Establishing Culturally Centered Peer Support Services

Webinar Presenters:

**Tammie Healani Hoapili Smith, MPH** currently serves as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) grant coordinator for Hawaii. Her previous role was the Public Health Educator for the Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch’s Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Data-Driven Prevention Initiatives (DDPI) grant for the study and prevention of opioid misuse. Tammie is a graduate of the Kamehameha Schools – Kapalama campus. Kamehameha Schools’ mission is to fulfill Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop’s desire to create educational opportunities in perpetuity to improve the capability and wellbeing of people of Hawaiian ancestry. Tammie is a Native Hawaiian Health Scholar and received her MPH in Maternal and Child Health from the University of Hawaii. She brings more than 25 years of experience with social services programs across Hawaii in both the nonprofit and government sectors to the OD2A project. She also received a certificate of recognition as one of Hawaii’s Outstanding Advocates for Children and Youth.

**Dr. Treena Becker, PhD** supports the Hawaii Department of Health with the implementation of the CDC Overdose to Action (OD2A) project. Her work is focused on surveillance data and prevention activities that reduce the risk of opioid and illicit stimulant overdose.

**Natasha Cheatham** currently works as the Interim LCC Assistant at Drug Free Marion County and resides in Indianapolis, IN. She serves as the President of Minority Recovery Collective Inc. (MRCI, “mercy”), a grassroots nonprofit that specializes in all things recovery for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Through her work, Natasha aims to bridge the sectors of harm reduction, prevention, and recovery together to provide culturally curated programs and services that support and affirm traditionally marginalized groups. Natasha leads as an Advocate for the recovery of Black people, Black families, and Black communities from colonialism / white supremacy.

**Iisha Wesley**, affectionately called Esha, is an Indianapolis, IN native who serves in many capacities within her community. As the Executive Director of Minority Recovery Collective Inc (MRCI, “mercy”) and first national Vice President for the Center for African American Recovery Development (CAARD), she strives to ensure that those who identify as BIPOC or minority have access to recovery resources that are done in top quality and care. Iisha is an advocate for non-traditional Stress & Harm Reduction efforts and the revitalization of impacted communities.