Annual Virtual Continuing Education Conference

Adapting Social Work for the “New Normal”

June 1st & 2nd, 2022

SOCIAL WORK IN THE CITY

NASW
National Association of Social Workers

NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER
AT THE CROSSROADS
Adapting Social Work for the "New Normal"

VIRTUAL CONTINUING EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The pandemic and ensuing social, political, and health implications are changing the way we understand and navigate our world. The NASW-NYC's annual continuing education conference will look at how social work, the helping professions, and the communities we serve are directly impacted by these realities. Together, we will reflect on the way social workers shape, educate, practice, and navigate the profession to face these challenges and how we as a profession will adapt to the "new normal".

This year's conference brings you two-days and nine (9) continuing education hours worth of keynote presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, and sponsorship exhibits.

Follow us at @NASWNYC
#SocialWorkInTheCity
#NASWNYC
#SWITC
#NASWNYCon
#NASWNYCEducates

National Association of Social Workers - New York City Chapter is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers #SW-0027 and for CASAC credits under NYS CASAC #0288.
AT THE CROSSROADS
Adapting Social Work for the “New Normal”
SOCIAL WORK IN THE CITY

DAY 1

9:05 AM
Introduction Remarks

9:25 AM
Spoken Word
Celeste León

9:30 AM
Keynote Speaker
Dr. Minni Abramovitz and Dr. Jennifer Zelnick

10:30 AM
Conference Opening

11:00 AM
Morning Classes
NASW-NYC Faculty & Guest Presenters

1:00 PM
Lunch Break
All

1:30 PM
Sponsors Virtual EXPO

2:00 PM
Welcome Back

2:10 PM
Afternoon Classes
NASW-NYC Faculty & Guest Presenters

4:15 PM
Closing
Kukuwa Dance
Adapting Social Work for the “New Normal”

Dr. Claire Green-Forde, LCSW
Executive Director

Erica P. Sandoval, LCSW
Board President

Linda Lee, MSW
Director of Education

Angelique I. Rodriguez
Manager, Community Engagement & Volunteer Initiatives

Kalliope (Kelly) Moskos
Executive Assistant & Coordinator of Chapter Relations

NASW-NYC TEAM

CROSSROADS

Adapting Social Work for the “New Normal”
Thank you to our CE Committee Members for their support in creating this conference!

Benjamin R. Sher, LMSW
Christine Fewell, PhD, LCSW, CASAC
Eric Levine, DSW, LMSW
Harry Schiffman, LMSW
Joseph R. Madonia, LCSW-R, CASAC
Linda Lee, MSW
Norma Uriguen, LMSW, PHR
Tiffany L. Rasmussen, LMSW
Welcome

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is the largest organization representing social workers in the world. The New York City Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW-NYC) is one of the largest chapters of NASW in the country. Founded in 1955, NASW-NYC represents professional social workers who are working throughout the five boroughs, primarily in public and non-profit organizations.

Our Purpose

The National Association of Social Workers - New York City Chapter aims to support and create opportunities through impactful programming and advocacy so that NYC social workers can elevate their careers, further develop their professional skills, and have a space where they feel a sense of belonging.

Our Mission

NASW-NYC exists to support and empower its members to enhance the social work profession and affect change in the arenas they serve.

Our Vision

The NASW-NYC, powered by its diverse membership, effectively promotes the value and visibility of the social work profession, enhances the profession's credibility and influence at state and local levels, and assures that the social work profession remains highly relevant and effective in the years ahead, both for the communities that social workers serve and for future generations of social work professionals.
Dr. Claire Green-Forde, LCSW
Executive Director, NASW-NYC

Unapologetic social justice advocate and executive leader whose work and interest focus on the intersections of behavioral health, criminal justice, social disparities, trauma, and human development. Leader with a demonstrated ability to provide effective response to organizational needs through strategic collaboration and policy development and by emphasising critical thinking, advocacy, equity, cultural competency, and community engagement. Strong advocate for integrative health and a firm believer in the biopsychosocialspiritual model of health. I am passionate about helping others thrive.
SPECIAL GUESTS
Shanequa E. Moore, LMSW
NASW-NYC Board Member-at-Large

Founder and CEO of iRaise Girls and Boys International Corporation and is a current NASW-NYC Board Member-at-Large. At the early age of 14 years old, Shanequa became a Caseworker-Aide at the Family Support System. Ever since that illuminating moment, she has been dedicated to creating opportunities in her community, lifting up young people out of poverty, and empowering local leaders to build a brighter future for the most disadvantaged families in their neighborhoods. In 2012, she created iRaise as a mentoring program for girls ages 9-18. In 2013, the organization transformed into its present-day program that has been able to provide services to more than 7,500 children and families since its inception, expanding its services in new schools and communities including the South Bronx, Brooklyn, and Staten Island.
CELESTE LEON
Poet

Speaker and a contributing author of “Today’s Inspired Young Latina”. She is the co-founder of I AIM Community, a self-development community for young women to develop their interpersonal skills and empower each other. She is also a CPA and a Senior Associate in the Asset Management Audit Practice at KPMG. She was born in Peru and has lived in 4 countries, including Peru, Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom. Her favorite word is “Multifaceted” as she loves to continuously push herself outside her comfort zone and embrace the diversity of her background.
Dr. Mimi Abramovitz is often introduced as a scholar and an activist. Using lens of race, class, and gender, she studies the welfare state, inequality, neoliberalism, activism, and the impact of public policy on human service workers and organizations. She currently co-leads the National Social Work Voter Mobilization Campaign (Voting is Social Work).
Jennifer Zelnick. MSW, ScD
Professor & Social Welfare Policy Sequence Chair
Touro College Graduate School of Social Work

Jennifer Zelnick is a professor and social welfare policy chair at the Touro College Graduate School of Social Work in New York City. Her research and scholarship are focused on the work environments of the health and human service workforce in the United States and South Africa.
Erica Sandoval, LCSW
Board President, NASW-NYC

Graduated from NYU’s Silver School of Social Work. With a focus on giving back to the community, Erica serves in several volunteer leadership positions, which include Vice President of Education at Prospanica NY, and Treasurer of Latino Social Work Coalition. Erica is focused on empowering LatinX Social Workers to pursue excellence in education and professional development. Erica is a Psychotherapist and Consultant to support community care. She is also a proud mother to a 20-year-old daughter.
Linda Lausell Bryant, Ph.D, MSW
Clinical Associate Professor;
Director, DSW Program and Adaptive Leadership Institute
NYU Silver School of Social Work

Linda Lausell is Clinical Associate Professor and Director of the Doctorate in Social Work program and the Adaptive Leadership in Human Services Institute at NYU Silver. She is also the Katherine and Howard Aibel Executive-in-Residence. She is devoted to developing the leadership capacities of social workers to spark change at the intersection of race, ethnicity, and social justice. In 2020, she co-developed and implemented a Faculty Antiracism Training to strengthen skill in antiracist pedagogy, inclusive teaching and mentoring for all NYU Silver faculty. She is a sponsor and contributing author to Latinx in Social Work, a book of narratives for healing and justice.

