

# re:con Day 1

## Wednesday November 8

Wednesday 12:00-2:05 - Tower A

\* Transition - What You Need to Know

Karen Wang

2 Hours

2 CRC CEUs/ 2 SW CEUs Pending

Transition - Beginner

Young adults who have IEPs face uncertainty when planning the transition out of the school system. This presentation will review each step in the transition to adulthood, including IEP transition planning and how to access the services available to young adults with disabilities. The goal of this presentation is to increase awareness of services and organizations that support young adults in the transition process. The target audience includes self-advocates, family members of people with disabilities and service providers.

Wednesday 12:00-1:05 - Tower B

\* Successful Partnerships: Genesee Health System and Vocational Independence Program, Rene Sherwood

1 Hour  
1 CRC CEU/ 1 SW CEU Pending  
Policy - Beginner

Rene and Amy discuss how their partnership has benefitted the people they serve, and their community.

Wednesday 12:00-2:05 – Tower C

\* A Hands-On Approach to Assistive Technology,  
Kellie Blackwell, MA, CRC  
2 Hours  
2 CRC CEUs/ 2 SW CEUs Pending  
Independent Living– Beginner

The Michigan Assistive Technology Program (MATP) is a free federally funded program under the Assistive Technology Act. Join Kellie Blackwell, MA, CRC and other MATP AT Specialists to learn more about the services provided by MATP, while having an opportunity to get a hands-on experience with a variety of inventory within the lending library. This session will provide a way for participants to ask questions while checking out any of the devices on display. From AT for the workplace to AT for Outdoor Recreation to AT for Gaming and many areas in between, participants are encouraged to get the devices in their hands and see how it all works!

Wednesday 12:00-1:05 – Peninsula A

\*Charting The Seas of Resource Navigation: A Glimpse into Collaborative Practices & Barrier Resolution,

Chris Smith

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU/ 1 SW CEU Pending

Employment – Beginner

Have you ever worked with someone who was motivated to achieve a goal, but found it difficult to overcome barriers? Have you had someone ask you for help finding resources in their time of need? If you have ever provided resources or knowledge to help empower someone, then you may be a Resource Navigator. This presentation aims to dive into the art and power of resource navigation, provide tools and strategies, as well as share experiences and successes. Members of the Goodwill of Greater Grand Rapids Resource Navigation Team will present and provide insight into the process of navigating the at times rough seas of finding resources of individuals in need. With collaboration amongst community partners, the path towards guiding people to the resources they need can make the journey much easier. Come join us to see how resource navigation is vital to the success of the people we serve and how you may be a Resource Navigator yourself!

Wednesday 12:00-1:05 – Peninsula B/C

\* LGBTQ+ in the Workplace,  
Margaret Avery

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU/ 1 SW CEU Pending

Ethics – Beginner

This presentation will focus on why allyship matter, how to talk about sexual orientation in the workplace, importance of pronouns, discrimination, the lavender ceiling, etc.

Wednesday 1:05-3:25 – Tower B

\*Insights Into Action: Harnessing the Power of Data & Storytelling to Transform Intellectual and Developmental Disability Services,  
Sean Luechtefeld, Ph.D., CAE

2 hours

2 CRC CEU/ 2 SW CEU Pending

Employment - Intermediate

The organizations and professionals delivering services that enhance the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) understand all too well the recruitment and retention challenges that have defined the direct support workforce for nearly three decades. To build a more

sustainable service delivery system, significant investments will need to be made by policymakers and regulators at all levels of government.

But how do we make the case for such transformative investments in I/DD services, especially given heightened polarization and the very same resource limitations that created the crisis in the first place? As the leading voice in Washington for community I/DD providers, ANCOR has found two essential ingredients—comprehensive data and transformational stories—to be instrumental in making the case for investments that strengthen services. Our success in combining these two essential ingredients has led to support from unlikely legislative champions and is moving the needle when it comes to political will for investing in the federal Medicaid program.

In this session, the presenter will help participants tackle both sides of the equation to understand at the strategic and tactical levels how to combine powerful data with compelling stories to fuel effective advocacy using tools that can be applied in a range of other helpful contexts as well (e.g., fundraising, community outreach, etc.). First, participants will learn how they can leverage the Case for Inclusion—a repository of data and advocacy resources created by ANCOR in partnership with United Cerebral Palsy—to help audiences understand the scope of the challenges we face. Then, participants will use a framework for

storytelling that they can put into practice immediately to identify, shape and share stories that compel action.

By the end of the session, participants will feel confident in collaborating with their colleagues back home to create a game plan for inspiring meaningful action wherever it's needed.

Wednesday 1:05-2:05 – Peninsula A

\*Exploring MCTI as a Post Secondary Option,  
Mandy Matthews  
1 hour  
1 CRC CEU/ 1SW CEU Pending  
Employment - Beginner

Discussion of available MCTI assessment services and vocational training and how they impact students seeking to enter the workforce. Student success stories, current initiatives and updates will be made available.

Wednesday 1:05-2:05 – Peninsula B

\* The Value of Telling Your Story,  
Sharon Emery  
1 hour  
1 CRC CEU/ 1SW CEU Pending

## Leadership - Beginner

Disability is never anyone's total identity. We are much more than what society has categorized as our inability to do certain things. We can all agree on that.

And yet, disability in its myriad forms is undoubtedly part of who we are. (Each one of us has something, right? The so-called able-bodied may have trouble accepting that, but there's help for them...)

The challenge is in figuring out where disability fits into our identity, our life story. But the really exciting part is that we can write that story. Each of us can tell the world who we are, social constructs be damned.

Human beings have the unique facility among the animal kingdom to use language. It is, in fact, the way we survive. We use language to process the large and small events of our lives and to give them meaning. As the Pulitzer Prize-winning author Joan Didion wrote, "We tell ourselves stories in order to live." Indeed.

But telling our stories, finding our identities, can be daunting. How to begin? Where to go?

As a person with a disability, we have to figure out how we feel about ourselves. And that will in turn influence how we tell our story and what story we

tell. We may struggle with negative feelings of inadequacy.

But by using language, by telling our story and having it exist outside of our own heads, we can influence how that story evolves. We can share it with others, compartmentalize it, even put it away on a shelf for a while. We can figure out what it means and whether we want to change the story line.

This process also works for medical professions, caregivers and care providers. They, too, have a story to tell.

There are doctors and nurses who write about their own experiences in meeting patient needs, creating a for-their-eyes-only “parallel chart” to the official hospital chart. Employing narrative medicine, people in challenging jobs have found that they can write their way into a better understanding of their patients and clients. On one side there's the data, on the other side, their human response to that data. The transcription of facts into feelings, if you will.

The objective of this session is to provide tools for us to tell our stories.

Wednesday 2:10-2:30 – Registration Area  
Refreshment Break Sponsored by Project Search

Wednesday 2:25-3:25 – Tower A

\*Assistive Technology For Mutual Support and Recovery,

Norman G. DeLisle Jr.

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU/ 1 SW CEW Pending

Disability Specific - Intermediate

There are an increasing number of digital tools available that people with lived experience of IDD, SMI, and SUD can use to support and expand their life skills and recovery. This presentation focuses on emotional self-regulation, executive function support, and personal safety apps and tools. Apps that focus on significant symptoms in IDD, SMI, and SUD will be reviewed, and participants will be linked to a curated and updated list of additional app and support possibilities.

Wednesday 2:25-3:25 – Tower C

\* How Differentiation and Human-Centered Engagements Shape Best Practices,

Sam Evalt Ph.D CAE

1 hour

1 CRC CEU / 1 SW CEU

Employment - Intermediate

Although interventions for individuals with disabilities provide vital strategies and lessons, the humanizing connection provides the enhanced support individuals need. The presentation highlights practices and strategies that MSU STEMM-Up Career Pathway Coordinators engage with individuals. Presenters will examine best practices of how individualization shapes a human-centered design that promotes trust and growth. The presenters will address the following questions:

In what ways do STEMM-Up Career Pathway Coordinators, CPCs, shape best practices through a human-centered design and collaboration?

How do CPC practices differentiate with set curricula?

How do human-centered pedagogies supplement and enhance ASSET's Big10 Practices?

Wednesday 2:25-3:25 – Peninsula A

\*Artificial Intelligence' s Role in Modernizing Human Services,

James Willis

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Behavioral Health – Beginner

Join me in a journey that will provide a brief overview on how AI works, some practical applications of AI you can use right now, and some thoughts on how it will change the delivery of human services in the future.

Wednesday 2:25-3:25 – Peninsula B

\*The Heart of Leadership,  
Shonda Rushing

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Leadership - Beginner

Professionals working in vocational rehabilitation often encounter unforeseeable obstacles that demand tactical expertise as well as exceptional leadership qualities. To truly comprehend what it takes to be a leader, one must first navigate through the turmoil and uncertainty of self-discovery. This presentation delves into the process of leadership development, emphasizing that enduring hardships and organizational turmoil can lay the groundwork for successful leadership that is driven by character.

Wednesday 3:30-4:30 – Tower A

\*Skill Building in a Post-COVID World,  
Charlene Chandler

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Disability Specific – Beginner

In a post COVID world, adults with Cognitive and Developmental Disabilities have been faced with skill loss and a lack of social opportunities. Using a STEAM-focused multidisciplinary transition model, Goodwill of Greater Detroit (GGD) is training adults with a wide range of developmental disabilities on a variety of career pathways and helping them to lead independent and socially fulfilled lives. GGD teaches life skills, digital literacy and work-ready skills to people with cognitive disabilities. Our program prepares its users for a tech-driven society and aligns independent living goals to project-based learning. This increases positive employment outcomes and enables participants to be more independent in their lives.

Wednesday 3:30-4:30 – Tower B

\*Voyaging Towards Bright Vocational Horizons:  
Leveraging Assessment Tools with Precision and  
Mapping A Career Voyage, The Skillful Use of  
Assessment Tools for Positive Outcomes,  
Dessie Johnson MA, CRC, CEAS

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Employment - Intermediate

Discussing and examining assessment tools and their usage to navigate successful vocational outcomes.

Wednesday 3:30-4:30 – Tower C

\*How Community Mental Health and Service Providers Effectively Collaborate,  
Adam Jenovai

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending  
Policy – Beginner

OCHN, along with a vocational provider, will present on approaches to collaboration to best meet needs of people receiving service. This presentation will provide an overview of:

1. OCHN provider meeting structure to ensure dissemination of information.
2. OCHN and provider workgroups used to implement new rate structures, etc.
3. OCHN strategies for provider engagement.
4. A provider's perspective of the contractual relationship with OCHN.

Wednesday 3:30-4:30 – Peninsula A

\*Service Animals 101,  
Christa Martin MRC, CRC

1 Hour

1 CRC Ethics CEU /1 SW Ethics CEU Pending

### Ethics - Beginner

Navigating the difference between service animals, emotional support animals, and the laws and regulations that impact individuals with disabilities use of them at work, at home, in public, etc. is not always easy for rehabilitation professionals or for their clients. This is a highly interactive session that engages participants and tests their current knowledge of this subject, particularly how it relates to the ADA and employment, as well as the CRCC Code of Ethics. Canine Companions for Independence and Assistance Dogs International will be highlighted as well! (Specific CRCC Code of Ethics addressed include sections: A.2., C.1., D.1., D.2., D.3., and M.1.)

Wednesday 3:30-4:30 – Peninsula B/C

\*Reasonable Accommodations for People with Autism in Today's Workplace,

Katie Kinde

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Disability Specific - Beginner

Autism presents specific challenges to individual workers and achieving success in the workplace. Communication is a key ingredient for success,

however aspects of communication such as eye-contact can be extremely uncomfortable and at times painful to people with Autism. Misinterpreted social behaviors can lead to isolation, lack of promotion, missed opportunities and even termination.

Learn strategies for creating a more accepting workplace as Katie Kinde talks about her research on this subject and shares stories of her individual journey and personal success in the workplace.

Wednesday 4:30-6:30 – Governors' Hall

\*Welcome Reception & Exhibitor Grand Opening  
Sponsored by New Horizons Rehabilitation Services

- Visit the exhibitor booths to connect with our outstanding vendors
- Shop the Micro Enterprise Market
- Door prize drawings

Wednesday 6:30-9:00 – Off-Site Right Brain  
Brewery

Community Pop-Up Art Show, all are invited to join  
us at Right Brain Brewery. Transportation is  
available, reserve a seat at [mi-recon.org/artshow](http://mi-recon.org/artshow)

## re:con – Day 2 Thursday – November 9

Thursday 7:00-8:30 – Governors' Hall

Breakfast Keynote, Bill Krieger - Sponsored by  
Arnold Center  
Immediately followed by Apex Award and MI-JPD  
Award - Governors' Hall

Thursday 8:45-11:00 – Tower A

\* Fostering an Ethical Workplace Culture,  
Menachem Hojda, LMSW  
2 Hours  
2 CRC Ethics CEU /2 SW Ethics CEU Pending  
Ethics - Intermediate

People who work in the non-profit service sector are increasingly seeking workplaces that reflect their values and honor their ethics. This workshop will examine how leaders can review their policies, procedures, and leadership styles to attract and maintain employees that uphold the values of the organization and foster ethical behavior in the workplace.

Thursday 8:45-9:45 – Tower B

\* Igniting Your Personal Fire to Avoid Burnout and Achieve Your Goals. A Guide To Self-Care and Goal Setting,

Rene Dell

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Leadership - Intermediate

We are living in a world where many companies are short staffed and more responsibilities continue to fall on the current team. Burnout and mental health struggles seem to be at an all time high. We will be digging into how you can make self-care a priority. This will allow you to show up in all aspects of your life as your best self. And then we will dive into goal setting. We will explore how you can set goals that can help bring you to the next level. The commitment displayed with help to eliminate burnout and crush your goals. You must strive to find balance in all aspects of your life and set your priorities. You deserve to live your best life and it is essential for everything to be balance and that you have your tool box you can take with you to set you up for success!

Thursday 8:45-9:45 – Tower C

\* The Importance of Job Coach Training,

Maria Peak

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

## Disability Specific – Beginner

In today's ever-evolving job market, the role of a skilled job coach has become increasingly indispensable. As individuals navigate employment opportunities, a job coach serves as a guiding light, offering invaluable support and expertise to help individuals achieve their career goals and maximize their potential. This presentation explores the critical importance of skilled job coaches and their impact on the lives of the people we serve. We will delve into the role of a job coach and important skills they need to exhibit.

Thursday 8:45-9:45 – Peninsula A

\*Navigating Uncomfortable But Necessary  
Conversations, Shonda Rushing

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Leadership - Beginner

Leaders often feel at ease in their areas of expertise or where they feel they excel. Some excel in numbers and developing strategies that maximize productivity. Others have the ability to shift perspectives and help individuals understand the valuable lessons behind their experiences. However, difficult conversations that may lead to conflict can cause discomfort even for the most confident leaders. It's important to remember that change and

revolution cannot occur without truth which often causes discomfort and confrontation.

Thursday 9:45-10:45 Registration Area  
Coffee Break - Sponsored by Judson Center

Thursday 10:00-11:00 – Tower B

\* Using Virtual Reality-Guided Meditation to Support Work Engagement and Well-being of Workers with Disabilities,

Sarah George

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Employment - Beginner

The employment rate for people with disabilities is disproportionately low compared to those without a disability. Whereas legislative efforts and vocational rehabilitation services have improved this unbalanced situation, challenges remain. Moreover, even when individuals with disabilities are employed, their retention rate is far from optimal. Research indicates that employee burnout and poor mental health are associated with poor employment retention. To tackle this challenge, proactive attention to employee psychological well-being should be addressed. In this study, we explored how guided meditation in a virtual reality head-mounted display could help workers with disabilities improve their job satisfaction, work engagement, mental health, and overall quality of life. A virtual reality

(VR) technology was chosen for its immersive features that allow first-time meditators to submerge themselves into an artificial world and escape from the work environment. 25 participants with physical and mental disabilities working in a warehouse setting at Peckham participated in the study. Each participant completed a five-minute daily VR-guided meditation for three days during their break-time at work. In this presentation, we will discuss the participants' experience using VR-guided meditation, the feasibility and efficacy results of the study, and future considerations.

Thursday 10:00-11:00 – Tower C

\*Thriving with Autism: The Power of a Wrap-Around Support System,

Matt McDonald

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Disability Specific - Beginner

Autism is not a barrier to success; it is a unique perspective that, when harnessed with the right support, can lead to remarkable achievements. This presentation sheds light on my life and how I have not only embraced my autism but have also thrived, all thanks to the nurturing people of my wrap-around support system.

Thursday 10:00-11:00 – Peninsula A

**\*Empowering the Community: Generative Artificial  
Intelligences Role in Advancing Inclusion and  
Opportunities,  
Scott Caesar**

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Disability Specific - Beginner

Generative AI is revolutionizing the way we interact with technology and information. For the disability community, these innovations present unique opportunities and challenges. This session will delve into the ethical, practical, and empowering aspects of implementing generative AI in serving individuals with disabilities. Through real-life success stories, best practices, and interactive discussions, we'll explore the potential of AI in creating a more inclusive future.

**\*\*Audience Takeaways\*\*:**

- An understanding of the potential of generative AI for the disability community.
- Ethical considerations to bear in mind when implementing AI solutions.
- Inspiration from success stories and practical applications.
- Ideas for future collaborations or initiatives involving generative AI and the disability community.

Thursday 11:00-11:30 – Governors' Hall

Micro Enterprise Market - Sponsored by MMI, Inc. -

Thursday 11:30-1:00 – Governors' Hall

Keynote Luncheon with Mudita Jagota Sponsored  
by Work Skills Corporation  
Immediately followed by BOOM Awards

Thursday 1:15-2:15 – Tower A

\* State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies –  
National Perspective & Priorities,  
Bill Robinson  
1 Hour  
1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending  
Policy – Beginner

WIOA and the joint implementing regulations placed new demands on State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies. It has been 7 years since the regulations were issued and nine years since the legislation was passed. Since that time there has been unprecedented burdens placed on the VR system. Over 80 directors have retired or left. Post-covid, attracting qualified staff has created additional stress

on agency services. The Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) has initiated a series of strategic objectives to address these challenges. In this session, you will learn how VR at a national level is focusing on creating an environment and strategy to engage customers, stakeholders, and staff.

Thursday 1:15-2:15 – Tower B

\*Empowering Direct Service Professionals in a Positive Working Environment,  
Menachem Hojda, LMSW  
1 Hour  
1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending  
Leadership – Beginner

A diverse panel of DSP's from across the workforce will discuss their experiences and views regarding empowering workplaces.

Thursday 1:15-2:15 – Tower C

\* Unlocking Excellence in Direct Support Professionals,  
Kimberly Pietrylka-Miller  
1 Hour  
1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending  
Leadership – Beginner

Join us for an enlightening presentation that delves into the DSP Tiered Credentialing Program. As a dedicated provider in the field of human services, New Horizons is excited to showcase the unparalleled benefits and opportunities this program offers for both direct support professionals (DSPs) and organizations alike.

New Horizons partnered with National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) to provide a structured framework for DSP professional growth. We will discuss the DSP credentialing program design, the training platforms used, describe the various credentialing levels/tiers, share success stories and the challenges.

Thursday 1:15-2:15 – Peninsula A

\*Diving Into Intersectionality to Ensure Best Practices and Fostering an Inclusive Work Environment,

Carie Branch

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Leadership – Intermediate

We are going to take a deep dive to explore intersectionality in the workplace. This session will include a hands on approach to really digging into the topic of DEI in the work place. This will include a period of guided self-reflection, action steps to walk

away from the presentation with, a review of policy changes that can help to foster a more inclusive environment and will end with resources and next steps.

Thursday 2:15-2:30 – Registration Area  
Refreshment Break - Sponsored by Judson Center

Thursday 2:30-3:30 – Tower A

\*Unconscious Bias: Overcoming Ethical Obstacles While Increasing Multi-Cultural Competencies, Christa Martin, MRC, CRC

1 Hour

1 CRC Ethics CEU /1 SW Ethics CEU Pending  
Ethics – Beginner

This session will assist rehabilitation professionals in overcoming ethical obstacles involving unconscious bias by increasing multi-cultural competencies and providing “best practices” in accordance with the CRCC Code of Ethics. Many clients with disabilities are impacted by unconscious bias in the workplace and within service settings such as ours.

We have an ethical obligation to reduce our unconscious bias, so as not to serve as an additional barrier to clients obtaining gainful employment or putting your professional relationship at risk. This interactive presentation will demonstrate how to overcome this obstacle including, but not limited to: differentiating conscious versus

unconscious bias, various examples of unconscious bias, identifying ethical risks and implications for professionals, tangible methods to identify and address our own unconscious bias, etc. We will end with a facilitated discussion because hearing from other professionals within the field is the best way to find new ideas and resources for assisting our clients, both consumers and employers!

(Specific CRCC Code of Ethics addressed include the founding values, six core principles of ethical behavior, and sections A.1., A.2., A.4, B.1., D.2., D.3., and M.1.)

Thursday 2:30-3:30 – Tower B

\*Create a Culture of Experiential Support,

Kat Thomson

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Leadership – Intermediate

Attending this presentation participants can expect to discuss and learn the impact of creating a culture of coaching on an organization. Various coaching methods and strategies will be shared from the perspective of Supervisor Coaching, and we will discuss how these can be adopted by other organizations. Participants will leave with a structured coaching plan that promotes

psychological safety, fosters a growth mindset, and inspires a shared vision for individual and organizational resilience and development.

Thursday 2:30-3:30 – Tower C

\*Business is Our Customer Too,  
Craig Saunders

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending  
Employment - Intermediate

Since the implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), some Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies have struggled to serve business customers or recognize the subject matter expertise VR has to offer. We will answer the following questions; How can we build long term relationships with business? What services can be offered? What value these services have to both business and to our shared job seeking customers.

Michigan Rehabilitation Services has multiple services available to assist Michigan businesses. We offer connections to partner assets, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) training including subjects such as disability awareness and reasonable accommodations, knowledge to avoid litigation, development of employees through work experience

opportunities, and retention of staff through accommodations. Join us to learn more about these services and how we can partner together to strengthen our business relationships.

Thursday 2:30-3:30 – Peninsula A

\*Issues Facing Autistic Adults in Michigan and the Need for an Autistic Adult Statewide Advisory Committee,

Katie Oswald

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Policy – Beginner

Nothing about us without us! This session will discuss the need for an Autistic Adult Statewide Advisory Committee that is being developed to advise leaders and policymakers in Michigan and advocate for the needs of autistic adults all over the state.

We will discuss the biggest issues currently facing the autistic community, as defined by autistic adults. Topics will include:

- Mental and physical health, access to care, and life expectancy
- Independence, interdependence, and isolation
- Employment, alternatives to traditional employment, and poverty

- Affordable housing and risk of homelessness
- Lack of acceptance and inclusion by a neurotypical-majority society

Other topics can be covered as requested by attendees.

Thursday 3:30-4:15 – Governors' Hall

Exhibitor Finale with Snacks & Door Prize Drawings,  
Sponsored by Oakland Community Health Network -  
Governors' Hall

re:new

Friday – November 10

Friday 7:00-8:00 – Registration Area  
Networking Breakfast

Friday 8:30:9:30 – Tower A/B

\*Gesher Human Services' Creative Expressions  
Program,  
Craig Nowak  
1 Hour  
1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending  
Disability Specific - Beginner

Gesher Human Services' Creative Expressions Program partners with community organizations like the College for Creative Studies, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Opera, Matrix Theatre, and more, to develop arts education, enrichment, and opportunities for people with mental health challenges and intellectual & developmental disabilities. We focus on all creative disciplines, from visual arts, music, and literary arts to performing arts and dance. Our participants hone their skills with a variety of classes led by our creative partners whereafter, we help them find opportunities so they can develop themselves artistically and fulfill their own professional creative goals. Creative Expressions artists have exhibited their art at the

Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, Gallerie Camille, and Detroit Contemporary to name few. They've performed music on top of the Detroit Opera House, in the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Max M and Marjorie S Fisher Music Center, and several other places throughout the community. Our participants have danced with professional choreographers during theatrical plays. They've walked in runway shows. And several have had their writing published.

The presentation will delve into these sorts of participant accolades, their connections to our Creative Expressions Program, how we've managed to develop relationships with so many magnificent creative community partners, and how other organizations can mirror the success of our program within their own respective communities.

Additional slides and details of participant art and performance will be added to original (attached) presentation, in order to comply with 1-hr presentation requirement."

Friday 8:30:9:30 – Tower C

\*The Art of Supervision: Reflecting on Supervisees Qualities in Clinical Supervision,

Asmau Ayub

1 Hour

## 1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending Leadership – Beginner

Supervision is an essential component of the counseling profession. Served beyond the gatekeeper role, most supervisors are motivated to provide their supervisees with the best possible support. This intent makes it essential to assess the qualities and competence that supervisees convey into the supervisory relationship. An important aspect of the art of supervision relates to how the supervisor's personality interacts with their professional predisposition, and how this evidently plays out with their supervisee's competence. In this presentation, we will discuss some strategies and tips for supervisees to effectively communicate with their supervisors.

Suggestions are made that address the difficulties that arise while matching supervisors with their supervisees. We provide recommendations on incorporating the necessary and relevant strategies to achieve seamless assimilation. Our goal is to bridge the gap between the complexities of personality and professional predispositions and highlight some effective modalities and strategies when matching supervisees with supervisors. We believe that this will improve the effectiveness of the supervisory relationship, provide a more useful platform for full engagement, learning, and

transformation in the context of clinical practice, and ultimately, lead to better client outcomes.

