Session 1: Friday, July 28, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Eastern
*Tribal Ceremony Opening*

**Shawn Ironmaker** ([shawn.ironmaker@buffalohorseinc.com](mailto:shawn.ironmaker@buffalohorseinc.com))
Shawn Ironmaker (wamni gichianga “sits with eagle”), Business Specialist for BHI, is an enrolled member of the a’aniiih (Gros-Ventre/White Clay) People. He is also a descendant of Nakoda (wakpa wicasa/Stoney), and Rocky Boy Cree / Pembina Chippewa from the Fort Belknap Indian Community. Shawn helped with the development and creation of Buffalo Horse Incorporated from 2010 through the SBA 8(a) award date in 2018. Prior to working for BHI, Shawn has developed over thirty years of operational management experience in corporate retail and finance for Sear’s Holding Company, and grants and contracts for Fort Belknap Indian Community.

Session 2: Friday, July 28, 2023, from 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Eastern
*Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)*

**Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D.**
Dr. Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon is currently Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. She previously served as Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and served in this role for six years. Prior positions held at DMHAS include Deputy Commissioner, Senior Policy Advisor and Director of the department’s Office of Multicultural Healthcare Equity. In her role as Commissioner, Dr. Delphin-Rittmon was committed to promoting recovery oriented, integrated, and culturally responsive services and systems that foster dignity, respect, and meaningful community inclusion.

Session 3: Friday, July 28, 2023, from 10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Eastern
*Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)*

**Kirsten Beronio, J.D.,** ([Kirsten.beronio1@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Kirsten.beronio1@cms.hhs.gov))
Kirsten Beronio has over 20 years of experience developing federal policies aimed at improving access to and quality of mental health and substance use disorder treatment. Her experience includes leadership positions at federal agencies, advocacy organizations, and the United States Senate. She recently returned to the Center for Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program Services (CMCS) at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as a Senior Policy Advisor in the Office of the Center Director. She was previously the Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs for the National Association for Behavioral Healthcare (NABH). Before joining NABH, Kirsten served as a Senior Advisor on Behavioral Health Care for CMCS. From 2012 to 2016, she was the Director of the Behavioral Healthcare Division within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Prior to working for HHS, Kirsten was Vice President for
Federal Policy Development and Advocacy at Mental Health America for many years. She previously served as Medicaid and CHIP Counsel for the Senate Finance Committee and held other staff positions in the Senate.

**Session 4: Friday, July 28, 2023 from 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Eastern**

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service**

**Pamela End of Horn, D.S.W., L.I.C.S.W (pamela.endohorn@ihs.gov)**

Pamela End of Horn is an enrolled member of the Oglala Lakota Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. She was born and raised in Pine Ridge, South Dakota. With nearly 20 years of experience in the field of mental health, End of Horn has worked in suicide prevention for 13 years. End of Horn’s work focuses on national policy, standards of care, program development, implementation, and evaluation.

End of Horn holds a master’s degree in social work with practicums in intimate partner violence. She is certified in cognitive processing therapy, a treatment for trauma. She is a licensed independent clinical social worker and maintains advanced practice licenses in North Dakota and Minnesota. End of Horn is working toward a doctorate in social work at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Session 5: Friday, July 28, 2023 from 12:30 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. Eastern**

**Tribal 988 and Crisis Services Panel**

**Shelby Rowe, M.B.A., (shelby-rowe@ouhsc.edu)**

Shelby Rowe is executive director of the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. A leader in the suicide prevention field for the past 15 years, Rowe has a wealth of experience working at the local, tribal, state, and national level, most recently serving as head of SPRC’s Tribal Initiatives Team and establishing SPRC’s first Lived Experience Advisory Committee.

Rowe has collaborated extensively with other leaders across the U.S. to advance suicide prevention efforts. She serves on the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention’s American Indian/Alaska Native Task Force and Care Transitions Advisory Group, the Clinical Advisory Board for Crisis Text Line, the Board of Directors for RI International, and she co-chairs the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline’s Lived Experience Committee. Rowe also co-founded the American Association of Suicidology’s Indigenous Peoples’ Committee and is a former member of the Board of Directors for the National Association of Crisis Organization Directors and United Suicide Survivors International.

An award-winning artist, mother of three sons, and suicide attempt survivor, Rowe is the recipient of the 2021 American Association of Suicidology Transforming Lived Experience Award and the 2016 Chickasaw Nation Dynamic Woman of the Year. With a BA in sociology and philosophy and an MBA, she is an experienced public speaker and regularly travels across the country to speak at mental health and suicide prevention conferences and trainings.

**John Palmieri, M.D., M.H.A., (John.Palmieri@samhsa.hhs.gov)**

John Palmieri, MD, MHA, is a senior medical advisor at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and is currently serving as the acting director of the 988 and
Behavioral Health Crisis Team within the Office of the Assistant Secretary. He provides subject matter expertise and policy leadership in areas that include crisis response, suicide prevention and interventions, care integration, and criminal justice diversion programs. Before joining SAMHSA, John was the division chief for behavioral healthcare at the Arlington County, VA, Department of Human Services. In that role, he led the implementation of the Zero Suicide framework, expanded programming to transform the crisis response system, enhanced primary care integration and wellness services, and oversaw the launch of a multi-stakeholder community response to the opioid crisis. John is a licensed physician in the Commonwealth of Virginia and is board certified in adult psychiatry. He graduated from Brown University Medical School and completed his adult psychiatry residency at Massachusetts General Hospital.