In her 35-year career, she has been the Executive Director of Inwood House, serving young mothers in foster care, an associate commissioner at the NYC Administration for Children’s Services, and a member of the NYC Panel for Education Policy. She is currently board president of National Crittenton, pursuing social and systems change for young women. She is the recipient of the Latino Social Work Coalition’s 2021 Lifetime Achievement, Silver’s Distinguished Contribution to Student Engagement Award and the Martin Luther King Jr. Faculty Award. She has co-authored “A Guide for Sustaining Conversations on Racism, Identity and Our Mutual Humanity” and “Social Work: A Call to Action.”
Phil Coltoff, MSW, ACSW
Senior Fellow, NYU Silver School of Social Work

A Senior Fellow at the Silver School of Social Work at New York University. He was also a visiting professor and Aibel Executive in Residence at Silver. A national leader and innovator in the field of social service and youth development, he led the Children's Aid Society, one of the largest and oldest social agencies in the United States from 1980 to 2005. During this period of leadership the budget of the Society grew from $10 million to $85 million annually and developed trailblazing programs in teen pregnancy prevention, public school reform, and the reintegration of juvenile offenders. These programs have been replicated in over 13,000 sites, nationally and internationally.

Coltoff is the recipient of numerous leadership awards, including the prestigious William S. White award from the United States Department of Education. He has authored or co-authored seven books, including Social Work: A Call to Action and has mentored countless social work professionals. Coltoff served on the professional board of Boys and Girls Club of America, Child Welfare League of America and the National Assembly on Social Welfare. Coltoff lives in Greenwich Village, NY with his wife Lynn Harman, an attorney and social worker.
Dr. Petros Levounis, MD, MA
Professor and Chair of Psychiatry, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School
President-Elect, American Psychiatric Association

Dr. Levounis is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Stanford University where he studied sociology, chemistry, and biophysics, and received his medical education at Stanford and the Medical College of Pennsylvania. He completed his residency in psychiatry at Columbia and his fellowship in addiction psychiatry at NYU. Dr. Levounis then served as director of the Addiction Institute of New York before coming to Rutgers. He is a Betty Ford Scholar, a recipient of a U.S. State Department Speaker and Specialist Award, and an honorary member of the World Psychiatric Association. In 2022, he was elected as president of the American Psychiatric Association.

Dr. Levounis has published 14 books including the textbook of “Substance Dependence and Co-Occurring Psychiatric Disorders,” the self-help paperback “Sober Siblings: How to Help Your Alcoholic Brother or Sister—and Not Lose Yourself,” and the first book on the “Technological Addictions” with Dr. James Sherer. He is currently working on the “Nature Therapy” book with Dr. Yoni Kaplan; His books have been translated into French, German, Hungarian, Japanese, Portuguese, and Spanish.
Virtual Expo

www.yoshidaacademyvirtualexpo.com
Morning Workshops
DAY 1

Questions, Comments:
workshops.naswnyc@socialworkers.org
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<td>A Covert Threat: Problem Gambling Among US Veterans</td>
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<td>Ashley Owen, LMSW</td>
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<td>Current Mental Health Implications and the Latinx Community</td>
<td>Madeline Maldonado, LCSW-R</td>
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<td>Yurilka Hernandez, LCSW</td>
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<td>Managed Care: The Real New Normal</td>
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<td>Ilana Adler, LMSW</td>
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<td>Racism Hurts: Helping Parents Heal Children’s Invisible Wound</td>
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<td>Resist and Reimagine: Creating Home for Asian Americans</td>
<td>Yuna Youn, LCSW</td>
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<td>Rayna Wang, LMSW</td>
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<td>The Hidden Impact of Anti-Black Racism on Black Women</td>
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<td>Marina Badillo-Diaz, DSW; LCSW</td>
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For more information, please visit:  WWW.NASWNYC.ORG/21CON
A Covert Threat: 
Problem Gambling 
Among US Veterans

Problem gambling affects veterans at twice the rate when compared to their civilian counterparts. With increased accessibility to gambling opportunities through the legalization of sports betting, mobile lottery platforms, and casino expansion, veterans must be aware of their increased risk and the services available to help them.

Gambling disorder is a hidden addiction due to its lack of clear, tell-tale signs like those that would show up on a drug screen. Veterans often gamble to cope with trauma-related conditions such as post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, and military sexual trauma. Other addictions, like alcohol-use and opioid-use disorder, are often co-occurring when veterans are at risk for problem gambling behavior.

This training will offer an overview of the necessary steps to ensure that problem gambling is at the forefront of new legislation and advocacy measures for veterans. To ensure participants have the tools required to address problem gambling behavior among the veteran population, the presenters will provide education and statistics to help participants draft their own solutions for addressing problem gambling in their capacity.

Jonathan Crandall, CASAC, CRPA, BSW
Ashley Owen, LMSW
The Latinx community has been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically in their inadequate access to quality healthcare and COVID vaccines, housing and food insecurities, wage disparities, economic depression, and higher rates of unemployment. There is a need to raise awareness around the racial injustices suffered by the Latinx community due to the political landscape across America and how immigrant communities specifically were targeted.

This presentation will review the mental health implications of COVID-19 on the Latinx community, such as the high rates of PTSD, anxiety, depression, suicide, and substance abuse being experienced by individuals. The experiences of separation from family members that children being placed in the child welfare system endured as well as the mental health and well-being implications for Latinx individuals will be discussed. We will explore how the disproportionately higher death rates in the Latinx community economically devastated families and deeply impacted their abilities to care for minor children who have lost one or both caregivers.

The presentation will highlight how the mass migration and resignation of 2021 have impacted the mental health field in Latinx communities and the importance of social work being responsive to these needs.

Madeline Maldonado, LCSW-R
Yurilka Hernandez, LCSW
Erica Sandoval, LCSW
Managed Care:
The Real New Normal

Long before March 2020 and the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the world of children services was already embracing a new normal as it transitioned to Medicaid Managed Care. This workshop will examine how UnitedHealthcare Community & State Plan Managed Care Organization prepared for a behavioral health transition, altered practices for the inclusion, collected data on this population’s utilization and in-patient length of stays, adapted to COVID-19 and executive order changes, discovered populations at risk, adopted culturally sensitive initiatives and embraced benefit expansions and Medicaid carve-ins to best service over 230,000 youth in New York State. This is the real new normal.

Marleen Litt, LCSW
Ariel Rios, LCSW
Ilana Adler, LMSW
Exposure to racism is a common experience among Black and Indigineous children of color. Whether experienced directly or vicariously, the continuous exposure to racism results in racialized trauma, which gravely impacts a child’s mental health and overall well-being; this can leave parents and caregivers wondering what they can do to heal these invisible wounds, and looking to social workers to support them in this process.

