overwhelming anguish impacted workers; emotional reactions increased with exposure. We consider behavioral health risk factors and our diverse racial, cultural, religious, and socioeconomic backgrounds, which impact how we interpret/act on what we see, distress reactions, and collegial interventions.

## Early Afternoon Workshops

1:35 PM to 3:15 PM

1.5 CEC

### **21. Hartford's HEARTeam: Launching Dual Co- response and Community Response Alternative 911 Response Models- Planning, Challenges and Successes**

Patricia McIntosh, LCSW, MPH; Casie DeRosier, LMSW; Tiffany Hubrins, LCSW; Carla J. Rash, Ph.D., & Heidi Lubetkin

Key stakeholders, including the Mayor's Office and community agencies, will present on planning- and launch-stage decisions, challenges, and successes of the initiative. We will describe the composition of the teams and roles of each of the various partners, as well as adaptations over the course of the first two years.

### **22. Teaming in Behavioral Health Settings: Practical Strategies for Social Workers**

Julie Berrett-Abebe, Ph.D., MSW; Jocelyn Novella, Ph.D., LPC & Michelle Pagnotta, LPC

This workshop will disseminate practical strategies to help social workers thrive in collaborative, team-based care settings. These include communication and workflow strategies and ways to engage clients as "team members" through the lens of cultural humility. Facilitators will also make time for the sharing of best practices among participants.

### **23. Making Magic In A World That Can Use More: A Neuroscience Guide For Thriving In Uncertain Times.**

Jack Gesino, DSW, LCSW

This workshop will highlight how the modern environment has assaulted our neurobiological selves and those of our clients, contributing to a condition of "neurofrazzle". Actively experience the ways in which the neurobiological interventions of savoring, awe, wonder, hope, play and hope can rewire the brain for positive emotions and compassionate self-care.

### **24. Champion the Whole Child: Putting the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) Model into Action in Schools**

Kathleen M. Williamson, Ph.D. & Marlene B. Schwartz, Ph.D.

School social workers: Learn how to champion implementation of the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model! Gain a deeper understanding of the model and implementation science, explore a free action-planning tool, and complete activities to identify concrete next steps for strengthening whole child practices in your setting.

## Early Afternoon Workshops

1:35 PM to 3:05 PM

1.5 CEC

### **25. Helping Social Workers Navigate Sexualization by Clients**

Ellen Smith, Ph.D.

A challenging aspect of practice for social workers to navigate is the client's expression of sexual or romantic feelings for them. This workshop will help participants to understand and respond to sexualization by clients, and to provide effective supervision to social workers who are struggling with this complex issue.

### **26. Empowering Social Workers: Deconstructing DEIB and Harnessing Discretionary Power for Impact**

Mariana Serrano, MPH & Michele Klimczak, LMSW

*This workshop meets the 1 hour licensure requirement for Cultural Competency*

This workshop engages social workers in exploring Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB), aiming to dismantle existing structures and harness discretionary power for positive change in social work. Participants learn to recognize biases, foster inclusivity, leverage their power for social justice, and integrate DEIB principles into practice for a more equitable environment.

### **27. Is Video Game Time A Gamble? Where Gaming and Gambling Intersect**

Fiorigio (Fred) Fetta, LPC, ICGC-II, BACC, CGT, AADC; Jeremy Wampler, LCSW, ICGC II, BACC, CGT, LADC & Kaitlin Brown, LPC, LADC, ICGC II, IGDC, BACC

The landscape of video games has changed dramatically over the years, where new elements of risk are present for youth and all individuals who participate in the behavior. During this presentation, we will explore different methods in video games that blur the lines between gaming and gambling.

## Mid Afternoon Workshops

3:20 PM to 4:50 PM

1.5 CEC

### **28. People, Pets and Abuse: Social Work Applications for Incorporating the Link and Healing Properties of the Human-Animal Bond**

Dr. Elizabeth Lynch; Leslie Coplin, LCSW & Judith Liu, LCSW

Understanding the positive aspects of pet ownership, and the sometimes deadly consequences of pets in households experiencing intimate partner violence will enhance the efficacy of interventions. We explore the link between animal abuse and IPV, the intergenerational cycle of abuse. The healing properties of pets and application of therapy animals in social work and beyond.

