



GRT GROWTH *Grace*



Welcome to the 44th Annual

**St. Louis County Health and
Human Services Conference**

October 7-8, 2026 | Wednesday-Thursday | DECC, Duluth, MN



2026 Champion Sponsors

The 44th annual St. Louis County Health and Human Services Conference is made possible in large part by the generous support of these **Champion Sponsors**. These organizations support our work and help those in need. Please stop by and visit them in the Pioneer Exhibit Hall. They are also featured in our mobile app under the Champion Sponsors icon.



3800 American Blvd West, Suite 1500
Minneapolis, MN 55431
(612) 284-8893 | livewellalert.com



5610 Rowland Rd, Suite 100
Hopkins, MN | 55343
(612) 474-3110 | asura.org



4629 Airpark Boulevard | Duluth, MN 55811
(218) 722-5009 | trilliumservice.com



6010 Lone Oak Rd, Unit 1
Rockford, MN | 55373
(612) 444-4228 | crisiscleanteam.com



1750 Energy Drive | PO BOX 328
Mankato, MN | 56001
(800) 829-7110 | mymrci.org



2562 7th Ave E, Suite 201 | North St. Paul, MN 55109
(763) 710-2003 | bestcaremn.com



505 Highway 169 North, Suite 500 | Plymouth, MN 55441
763-551-8640 | nexusfamilyhealing.org



7000 78th Ave N | Brooklyn Park, MN | 55445
763-494-4553 | www.mainsl.com



12600 Whitewater Drive, Suite 100
Minnetonka, MN | 55343
(218) 290-5883 | accrahomecare.org



12510 Fletcher Lane, Suite A | Rogers, MN | 55374
(612) 430-0937 | steri-cleanminnesota.com



2304 West Superior Street | Duluth, MN 55806
(218) 576-7363 | pomduluth.com



1111 Gateway Dr NE
East Grand Forks, MN | 56721
(701) 213-7687 | eosisrecovery.com



3400 Yankee Drive | Eagan, MN 55121
(651) 662-9915 | bluecrossmn.com/our-plans/medical-assistance-medicaid



401 Carlson Parkway | Minnetonka, MN 55305
(952) 992-8545 | medica.com



Announcing the 44th Annual St. Louis County

Health & Human Services Conference

Grit, growth, and grace — we rely on all three. Grit carries us through the toughest cases, darkest moments, and most challenging situations. Growth pushes us to sharpen our skills, strengthen our talents, and broaden our perspectives. And grace is what we extend to those we serve, to our colleagues, and—importantly—to ourselves. Together, these qualities empower us to rise to challenges and keep us moving forward with purpose.

Join us in grounded solidarity as we celebrate our collective grit, growth, and grace. We look forward to seeing you at the 44th Annual St. Louis County Health and Human Services Conference!

Registration is now open:

www.stlouiscountymn.gov/hhsconference

Brighter starts here.

Start your journey: BrightwaterHealth.org

Person-Centered Mental Health
and Addiction Services



Brightwater
Formerly HDC
HEALTH

CONFERENCE KICK-OFF

10:00am Wednesday | October 7, 2026
DECC Symphony Hall

The 44th Annual St. Louis County Health & Human Services Conference kicks off with an opening Keynote by Cindra Kamphoff - you won't want to miss it!

Sponsored by:



1401 E 1st St | Duluth, MN 55805
(218) 730-2351 | www.brightwaterhealth.org

Cindra Kamphoff



Here's the truth: **confidence isn't about never experiencing doubt**—it's a skill you can learn. As Dr. Cindra Kamphoff knows from working as a top sports and performance psychologist to business leaders and professional athletes, confidence isn't an elusive trait reserved for the lucky few; it's a skill that anyone can master. In *The Confidence Habit*, Dr. Kamphoff shows you how to build this skill through an actionable and a proven framework based and research. She will walk us through confidence-boosting strategies built from seven core practices and step-by-step methods that help you shift self-doubt into self-belief, transform fear into action, and create a rock-solid inner foundation.

OPENING KEYNOTE

CONFERENCE WRAP-UP

3:00pm Thursday | October 8, 2026
DECC Symphony Hall

Sponsored by:



Adult & Teen Challenge
Minnesota

740 E. 24th St. | Minneapolis, MN 55404
(612) 238-6455 | www.mntc.org

Brandon Leake



Brandon Leake is the season 15 winner of America's Got Talent, a 7x Telly Award Winner, 1x SOVAS Award Winner, and 1x Emmy Award Winner. Brandon has been a Poetic Performer, Keynote Speaker, and Workshop leader for over a decade, traveling locations such as: New Zealand, Canada, Mexico, and 42 States. Brandon's use of personal narrative with his gifting in poetic prose allows him to speak not merely to crowds, but to their inner being, to connect one soul to another, to connect people to an intrinsic sense of communal humanity that is at times severely lacking in our world. Brandon Leake is a visionary, whose words, but most importantly actions reflect his love of people and the world.