As a clinician’s power, privilege, and positionality play a crucial role in their perspective and understanding of a client’s experience, this webinar will begin with an exploration of how clinicians can make the essential shift from striving for cultural competence to practicing cultural humility. We will then dive deeply into the social and emotional impact of anti-Black structural racism and socialization on children, and participants will learn how they can empower parents and caregivers to make intentional choices to counter these messages.

This workshop highlights the crucial role that parents and caregivers play in effectively addressing the racialized trauma that children experience, and focuses on how social workers can support parents and caregivers in identifying the signs of racialized trauma and equip them with practical skills, age-appropriate language, and mindfulness techniques they need to effectively support their children in managing its effects.

Michelle Felder, LCSW, MA
This workshop provides an overview of the unique challenges and opportunities faced by Reentry Social Workers in jail settings to provide specialized behavioral healthcare services in the context of a global pandemic and mass decarceration efforts. We will discuss how Correctional Health Services (CHS) Social Workers adapted to rise above these challenges through multiple waves of COVID-19 in an urban jail to provide comprehensive reentry support to incarcerated persons in a rapidly changing landscape. Some examples of areas to be discussed are:

- Engaging with incarcerated patients in a safe and effective manner.
- Understanding and utilizing community resources in a rapidly evolving environment.
- Ensuring access to appropriate care, and protecting a person’s right to timely court information and discharge planning services.
Resist and Reimagine: Creating Home for Asian Americans

As the pandemic disrupted people’s relationships and connections to important aspects of living, Asian Americans experienced distress related to safety and complexities around the concept of “home” in a society that became even more threatening. Anti-Asian rhetoric and xenophobia, once again scapegoated Asians as threats to society, resulting in psychological and even physical threats to Asians.

Social workers need to reflect on their contributions to social justice in order to fulfill their duty and to re-imagine what collective liberation looks like. How do we define racism when social workers and leaders advocate for community wellness for the Asian American community? Oftentimes, a narrow definition of racism limits the means for solidarity and commitment as it ignores the role that trauma plays in substance use, suicide, violence, and loss.

A healthy society necessitates that all community groups are supported by systems and live in structures that meet their needs. How can social workers expand social work and move beyond the code of ethics, resist the indoctrination of racism, create structures that truly honor the many cultures that are part of our community, and re-envision a society where structures are designed to provide safety, belonging, and warmth for all?

Yuna Youn (she/her/hers), LCSW
Daniel Tanh, LCSW
Rayna Wang (she/her/hers), LMSW
The Hidden Impact of Anti-Black Racism on Black Women

In 2020, the murders of George Floyd and Ahmad Aubrey that made national headlines were painful reminders of the ongoing disregard for Black lives, and in these cases, Black men. The effects of racism are so far reaching that in April 2021, the CDC declared racism a public health emergency (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021). Though anti-Black racism has far reaching implications on all Black populations, the 2020 murder of Breonna Taylor, a young Black woman, was a disturbing reminder of the lack of value placed on Black women and a reminder that the experiences of Black women have not been consistently recognized in ways that acknowledge the magnitude of experiencing both racial and gender oppression.

There has been an increase in the number of Black women seeking therapy services, specifically seeking Black therapists. Many stressors experienced are those related to racial identity and the ongoing trauma of anti-Black racism, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This workshop will share select findings from a qualitative study which explores how Black women psychotherapists understand internalized racial oppression. As the social work landscape is rapidly changing to better meet the needs of marginalized and oppressed groups, social workers must be better prepared and understand how addressing anti-Black racism is necessary on all levels of social work practice.
Supervisors, leaders, and directors of organizations/agencies have been tested through the COVID-19 pandemic with experiences of shared trauma and disruption to the psychological and physical wellbeing of the organization’s life, its leaders and supervisees/employees.

This workshop will examine the challenges and opportunities of transformational leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic for social workers. The workshop will also examine organizational culture and systems using the framework of Maslow’s Hierarchy Needs to create healthy holding environments for organizations not only to survive but thrive. Attendees will explore the use of identity and self in transformational leadership when leading organizations through the pandemic and beyond.

Marina Badillo-Diaz, DSW, LCSW
Afternoon Workshops
DAY 1

Questions, Comments: workshops.naswnyc@socialworkers.org
# Day 1

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<td>Adele Weiner, Ph.D., LCSW Kim Lorber, Ph.D., LCSW</td>
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For more information, please visit: [WWW.NASWNYC.ORG](http://WWW.NASWNYC.ORG)
Ethical Considerations of Telemental Health During Unprecedented Times

As we move further into a new age societally, we must make adjustments as social workers. We are accustomed to changing with the times. We are flexible. This is the nature of our work. This means we need to be creative in the way we provide services. Due to the fact that we all are not able to meet with our clients face-to-face anymore, we must become savvy in telemental health.

Telemental health is a phrase used more now than ever before. Therefore, this workshop will teach the do’s and don’ts of this tool while still remaining ethically compliant.

June Tyson, PhD, LCSW-R, ACSW
Hair Conversations: Ethnocentricity and Black Women's Trauma

Discrimination based on hairstyle and/or texture has been the Black experience in the United States for centuries. From the classroom to the boardroom, hair conversations seen from an ethnocentric lens and voiced through racial microaggressions and policy decisions has had damaging effects on the psychological, social, and professional well-being of people of color - specifically Black women and girls. This workshop will provide historical insights into the origins of hair discrimination; delve into the trauma experiences of Black women across the lifespan for not having "good hair"; and discuss ways in which social workers can support and honor diverse expressions of cultural heritage through clinical interventions and advocacy.

Theresa Parris, MS.Ed, LCSW, CASAC
Angela Montague, LCSW-R
Before COVID-19 hit, tenants of NYC were already rent-burdened and struggling to pay rent. Even before the city shut down, housing organizers were preparing for what could be a devastating wave of evictions. Instead, due to organizing and adapting, we went from having 30 evictions on March 13, 2020, alone to having less than 70 evictions from March 14, 2020 until Oct 1, 2021. By adapting technology and empowering our members, housing groups in NY were able to keep people in their homes, get back rent, and prevent around 10,000 additional deaths to COVID.

In this session, we will review the year and a half long fight to “Cancel Rent”. We will explore the importance of visionary and universal policy demands. How the housing justice movement went from relying on traditional methods such as door-knocking and lobby meetings to QR codes and quadral lingual zooms. Adaptations which allowed us to organize a powerful movement that has not just allowed us to win big policy changes

Andrea Shapiro, LMSW
Malika Conner, LMSW
The increase in mental health disorders during COVID-19 is well documented and established in the literature. Issues related to mental health during COVID-19 can include depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, and social isolation. While many populations, such as the homeless, elderly, and ethnic minorities, have been identified as vulnerable to mental health issues during COVID-19, little attention is given to another vulnerable population: Adolescents who engage in Non-Suicidal Self Injury (NSSI) behaviors.