**Johnell Lawrence,** ([jlawrence@vibrant.org](mailto:jlawrence@vibrant.org))

Johnell Lawrence is currently the Director of Equity and Belonging at Vibrant Emotional Health in NYC. Previously, Johnell worked at the NYC Department of Health, serving as the Deputy Director of Clinical Operations Support for the COVID-19 response as well as Health Equity Manager in HIV programming. Their framework and expertise is in addressing systems of oppression in organizations and public health programming by disrupting inequitable processes and biases that reinforce persistent harm caused through racism, sexism, transphobia, homophobia and other forms of oppression. Their work also focuses on facilitating critical conversations around the impacts of racism, transphobia, homophobia, sexism, oppression on an organization’s overall impact. The goal is to center healing, liberation and collaboration amongst all stakeholders while building bridges and reimagining all systems as a whole.

**Dr. Anitra Warrior ([dr.warrior@morningstar-counseling.com](mailto:dr.warrior@morningstar-counseling.com))**

Dr. Anitra Warrior is the President/CEO of Morningstar-Counseling and Consultation, P.C., in Lincoln, Nebraska. She received her BA in Psychology and MA and PhD in Counseling Psychology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**Rochelle Hamilton ([rwilliams@voaww.org](mailto:rwilliams@voaww.org))**

Rochelle Hamilton is an Indigenous woman from the Ehattesaht First Nation committed to bringing American Indian and Alaska Native mental health into focus, promoting a culture of healing across Indian Country, and encouraging others to do the same. She is also currently the Tribal Operations Manager at Volunteers of America Western Washington where she is overseeing the Native and Strong Lifeline (Tribal 988) and the Native Resource Hub.

**Carrie Slatton-Hodges, L.P.C., ([chodges@odmhsas.org](mailto:chodges@odmhsas.org))**

Carrie Slatton-Hodges is the Commissioner for the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Prior to her current role, Carrie served 12 years as the Deputy Commissioner for ODMHSAS, overseeing treatment and recovery services through state operated and contracted treatment providers statewide. In this role, Carrie managed budgets, oversaw contracts, streamlined policy, developed cutting-edge programs, cultivated the workforce, expanded partnerships and integrated evidence-based practices across the State. Carrie has a Bachelor’s degree from Southern Nazarene University and a Master’s in Applied Psychology from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She also serves on the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) Board of Directors. As a Licensed Professional Counselor for over 30 years, Carrie has hands-on experience in the field of mental health. She has
held a variety of clinical and administrative positions, in both the public and private sectors, delivering and managing all aspects of behavioral health services in rural and urban settings including the role of Chief Operating Officer at Oklahoma’s largest Community Mental Health Center. Carrie has transformed the delivery of treatment services through innovative programming and strategically leveraging resources to improve Oklahoma’s behavioral health, including the launch of Urgent Behavioral Health Care Centers, integrating Comprehensive Community Addiction Recovery Centers, developing a system of ambulatory detoxification services, and transitioning to an outcome-based payment system for Community Behavioral Health Centers. Carrie has a strong commitment to mental health and addiction recovery for Oklahomans and believes we all deserve to live a valuable, productive life in the community.

Keri Waterland, Ph.D. (keri.waterland@hca.wa.gov)
Keri leads the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, which provides program support for behavioral health, including mental health and substance use disorder treatment; SUD prevention, problem gambling treatment, prevention and outreach; mental health promotion; medication-assisted treatment; emergency services and behavioral health crisis services; and recovery support services. Keri previously served as an assistant secretary at the Washington State Department of Corrections and a senior policy analyst at the Washington State Senate, as well as an operations manager for state hospitals at the Department of Social and Health Services.

Session 6: Saturday, July 29, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. Eastern
Five Lanes Crisis Partners

David Covington, L.P.C., M.B.A., (david.covington@riinternational.com)
David W. Covington, LPC, MBA is a behavioral health innovator, entrepreneur, and storyteller. David is known for building better mental health crisis systems though his roles as CEO and President of RI International, and partner in Behavioral Health Link. David founded the Five Lanes Crisis Partners family of companies and the Crisis Now Academy, consulting and training business. David tells moving stories as producer of the Moving America’s Soul on Suicide film series and founder of the international initiatives #CrisisTalk and Hope Inc. Stories.

Session 7: Saturday, July 29, 2023 from 9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Eastern
Building Sustainable Partnerships with Tribal and Indigenous Communities

Dennis Mohatt (dmohatt@wiche.edu)
Dennis Mohatt is vice president for behavioral health at WICHE, leading since 2001 its behavioral health program and its Center for Rural Mental Health Research. He has over 30 years of public mental health service. His work has included direct clinical care, clinical supervision, and CEO tenure in a rural CMHC serving Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. Additionally, he led a HRSA-funded effort in the early 1990s to successfully integrate mental health and primary care in multiple rural family practice settings. During the late 1990s, he was deputy director for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, also serving as the state’s commissioner of mental health. He has served as a member of the National Rural Health Advisory Committee and led national efforts relating to rural mental health including a role as chief consultant to the president’s New Freedom Commission on Mental Health. He is actively engaged in efforts focused on improving services to Veterans, Guard, and Reserve and their families; rural mental health policy;
workforce development and increasing adoption of integrated approaches to behavioral and primary care practice. His graduate training, supported by a NIMH Fellowship, focused on rural community-clinical psychology.

Session 8: Saturday, July 29, 2023 from 9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Eastern

Connected and Strong: Strategies for Accessible and Effective Crisis and Mental Health Services

Debra A. Pinals, M.D. (debra.pinals@nasmhpd.org)

Debra A. Pinals, M.D. has been from 2016 to 2023 the Director of the Program in Psychiatry, Law, & Ethics and Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Michigan Medical School and Clinical Adjunct Professor at the University of Michigan Law School. She has also served as the Medical Director of Behavioral Health and Forensic Programs for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Pinals was appointed as the Assistant Commissioner of Forensic Services from 2008 to 2016 and the Interim State Medical Director from 2012-2013 for the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health. She has worked in outpatient, inpatient settings, forensic and correctional facilities, emergency rooms and court clinics, has received public service awards and has been an expert witness in many cases. She is Board Certified in Psychiatry, Forensic Psychiatry, and Addiction Medicine. During her career she has consulted on complex systems cases for people with mental illness, substance use disorder, and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities who are receiving treatment or support in various places- such as in state hospitals, community and justice and forensic settings. She teaches and publishes extensively and has led and consulted on numerous federal grants including those related to opioids, juvenile justice, and behavioral health and justice partnerships. Recently she has been a lead subject matter expert on issues pertaining to competence to stand trial for the SAMHSA GAINS Center. She is a past President of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, current Chair of the American Psychiatric Association Council on Psychiatry and the Law, and past Chair of the Forensic Division and current Chair of the Medical Directors Division for the National Association for State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD). In her work with NASMHPD, she is the Sr. Medical & Forensic Advisor/Editor-in-Chief and has co-authored key policy papers including “Beyond Beds: The Vital Role of a Full Continuum of Psychiatric Care” and “The Vital Role of Specialized Approaches: Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in the Mental Health System.

Genna Schofield, M.P.H. (genna.schofield@nasmhpd.org)

Genna Schofield is NASMHPD’s Senior Technical Assistance and Communications Associate. She combines practical communications skills with expertise in mental health systems and population mental health approaches to document and meet the technical assistance needs of state behavioral health agencies and facilitate state-to-state information-sharing. In her current role she leads the development of the NASMHPD Update to communicate critical policy updates, best and promising practices, and opportunities to state and national mental health leaders. She also participates in quarterly calls with state mental health agencies, staying abreast of the most current challenges and issues in the state mental health space. This year, she is leading the development of the Technical Assistance Coalition briefs along side Chief Editor Dr. Debra Pinals and is co-authoring the first paper in the 2023 series. She has a bachelor’s degree from the University of
Delaware and a Master’s in Public Health from the George Washington Milken Institute School of Public Health.

Session 9: Saturday, July 29, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Eastern

**Peers Support Services Across the Crisis Continuum**

Amy Brinkley (amy.brinkley@nasmhpd.org)
Amy Brinkley is a person with 13 years of direct lived experience with Mental Health and Substance Use recovery. Her passion and expertise are driven from the loss of three brothers to suicide and her mother to an overdose. Her heart is to advocate for change across the country through effective recovery data collection and evaluation processes that drive recovery-oriented outcomes which will in turn improve the quality of life and sustained recovery for people with substance use disorders and mental illness. Professionally, Amy Brinkley served for (5) five years as the Director of Recovery Support Services in the state of Indiana with the Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction. She most recently served for 2 years as the Chairperson for NASMHPD's National Division of Recovery Support Services advocating for the professionalization of recovery supports across the country. Amy has also been a contributing author on several American Psychiatric Association Journals related to peer support through her work on the APA Policy Advisory Board and continues to serve in this capacity today. Currently Amy serves as NASMHPD’s (National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors) Recovery Support Systems Coordinator, is also a wife and mother to 4 children and resides in Indiana.

Justin Volpe (justin.volpe@nasmhpd.org)
Justin is an international consultant, advocate, and peer specialist based out of Miami, FL. He has presented and trained mental health facilities and other organizations on trauma informed practices and used his life experiences to discuss workforce issues and connecting community providers to better serve individuals in need. Previously before his role with NASMHPD, Justin worked as a Jail Diversion Peer Liaison for the 11th Judicial Criminal Mental Health Project for 14 years. He has worked as a Certified Recovery Peer Specialist in Florida since 2008 and has local and national experience. Justin has extensive work experience in the community and has supervised and coordinated thousands of engagements with participants with serious mental health and co-occurring issues in the criminal justice system. He has assisted in training over 2,500 Miami Dade Law Enforcement Officers in Crisis Intervention Team Training. His passion for this work is based on bringing systems together locally and nationally while reducing stigma and advocating for the persons served. He is recently the recipient of the 2021 Fred Frese Award from CIT International and has many other awards and achievements; including multiple articles and film Definition of Insanity, (PBS 2020) with his experience with the Jail Diversion Program and the Ken Burns Documentary: “Hiding in Plain Sight” (PBS 2022).

Session 10: Saturday, July 29, 2023 from 11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Eastern

**988 Data and Technology**

Grant Riewe (griewe@vibrant.org)
Grant Riewe joined Vibrant in 2022 as Chief Technology Officer, overseeing all technology programs, products, and services. He is a strategy-driven technologist with deep experience
developing and executing big-bang innovation strategies for organizations of all sizes – from Fortune 100 to startups and the public sector. Riewe’s focus is on the ethical and human-centric application of technology and effective customer experiences. Riewe also serves as an Executive Fellow and Adjunct Faculty with the University of St Thomas, Opus College of Business, where he develops and teaches courses for the Business in a Digital World initiative. He also serves as an advisor for a variety of technology-centric startups. Formerly, Grant Riewe was a consultant with both McKinsey & Co and Accenture, LLP. He has an MBA from the University of Minnesota, Carlson School of Management, and a BA from St Olaf College.