2026 Conference Schedule

Wednesday October 7th

7:30am	Doors open for exhibitor set-up
7:45am-4:30pm	Registration Open
8:00am-4:30pm	Exhibit Hall open
8:30am-9:30am	Session 1 Workshops
10:00am-11:30am	Conference Kick-off Opening Keynote
11:30am-12:30pm	Lunch on your own
12:30pm-1:30pm	Session 2 Workshops
2:00pm-3:00pm	Session 3 Workshops
3:30pm-4:30pm	Session 4 Workshops

Thursday October 8th

8:00am-3:00pm	Registration Open
8:00am-3:00pm	Exhibit Hall open
8:00am-9:00am	Session 5 Workshops
9:30am-10:30am	Session 6 Workshops
11:00am-12:00pm	Session 7 Workshops
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch on your own
1:00pm-2:00pm	Session 8 Workshops
2:30pm-3:30pm	Conference Wrap-up Closing Keynote

ONE MISSION. MULTIPLE PATHWAYS. REAL RESULTS.

Have You Met the “New” MnTC?

We offer programs for everyone at
every level of care.

Stop by our booth to learn more.



(612) 373-3366



(507) 546-3295



(844) 815-7625



(844) 768-8336

Charity Huot Benedict and **Peter Singler** are longtime musical partners and friends.

They have performed across Minnesota and Wisconsin, blending rich harmonies, heartfelt storytelling, and an easy musical connection shaped by decades of collaboration.

Charity Huot Benedict is a Duluth-based singer-songwriter whose original alt-folk music is influenced by bluegrass, jazz, and Americana. You can find her music on all streaming platforms. She is the founder of Music on the Ship aboard the William A. Irvin and co-creator of DuLilith Fest. Her mission is to create meaningful connections through music.

Peter Singler is an accomplished instrumentalist, vocalist, and songwriter who has become a familiar presence on stages throughout the area. Known for his versatility and collaborative spirit, Pete performs with the Pete Singler Band and the Boreal Drifters while also lending his talents to numerous musical partnerships across the region.

Follow along on Instagram: @DuLilithFest • @SaltandPineMusic • @meanmama_mn • @BorealDrifters • @jenquinemusic

MUSICAL PERFORMERS



FEATURED ARTISTS



Clay is the ultimate teacher of grit, growth and grace; from the visceral, grounding experience of shaping earth with one's hands to the dynamic process of glazing, it requires one to trust the process in finding the balance between chaos and control.

Chrissy Gildersleeve, Holly Jorde, Ashley Lake and Rita Morris are Duluth-based artists brought together by their love of clay. As individual artists they use diverse techniques to develop their forms and surfaces. These artists will demonstrate and discuss their techniques to give you a glimpse into their process. They invite you to participate in some hands-on experiences with clay, including the creation of a collaborative vessel!

Find out more about these artists:

Holly Jorde: hollyjorde.com

Ashley Lake: selkieceramics.com

Rita Morris: <http://instagram.com/burdockceramics>

Chrissy Gildersleeve: http://instagram.com/gildersleeve_pottery

There's more to explore!

Your conference experience goes beyond attending quality sessions. Visit one or all of these spaces to learn, grow and be refreshed. See page 91 for detailed maps to find each area.

Explore Assistive Technology Up Close

Visit the Technology Experience to engage with a wide variety of assistive technology. See devices in action, try them out, and discover new tools that support communication, daily living, employment and overall independence. Experts will be on hand to answer questions and discuss technology solutions that fit your needs, or those of the people you support.

 DECC Arena

The Quiet Working Room

A new addition to this year is a quiet working space within the conference center. If you need somewhere to check email, set up a laptop or get some work done - we've got you covered!

 Chester Creek Room

The Rejuvenation Room

The Rejuvenation Room offers space for quiet moments, time to reflect or time to reset when needed. Enjoy the room to refuel or replenish your energy in a positive way.