Adolescents experience COVID-19 differently and paradoxically when compared to other identifiable populations. Even though many adolescents rely on the internet to connect with peers, they still experience isolation due to a lack of face-to-face interaction. Further, adolescents are susceptible to stress from changes in their immediate environment, which during COVID-19 included how public school education is conducted during Covid-19, economic stress on families, and digital inequities.

While making recourse to NSSI should not be surprising, the practice literature is silent on how clinicians can better treat adolescents who engage in NSSI during the Coronavirus pandemic. The aim of this workshop is to inform clinicians about the interaction between NSSI behaviors and COVID-19, what factors to consider when assessing NSSI behaviors during COVID-19, and identify empirically supported interventions.

Glenn A. Taylor, LCSW
NYC Social Work Labor Trends in 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic put the NYC social work professional community into a tailspin. Issues of safety, administrative quality, benefits, pay, accommodations for health and family needs, and general equity have become major issues at the forefront of social work community forums.

Social work community and labor organizing, both in NYC and nationally, has been occurring at rates previously unseen. This workshop will focus on common NYC social work labor issues and describe community organizing methodologies, such as unionization, mutual aid, and workplace advocacy strategies, used to address the most pressing issues in the field. This workshop will also discuss how agencies have responded and attended to the shifting personal and professional needs of social workers.

Sunny Maguire, LCSW (she/her)
Suicide in Black youth has increased drastically over the past thirty years. African American adolescents have disproportionately higher rates of suicide (Price & Khubchandani, 2019). Racial trauma or race-based traumatic stress is a factor in the surge of suicide in Black youth. There are implications on a micro, mezzo, and macro level. Anti-Black violence in the United States remains etched in Black minds and bodies, dating back hundreds of years. Black minds and bodies can remain on high alert for perceived threats to their safety. Anti-Black violence is not isolated to adults but targeted towards Black youth as well. Social media can bombard youth with excessive images of violence on Black bodies. This workshop seeks to explore suicide in the context of racial trauma or race-based traumatic stress. We will briefly touch upon the macro and mezzo levels and explore deeper the micro levels of treatment of Black youth exhibiting suicidality.

Gerri Cadet Mareus, LCSW
Skill Training in Hybrid Intensive Outpatient Groups

This innovative Hybrid Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) emphasizes on short term skills training for clients who have the following characteristics: 1) resistant to treatment adherence in the clinic setting, 2) social-isolated with skills deficits to make any substantial change and progress in their treatment, 3) newly discharged from psychiatric hospital with history of mood dysregulation and self-destructive urges, and 4) having difficulties in transitioning back to the community with limited resources and poor self-care. The goal of the IOP is to stabilize clients by enhancing insight about their illness and to avoid re-hospitalization.

Attendees will learn how to support clients in learning effective tools to tackle their life stressors during crises. Role-play is widely used in order to engage clients to actively practice the newly learned skills. and Art Expression Groups utilize various art forms such as drawing, painting, and creating crafts to provide alternative channels for clients to express their feelings.

Yuen Ling Elaine Ho, LCSW
Social Work’s Role in Reducing Health Disparities

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the structural drivers of health inequities. The social determinants of health reflect a need for social workers to take action to reduce the factors that lead to differences in populations that affect health risk factors, behaviors, outcomes, and access. The Grand Challenges for Social Work identify the factors that help to create health disparities including closing the health gap, reducing homelessness, and eliminating racism. These three variables have been documented as related to the differences in infection, care and death rates exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Health is influenced by many factors, organized into five broad categories known as determinants of health: genetics, behavior, environmental and physical influences, medical care, and social factors. These five categories are interconnected and have a considerable effect on health outcomes. Social workers have an ethical mandate to engage in changing the effects of these factors.

This workshop will explore the determinants of health as they helped to create the health disparities identified by COVID-19. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss the role of social workers at the individual, family, community, and systemic levels to improve health outcomes for all. Strategies and opportunities for change will be explored.

Dr. Adele Weiner, LCSW
Dr. Kim Lorber, LCSW
Morning Workshops
DAY 2

Questions, Comments:
workshops.naswnyc@socialworkers.org
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<td>Melody Joanne Centeno, LMSW</td>
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<td>Paradox of Chronic Homelessness: Adaptation to Homeless Lifestyle</td>
<td>Daniel Farrell, LCSW</td>
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<td>Peer Model: How El Barrio Disrupts Systemic Oppression</td>
<td>Dr. Dunia M. Garcia, LMSW</td>
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<td>Saida Gordon, LMSW</td>
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<td>Pushing Through Devastation, Lifting Up Voices</td>
<td>Dr. Elisa English, LCSW</td>
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<td>Using Dialogue as a Critical Tool for Anti-Racist Education</td>
<td>Gabriella McBride, LCSW</td>
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For more information, please visit:  WWW.NASWNYC.ORG
This presentation describes the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ (CMS) commitment to reducing health disparities and promoting health equity, using the COVID-19 pandemic as a case study.

After providing an overview of health disparities and health equity within the context of CMS, presenters will describe the equity-forward strategic vision and its relationship to CMS policies and programs, providing resources that can help social workers, community organizations, and advocates inform and support their communities in issues related to health coverage and healthy living. By the end of the session, attendees will receive information on specific tools and resources they can leverage to raise awareness of the disparities that impact their clients and develop innovative interventions and initiatives to help support them.

As a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), CMS implemented a number of policy and programmatic flexibilities to better meet the health needs of communities and health and behavioral health providers during the pandemic. As social workers have been on the frontlines throughout the pandemic, awareness of the equity-focused tools, resources, policies, and programs implemented by CMS on the federal level can help local practitioners support underserved communities and better understand CMS policies.

Thomas Bane, LMSW
Julissa Rodriguez, BA
Sarah Bloomstone, BA
Cultural Considerations: Safety Planning with Black DV Survivors

Domestic violence is a public health issue that exists in all communities regardless of race, ethnicity, age, economic status, or gender identity. However, various comparison studies of domestic violence across race/ethnicity suggest that Black non-Hispanic women experience intimate partner violence at rates of 10% to 22% higher than that of white females and women of other races. These figures, without considering the intersections of discrimination, race, class, and ethnicity, create false narratives about the prevalence of domestic violence in the Black community and function as barriers to Black women escaping abusive relationships.

Who are these Black women? Are they Black Americans? Black Caribbeans? Black Africans? Black abuse survivors are not a homogeneous group. It is imperative that assessment and intervention efforts be individualized - using trauma-informed, strengths-based perspectives, and supportive of survivors' cultural beliefs and values. Through a combination of lecture and experiential exercises, participants will become more effective in providing culturally aware and sensitive services to diverse survivors of domestic violence.