Session 11: Saturday, July 29, 2023 from 12:15 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. Eastern
Supporting Trauma Responsive Services Across Systems

Joan Gillece, Ph.D. (joan.gillece@nasmhpd.org)
Dr. Gillece has forty years of experience working in the health field with twenty-five dedicated to addressing the impact of trauma and social justice. Working across agencies, Dr. Gillece promotes the use of trauma informed care in multiple settings including mental health, substance abuse, adult and juvenile justice, social services, and homeless services. Prior to joining the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) seventeen years ago, Dr. Gillece served as Director of Special Populations for Maryland’s Mental Hygiene Administration where her responsibilities included all aspects of state mental health planning and delivery of services as well as development of collaboration across agencies serving individuals with psychiatric diagnosis. As project director for SAMHSA’s National Center for Trauma-Informed Care (NCTIC), Dr. Gillece championed the cause of full consumer integration and development of culturally competent programs. Utilizing survivors in all aspects of trauma work, Dr. Gillece has coordinated and provided technical assistance, conference presentations, and consultations to multiple systems across the country. Commitment to strength-based support by implementing trauma informed values with the overarching theme of healing has been her focus.

Session 12: Saturday, July 29, 2023 from 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Eastern
Innovative Uses of Technology to Enhance Access to Services within the Crisis Continuum

Mihran Kazandjian M.A, (mkazandjian@nri-inc.org)
Mihran Kazandjian is a researcher with experience in study design, program evaluation, data collection, and geospatial analysis. His professional research has focused on behavioral health care systems and the implementation of evidence-based practices. He works with national, state, and local data systems, helping stakeholders at all scales make strategic and effective use of resources. Recently, he has studied how states have implemented coordinated specialty care for first episode psychosis and has worked with practitioners and academic partners to create technical assistance products to aid the successful expansion of such programs. Mihran is currently working closely with states and state funded crisis providers to document their implementation of behavioral health crisis services. Prior to coming to NRI, Mihran managed data collection and analysis for a felony drug court in Ohio.
Kristin Neylon, M.A. (Kristin.Neylon@nri-inc.org)
Ms. Neylon has 18 years of experience conducting qualitative and quantitative research related to behavioral health and public policy. During this time, she has focused her attention on identifying and addressing needs to improve service delivery, service integration, interagency collaboration, and ultimately, the lives of clients and their families’ receiving services in the public behavioral health system. Ms. Neylon manages projects for multiple stakeholders related to collecting and analyzing data about the public behavioral health system, including early serious mental illness programs, coordinated specialty care programs, and crisis services. Ms. Neylon authors reports and literature reviews for federal and state governmental agencies, providers, associations, and other stakeholders. She is particularly interested in improving health equity, and addressing the challenges associated with service delivery to underserved populations.

Carrie Slatton-Hodges, L.P.C., (chodges@odmhsas.org)
Carrie Slatton-Hodges is the Commissioner for the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Prior to her current role, Carrie served 12 years as the Deputy Commissioner for ODMHSAS, overseeing treatment and recovery services through state operated and contracted treatment providers statewide. In this role, Carrie managed budgets, oversaw contracts, streamlined policy, developed cutting-edge programs, cultivated the workforce, expanded partnerships and integrated evidence based practices across the State.

Carrie has a Bachelor’s degree from Southern Nazarene University and a Master’s in Applied Psychology from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She also serves on the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) Board of Directors. As a Licensed Professional Counselor for over 30 years, Carrie has hands-on experience in the field of mental health. She has held a variety of clinical and administrative positions, in both the public and private sectors, delivering and managing all aspects of behavioral health services in rural and urban settings including the role of Chief Operating Officer at Oklahoma’s largest Community Mental Health Center. Carrie has transformed the delivery of treatment services through innovative programming and strategically leveraging resources to improve Oklahoma’s behavioral health, including the launch of Urgent Behavioral Health Care Centers, integrating Comprehensive Community Addiction Recovery Centers, developing a system of ambulatory detoxification services, and transitioning to an outcome based payment system for Community Behavioral Health Centers. Carrie has a strong commitment to mental health and addiction recovery for Oklahomans and believes we all deserve to live a valuable, productive life in the community.

Marie Williams, L.C.S.W. (marie.williams@tn.gov)
Marie Williams, LCSW, was reappointed Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS) by Governor Bill Lee on January 19, 2019. Ms. Williams was initially appointed to the position by Gov. Bill Haslam, effective October 22, 2016. As Commissioner, Ms. Williams oversees and leads the department in its role as the state’s public mental health and substance abuse authority with an annual budget of more than $500 million. In her time as Commissioner, Ms. Williams has served as a leader in addressing several essential issues facing Tennessee including the opioid crisis, emergency psychiatric services, and criminal justice reform. Commissioner Williams is the recipient of numerous professional and community awards from national and state groups including the Excellence in Advocacy Individual Achievement Award from the National Council for Behavioral Health, the George
Goodman and Ruth P. Brudney National Social Work Award from Mental Health America, the Alumni Professional Achievement Award from the University of Tennessee Knoxville, the Senator Douglas Henry Award for Service to Children and Families at Risk from the University of Tennessee College of Social Work, the Voice of Recovery Award from the Tennessee Association of Alcohol Drug and other Addiction Services, and the Tipper Gore Legacy Award from Tennessee Voices for Children. Ms. Williams lives in Nashville, and she is the mother of Nicole Williams.