 Board Room

Visit the Wellness Walkway



Take a moment for yourself with our Wellness Walkway. Pet a therapy dog or get a chair massage for a discounted rate!



svälja
whole-being
relax, restore, rejuvenate

yoga ballroom J Wednesday 8:00–8:30 am Thursday 7:30–8:00 am	qigong ballroom J Thursday 12:15–12:45 pm Also stop by our table in the Wellness Walkway	rejuvenation room Across from ballroom J Daily rest & recharge
--	---	---

8:30am - Session 1

1	What Happens When We Trust Young People? Lessons from a Housing and Basic Income Pilot	 French River	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
2	We Are More Than Our Benefits: The Courage To Climb	 Gooseberry Falls 1	 Non-virtual	
3	IRTS 101: Assessment, Treatment Planning, and Transitions in Residential Mental Health Care	 Gooseberry Falls 2	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
4	From Barriers to Connection: Practical Technology for Hearing Loss	 Gooseberry Falls 3	 Non-virtual	
5	When Truancy Is Survival Neurodiversity-Affirming Assessment and Intervention for Excessive Absenteeism	 Harborside 202	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
6	Grit, Growth, and Work Readiness: Lessons Learned on the Employment Journey	 Harborside 203	 Non-virtual	
7	Embedding Veteran Identification into Healthcare Systems: The Veteran Health Navigator and Ask the Question Initiative	 Harborside 204	 Non-virtual	
8	Substance Use Disorder Treatment Myths That Are Hurting Client Outcomes	 Harborside 205	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
9	Verbal Judo, De-escalation and Hybrid Idea Generation for High Conflict Interactions	 Harborside 301-302	 Non-virtual	
10	Turn Conflict Into Transformational Opportunities of Grace	 Harborside 303	 Non-virtual	
11	Provider's Safety	 Harborside 304	 Non-virtual	
12	The Drama Triangle: Why We Get Stuck—and How to Shift Out of It	 Harborside 305	 Non-virtual	
13	COMPACT Act and what to know to benefit your Veteran in crisis	 Lake Superior Ballroom J	 Virtual	
14	Situational Awareness Safety	 Lake Superior Ballroom K	 Virtual	
15	Let the Data Lead: Growing employee engagement through intentional leadership, reflection, and data	 Lake Superior Ballroom L	 Virtual	
16	From Data to Action: Utilizing AI Insights for Proactive Risk Management in I/DD and Behavioral Health Services	 Lake Superior Ballroom MN	 Virtual	
17	More Than Good Intentions: Ethics in Social Work Practice	 Lake Superior Ballroom O	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
18	"What Am I Going to Do?" — Free Time, the Manufactured Project, and the Cultural Pressure That Touches Everyone	 Split Rock	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
19	"Rare but Real" Representation, Resilience, and a Little Humor	 St. Louis River Room	 Virtual	

1 What Happens When We Trust Young People? Lessons from a Housing and Basic Income Pilot

 French River  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Minnesota invested in a basic income pilot, providing young adults experiencing homelessness with \$900-1,000 per month and youth directed supportive services over a two-year period. This workshop will explore how the pilot was designed and implemented, what outcomes were measured, and what providers learned while supporting youth through a direct cash model. Presenters will discuss successes, challenges, and lessons learned about trust-based, youth-centered services and their impact on housing stability and transition to adulthood.

Presented by Erin Martin, MBA, MSW, LISW, System Transformation Programs Director, Youthprise; Hannah Grunzke, Youth Services Navigator, City of Duluth - Workforce Development; Sarah Kinnunen, Housing Resource Case Manager, Bois Forte Housing Stability Programs; Savannah Parisien, Program Manager, Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota

2 We Are More Than Our Benefits: The Courage To Climb

 Gooseberry Falls 1  Non-virtual

Teelyn Minkel and Rachael Johnson are dedicated social service professionals supporting families and individuals across Northeast Minnesota. Rather than guiding clients solely from a traditional case management scope, Teelyn and Rachael draw on their personal experiences navigating programs such as Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), childcare assistance (CCAP), and healthcare coverage. This dual perspective shapes the way they support others; grounding their work in empathy, practical insight, and a shared understanding of the barriers many individuals face.

Their own journeys balancing work, education, parenting, and community leadership give them a nuanced awareness of the challenges of pursuing stability while managing complex systems. This session elevates the people behind the numbers and equips professionals with strategies and resources to more effectively support individuals navigating public programs.

Presented by Teelyn Minkel, Bachelors of Social Work, Career Counselor, JET- Northeast Mn Office of Job Training; Rachael Johnson, AAS Addictions Studies, Career Counselor, JET- Northeast Mn Office of Job Training

3 IRTS 101: Assessment, Treatment Planning, and Transitions in Residential Mental Health Care

 Gooseberry Falls 2  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Intensive Residential Treatment Services, commonly referred to as IRTS, are an important but often misunderstood level of care within Minnesota's behavioral health continuum. This workshop will provide a practical, plain-language overview of IRTS, including the population served, admission and continuing stay considerations, clinical assessment needs, treatment planning expectations, services provided, discharge planning, and common barriers that impact access and transitions.

Participants will gain a clearer understanding of how IRTS differs from hospitalization, crisis stabilization, adult foster care, Rule 36 residential treatment, and substance use disorder residential treatment. The session will also explore how assessment, functional impairment, level-of-care criteria, measurable treatment goals, interdisciplinary services, and discharge planning guide care within IRTS.

Presented by Mary Beth Fessler, MA, LADC, LPCC, Heart & Hands, LLC

4 From Barriers to Connection: Practical Technology for Hearing Loss

 Gooseberry Falls 3  Non-virtual

People with hearing loss navigate communication and environmental barriers in daily life, often relying on persistence, adaptability, and problem-solving to stay connected. These challenges range from difficulty following conversations to missing phone calls or alerting sounds, leading to frustration, missed information, and isolation. Many are unaware of tools that improve communication, safety, and independence. In this workshop, Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing State Services and the Minnesota STAR Program will highlight practical assistive technologies and show how to trial them before purchasing, including how waivers may help cover costs. Integrating these tools helps individuals navigate environments and engage meaningfully.

Presented by Jerry Geist, Bachelor's Degree-Biology, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Specialist, and Anne Janckila, BA-American Sign Language/English Interpreting, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Specialist, Deaf, Deafblind, and Hard of Hearing State Services; Jamis Wehrenberg, RESNA certified Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) and a degree in Information Technology Management, Assistive Technology Professional and Alaina Gallagher, BS in Life Sciences and Spanish Assistive Technology Consultant, MN STAR Program

5 When Truancy Is Survival | Neurodiversity-Affirming Assessment and Intervention for Excessive Absenteeism

📍 Harborside 202 🖥️ Non-virtual 🕒 Clinical Hours

Truancy responses can unintentionally heighten distress when the underlying factors for school avoidance are overlooked. When students stop attending school, attention often shifts to falling grades and attendance reports. But behind every absence is a story: a student fighting silent battles each morning as they ask themselves if they can make it through another day. Some students struggle in ways that are not visible at school, some struggle in ways that are more disruptive, and other students live with chronic conditions. In all of these situations, the message is the same: "I don't feel safe."

This session examines excessive absenteeism through a neurodiversity-affirming and trauma-sensitive framework. For many students, school refusal signals barriers to felt safety and meaningful inclusion in learning. Participants will explore how factors such as school-based distress and environmental conditions contribute to avoidance. We will discuss practical, student-centered assessment tools and collaborative strategies for reintegration planning, centered on building safety, access, and a positive relationship with learning.

Presented by Santanna Ficken, MHP, Advocate, Educational Consultant, Minnesota Neurodivergent Education Advocacy and Therapy Services (MnNEAT)

6 Grit, Growth, and Work Readiness: Lessons Learned on the Employment Journey

📍 Harborside 203 🖥️ Non-virtual

In today's workforce landscape, employment readiness is about far more than resumes, interviews, and technical skills. Many individuals navigating the employment journey are also overcoming barriers such as trauma, mental health challenges, incarceration histories, housing instability, generational poverty, disabilities, lack of confidence, and systems that were not designed for their success. Yet despite these barriers, growth is possible when people are met with the right combination of accountability, opportunity, support, and belief. Through practical examples, personal insight, and frontline experience, attendees will gain a deeper understanding of what true work readiness looks like beyond traditional workforce development models.

The presentation will focus on the connection between grit, personal growth, and long-term employment success. Participants will learn how resilience is built, how setbacks can become part of the growth process, and why relationship-centered approaches often create stronger outcomes than compliance-driven systems alone.

Presented by Jason Beckman, Masters Degree, Director of Mission Services, Richard Howell, Life Coach, Rena Hilleshiem, Career Navigation Counselor, and Josh Nickila, Employment Services, True North Goodwill



7 Embedding Veteran Identification into Healthcare Systems: The Veteran Health Navigator and Ask the Question Initiative

 Harborside 204  Non-virtual

Veterans and their families often receive care outside the VA system, yet many remain unidentified in non-VA healthcare settings, resulting in missed opportunities for coordinated care, suicide prevention, and connection to earned benefits. The Ask the Question initiative addresses this gap by embedding Veteran identification and support into everyday healthcare workflows.

Delivering this work requires grit: the perseverance to navigate complex healthcare systems, engage diverse stakeholders, and address some of the toughest cases involving at-risk Service Members, Veterans, and Families (SMVF). Through growth, participants will explore strategies to strengthen cross-sector partnerships that enhance suicide prevention, discharge planning, and whole-person care. The session highlights measurable outcomes, implementation strategies, and lessons learned from building a statewide community of practice. Finally, this work embodies grace: the compassion extended to Veterans, families, colleagues, and ourselves. Through case examples and facilitated discussion, attendees will leave with practical tools and a replicable framework to ensure no Veteran goes unidentified, unsupported, or unconnected. Participants will gain actionable strategies to apply in their own organizations, empowering them to serve with skill, empathy, and resilience.

Presented by Raeann Murray, Bachelor of Science, Social Work, Veteran Health Navigator Supervisor, Rachel Johnson, Chase Arden and Kristi Stites, Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs

8 Substance Use Disorder Treatment Myths That Are Hurting Client Outcomes

 Harborside 205  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Despite decades of research and evolving standards of care, many assumptions about substance use disorder (SUD) treatment continue to shape clinical practice, policy decisions, and public perception. Some of these beliefs were once widely accepted but are no longer supported by current evidence. Others persist because they are deeply embedded in treatment culture, supervision traditions, or community expectations.

This workshop examines several common myths in substance use disorder treatment and explores how these beliefs influence clinical decision making and treatment outcomes. Participants will review current research related to motivation, relapse, medication assisted treatment, abstinence based approaches, and the neurobiology of addiction. Participants will also explore how evidence informed practices, including motivational approaches, harm reduction strategies, and recovery oriented treatment planning, can improve engagement and outcomes for individuals with substance use disorders. The workshop will focus on translating current research into practical strategies that clinicians can integrate into assessment, treatment planning, and ongoing clinical interventions.

Presented by Carmichael Finn, MA, LMFT, LADC, AACDR-MN, Executive Director, Recovering Hope Treatment Center

9 Verbal Judo, De-escalation and Hybrid Idea Generation for High Conflict Interactions

 Harborside 301-302  Non-virtual

This interactive session teaches a verbal judo communication approach for diffusing tense conflict situations. Participants will also learn an empathy-based method to reduce defensiveness and improve conflict resolution participation. The speakers will do several entertaining live skits in front of the audience to illustrate the concepts presented as well as hybrid idea generation.

Presented by Michael Kiefer, Ph.D. Behavioral Psychology, Professional Speaker/ Life Coach/ Author, Powermind Systems Inc.; Heidi Allen, B.S. Engineering, Professional Speaker/ Life Coach/ Manufacturing Executive, Steinwall Inc.

8:30am - Session 1

10 Turn Conflict Into Transformational Opportunities of Grace

 Harborside 303  Non-virtual

We seldom feel comfortable with conflict, yet cannot escape its presence. Unfortunately, our ability to lead and team effectiveness is often determined by how we handle conflict. This session provides practical strategies to increase comfort with conflict and promote positive conflict resolution especially when power differences or emotional reactivity are involved. We will also look at how to help others deal with conflict without taking on their anxiety. Conflict does not need to put a kink in your week, but can be transformational with the right perspective and skills.

Packed full of strategies, my workshops and book "Resilient and Sustainable Caring: Your Guide to Thrive While Helping Others" are based on proven theories and conversations with people in helping roles around the world. My interactive style engages humor, practical learning, and discussion.

Presented by Dr. Karen Schuder, EdD, MDiv, MAM, Resilient and Sustainable Caring

11 Provider's Safety

 Harborside 304  Non-virtual

Safety workshop for providers in the field. How to serve a population that can be a danger to you while providing the services that they deserve.

Presented by Rick Armstrong, BA, Contracted Case Manager, Thomas Allen Inc



Peace of Mind DULUTH
Compassion • Integrity • Respect

Achieve Your Full Potential



LICENSED SUPPORT SERVICES:

-  Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (ARMHS)
-  Community Residential Services
-  Individualized Community Support Services
-  Respite Care
-  Supported Employment

Supporting every individual with compassion, integrity, and respect.

 pomduluth.com

 (218)576-7363

12 The Drama Triangle: Why We Get Stuck—and How to Shift Out of It

 **Harborside 305**  **Non-virtual**

In human services, the hardest situations aren't just about the work—they're about the dynamics between people. When stress is high, many of us fall into predictable roles: fixing, blaming, or feeling stuck. The Drama Triangle—Victim, Rescuer, and Persecutor—shows up in everyday interactions between staff, leaders, clients, and families, often without us realizing it. And once we're in it, we tend to stay in it.

This session helps participants recognize the role they default to under pressure—and the cost that comes with it. Participants will then learn how to shift out of these patterns using TED (The Empowerment Dynamic), moving from reactivity to intention through the roles of Creator, Challenger, and Coach. Grounded in real-life scenarios and practical language, this session offers simple, usable ways to interrupt unhelpful patterns, reduce conflict, and create more productive, accountable interactions. Participants will leave with increased self-awareness and tools they can immediately apply to navigate challenging situations with greater clarity and control.

Presented by Krisie Barron, BSW, LSW Caregiver and Human Specialist, Embrace LLC

13 COMPACT Act and what to know to benefit your Veteran in crisis

 **Lake Superior Ballroom J**  **Virtual**

COMPACT Act is a nation-wide benefit program started in 2023 that provides both VA eligible and non-VA eligible Veterans assessed to be in Acute Suicidal Crisis with cost free mental health and medical care. This program has proven to reduce the cost barrier of accessing care and increasing accessibility to follow up care both within the VA as well as in the community. COMPACT Act potentially increases eligibility to an additional 9 million Veterans not enrolled in VA healthcare, potentially doubling the needed services. Virginia and Emma will lead conversation and discussion on COMPACT Act and how it can be used for Veterans in need. Audience will leave this presentation with both knowledge of COMPACT Act and resources for Veterans in crisis.

Presented by Emma Podobinski, MSW, Minneapolis VA COMPACT Act Coordinator, Minneapolis VA Medical Center; Virginia Neal, MSW, St. Cloud VA COMPACT Act Coordinator/Care Coordinator and Integrated Care Manager, St. Cloud VA Medical Center

14 Situational Awareness Safety

 **Lake Superior Ballroom K**  **Virtual**

Situational awareness helps you make careful, safe decisions when faced with a potentially unsafe scenario. In a profession that requires grit to enter challenging environments, growth to continually strengthen safety skills, and grace to respond calmly and professionally under pressure, situational awareness is an essential tool. In this interactive, trauma-informed situational awareness safety webinar we will walk through real world 'what would you do' scenarios.

Presented by Josh Dye, Master's Degree in Public & Nonprofit Administration, President & Founder, Convene Training

15 Let the Data Lead: Growing employee engagement through intentional leadership, reflection, and data

 **Lake Superior Ballroom L**  **Virtual**

Attendees will learn how to use data to drive employee engagement, change culture, and set organizational priorities. This workshop will be a case study of how our Health and Human Services Department has spent the last 3 years analyzing data, challenging the status quo, implementing new opportunities to collect employee voice, and embracing failure; all to better support our team, and the individuals we serve.

Presented by Casey Lind, Masters of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, emphasis in Alcohol and Addiction Studies, Deputy Director, and Crystal Peterson, Master of Public Health, Director, Mower County Health and Human Services

16 From Data to Action: Utilizing AI Insights for Proactive Risk Management in I/DD and Behavioral Health Services

 Lake Superior Ballroom MN  Virtual

Providers sit on mountains of daily documentation—including goals/outcomes, health logs, and behavior notes—but rarely have the time or resources to synthesize this data into actionable insights. This educational session explores how artificial intelligence and predictive analytics can revolutionize risk management in community-based services. By analyzing patterns in real-time, AI can help agencies shift from a reactive crisis-response model to a proactive, preventative approach. Attendees will learn how automated trend analysis can identify subtle health or behavioral risks before they escalate, improve compliance, and ultimately drive better person-centered outcomes.

Presented by Tiffany Brown, B.A., Business Development Territory Manager, Community & Human Services, Therap Services, LLC

17 More Than Good Intentions: Ethics in Social Work Practice

 Lake Superior Ballroom O  Virtual  Clinical Hours

This presentation explores ethics in social work, emphasizing the importance of professional ethical boundaries, key ethical considerations in practice, and real-world case studies. It examines what constitutes social work practice in Minnesota and how social workers navigate issues such as confidentiality, dual relationships, cultural sensitivity, informed consent, and ethical decision-making while supporting clients in diverse and complex situations. Through practical examples and discussion of Minnesota state statutes, the presentation highlights strategies for maintaining integrity, accountability, and client-centered care within social work practice in Minnesota.