Angela Montague, LCSW-R
Mitigating Trauma Through Groupwork for Vulnerable Foster Youth

Youth in foster care have a high proclivity for Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking victimization. Many youths have been unknowingly trafficked as they do not recognize the red flag indicators for trafficking and believe they are in a "relationship" with their exploiter. It is a devastating recognition for which many defense mechanisms develop to avoid the trauma of emotional abuse and deceit, added to the trauma of sex trafficking.

Two therapeutic group models were created to help mitigate trafficking involvement, reduce trauma, develop healthier thought patterns, regulate emotions, and self-empower vulnerable youth. Mitigating Trauma Through Drama uses psychodrama techniques to safely guide youth through traumatic memories and address concerns. Be Sea (Be Safe, Empowered, Aware) uses Dialectical Behavioral Therapy skills to identify emotions and develop coping strategies. Both models facilitate expression and disclosure through universally applicable skills integrated with trafficking awareness scenarios and discussion, and have achieved high success with trafficked and at-risk youth in the NYC foster care system.

In this workshop, will discuss both Mitigating Trauma Through Drama and Be SEA, and will provide actual exercises utilizing these unique models.

Selina Higgins, LCSW
Melody Joanne Centeno, LMSW
Paradox of Chronic Homelessness: Adaptation to Homeless Lifestyle

The devastation of homelessness is experienced on multiple levels. For those whose time in homelessness is chronic, there may be a much deeper component: An unconscious adaptation to this lifestyle that may perpetuate their time living in homelessness. This dynamic highlights a paradox: The desperate desire to leave this life versus the familiar and entrenched state of being homeless that may serve to keep one in homelessness. This presentation re-frames the understanding of an adaptation to homelessness from the modernist deficit perspective to a post-modern, integrative relational perspective.

While homelessness is primarily caused by structural deficits and not individual characteristics, for people who are chronically homeless, this way of existence may have developed to serve a variety of coping, cohesive, and self-preserving functions. The presentation argues for the realignment of how the clinician frames their understanding of chronic homelessness, shaping the relational stance with their client. Services must consider the varied and complex day-to-day struggle and adaptive elements inherent in the lives of people experiencing homelessness. The relational practitioner must recognize this intra-psychic impact, relating to the individual's deeply personal and subjective experiences rather than being focused on services alone to achieve the primary successful outcome of obtaining permanent housing.

Daniel Farrell, LCSW
Repeatedly, those of us on the front lines of advocacy feel isolated, defeated, and burnt out by the monumental task of fighting for social justice. In fact, we often forget that our strength lies in our numbers. This presentation will focus on the ways the Community Navigator Program developed a collective, intentional approach to addressing the needs of the East Harlem community. This interactive workshop will highlight peer-to-peer models as an effective approach to addressing social injustices and race disparities and will provide illustrative examples for direct application to include program structure, hiring practices, strategic partnerships, and staff supervision.

Dr. Dunia M. Garcia, LMSW
Saida Gordon, LMSW
Communities of color have experienced unfathomable loss during the Pandemic. Yet devastated communities were able to push through. They were the majority of front line workers - transit, street cleaning, delivery, nurses - as well as caregivers in multi-generational households that received little assistance from the state. What was it that they were able to tap into that made them survive and have real impact for their families and communities?

Counseling In Schools leadership and on-the-ground Social Workers will present real stories of NYC families whose resiliency presents a worthy focus for social work best practices. What are their social emotional tools? What is the experience of social policies in place in their communities? What is it like not being able to reliably get basic resources like diapers, disinfectant, etc in the midst of a crisis?

From individual strength and resilience, to support systems built into multigenerational households, we will also zoom out to ask what a future community and systemic response would look like. We will explore narrative as a social work tool to meet the client where they are, and will also consider schools as centers of community resources.

Dr. Elisa English, LCSW
Kevin Dahill-Fuchell, LCSW
Trauma and Alcohol Use Among Undocumented Hispanic Immigrants and the Mapping Protocol

Recently arrived Hispanic immigrants who come to the United States are exposed to risks both in their native country and in the U.S. Moreover, many immigrants experience trauma while crossing illegally into the U.S. and are challenged in articulating traumatic events, high rates of binge drinking, driving without a valid license, and alcohol impaired driving among those who consume alcohol. To support effective interventions against these concerning trends, the Mapping Protocol® can be used to collect an interactive timeline and identify targets related to immigration and resettlement given the growing need for cultural sensitivity in evaluating clients with a history of relocation and understanding the immigration experience.

Dr. Carmen Jimenez, LCSW-R, CASAC
Using Dialogue as a Critical Tool for Anti-Racist Education

The term anti-racism(ist) does not appear anywhere in the first two released Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) but appears 35 times in the newest 2022 version - speaking to the emergence of a paradigm shift in social work education and pushing us to define what this may look like in the classroom and in the field. Additionally, social work instructors and educators are bound by the Code of Ethics and entrusted with ensuring that students are prepared for competent, ethical, and professional social work practice and must constantly ask ourselves how we are preparing students to enter the field and if we are creating spaces where students can be critical thinkers and develop critical praxis.

This workshop is geared towards supervisors/leaders who facilitate groups as well as Adjunct Faculty/instructors of Social Work and will focus on the framework for dialogic teaching as support for the creation of critically reflective and anti-racist spaces in classrooms/group supervision. Participants will reflect on their own practices of teaching/leading group supervision and how they use dialogue to develop critical thinking skills. After learning about the components of dialogic teaching, participants will set some goals on how to use the framework to support practice.

Gabriella McBride, LCSW
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in their noble efforts to empower social workers to offer leadership, advocacy and support as the need for improved mental health services grows and as we and our clients learn to adapt to the new normal.

Together with NASW-NYC, Touro honors all social workers who continue to embody our shared values and who rise to the occasion in their service to humanity, every single day.
A Covert Threat:
Problem Gambling Among US Veterans

Jonathan Crandall, CASAC, CRPA, BSW

Is the Veteran Outreach Coordinator for the New York Council on Problem Gambling. Jonathan served eight years in the United States Marine Corps. His passion lies with building upon existing veteran service platforms to increase awareness of the risk gambling has on the veteran community.

Jonathan believes in the grass-roots level to build capacity and enhance relationships to bring increased attention to gaps in services such as those for veterans negatively impacted by problem gambling behavior.

Ashley Owen, LMSW

Is tis a licensed social worker with a history of clinical practice and a current focus in administrative leadership, training delivery and community organizing. Her areas of content expertise include addictions, suicide prevention & trauma. She is currently a Team Leader for the New York City Problem Gambling Resource Center and has previously worked for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and New York University.
Current Mental Health Implications and the Latinx Community

Madeline Maldonado, LCSW-R

Has over 20 years of experience in program administration, clinical supervision, professional trainings, and psychotherapy. She specializes in autism evaluations for children and adolescents. Madeline is the President & Owner of Madeline Maldonado, LCSW Consulting P.C. and is an adjunct professor and field advisor at Fordham University’s MSW Program. Madeline has dedicated her career to seeking to improve systems and organizations that work with, and service people.

Madeline has a Master’s Degree from New York University Silver School of Social Work and a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology from Hunter College of CUNY.

Yurilka Hernandez, LCSW

Is A Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the state of New York, is the CEO & founder of Psychotherapy & Consultation Services LCSW- PLLC. Yurika has over 13 years of extensive training and experience in the areas of mental health, cultural competency, working with immigrant families, substance abuse disorders, and providing clinical supervision.

Yurilka earned a Bachelor of Science and a graduate degree (MSW) from NYU, Silver School of Social Work, Post-Master’s Certificate Program in Psychoanalytic psychotherapy from Manhattan Institute for Psychoanalysis, and Certified Middle management from the National Council for Behavioral Health and Executive Leadership for Non-profit Organization at NYU.
Current Mental Health Implications and the Latinx Community

Erica Sandoval, LCSW

Is the Founder and CEO of Latinx in Social Work Inc and author of Latinx in Social Work. As a passionate, licensed clinical therapist and consultant, she is dedicated to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion. She is committed to amplifying the voices and businesses of incredible Latinx social work leaders. She partners with organizations, universities, nonprofits, health care facilities, medical, and corporate professionals to provide access to resources to advance teams and help students thrive.

Erica holds a post master’s degree in clinical adolescent psychology and a master’s in social work from NYU, Silver School of Social Work.
Managed Care: The Real New Normal

Marleen Litt, LCSW

Is the Director of Children’s Services in the New York Community & State plan at UnitedHealthcare. She joined UnitedHealthcare after 12 years at a JCCA, a NYC children and family provider agency where she oversaw the transition of waiver services and peer support services into Managed Care Children’s Health Homes and Children & Family Treatment & Support Services (CFTSS) and Home & Community Based Services (HCBS). Prior to that, Marleen worked in hospital in-patient and outpatient settings at Beth Israel and Weill Cornell. She attended Yeshiva University and attended Ackerman Institute for the Family.

Ariel Rios, LCSW

Is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and current Clinical Program Manager at UnitedHealthcare. Previously she worked as a therapist in a School Based Mental Health Clinic in Albany, NY and as a Family Team Conference Facilitator at a VFCA in the Bronx. She has been interested in issues of diversity and inclusion, dating back to her Undergraduate Studies at Smith College, where she majored in American Studies with a concentration in Race and Ethnicity. She is interested in using data analysis and trending to shape programs and impact clinical outcomes for those at high risk of hospitalization.
Managed Care: 
The Real New Normal

Ilana Adler, LMSW

Has over 20-years of experience helping people living with mental health and substance use conditions. Ms. Adler worked in direct service, specializing in housing and employment services for homeless and forensic populations. In 2016 she moved over to the managed care side of service delivery where she acts as the Government Liaison for New York for UnitedHealthcare Community and State government programs, which includes Medicaid for adults and children, and special populations including HARP and children in foster care. Ms. Adler has dedicated her career to helping some of the most vulnerable New Yorkers.
Racism Hurts: 
Helping Parents Heal Children’s Invisible Wound

Michelle Felder, LCSW, MA

Is a play therapist, parenting counselor, and the Founder and CEO of Parenting Pathfinders, an online counseling service for parents and caregivers that offers workshops, insight, tools, and strategies to support them along the journey of raising children.

Michelle is the Director of Elementary School Social Work at Community Roots Charter School and an Adjunct Lecturer at the Silver School of Social Work at New York University. Michelle received her Masters in Social Work from NYU and Masters in Child Development from Sarah Lawrence College; she specializes in child development and conscious parenting.
Reaching the Harbor During a Storm

Bill Collins, LCSW

Is currently the Director of Social Work Re-Entry at NYC Health and Hospitals—Correctional Health Services. He is responsible for all aspects of delivering comprehensive mental health discharge planning services to men and women incarcerated in the NYC Department of Corrections. Mr. Collins has over 20 years of experience in the field of forensic and clinical social work, working in inpatient and outpatient settings. He has worked at Bellevue Psychiatric ER (CPEP) and Bellevue Prison Ward, Kirby Forensic Psychiatric Center, and Central New York Psychiatric Center—Corrections-Based Operations.

Andrea Mazziotti, LCSW

Is currently the Clinical Coordinator for NYC Health + Hospitals, Correctional Health Services at Rikers Island and is responsible for the oversight of clinical work and coordination with State and City agencies to ensure clinically appropriate reentry services. Andrea previously served as the first Social Work Supervisor for Patients with Developmental Disabilities at NYC H+H CHS.

Andrea has been a social worker with the NYC H+H Correctional Health Social Work Reentry Department since 2016. Before CHS, Andrea provided outpatient substance treatment working with clients mandated through parole and probation at the Seafield Addiction Treatment Center.
Resist and Reimagine:
Creating Home for Asian Americans

Yuna Youn (she/her/hers), LCSW

Is a lifelong New Yorker, a daughter of Korean immigrants, and the Assistant Clinic Director at Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York, an Article 31 clinic dedicated to linguistically and culturally sensitive care. Her work with people of color is greatly inspired by years of working with the incarcerated, which gives her a unique perspective on systemic issues as well as the therapeutic interactions in their context. Her work is informed and inspired by the many ways individuals in oppressive systems and in her private practice demonstrate their resilience.

Daniel Tanh, LCSW

Is originally from Philadelphia and currently resides in Brooklyn. He works in community mental health with a specialty in first-episode psychosis and also in non-agency settings partnering with others to provide therapy and build community with an anti-oppressive lens.

Drawing from his identity as an English- and Teochew-speaking Asian American son of refugee parents who escaped the Khmer Rouge, his mental health support strategies hone in on the ways that societal ideologies, community institutions, interpersonal interactions, and internalized beliefs can prevent or promote individual and community prosperity and health.
Rayna Wang (she/her/hers), LMSW

Identifies as a first generation Chinese-American immigrant and has extensive experience providing therapy and care coordination for individuals and families with immigrant backgrounds in schools and outpatient mental health settings. Rayna also spent one year training abroad in Shanghai, providing psychotherapy to individuals at an inpatient psychiatric hospital. Rayna serves as a Co-Chair of the New York Coalition for Asian American Mental Health (NYCAAMH) Professional Development Group and engages in conversations with colleagues to apply anti-oppressive, anti-racist frameworks in clinical and community settings. She hopes to incorporate her clinical background and cross-cultural work experiences into future research that advances mental health care at the program and community levels.
The Hidden Impact of Anti-Black Racism on Black Women

