

Linkage to Care to Prevent Overdose: Strategies from the Field

Webinar Presenters:



Julie Bauch, MS, RN, PHN is a registered nurse with a Master's of Science in Global Health Sciences from University of California - San Francisco. She has over 16 years of experience in public health, international health, research, and clinical work. Currently, Julie is the Opioid Response Coordinator for Hennepin County, Minnesota.



Marion Rorke, MPH is currently the Substance Use Resource Coordinator at the Denver Department of Public Health & Environment, where she oversees harm reduction programming and stigma reduction activities to improve the health and wellbeing of people who use drugs. She studied public health at Tulane University where she received her Bachelor of Science in Public Health and Master of Public Health from the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. After graduating, she has worked in HIV prevention and worked on the National HIV Behavioral Surveillance program in New Orleans, before moving to Denver. She hopes to continue to integrate harm reduction practices into government activities and public health efforts. In her free time, she enjoys running, playing with doggos, and listening to music.



Betsy Chanthapaseuth, MSW, LCSW has worked in the non-profit and government sectors as a social worker, supporting diverse communities at a micro and mezzo level. As a clinician, Betsy has worked with children, families, and adults. She specializes in helping her clients navigate relationship challenges, self-acceptance, life transitions, and trauma. Betsy has a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Southern California and a Bachelor's Degree in Communications from the University of Colorado at Denver. Her experience as a first-generation Asian American and a first-generation college graduate has granted Betsy a baseline of cultural sensitivity and empathy around acculturation, elevating social justice, and capacity building. She enjoys traveling, cooking, and short hikes with her family.

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Grace Cavallo, LCSW is a graduate of the UConn School of Social Work and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with over 20 years of experience in the behavioral health field in both clinical and administrative roles. Grace currently is the Chief Program Officer at Community Mental Health Affiliates (CMHA) where she is responsible for organizational oversight, fiscal management, risk management, and program development. Grace has been with CMHA for the past 17 years beginning her career in the substance use area of the organization, and after obtaining her Master's Degree in Social Work, transitioned into a leadership role overseeing the Mental Health group

home system. She also held leadership roles in child and adult outpatient programs at CMHA. Grace has spent her career focused on the integration of substance use, mental health, and physical health services within the organization to provide a holistic approach of care for the clients served.



Chris Porcher, MSW, MS is a graduate of the University of Saint Joseph's School of Social Work and the School of Business Administration. Chris has over 12 years' experience working in the behavioral health field with children and adults and has been with CMHA for 7 years, currently holding the position of Assistant Program Officer. Chris has purposely chosen to work for nonprofit agencies to ensure he serves his community, and he dedicates his time to working with individuals and families in underserved communities. He held various community-based roles before transitioning into leadership roles at CMHA with oversight of multiple programs and staff. Through this work, Chris

has become known as a community collaborator and leader, receiving recognition for successfully managing an Integrated Health Care program and assisting with eliminating stigma in the mental health system. He works with community partners to increase access to health care for residents of New Britain and neighboring counties, while serving as an active executive member of the New Britain Opioid Task Force. Chris has also chaired health and wellness committees for community members and employees. As the Benefits Committee Chair, he launched CMHA's first ever wellness plan, an initiative to promote health and wellness for employees and clients. Currently, he serves as the organization's Diversity Committee Chair. Outside of CMHA, Chris founded and manages Conversation CT, a group which fights community issues such as the opioid epidemic by bringing reality-based education to the community.



Tanya Banas, LPC is a Licensed Professional Counselor licensed in the State of Connecticut. Tanya has over 11 years of experience in behavioral health services, providing both direct clinical care and management oversight focusing on risk management and clinical supervision. Tanya has worked with various populations with a particular focus on individuals dealing with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders in both inpatient and outpatient settings. She has developed a clinical expertise and knowledge base working with clients in an intensive outpatient setting and has a particular skill set in motivational interviewing. In addition, Tanya has over 5

years of management experience and is currently an Assistant Program Officer at CMHA, where she is responsible for organizational/programmatic oversight, fiscal management and risk management.

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