Presented by Kassandra Slizewski, BSW, LSW, Assistant Director and Joanne Ehrmantraut, MSW, LICSW, Licensing Coordinator, Minnesota Board of Social Work

18 "What Am I Going to Do?" — Free Time, the Manufactured Project, and the Cultural Pressure That Touches Everyone

 Split Rock  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

The pressure to constantly perform has become something most of us carry all the time — not just at work, not just when someone is watching, but alone, on vacation, on days off, in the quiet. For many of us, stillness itself has become uncomfortable enough that we reach for productivity as relief — inventing tasks that didn't exist an hour ago, starting something with no clear purpose, just to fill the silence before it fills us. This session examines that pressure: where it comes from historically, who it's touching now, and what it does when it walks into your office. We'll look at how the same cultural compulsion wears different costumes across demographics — young men, teen girls, mothers, older adults, first-generation immigrants, people in recovery, and helping professionals who are swimming in the same water they're asking their clients to notice. Along the way, we'll look at what social media has been telling us about this pressure in real time, and what it reveals about the people sitting in our waiting rooms.

The presenter will draw on personal experience with pushing too hard, burning out, and the slow, strange process of learning what to do with a quiet afternoon — and will examine what our professional codes of ethics are already telling us about why this matters, not just personally, but professionally.

Presented by Dan Maki, MA - Counseling Psychology, Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, Enlight Counseling

19 **"Rare but Real" Representation, Resilience,
and a Little Humor**

 **St. Louis River**  **Virtual**

Join me as I share my journey and share my lessons learned as a Tribal member finding my purpose to finding it in providing services to all people. This is a presentation is based on both a lifetime of personal experience and an enduring professional experience in the service to all families. As indicated in the title, this presentation is a unique perspective coming from being 'One of the Only Ones' in Social Services as a Native American male in a field that is frequently not representative of the communities it works with. Attendees will be introduced to an additional framework perspective to consider when providing services to families living within a cultural framework different from their own.

Presented by Les Gibbs, Social Worker, MSW, MsEd., St. Louis County PHHS



Because independence doesn't mean going about it alone.


Livewell ALERT
SMART, SAFE INDEPENDENT LIVING

For more information visit us online at www.LivewellAlert.com or

Call: 612.284.8893 Toll Free: 888.358.6667
3800 American Blvd. W. Suite 1500 Minneapolis, MN 55431

 info@LivewellAlert.com





2026 Advocate Sponsors

Advocate sponsors are featured in the Pioneer Exhibit Hall and under the Advocate Sponsor icon in the mobile app. They provide a wide array of services within the human services industry and their on-going support of the conference is a vital component of its successful history. Please stop by and visit them in Pioneer Exhibit Hall.

Dungarvin

www.Dungarvin.com

Falk's Nursing Service LTC Pharmacy

www.falkspharmacy.com

Fernbrook Family Center

www.fernbrook.org

Genesis Group Homes, Inc.

www.genesis-mn.com

Grace Place LLC

www.graceplacehousingsupport.com

Hazelden Betty Ford

www.hazeldenbettyford.org

HealtheMed

www.healthemed.com

Horowitz Integrated Services

www.horowitzservices.com

Housing Benefits 101

www.hb101.org

Mental Health Systems

mhs-dbt.com

**Minnesota Disability
Determination Services**

ssa.gov

Advocating Change Together

selfadvocacy.org

Aeriel Recovery Services

www.arsduluth.com

Altru Inpatient Behavioral Health

altru.org/behavioral-health

Center for Practice Transformation

practicetransformation.umn.edu

Charlie Health

charliehealth.com

Circle of Life Home Care

onecircle.care

**DHS Homelessness, Housing &
Support Services Administration**

mn.gov/dhs

Disability Hub MN

disabilityhubmn.org

Duluth Core Learning

www.duluthcorelearning.com

Modern Access
modernaccessmn.com

**North Homes Children and
Family Services**
www.northhomes.org

Northland Counseling Center
northlandcounseling.org

NorthStar Community Services
www.northstarcommunityservices.com

Northway Academy
sevitahealth.com/northway-academy

Northwood Technical College
northwoodtech.edu

PICS (Partners in Community Supports)
picsmn.org

Prairie St. Johns
Prairie-stjohns.com

Provide Care Inc.
www.providecare.com

Psych North
www.psychnorthmn.com

QMedic
www.qmedichealth.com

Residential Services, Inc (RSI)
www.residentialservices.org

REM Arrowhead, Inc
sevitahealth.com

Rural AIDS Action Network (RAAN)
www.raan.org

Safe Transitions
www.SafeTransitions.org

Sagent Behavioral Health
www.sagentbh.com

St. Scholastica Monastery
duluthbenedictines.org

Supportive Living Solutions
www.gosupportive.com

**University of Minnesota institute on
Community Integration**
**www.facebook.com/Instituteon
CommunityIntegration**

University of Wisconsin-Superior
**uwsuper.edu/coming-soon-master-
of-social-work**