**Jennifer Armstrong (jennifer.armstrong@tn.gov)**

With over 20 years of experience in behavioral healthcare, Jennifer has experience in therapeutic foster care, school-based, residential, outpatient and crisis services. Jennifer received a Bachelor of Science in Social Work from the University of Tennessee at Martin, and a Masters of Science in Clinical Social Work from the University of Tennessee at Memphis. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor with Mental Health Service Provider Designation. Jennifer joined the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services in March 2020 as Director of the Office of Crisis Services and Suicide Prevention. As a member of the Division of Mental Health Services (DMHS) leadership team, she provides vision, administration, and oversight of all DMHS Crisis Services and Suicide Prevention programs. Prior to her current role, Jennifer served as Vice President, Customer Engagement Operations for Centerstone, providing oversight and leadership for Customer Engagement Initiatives, including day-to-day management of a multi-site engagement operation for Centerstone: customer satisfaction, enhancing the customer experience, and improving the customer journey throughout the engagement process. She joined the Centerstone-Tennessee team in 2008 as Triage Coordinator, responsible for expanding Centerstone’s Crisis Call Center programs and establishing best practices as this program expanded nationally, including being a provider for the National Football League Lifeline. She was promoted to Director, Crisis Care Services in 2013, with continued oversight of Tennessee’s Crisis Care Services and Tennessee’s federal suicide prevention grant programs. Jennifer currently serves on the Standards, Training and Practice Committee for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and is a Board Member for the National Association of Crisis Organization Directors. She is a Site Accrédité for the International Council of Helplines and was named a 2016 Healthcare Hero by the Nashville Business Journal.

**Session 13: Saturday, July 29, 2023 from 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Eastern**

**Intersectionality: Faith, Mental Health and Community Partnerships**

**Darcy E. Gruttadaro, J.D., (dgruttadaro@nami.org)**

Darcy Gruttadaro serves as NAMI’s Chief Innovation Officer. In this leadership role, she works with her team to advance NAMI’s strategic goals designed to address the mental health needs of youth and young adults, expand NAMI’s workplace mental health initiatives, and foster cross-cultural innovation and engagement across diverse communities. Darcy previously served as the director of the American Psychiatric Association Foundation (APAF), Center for Workplace Mental Health. In that role, she expanded the Center’s national reach through new strategic partnerships and by creating a broad array of high impact tools, trainings, and resources that met the immediate and unique needs of public and private organizations in diverse industries.
A nationally recognized expert on workplace mental health, Darcy served as the APA and APA Foundation’s lead media spokesperson on workplace mental health. She has been quoted in multiple major media outlets including the NY Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, ABC News, Bloomberg Business, and more. Darcy received the 2020 APA Leadership Award in recognition of her achievements and stature as a nationally recognized leader on workplace mental health issues and more. Before joining the APA Foundation, Darcy served in multiple senior level roles at NAMI. She practiced law at the Harris, Beach law firm in upstate New York, concentrating her legal practice on healthcare, mental health, and related issues.

Session 14: Saturday, July 29, 2023 from 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Eastern
Growing and Strengthening the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Workforce

Robert Shaw, M.A. (rshaw@nri-inc.org)
Robert Shaw, M.A. has written two recent papers on crisis services: “Using Data to Manage State and Local-Level Mental Health Crisis Services” and “Financing Mental Health Crisis Services” as well as a paper on the implementation of service registries, “Experiences and Lessons Learned in States with On-Line Databases (Registries) of Available Mental Health Crisis, Psychiatric Inpatient, and Community Residential Placements.” Robert Shaw has interviewed many state and local-level officials responsible for crisis services. In addition, Robert Shaw, through NRI’s State Profile System, has collected data on crisis services for more than a decade. Since 1996, Robert Shaw has worked with state governments to document and understand the broad range of their activities, including serving people in a culturally appropriate and sensitive manner.

Lance Washington (Lance.Washington@va.gov)
Lance Washington is a Research Health Science Specialist in the Health Services Division of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) at the Department of Veteran Affairs where he conducts behavioral health, biomedical, and workforce research. Lance Washington also conducts research for the Center for Innovation to Implementation (Ci2i) for the VHA to ensure that veterans have access to high-value healthcare. Prior to joining VHA, Mr. Washington was a Senior Research Associate at the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors – Research Institute (NRI) where he conducted qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods behavioral healthcare research for both community and correctional settings. He used statistical analysis and data analytics to inform data-driven decision making for various behavioral health and criminal justice stakeholders, including other researchers, policy makers, private leadership, and government officials. Using his experience, Mr. Washington implements a combined patient- and provider- interactionist based approach to individual, group, and organizational health assessment. Mr. Washington has a master’s degree in industrial-organizational psychology and is currently a PhD candidate in industrial-organizational psychology. Lance’s master’s thesis and doctoral dissertation focus on the behavioral health workforce, specifically emotional labor and burnout/compassion fatigue among government healthcare providers.

Dale K. Adair, M.D., L.F.A.P.A., (c-daadair@pa.gov)
Dr. Dale Adair serves as the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) Chief Psychiatric Officer and the Medical Director for the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS). In this role, he provides clinical expertise and consultation to the Deputy
Secretary of OMHSAS and the Secretary of DHS. He provides input and guidance into the policies which affect the provision of mental health and substance use treatment throughout the state. He has been a leader in the development of the vision for PA’s First Episode Psychosis program; PA team efforts with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation Accelerator-Substance Use Disorder project; Centers of Excellence (COE) for the treatment of Opioid Use Disorder; Health Equity; and served as Project lead for the PA Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Program. He is involved with numerous efforts aimed at suicide prevention and currently serves as the lead on Pennsylvania’s efforts to implement 988 as the new 3-digit number for the Suicide Prevention and Crisis Lifeline. He has worked on numerous projects for the Department with the aim of improving access and quality of care for Medicaid beneficiaries while containing costs. One of those projects is an Integrated Care Plan Program that requires Physical and Behavioral Health Managed Care Organizations to work together to care for shared patients. He has served as Co-chair for the Behavioral Health Commission for Adult Mental Health. He served as a consultant for the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services and is currently serving on the National Committee for Quality Assurance’s Patient-Centered Outcome Behavioral Health Expert Working Group. Past awards include the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Leadership and the PA Rehabilitation & Community Providers Association Community Leadership Award. He is a fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.