### **29. Addressing the Black Maternal Health Crisis in the United States: A Social Constructionist and Intersectional Examination**

Glory Ogbaa, LMSW

*This workshop meets the 1 hour licensure requirement for Cultural Competency*

This presentation examines the Black maternal health crisis in the U.S., focusing on its roots in systemic racism, socio-economic inequalities, and healthcare biases. It uses social constructionism and intersectionality to explore how these factors affect Black women's maternity experiences, proposing support group strategies to improve care and outcomes

### **30. This Bracket is a Win/Win: The Integration of Doc Wayne Sports Therapy Into Milieu Programming for Children**

Catherine Corto-Mergins, LCSW; Donna Ferguson, LCSW; Melissa Aiello, LCSW; Sheryl Scott & Kerry Ann Campbell, LMSW

This presentation will give an overview of the development of a trauma informed sports-based therapy program for children within an existing milieu environment through Doc Wayne Youth Services. The presentation will include rationale, implementation science, outcome and anecdotal data collected from our participants and an experiential opportunity for participation. The participants will learn how to understand trauma on all levels from the individual to the larger community. The impact of social, environmental, and economic policies on vulnerable populations and marginalized communities, and how this exacerbates already existing and historical trauma. How to begin to have conversations with the human beings most affected by historically racist and white supremacist policies that perpetuate trauma in our community. How to collaborate with stakeholders to design and implement interventions, neighborhood by neighborhood, and at the policy level, to improve sustainable outcomes for effected communities.



## Mid Afternoon Workshops

3:20 PM to 4:50 PM

1.5 CEC

### **31. Preparing Students to Engage in Anti-Oppressive Social Work Practice**

April Moreira, DSW, LCSW; Karen McLean, Ph.D., LMSW; Rebecca Wade Rancourt, LCSW & Deneen Harris, Ph.D., MSW

The workshop will conclude with a discussion of issues to consider relative to teaching anti-oppressive social work practice. Participants will be encouraged to share steps that they will take to better prepare themselves to teach anti-oppressive practice. The workshop facilitators will share a list of resources that participants may find helpful in teaching anti-oppressive social work practice. Attendees will be asked to share resources that they have found helpful in teaching this content.

### **32. Trauma Informed Community Development In New Britain, CT**

Reinaldo Rojas, PhD, MSW; Mitch Page, DSW, LCSW; Joanne Leon, Ph.D., LCSW & Sonia Figueroa, MSW, LMSW

The social work faculty and students at Connecticut State University are working with stakeholders in New Britain to research how trauma impacts the residents of our community. This helps inform our social work curriculum while improving our efficacy as social workers, and the quality of life for our clients.

### **33. The Power of Expressive Arts: Make Stuff. Feel Better**

Kimberly DiOrio-Rooney, LICSW

Sometimes talking about feelings and setbacks in life can be hard. In this experiential workshop, participants will have an opportunity to learn about the impact of anxiety on the brain and then engage in an expressive arts workshop to fully understand the power of making stuff and feeling better

### **34. When Your Child Comes Out: Supporting the Whole Family's Journey**

Robin P. McHaelen, MSW

*This workshop meets the 1 hour licensure requirement for Cultural Competency*

When a child comes out as LGBTQ+, the whole family is thrust into new territory. Family Response is the primary indicator of outcome for LGBTQ+ youth. This workshop will begin with an overview of risk and protective factors. Work with LGBTQ+ youth must include culturally competent work with their families and caregivers. Using a research-based best practices model and case studies, this workshop will explore a 'blueprint' for supporting parents/ caregivers as they navigate their new understanding of their child's identity. There will be time for questions and answers.

# REGISTER TODAY

Registration Deadline is Midnight May 26, 2024.  
No refunds given after May 26

All Registrations Must Be Completed Online  
[www.naswct.org](http://www.naswct.org)

2024 Fee Schedule	Submitted by April 25th	Submitted after April 25th
NASW Member	\$185.00	\$205.00
Non-Member	\$225.00	\$255.00
Student	\$75.00	\$95.00



Note: We Accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express. All conference registrations must be paid in full to be considered complete. For consideration of hardship contact NASW/CT in confidence. A 2.5% fee, plus .50 cents will be added at the time of registration. This is being added by Constant Contact at the point of sale  
[Click here to register](#)

## Lunch

Included in the registration price and includes chefs soup selection, field greens salad, an assortment of fresh deli options to make your own sandwich (turkey, roast beef, chicken salad and egg salad)  
Includes bagged chips, fresh baked cookies, brownies and fruit salad. Bottled water, seltzers or soda. Coffee and tea.  
Gluten free options will be available. Should you have a dietary need not met here please contact Pam Nixon.

## SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS!

If you require special accommodations to permit your attendance or participation, please contact Pam Nixon at (860) 371-8183 or [pnixon.naswct@socialworkers.org](mailto:pnixon.naswct@socialworkers.org)  
Deadline for Requests to contact resources is May 6, 2024

# NASW ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

NASW-CT is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for professional participation for all our members, partners, and other conference attendees. Our strength as an association is our people, and we cherish their diversity and strive for equity and inclusion. We value all our attendees equally, and will not accept any treatment at the event, or in any sphere of Association business, that undermines this value. By registering for this event, you agree to abide by this policy.

Our conferences and other meeting events, including those conducted virtually, are dedicated to providing a harassment-free experience for everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, color, age, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, or other personal characteristic. In keeping with the Social Work Code of Ethics we expect that all participants and conference staff treat each person in a caring and respectful fashion, mindful of individual and cultural and ethnic diversity. We have a zero-tolerance policy for hostile or harassing conduct directed toward event participants in any form, including at related social events.

## **Unacceptable Behavior**

Unacceptable behavior includes offensive verbal comments related to one of the above characteristics, as well as intimidation, stalking, the use of harassing photography or audio or video recording, disruption of presentations or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention. Participants asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately.

## **Reporting Hostile or Harassing Conduct**

If you are being harassed or know of someone being harassed, please contact a member of NASW-CT staff immediately. A staff member may be contacted at the registration desk, by calling 860-371-8183, emailing [pnixon.naswct@socialworkers.org](mailto:pnixon.naswct@socialworkers.org), etc.] Staff are committed to assisting participants, which includes contacting [include if appropriate -- venue security or] local law enforcement, providing participants with necessary support, and follow up or assisting participants to determine what is needed for them to feel safe.

## **Consequences for Policy Violations**

If a participant engages in harassing behavior, NASW-CT may take any action deemed appropriate, including removal from the event with no refund, and imposing restrictions on attendance at future events. Your agreement to this policy is a requirement of registration and your attestation will be on the registration form



CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

# Root Center for Advanced Recovery Services

*We create relationships that empower patients with the courage and ability to change. This means being there from the start and providing guidance and support throughout the entire recovery journey.*

## Supplying hope for 150 years

Root Center for Advanced Recovery is a private, nonprofit, behavioral health care organization providing mental health and substance use prevention, treatment, community health services, and research. Originally established in 1871, the agency's humble beginnings came in the form of an outpatient medical facility chartered specifically to provide medical services to the poor and indigent residing in the greater Hartford area. Today, we are proud to now have 10 clinics across the state, and we continue to grow to help as many people as possible on their journey to recovery.

### Adult Clinic Services

Methadone Maintenance Treatment (MMT)  
**except Middletown**

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) (virtual for Middletown)

Substance Use Intensive Outpatient Program - morning/day/evening (IOP)

Mental Health Outpatient - Medication management and group treatment

Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT)  
Henderson Johnson Clinic (also virtual)

Substance use (PHP)

### Adolescent Services Middletown

Substance Use Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP)  
Middletown (also virtual)

Mental Health Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP)  
Middletown - afternoon (also virtual)

Ambulatory withdrawal management - must be in-person

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) including Suboxone (Vivitrol at 18)

Mental Health Outpatient - Medication management and group/individual treatment - (also virtual)

Substance Use Outpatient (SUO) - Medication management and group/individual treatment - (also virtual)

In-school counseling

### Additional Services

Acupuncture - Henderson Johnson Clinic

Narcan (overdose reversal drug) - All clinics

### Middletown Adult Services

Ambulatory Detoxification Program - must be **in-person**

Substance Use Partial Hospital Program (PHP)  
(also virtual)

Mental Health Partial Hospital Program (PHP) (also virtual)

Mental Health Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) - day/evening (also virtual)

Substance use IOP - day/evening (also virtual)

Spravato (for treatment resistant depression) - **must be in-person**

Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) (for treatment resistant depression)



**ROOT**

center for advanced recovery

rootcenter.org



# EMPOWERING SOCIAL WORKERS!

*Inspiring Action, Leading Change*

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**Serving the Profession and Advocating for  
Responsive Social Policy**



National Association of Social Workers

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER