

NOFSW Conference Agenda 4.7.24

Tuesday June 25 12:30-1:45

Plenary - Ethical Considerations of Serving Immigrant Communities

In this plenary session, unique encounters of diverse immigrants will be reviewed through the lens of the recent sociopolitical context and the National Association of Social Work Code of Ethics. We will explore social work's responsibility to serve immigrants and how to employ micro- and macro-level strategies to support both well-being and thriving within immigrant communities.

Mary Lehman, PhD

Tuesday June 25 1:45-2:15 break

Tuesday June 25 2:15-3:45

The Ethical Intersections of Forensic Social Work

A framework for approaching ethical conflicts and dilemmas common to the practice of forensic social work.

Timothy McArthur, LCSW

Tuesday June 25 2:15-3:45

Socio-Bio Mitigation Videos: Using powerful visuals for advocacy

Influenced by the old saying "a picture says more than a thousand words", criminal defense teams are using mitigation videos to help their clients receive reduced sentences.

Steven Robinson, DSW, LCSW

Tuesday June 25 2:15-3:45

Trauma Care and Recovery Planning with Justice Involved Individuals

This workshop will review the core components of TIC and how to work with justice involved clients to identify when trauma plays a role in their recovery planning

Delores Blackwell, PhD

Tuesday June 25 2:15-3:45

Typologies and Forensic Social Work among Youth with Problem Sexual Behavior

Youth who have committed acts of sexual harm are often treated with one-size-fits-all by juvenile justice officials and social work providers. Use of typologies might help create more effective methods.

Adam Brown, PhD

Tuesday June 25 2:15-3:45

Duty to Warn: What you need to know!

This workshop will provide clinical social workers with the knowledge and skills to identify, assess and intervene effectively in duty to warn scenarios.

James Andrews, LCSW, LICSW, BCD

Tuesday June 25 2:15-3:45

A Drug Test is Not a Parenting Test: Holistic Advocacy for Parents Navigating the Stigma of Substance Use in Bronx Family Court

Our workshop will highlight how interdisciplinary teams at the Bronx Defenders collaborate to represent and support parents navigating substance use allegations and the racialized surveillance of the family policing system.

Zoe Russell, LMSW; Leslie Polseno; Dessera Wright

Tuesday June 25 3:45-4:00 break

Tuesday June 25 4:00-5:30

Crafting Compelling Narratives: Bringing Creativity and Confidence to Written Mitigation

Develop practical strategies for compelling mitigation by focusing on effective mitigation interviews and emotionally impactful written work, grounded in self-confidence and creativity.

Nikita Rahman, MSW; Anne Vachon, MSSW

Tuesday June 25 4:00-5:30

Forensic Social Work: Does the Attorney-Client Privilege Apply (or Not)?

Forensic social workers often work within organizations such as district attorneys, public defenders, and child protection agencies which raises complex ethical and legal challenges.

Dana Prescott, PhD, LMSW, JD; Diane Tennies, PhD, LADC

Tuesday June 25 4:00-5:30

The Importance of an Interdisciplinary Team in Early Advocacy

Will provide best practices of Early Defense, & legislative advocacy efforts to ensure the right to counsel at the earliest stage in an investigation for jurisdictions interested in this practice.

Asia Pina; Alyssa Harston; Michael White, ESQ

Tuesday June 25 4:00-5:30

Avoiding Dehumanizing Language: How Labels Prevent Effective Advocacy

We work in systems that dehumanize our clients and often we are powerless to help. However, we have the power through the language we use to humanize our clients.

Ronda Swenson, MA; Artie Gonzales; Franky Carillo; Ray Ibarra

Tuesday June 25 4:00-5:30

Public Safety Wellness: Overview of an Organizational Health and Training Model

An organizational health assessment and individual wellness check model for law enforcement personnel will be presented as well as findings from utilization in agencies through out Georgia.

Bianca Channer, DSW, LCSW; Katherine Moore, LMSW; Ralphaina Dubisson, MSW

Tuesday June 25 5:30-6:30

Poster - Indiana Addictions: A Case Study for Correctional, Peer-Led Addictions Recovery

This presentation advocates for peer-led drug treatment programs in correctional institutions. I stress the importance of peer-leaders as a source of empowerment in clinical practice.

Tyler Jean, LSW, MSW, MS.Ed., PhD

Tuesday June 25 5:30-6:30

Poster - Childhood Trauma and Delinquency: The role of callous-unemotional traits and moral disengagement

Individuals' childhood trauma and current delinquent behaviors are influenced by their callous-unemotional traits and the level of moral disengagement.

Hyun Kim, M.A.; James "Tres" Stefurak, Ph.D.; Victoria Dixon

Tuesday June 25 5:30-6:30

Poster - The Role of Social Determinants of Mental Health in Evaluation and Diagnosis

Social justice and mental health are interconnected, with social determinants affecting health outcomes. Serious mental illness patients are more vulnerable to inequities in criminal justice, child welfare, and healthcare.

Alena Aguilar, LMSW

Tuesday June 25 5:30-6:30

Poster - The Effects of a Co-Response Program on Patrol Time and Call Volume for Crisis-Related Calls: A time series analysis

Time-series analyses were used to assess the overall impact of a co-response program on crisis call volume and patrol time. Results are also presented based on eight individual call types.

Mark Plassmeyer, Ph.D., MSW end of day

Wednesday June 26 8:15-9:30

Plenary - Finding Common Ground in the Reform vs Abolitionist Debate

The abolitionist perspective, strengthened by rising tensions between law enforcement and the Black community in the US, has challenged the traditional views of the reform movement and the role of social workers in legal systems. Conference attendees are invited to listen to a panel discussion on the differences between the reform and abolitionist perspectives to discover how these, often opposing viewpoints, can coexist in the forensic social work field.

Panel moderated by David McLeod

Wednesday June 26 9:30-10:00 break

Wednesday June 26 10:00-11:00

Holistic Representation of LGBTQ People

Clients who are members of LGBTQ communities often experience unique and heightened involvement with the criminal legal system because of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

Klevis Baholli, LMSW; Laura Rolston, MSW

Wednesday June 26 10:00-11:00

International Re-Entry Planning

Clients facing removal from the United States require re-entry planning assistance to ensure a continuum of care in the receiving country.

Susan Cruz, MSW

Wednesday June 26 10:00-11:00

Beyond Incarceration: Supporting Black Mothers' Successful Reentry through a Critical Lens

The presentation addresses specific challenges that Black moms have upon reentry, with an emphasis on housing, work, and parenthood. It will also provide practical ways to support their success.

Leslianne Davis, BS, MSW

Wednesday June 26 10:00-11:00

How Deep Should We Dig? How Remembrance Work Contextualizes Our Clients Experiences

This presentation will explore how trauma-informed research led to discovery of client's connection to lynching victim and subsequent efforts to memorialize this history for the larger community.

Ashley Edwards, MSW

Wednesday June 26 11:00-11:15 break

Wednesday June 26 11:15-12:15

Developmental Trauma (PTSD, C-PTSD) and Advocacy for your Clients in the Legal Process: Understanding the role & meaning of diagnosis in client behavior

This session will present a framework for looking at developmental trauma, how it plays a role in juvenile offending, and how professionals can implement a trauma informed approach.

Maria Guido, MSW

Wednesday June 26 11:15-12:15

Interdisciplinary Defense

The Interdisciplinary Defense System (IDS) is a holistic partnership between public defenders and community agencies to foster the successful reentry of participants in the project from the Department of Corrections.

Abbie Elam, MSW; Lauren Sergent, BS; Emily Harris, BS

Wednesday June 26 11:15-12:15

Sustainability in Forensic Social Work: Beyond Self-Care

This presentation will focus on supporting forensic social workers in developing sustainability practices that go beyond typical discussions of self-care in the field of social work.

Rachel Goldsmith, LCSW-R

Wednesday June 26 11:15-12:15

Trauma and the Parallel Process for Correction Officers Providing Control, Correction, and Care: Visceral and vicarious experiences

To promote social justice for the incarcerated, we must investigate trauma on the correction officers ability to provide care and the double consciousness intersect of race, identity, and role diffusion.

Warren Graham, MSW; Eric Hines, AAS

Wednesday June 26 11:15-12:15

Exploring Simulation-Based Learning in Forensic Social Work Education

This presentation explores simulation-based learning as a pedagogy for forensic social work. It considers how this learning modality can be used to develop and enhance practical knowledge and skills.

Dimitra Lattas, MRes, MSW, BA; Brittany Adams, LCSW; Rachel M. Ross, LCSW, RPT-S

Wednesday June 26 12:15-1:45 lunch and roundtables

Wednesday June 26 12:30-1:30

Roundtable - Conditions of Confinement and Advocacy in New York State Prisons

Harm caused by incarceration is compounded by abuses in prison, specifically solitary confinement, medical negligence, and violence. How do we best approach this as advocates?

Jamie Chosak, LMSW, MSc

Wednesday June 26 12:30-1:30

Roundtable - Strengthening Foundations in Forensic Social Workers

A conceptual exploration of ways to adequately prepare social workers new for the challenges and traumas they will be exposed to in forensic settings.

Vanessa Jones, MSSW, LCSW

Wednesday June 26 1:45-2:45

Building Resilience as Forensic Social Workers

This presentation focuses on building resilience in forensic social work, equipping individuals with the strength to navigate challenging situations.

LaQueshia Clemons, MSW; Denise Brunskill, MSW

Wednesday June 26 1:45-2:45

Bridging the Gap: The role of generalist forensic social workers as community legal workers in promoting access to justice and social welfare

In this 60-minute workshop, participants will explore the collaborative role of generalist forensic social workers as community legal workers advocating for justice and social welfare.

Shawna Hoyte, BA, BSW, JD, MSW

Wednesday June 26 1:45-2:45

The Crucial Role of Parental Capacity Evaluations

This presentation highlights parental capacity evaluations and emphasizes their role in safe and informed child-parent reunification. Comprehensive evaluations consider cultural expectations, attachment, mental health, support, and well-being while promoting healthy families.

Carrie Landis, LCSW, MAT

Wednesday June 26 1:45-2:45

Holistic Representation: Better Outcomes for Youth

A session focusing on holistic representation model that has been used by student attorneys and social work interns as well as with licensed attorneys and social workers.

Malikah Marrus, DSW, MSW; Ellen Marrus, JD LLM; Rifqa SaAdat

Wednesday June 26 1:45-2:45

Impact of LCSW at Sentencing and Presentencing Phase of a Criminal Case

This presentation outlines of the use of mitigation gathered from an LCSW in one Public Defender's Office in Florida, describing outcomes, recommendations at the presentencing stage of the criminal case.

Alisa Guthrie, LCSW

Wednesday June 26 2:45-3:00 break

Wednesday June 26 3:00-4:00

The Journal of Forensic Social Work: The Journey to Open Access

Detailing the journey on how the Journal of Forensic Social Work has become an open access journal for the Social Work field and sharing ways to become involved.

David McLeod, PhD, MSW; Corie Young, MSW

Wednesday June 26 3:00-4:00

Leveraging Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Advancing civil legal outcomes for individuals living with mental health conditions

This presentation explores the intersection between behavioral health and the civil legal system, detailing strategies and examples for mitigating legal barriers and empowering individuals living with mental health conditions.

Anne Milne, MPH, LCSW; Christine Fuchs, JD

Wednesday June 26 3:00-4:00

Psychological Evaluations and Risk Assessments: Ethical purposes and limits

This presentation explores the ethical and forensic strengths and limitations of psychological evaluations and risk assessments.

Dana Prescott, PhD, LMSW, JD; Diane Tennies, PhD, LADC

Wednesday June 26 3:00-4:00

Reckoning with Moral Injury in Correctional Healthcare: Findings and recommendations from a mixed methods study

Beyond burnout, vicarious trauma, and compassion fatigue, this study examines the mixed methods findings on the experiences of diverse correctional healthcare workers, defining moral injury, and providing practice recommendations.

Stephanie Gangemi; Camille Dysart, MSW; Caroline Sutton Chubb, MPA

Wednesday June 26 3:00-4:00

Emotional Intelligence, Relationship Management and the 4 stage Approach to Servicing Incarcerated Individuals.

This presentation highlights the effectiveness of integrating emotional intelligence themes in jails/prisons to improve inmate relationships and emotional health.

Marquis Chandler

Wednesday June 26 4:00-4:15 break

Wednesday June 26 4:15-5:15

Interdisciplinary Collaboration between Social Work and the Legal System

Effective collaboration between public safety and social workers can significantly improve the quality of services provided to communities. A synergistic approach combining both sectors can lead to addressing social issues.

Rick Ornelas; Rosemary Alamo, DBH

Wednesday June 26 4:15-5:15

Expanding the Social Work Lens Beyond Casework

This presentation explores the integration of social work in legal aid beyond case work, detailing strategies and examples for enhancing organizational effectiveness, client outcomes, and fostering a holistic, client-centered approach.

Jenelle Pedroza, LCSW; Anne Milne, MPH, LCSW

Wednesday June 26 4:15-5:15

Police Social Work in Millvale Borough

In this presentation we will be covering police social work and how it is implemented in Millvale Borough, how police and social workers collaborate, and success of the position.

Alyssa Peters, MSW; Tim Komoroski

Wednesday June 26 4:15-5:15

Recovery Planning for Individuals in Care From Admission to Outplacement at a Forensic Hospital

The individuals in care deal with competency evaluations, civil commitments and not guilty reason of insanity.

Cortez Scott, MBA , MSW; Leila Rosado, MSW; Shamar Rouse, MSW; Tanya Logan; Leslie Palmer; Shiresse Brewington

Wednesday June 26 4:15-5:15

Bridging the Gap: Mastering the Transition from Clinical to Forensic Social Work

This session explores the transition from clinical to forensic social work practice, emphasizing legal literacy, ethical challenges, and strategies for effective practice in the legal system.

Gilbert Singletary

Wednesday June 26 4:15-5:15

Integrating Trauma-Informed Kettlebell Training in a Community-Centered Violence Reduction Initiative

Emerging research demonstrates that strength and resistance training can provide positive outcomes as adjunctive treatment for people who have experienced trauma. This panel/workshop explores applying training in reentry healing.

Becca Cadoff, MPA, MPhil

end of day

Thursday June 27 8:30-9:45

Plenary - Bearing Witness to a Homicide: Vicarious Trauma Experienced in the Death Chamber

This panel presentation presents data that reveal the vicarious trauma that can be found among those who witness an execution, regardless of their role at the execution.

panel moderated by Sandra Joy, Ph.D., LCSW

Thursday June 27 9:45-10:15 break

Thursday June 27 10:15-11:15

ACEs and Chronic Child Custody Conflict: Implications for ethical forensic practice

For forensic social workers advocating for children, the impact of chronic conflict on children, and the current research related to family dynamics provides a research-based explanation to courts.

Dana Prescott, PhD, LMSW, JD; Diane Tennies, PhD, LADC

Thursday June 27 10:15-11:15

Forensic Evaluation and Immigration Systems

This workshop is focused on applying forensic social work skills in immigration systems. Covered topics include trauma-informed interviewing and preparation of a comprehensive expert report in support of immigration relief.

Ann Webb, Ph.D., J.D.

Thursday June 27 10:15-11:15

Older Adults with Dementia and the Criminal Legal System

This presentation will discuss older adults with dementia who are navigating the criminal legal system, and how social workers can advocate for and support them.

Brittney Williams, LMSW-C

Thursday June 27 10:15-11:15

Peace Brokers: An asset-based approach to healing & violence prevention

This proposal explores the success of employing justice-involved adults as Peace Brokers for asset-based mentoring in community safety & violence prevention.

Mayra Lopez-Humphreys, PhD, LMSW; Jorge Diaz, MSW

Thursday June 27 11:15-11:30 break

Thursday June 27 11:30-12:30

Shifting the Mindset: Trauma-informed training for correctional system staff

Building from pilot research on the perceptions of correctional staff, this interactive presentation explores the use of professional development mechanisms to promote the implementation of trauma-informed approaches in carceral settings.

Jacoba Rock, Ph.D., MSW; Hillary Vervalin, MSW; Terry-Jan Ashton, MSW

Thursday June 27 11:30-12:30

In Whose Interests? Comparing the treatment of children in federal immigration court, and in state child welfare proceedings in Minnesota

A federal immigration court juvenile docket, and Minnesota child welfare court proceedings, provide the context for comparing how children are treated and protected, along with policy and advocacy recommendations.

Susan Schmidt, DSW, MSSW, LGSW

Thursday June 27 11:30-12:30

Using Interdisciplinary Collaboration for Courtroom Simulation with Social Work Students: Learning gains and challenges

Presentation reports on classroom-based action research outlining the learning gains and challenges uncovered following the facilitation of a collaborative simulated exercise in a cross-listed online asynchronous social work elective course.

Sherece Shavel, PhD

Thursday June 27 11:30-12:30

Take it Like a Man: A qualitative study of characteristics of male sexual assault targets in juvenile detention facilities

A rigorous mixed method investigation into the continuing problem of sexual assault within juvenile carceral settings. Suggestions for further research and methods to protect and identify victims are posited.

Clio Weisman, PhD; Belle Weisman

end of conference