Wendy White Tiegren, M.S.W. (wendy.tiegreen@dbhdd.ga.gov)

Wendy White Tiegren, M.S.W. is the Director of Medicaid and Health System Innovation for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities. She has 30 years of experience working in services delivery and administration in the public behavioral health sector. The majority of her career has been spent as liaison to the state Medicaid authority. In that role, she was the primary negotiator with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in the establishment of peer supports as a Medicaid-financed service (1999), and is a presenter at several national Medicaid, health, and behavioral health management conferences. In her various Departmental roles, she has led in the design, development, implementation of the Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL), the Administrative Services Organization, Crisis Stabilization Unit certification, Adult/Youth/Parent Peer Support, High-Fidelity Wraparound, and System of Care frameworks for the State of Georgia. She has also been a contractor for CMS, SAMHSA, NASMHPD, and more than half of all states related to behavioral health, Medicaid, and peer support. Ms. Tiegren has a Master’s degree in Social Work from the University of Georgia and her Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology from Wofford College. She has been honored by the Georgia Certified Peer Specialist Project as a Partner in Recovery and by the Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network as Consumer Supporter of the Year and with the Randall Baxter Humanitarian Award. Ms. Tiegren is the vice-chair of NASMHPD’s Finance and Policy Division and is an academy member of the National Academy of State Health Policy.

Session 15: Sunday, July 30, 2023 at 8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Eastern
International Initiatives in Mental Health

Stephen J. Appleton (steveceoiimhl@gmail.com)

Steve Appleton serves as President and Chief Executive of Global Leadership Exchange (GLE). He has been in post since January 2022, have previously worked as the European Regional Lead between 2019-2022 and UK Liaison between 2017-2019. Prior to taking up his role as CEO, Steve
was Managing Director of Contact Consulting, a consultancy and research practice specialising in work relating to mental health, housing, disability and older age. Steve originally trained as a social worker. He held several practice posts and operational management roles in local government. He was a senior manager for a regional arm of the English National Health Service, leading on mental health strategy and performance. He has worked nationally and internationally on population based mental health improvement programs in cities and urban regions. Steve is based in the United Kingdom. In addition to his work at GLE he is an independent Trustee of a national mental health non-profit and Board member of a non-profit social enterprise company providing support to older people families. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Anil Thapliyal (anil@emhieglobal.com)
Anil Thapliyal is widely respected by his peers for his longstanding and unwavering commitment to create a responsive digital mental health ecosystem through international collaborations based on emerging best practice which reduces inequalities and ensures timely support for users by enabling access to care at the time and place of their choosing. He believes that “we must focus on the service user, their families, and carers. If the digital mental health solutions do not work for them, then they do not work at all”. He is well known for enabling scalable and sustainable implementation of digital mental health initiatives around the world. His work in the areas of digital mental health strategy, policy, accreditation, and activation has seen the adoption of some significant initiatives such as the eMental Health Accreditation Framework in Canada and Digital Mental Health and Addiction Toolkit (DMHAT), National Telehealth Service & National Depression Initiative (The Lowdown & The Journal) in New Zealand. In recognition of his expertise in the eMental Health domain, he was appointed an Adjunct Professor at the Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences, Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand in 2014. His work has received several awards in areas as diverse as Innovation, Social Responsibility and Ethics & Compliance for his services to the digital mental health domain development globally.

He is the Founder and Executive Director of the eMental Health International Collaborative (eMHIC). eMHIC’s current Strategic Partner members span across the USA, Canada, Australia, Sweden, England, Scotland, Ireland, New Zealand, Singapore, Philippines, UNICEF and APEC Digital Hub for Mental Health. He served as an advisor to the special committees at the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet in New Zealand on Mental Health and Data and Digital. He has also been a key advisor to the eMental Health Section at the World Psychiatric Association and UNICEF. In 2020 he was appointed a Leadership Fellow at St George’s House, Windsor Castle, Berkshire, UK.

Session 16: Sunday, July 30, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Eastern
What Can the Transformation Transfer Initiative (TTI) Do for Your Community?

Jane Tobler (jane.tobler@nasmhpd.org)
Jane Tobler has more than 30 years of experience in training, communications, and program management working to elevate critical public health issues and motivate change in communities and nationwide. For more than a decade, Ms. Tobler served as the Director of Training and TA for SAMHSA’s Caring for Every Child’s Mental Health Campaign. Ms. Tobler developed health communication and social marketing expertise in grantees, their partners, and government leaders.
This work included developing curriculum, producing material, and leading local and national trainings, as well as launching Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day. As the Project Director for SAMHSA’s Underage Drinking Prevention Initiative, Ms. Tobler provided strategic direction based on social marketing theories to increase public awareness and engagement of the risks, and further the prevention, of underage and harmful drinking. She directed the training and TA to non-profit and civic organizations to garner support and collaboration which led to more than 1500 Communities Talk: Town Hall Meetings focusing substance abuse prevention. Ms. Tobler currently serves as a Technical Assistance and Training Advisor for NASMHPD, working with the Transformation Transfer Initiative (TTI). In this capacity, she has the honor of working with states and territories providing technical assistance and training as they work to plan, design, and implement transformation of their behavioral health systems.

Laura Brake, M.A. (Laura.Brake@ks.gov)
Laura Brake is the Director of Crisis Services for the Behavioral Health Services Commission at the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services. She has 30 years of experience in the fields of mental health and intellectual and developmental disabilities. Prior to her current position, Laura served as a crisis intervention team (CIT) co-responder in Topeka, KS, working with Topeka Police Department and Shawnee County Sheriff’s Office. Laura has experience in risk management, case management and teaching, as she is also an adjunct professor at Washburn University. Laura serves as the liaison for the Governor’s Behavioral Health Services Planning Council, Service Members, Veterans, Family (SMVF) sub-committee and is a member of Kansas Crisis Intervention Team Association (KCITA). Laura holds a master’s degree from Washburn University in Health Care Education as well as a bachelor’s in psychology and criminal justice from New Mexico State University.