Dr. LaTasha Smith, LCSW

Is an Assistant Professor of Social Work at Fairfield University in Fairfield, Connecticut. As a practitioner-scholar, LaTasha has a passion for teaching clinical social work with interests in clinical practice, research methods, field education, and clinical supervision. LaTasha believes that her teaching and research is deeply informed by her clinical practice, and prioritizes a clinical, socio-cultural, and anti-racism perspective in her teaching. Dr. Smith’s most recent research integrates psychodynamic and sociopolitical theories to better understand the impact of internalized racism on one's mental health and functioning.
Transformational Leadership Now and Beyond

Marina Badillo-Diaz, DSW, LCSW

Completed her Doctorate in Social Work at New York University’s Silver School of Social Work in 2021. She is a clinical social work consultant for schools and for a group practice. She is also a professor at Hunter College and City Tech. Her interests and specialties include school social work supervision, school organization structure and leadership, school social work ethics, social-emotional learning & programming, and anti-oppressive practices.
Afternoon Workshops

Presenters

DAY 1
Ethical Considerations of Telemental Health During Unprecedented Times

June Tyson, Ph.D., LCSW-R, ACSW

Is practicing psychotherapy in Brooklyn, NY at the mental health clinic, Community Counseling and Meditation. Her PhD is in Human Services from Capella University.

As part of a Global Health Group, she travels to share Social Work techniques with doctors and nurses of various hospitals and universities, and has done this work in Nigeria and Haiti.

Dr. Tyson believes as social service workers, we should stretch ourselves to learn other languages, travel to perform global social work, and work with populations outside of our “comfort zones.”
Hair Conversations: 
Ethnocentricity and Black Women's Trauma

Theresa Parris, MS.Ed, LCSW, CASAC

Has been practicing Social Work for the past 30+ years. Currently, she works with children and families in a school-based setting. In addition to Social Work, she holds a Master's of Science in Education. A Credentialed Substance Abuse Counselor and Certified Clinical Aromatherapist, Theresa’s passion is to improve the lives of others. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she completed a 200-hour online Yoga teacher training certification program. All of Theresa’s degrees and certifications help her help others on their personal healing journeys.

Angela Montague, LCSW-R

Is the Associate Director of Social Work at NYC Health + Hospitals/ Metropolitan and an adjunct instructor at Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service. Ms. Montague is an experienced trainer with expertise in the areas of domestic violence, sexual assault, health, and mental health. Angela recently co-authored the journal article, "Risk factors for male perpetration of intimate partner violence: A review" and has a particular interest in the intersectionality of race, domestic violence, and mental health. Ms. Montague is dedicated to reducing the stigma of mental illness among the Black community.
Andrea Shapiro, LMSW

Came to the Met Council after being the Volunteer Manager at Hunger Free America. Andrea has previously worked as a field organizer and lobby day coordinator for a political consulting firm. She has also worked closely with the domestic workers rights movement both nationally and locally as part of Jews for Racial and Economic Justice (JFREJ), where she is on the board.

Andrea has a Masters in Social Work specializing in Community Organizing from Silberman School of Social Work. She has also been a Grace Paley Organizing Fellow and Rene Cassin Human Rights Fellow.

Malika Conner, LMSW

Is an experienced community organizer, coalition builder, campaign strategist, and social worker. She has worked in the social justice movement for over nine years and has extensive experience building coalitions and campaigns from the ground up. Malika is the Director of Organizing for the Right to Counsel NYC Coalition. She previously served as Senior Organizer at ANHD, where she ran a workshop series for tenant organizers and led CATHnyc, a city-wide coalition that is fighting against the harassment and displacement of low-income tenants.
Non-Suicidal Self Injury Today

Glenn A. Taylor, LCSW

Is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Wurzweiler School of Social Work, Yeshiva University. He has been practicing psychotherapy for nearly 15 years in New York City. He has also taught social work practice classes as an adjunct professor in social work schools in NYC.

His research interests are racial disparities in internet access, Non-Suicidal Self Injury (NSSI), and evidence-based practices for minority populations in the United States.
NYC Social Work Labor Trends in 2021

Sunny Maguire, LCSW (she/her)

Graduated from Hunter College School of Social Work in 2011 and was trained at the William Alanson White Institute in 2014.

Since then, she has worked as a community social worker, psychotherapist, social work textbook editor, and a social work educator. She is now utilizing research as a modality to learn more about the professional field of social work in order to advocate for improved conditions for the social work community.
Gerri Cadet Mareus, LCSW

(She/her) is passionate about collaborating with children and adolescents in a clinical setting, using an intersectional lens when working with children and families. She has experience as an elementary school teacher and is currently an adjunct lecturer at Columbia University’s School of Social Work. She is currently attending a psychodynamic training institute and has training in EMDR and Attachment, Regulation and Competency trauma training.
Skill Training in Hybrid Intensive Outpatient Groups

Yuen Ling Elaine Ho, LCSW

Is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker providing direct clinical services at Gouverneur Mental Health Outpatient Clinic since 2006. Her wide range career experiences include psychodynamic Therapy, CBT, DBT Treatment, and Prolong Exposure Trauma Work. She is currently the Coordinator of the Intensive Outpatient Program which treats and stabilizes mental health patients in order for them to be assimilated back into the community. She dedicates herself in passing on her clinical expertise onto the next social work generation through her role as the Assistant Director of Gouverneur Social Work Internship Program and providing professional presentations in seminars.
Social Work’s Role in Reducing Health Disparities

Adele Weiner, PhD, LCSW

Has been a social work/human services educator for over 40 years and is a Professor at Metropolitan College of New York. Throughout her academic career, she has focused on providing students with accurate information on HIV/AIDS and training them to be knowledgeable, compassionate professionals. She has been a principal research consultant with a community-based agency offering HIV prevention and outreach services to streetwalking sex workers and other marginalized populations. Dr. Weiner has worked on Centers for Disease Control (CDC) funded projects as a research investigator.

Kim Lorber, PhD, LCSW

Has been an Associate Professor of Social Work at Ramapo College of New Jersey for 17 years. Her areas of expertise are HIV/AIDS, COVID-19, and aging. Dr. Lorber focuses on older adults and their caregivers in individual crisis counseling, groups, and as a clinical therapist.
Adapting Social Work for the "New Normal"

Morning Workshops
Presenters
DAY 2
A Health Equity Framework for Medicare and Medicaid

Thomas Bane, LMSW

Is the Special Assistant to the Regional Administrator for CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) New York. In this capacity, he supports the regional administrator in various administrative and local engagement activities. He began his tenure at CMS as a Presidential Management Fellow, where he went on detail to Guam to help establish an NCD Roadmap for Pacific Islands. Thomas was deployed as a health sector recovery lead for the USVI as part of several hurricane recovery efforts. He has an MSW from Columbia University and an MFA in Poetry from Brooklyn College. He is currently pursuing his PhD in Social Welfare.