Friday 8:30:9:30 – Peninsula A

\*Youth Leading the Charge for Inclusive, Integrated Employment,

Mary Shehan-Boogaard

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Leadership – Beginner

For many families, their youth's transition to adulthood is an uncertain time. Where will they work? Where will they live? Will they have friends and be able to do things they enjoy? Families of youth with significant barriers to employment may not be able to envision in the community for their sons and daughters. Professionals may steer youth into the most available jobs rather than support them to explore a wide variety of career options. Youth Employment Ambassador Hosts (YEAH) will co-present with staff from Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council on ways to incorporate youth in the charge to promote inclusive, integrated, employment, by teaching their peers to become leaders of their own journey.

Friday 8:30:9:30 – Mack A

\*Artificial Intelligence– Legal & Policy Implications for  
Individuals with Disabilities,

Amy Maes

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Policy – Beginner

This session will provide participants an opportunity to learn the definition of AI; identify current and future legal issues presented by AI; an overview of the laws that currently apply to AI; current EEOC and DOJ guidance; update on White House's AI Bill of Rights; and a summary of the case law addressing AI and ML issues related to dealing with discriminatory practices.

Friday 9:30:9:45 – Registration Area  
Refreshment Break

Friday 9:45-10:45 – Tower AB

\*Voting with Disabilities in Michigan,  
Rachel Prevatt

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

## Policy - Beginner

A conversation on the rights and experiences of voters with disabilities and what we can all do to promote accessible voting for all Michiganders.

Friday 9:45-10:45 – Tower C

\*Policy Priorities for the Michigan Legislature,  
Todd Culver

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

Policy – Intermediate

Todd will facilitate a panel discussion with Malcolm Kletke of MHSA, one of Michigan's leading multi-client lobbying firms, and key representatives from the Michigan legislature. Each will identify current policy priorities, discuss the legislative landscape, outline upcoming budget expenditures, and look ahead to an important election year in 2024.

Friday 9:45-10:45 – Peninsula A

\*Above the Bridge: Vocational Rehabilitation  
Partnerships that Work,  
Carol Bergquist

1 Hour

1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending

## Policy - Beginner

Providing VR services across 16,377 square miles of geographic, cultural, and climatic challenges in Michigan's Upper Peninsula (UP) is interesting, rewarding and fun. Four presenters describe how partnerships between Michigan Rehabilitation Services, Community Rehabilitation Organizations, Indian Tribes, Centers for Independent Living, School Districts, Colleges and other Community Agencies work to offer quality services to the UP's unique population. A facilitated panel discussion with experienced VR providers offers insight into the positive impact that strong, dedicated, long term partnerships have on service delivery and outcomes. Collaborative efforts ensure that opportunities for individualized services are available to all people with disabilities and are provided in the most effective, efficient and culturally appropriate ways.

Friday 9:45-12:00 – Mack A

\*The Intersection of Employment and Sexuality:  
Building Healthy Relationships at Work Using the  
Elevatus Training Curriculum for People with  
Developmental Disabilities,  
Mary Shehan-Boogaard  
2 Hours  
2 CRC CEUs /2 SW CEUs Pending  
Disability Specific – Intermediate

We all want to live full, happy and satisfying lives with the ability to learn, live interdependently, work. We all want to have healthy relationships with our friends, significant others and colleagues in the work environment. This is true for young adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD), as well. Many people with IDD receive messages that they aren't sexual beings and receive fewer opportunities to learn factual information on this important topic. Staff from the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council and Peer Educators with disabilities will present information about the Building Healthy Relationships at Work curriculum from Elevatus Training and discuss how this training is available throughout Michigan.

Friday 11:00-12:00 – Tower A/B

\*Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for People We Serve,  
Susan Salhaney  
1 Hour  
1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending  
Disability Specific - Beginner

Friday 11:00-12:00 – Tower C

\*We Are All Advocates: Strategies for Legislative  
Engagement,  
Todd Culver  
1 Hour  
1 CRC CEU /1 SW CEU Pending  
Policy - Beginner

Friday 11:00-12:00 – Peninsula A

This concludes our conference, we hope you  
enjoyed it!

Thank you to our sponsors:

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MHSA

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