Kris Fraser (kris.fraser@delaware.gov)
Kris Fraser is a behavioral and public health professional with 10+ years of experience in health research, strategic planning, change management, policy development, evaluation, and quality improvement. He has a master’s in public health with a concentration in Health Management and Policy and is a certified Project Management Professional. He has worked in various capacities for Delaware’s Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health and is currently the Chief of Research and Evaluation for the Division.

Rebecca Roth, M.A. (Rebecca.E.Roth@wv.gov)
Rebecca Roth is the Director of the Office of Policy, Planning, and Research for the West Virginia Department of Health & Human Resources, Bureau for Behavioral Health. She holds a B.A. in Political Science from Swarthmore College, and both an M.A. in Philanthropic Studies and a Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Indiana University. Ms. Roth has had a 20-year career in the nonprofit, state and federal government sectors in West Virginia, during which time she has focused on strengthening collaborations, leveraging resources, grants management, writing, and facilitation. Ms. Roth makes her home in Charleston, WV with her family.

Buster Lackey, Ph.D. (buster.lackey@namiarkansas.org)
Dr. Buster Lackey, Ph.D., is a licensed Professional Counselor and Licensed Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor. He is the executive director of NAMI Arkansas. He co-founded the Center for Health and Wellness, a mental health treatment center. Dr. Lackey is a Hostage Crisis negotiator.
with the North Little Rock Police Department and Psychological Consultant with the FBI. Dr. Lackey spent many years as a K-12 Principal before retiring as School superintendent. He is married to Dr. Crystal Lackey, PT, DPT; they have three daughters, Elizabeth, Emma, and Annalise. Their fourth child and family protector is Sage, a 110lb German Shepherd. He can be found at the gun range shooting skeet with his daughters in his spare time.

Jennifer Mehnert Baker, D.P.A., M.S.W. (jemehnert@pa.gov)
Dr. Jenna Mehnert Baker serves as the Bureau Director for Policy, Planning, and Program Development with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. This is Jenna's fourth politically appointed policy/program development position. She previously worked for the Mayor’s Offices in New York City and Washington, DC in addition to serving Governor Rendell’s administration. Her passion for building the modernized crisis system stems from a career working at the intersection of social services and public safety. Jenna holds a master’s degree in social work from the University of Pennsylvania, and a doctorate in public administration from West Chester University. She holds both the SHRM-CP and CAE credentials. Jenna is also a member of the CIT International Board of Directors.

Session 17: Sunday, July 30, 2023 at 9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Eastern
Increasing Equitable Access to Co-Occurring Care

Ayorkor Gaba, Psy.D. (Ayorkor.Gaba@umassmed.edu)
Dr. Gaba is an Assistant Professor and Treatment Researcher in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School (UMass Chan). She serves as the Director of the Behavioral Health Equity Advancement Lab (B-HEAL) and the Equity Division at the Massachusetts Center of Excellence in Specialty Court. Dr. Gaba's research aims to reduce health disparities, advance health equity, and address social determinants of health, with a particular focus on improving behavioral health services for historically marginalized populations, including African American/Black and Latino/a/x individuals and families, individuals involved in the criminal legal system, and women. She brings an implementation science, systems, and social justice lens to her work.

Angela Wangari Walter, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.S.W., (angela_walter@uml.edu)
Angela Wangari Walter, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.S.W. is a health services researcher and an implementation scientist dedicated to understanding and improving health and social outcomes among marginalized and minoritized (MaM) populations, and other socially and economically disadvantaged groups. Her research focuses on developing and implementing behavioral interventions to improve health outcomes for individuals with alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use (ATOD) disorders and co-occurring conditions (e.g., mental illness, cancer). Her community-engaged research (CEnR) has contributed to understanding the relationships between social determinants of health and wellbeing; and the impact of culturally relevant and integrated care for adults with co-occurring substance use and mental illness. Dr. Walter is actively engaged in community efforts addressing racial and social injustices, serving as an advocate, educator, volunteer, and nonprofit board and advisory member.
Session 18: Sunday, July 30, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Eastern

Medical Approaches to Mental Health and Substance Use Crisis Encounters

Chuck Browning, M.D. (Charles.Browning@riinternational.com)
Dr. Charles “Chuck” Browning is the Chief Medical Officer of RI International and Medical Director of Behavioral Health Link (BHL). He has devoted his career to improving the systems and care experience for our mental health needs. He has held leadership positions in public and private systems of care including Crisis System Care, Assertive Community Treatment Team, rural community behavioral health care company, and Opioid Treatment Programs. Dr. Browning graduated from North Carolina State University, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Medical School, and completed his internship and residency at University of North Carolina. Dr. Browning has also practiced in NC prison psychiatric system and his own private practice. He has special interests in promoting several thought leadership initiatives in collaboration with RI International including SAMSHA’s National Tool Kit for Behavioral Crisis Care, Crisis Now, Zero Suicide, Peer 2.0, and The Fusion Model.

Session 19: Sunday, July 30, 2023 at 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Eastern

Expanding Our Paradigm to Promote Population Health

Arthur C. Evans Jr., Ph.D. (aevans@apa.org)
Described as a visionary and transformational leader, policymaker and health care innovator Arthur C. Evans Jr., PhD, is CEO of the American Psychological Association, the leading scientific and professional organization representing psychology in the United States. With over 146,000 researchers, educators, clinicians, consultants and students as APA members, a top priority of Evans’ current work is applying psychological science and knowledge to a wide range of complex societal issues.