Julissa Rodriguez, BA

Is currently completing a Masters in Social Work at Rutgers University with a certificate program in Health & Aging. During her studies Julissa has acquired skills in research, social inquiry, theory, and methods. Julissa has worked as a case manager in the past serving children, families, and older adults.
Sarah Bloomstone, BA

Is in her final year of a dual-Master’s degree program in social work and public health at Columbia University. In social work, her field of practice is public policy with a concentration on health, mental health, and disabilities. Her public health focus is on sociomedical sciences. Her interests lie in the intersection of housing, health, and public policy. She has extensive experience in both qualitative and quantitative public health research. Her expected graduation date is May 2022.
Cultural Considerations:
Safety Planning with Black DV Survivors

Angela Montague, LCSW-R

Is the Coordinator of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services at NYC Health + Hospitals/ Metropolitan and an adjunct instructor at Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service.

Ms. Montague has been a social worker for over thirty years with expertise in the areas of domestic violence, sexual assault, and mental health. She is an engaging trainer and speaker on domestic violence and has presented workshops at the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Futures Without Violence conferences.

Angela has a particular interest in the intersections of race, gender, national origin, and culture in intimate partner violence.
Mitigating Trauma Through Groupwork for Vulnerable Foster Youth

Selina Higgins, LCSW

Has been the inaugural Executive Director of ACS’ Office of Child Trafficking Prevention and Policy since 2015. She has worked in the field of child welfare for 28 years as an LCSW with an M.A. in Forensic Psychology, an MSW, a two-year post-graduate certification in Infant-Parent Dyadic Therapy and Trauma Assessment, and Dialectical Behavioral Therapy certification. In addition to policy and procedure development, Selina works directly with youth through a variety of group work models (some self-designed). Selina has created many unique trafficking related trainings, produces an annual conference and in 2021, trained over 6,300 virtually.

Melody Joanne Centeno, LMSW

Is a motivational speaker, public advocate, psychodrama practitioner and former foster youth who in 2016 founded Foster Care Unplugged to enrich the lives of children in care through development of positive resiliency skills. She has produced many youth focused projects, including “Foster Care Unplugged: The Stage Play” and annual events including a toy drive, fashion show, and a basketball game for youth with the NYPD. She has expanded her focus to assist foster youth through co-creation and facilitation of the grant funded Mitigating Trauma Through Drama group model which fuses psychodrama techniques with trafficking awareness.
Paradox of Chronic Homelessness:
Adaptation to Homeless Lifestyle

Daniel Farrell, LCSW

Is the SVP of Prevention, Diversion and Research at HELP USA, a non-profit provider with programs nationwide that provides transitional, permanent housing and homeless prevention services to at risk, homeless and formerly homeless adults and families. Daniel is responsible for multiple transitional housing, shelter and homeless prevention/rapid rehousing programs in New York City, Philadelphia, and Las Vegas serving over 10,000 homeless or at-risk households each year. He is a graduate from the New York Institute for Psychoanalytic Self Psychology, an Adjunct Professor at the Hunter College School of Social Work and has published multiple papers on homelessness.
Peer Model: How El Barrio Disrupts Systemic Oppression

Dr. Dunia M. Garcia, LMSW

Is the Director of the Cabrini-Hunter Fellowships for Social Work and Nursing Students program at Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College. Dunia has over 20 years of experience focusing on educational equity, college access in urban communities, and community engagement. She was the Director of the Community Navigator Program at the Silberman School of Social Work, a peer-led community-based program serving East Harlem community. During her tenure at the Community Navigator Program, she fostered and sustained partnerships with city agencies and community organizations throughout NYC and promoted the economic empowerment of peer-led groups.

Saida Gordon, LMSW

Is the Social Work Supervisor at the Community Navigator Program. She received her BA from SUNY at Buffalo and MSW from the Silberman School of Social Work. Saida has over 10 years working in the social work field providing direct services, program management, and staff supervision. She focused her work on at-risk youth and their families to provide social/emotional support.
Brings career-long achievements in social services to her current position of Chief Program Officer at Counseling In Schools. Dr. English has served with distinction in multiple roles throughout her illustrious career where she has been a strong advocate for trauma informed and person-centered-care. She has received numerous awards/recognition, including most recently, the Multicultural Award from the National Alliance on Mental Health - NYS.

Dr. Elisa English, LCSW

A nationally recognized leader in social work and school-based programming, has more than 20 years’ experience in working with children, families and school staff. Through his 23-year career at CIS, Kevin has evolved CIS’ service reach beyond counseling services to include a multi-dimensional and strength-based menu of services that support an entire school community. In his current role as Executive Director, Kevin is committed to developing a team leadership model that embodies the non-oppressive, collaborative systems that are needed to effectively take on the complex challenges routinely faced in schools by children, families, teachers and administrators.

Kevin Dahill-Fuchell, LCSW

Dr. English is a known youth and anti-violence advocate. She served as the national spokeswoman for Peacekeepers, an anti-violence organization supported by Russell Simmons, who describes her as an “angel and work phenomenon”.

Dr. Elisa English, LCSW

Kevin Dahill-Fuchell, LCSW
Trauma and Alcohol Use Among Undocumented Hispanic Immigrants and the Mapping Protocol

Dr. Carmen Jimenez, LCSW-R, CASAC

Is a third-generation educator, researcher, psychotherapist, radio personality, EMDR Certified Therapist and Approved Consultant, Board Certified in Biofeedback, clinical hypnotherapist, a NADA specialist, NYS OASAS credentialed as well as a DWI Assessment and Screening Provider. As the founder of Counseling Consultation Service, Inc. and Protect the Angels, Inc. in New York, Dr. Jimenez received a Doctor of Education from Teachers College, Columbia University, a Master of Public Administration and a Master of Science in Social Work from New York University and Columbia University, respectively. Dr. Jimenez developed the Mapping Protocol® and coined the term deportphobia®.
Using Dialogue as a Critical Tool for Anti-Racist Education

Gabriella McBride, LCSW

Received her MSW from Columbia in 2006 and worked for 15 years in the Bronx with children and families. After a supervisory role at New York Foundling, Gabriella transitioned to Mott Haven Academy in 2009. In her role as Director of Social Services, Gabriella helped build the school’s social emotional programming and is proud of the work the team has done to create a community with students and families at its core. During this time, she contributed to the school’s anti-racist framework and trauma-sensitive culture by developing clinical and classroom interventions, supervising the work of core department members and overseeing committee work throughout the building. Gabriella has been teaching as an adjunct lecturer at NYU Silver since the fall of 2016, where a community based and relational approach drives her pedagogical style. This includes focusing on critical thinking and a commitment to anti-racist social work practice. Gabriella is a proud member of NYU’s DSW Class of 2023 and an even prouder mama of two.
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BSW Student, York College

Thank you all for your commitment and support

At the Crossroads
Adapting Social Work for the “New Normal”
See you in 2023