Previously, for over two decades, Evans served in public policy positions in Philadelphia and Connecticut, where he led the transformation of their behavioral health systems and their approaches to serving a wide range of individuals with complex needs. The transformation of the $1.5 billion Philadelphia system relied heavily on public health strategies that contribute to better community health, and over his tenure, the agency saved more than $110 million that the agency reinvested in improving and expanding services and employing innovative strategies to reach more people. Across all of his roles as an administrator, Evans has employed science, research, community activism, spirituality, traditional clinical care, policy, and cross-system collaborations to change the status quo around behavioral health.

Over the years he has received national and international recognition, including prestigious awards in government, healthcare service, visionary leadership, actionable advocacy, equity and social justice. He has authored or co-authored over 60 peer-reviewed research articles and numerous chapters, reviews and editorials, and he has held faculty appointments at the Yale University School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, and the Drexel School of Public Health.

Session 20: Sunday, July 30, 2023 at 12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. Eastern
SMI and Criminal Justice: How to Hire and Keep People Who Check Both Boxes

Amy Cohen, Ph.D. ([acohen@psych.org](mailto:acohen@psych.org))
Dr. Amy N. Cohen is a licensed clinical psychologist and health services researcher who has dedicated her career to improving the quality of care for individuals with serious mental illness. The goal of her work is to eradicate inequities in physical and mental health outcomes for this population. Specifically, her work has focused on improving implementation and utilization of evidence-based practices for this population and reorganizing care to be recovery-oriented and patient-centered. Dr. Cohen’s work has been continually funded through grants from the Veterans Administration, NIMH, SAMHSA, and foundations. Dr. Cohen is currently the Director of SMI Adviser, the Clinical Support System for Serious Mental Illness, implemented through the American Psychiatric Association, and funded by SAMHSA.

Christy Malik, M.S.W., ([Christy.malik@nasmhpd.org](mailto:Christy.malik@nasmhpd.org))
Christine L. Malik, MSW, is the Project Manager for the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD). In this role, Ms. Malik oversees and manages several federally sponsored contracts related to suicide prevention, crisis services, 988 implementation, clinical care delivery systems, and older adult behavioral health. She also provides technical assistance, strategic planning, and analysis to State Mental Health Authority administrators, federal partners, and key stakeholder groups. Additional responsibilities include writing, developing, and disseminating educational materials, including white papers, reports, issue briefs, support letters, and webinar presentations. She also manages NASMHPD’s Older Persons Division and serves on the National Coalition for Mental Health and Aging Executive Committee. Ms. Malik received her Master of Social Work and graduate certification in gerontology from George Mason University.

Justin Volpe ([Justin.volpe@nasmhpd.org](mailto:Justin.volpe@nasmhpd.org))
Justin is an international consultant, advocate, and peer specialist based out of Miami, FL. He has presented and trained mental health facilities and other organizations on trauma informed practices and used his life experiences to discuss workforce issues and connecting community providers to better serve individuals in need. Previously before his role with NASMHPD, Justin worked as a Jail Diversion Peer Liaison for the 11th Judicial Criminal Mental Health Project for 14 years. He has worked as a Certified Recovery Peer Specialist in Florida since 2008 and has local and national experience. Justin has extensive work experience in the community and has supervised and coordinated thousands of engagements with participants with serious mental health and co-occurring issues in the criminal justice system. He has assisted in training over 2,500 Miami Dade Law Enforcement Officers in Crisis Intervention Team Training. His passion for this work is based on bringing systems together locally and nationally while reducing stigma and advocating for the persons served. He is recently the recipient of the 2021 Fred Frese Award from CIT International and has many other awards and achievements; including multiple articles and film Definition of Insanity, (PBS 2020) with his experience with the Jail Diversion Program and the Ken Burns Documentary: “Hiding in Plain Sight” (PBS 2022).
Session 21: Sunday, July 30, 2023 at 1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Eastern

Facilitating Rapid Access to Outpatient Mental Health and Substance Use Care

**Renee Boak, M.P.H.** ([ReneeB@thenationalcouncil.org](mailto:ReneeB@thenationalcouncil.org))

Renee Boak, MPH, specializes in Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) implementation. Boak provides consulting regarding the integration of mental health and substance use disorder treatment, implementation of primary care clinics in a community mental health setting, population health management and sustainability. She also has experience with implementing a Medication Assisted Treatment Expansion grant as well applying for Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) look-a-like status. Boak’s experience working in CCBHC programs has provided opportunities to engage in innovative practices, such as the development of a pilot program to support individuals who are managing diabetes in a community mental health setting, as well as sustainability work through alternative payment methodologies. Prior to joining the National Council, Boak worked for an organization in Oregon that participated in the two-year demonstration period and was a recipient of a CCBHC Expansion grant.

**Joe Parks, M.D.** ([JoeP@thenationalcouncil.org](mailto:JoeP@thenationalcouncil.org))

Joe Parks, M.D., currently serves as medical director for the National Council and is a distinguished research professor of science at Missouri Institute of Mental Health with the University of Missouri, St. Louis. He also practices outpatient psychiatry at Family Health Center, a federally funded community health center established to expand services to uninsured and underinsured patients in Columbia, Mo. Dr. Parks is the national behavioral health representative at large for The Joint Commission. He previously served as the director of Missouri MO HealthNet Division (Missouri Medicaid) in the Missouri Department of Social Services and was medical director for the Missouri Department of Mental Health in Jefferson City and the Division Director for the Division of Comprehensive Psychiatric Services. Dr. Parks has conducted research and published in the areas of implementation of evidence-based medicine, pharmacy utilization management, integration of behavioral health care with general health care, and health care policy. He has received numerous awards for improving the quality of care and leadership.