Udac, Inc
www.udac.org

UMD Department of Social Work
**cehsp.d.umn.edu/departments-centers/
departments/sw**

Vinland National Center
www.vinlandcenter.org

12:30pm - Session 2

20	Dogs as healers: How relationships with dogs help improve health and reduce stigma	 French River	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
21	How I Learned to Pause Charting and Love the Client	 Gooseberry Falls 1	 Non-virtual	
22	We're Better Together: Reducing Silos to Best Serve the Community	 Gooseberry Falls 2	 Non-virtual	
23	Lay of the Land: Encouraging Signs and Persistent Challenges Dot the Terrain of America's Evolving Drug Use Epidemic	 Gooseberry Falls 3	 Non-virtual	
24	Closing Gaps for Older Adults: The Role of Independent Patient Advocacy	 Harborside 202	 Non-virtual	
25	Bridging the Mind-Body Connection: Somatics and Mindfulness for Lasting Clinical Change	 Harborside 203	 Non-virtual	
26	Dementia Essentials From Crisis to Connection: A Turning Point in the Dementia Journey	 Harborside 204	 Non-virtual	
27	Integrated Care: Women at the Intersection of Child Protection, Corrections, and Substance Use	 Harborside 205	 Non-virtual	
28	A Pathway Home: A Person-Centered approach to Outreach and Engagement	 Harborside 301-302	 Non-virtual	
29	Ten Mindset Shifts for Leadership Success	 Harborside 303	 Non-virtual	
30	Understanding The 8 Dimensions of Wellness to Improve Overall Health and Vitality by Balancing Mind, Body, and Spirit	 Harborside 304	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
31	Pornography and Youth: Understanding and Responding to Current and Changing Trends	 Harborside 305	 Non-virtual	
32	Beyond the Hero's Journey: Redefining Resilience, Reclaiming Wellbeing, and Creating Pathways for Collective Wellbeing and Resistance Against Structural Harm	 Lake Superior Ballroom J	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
33	Adopting AI Practices: Opportunities and Risks	 Lake Superior Ballroom K	 Virtual	
34	Mental Health benefits of nerd fandoms	 Lake Superior Ballroom L	 Virtual	
35	The Story I Almost Believed: What Failure Taught Me About Leadership, Life, and Letting Go	 Lake Superior Ballroom MN	 Virtual	
36	Power of Our Story	 Lake Superior Ballroom O	 Virtual	
37	Supporting informed decision making in housing for people with disabilities: Leveraging Housing Benefits 101	 Split Rock	 Non-virtual	
38	"Yes, You Still Have Rights" Legal Rights of Minnesota Inmates with Disabilities	 St. Louis River Room	 Virtual	

20 Dogs as healers: How relationships with dogs help improve health and reduce stigma

 **French River**  **Non-virtual**  **Clinical Hours**

This workshop will discuss how relationships with dogs help improve physical and mental health outcomes in personal relationships, when used in peer-to-peer/community support/crisis roles, and when used in therapy settings. We will also discuss current programs/policies related to canine-assisted therapy and first responders. Therapy dogs will be present for this workshop.

Presented by Nicole Collins, MSW, Clinical Director, Ashley Rhoads, MSW, CEO, Bailey, Homstad, MSW, CEO and Austin Snyder-Lehn, Office Manager, Birch and Pine Counseling

21 How I Learned to Pause Charting and Love the Client

 **Gooseberry Falls 1**  **Non-virtual**

What does it mean to truly see the person in front of you? This workshop uses the methods of narrative medicine to practice the kind of sustained, open attention that transforms a clinical encounter. Through guided engagement with a short text and facilitated reflection, participants will explore the gap between assessment and presence — and what it costs our clients when we confuse the two.

No background in literature or the humanities required, only a willingness to slow down. Participants will leave with a concrete framework for bringing narrative awareness into everyday practice and a renewed sense of what it means to meet the people they serve.

Presented by Brandi Moxley, RN, MSN, Monarch Healthcare Management

22 We're Better Together: Reducing Silos to Best Serve the Community

 **Gooseberry Falls 2**  **Non-virtual**

Being asked to do more with less has become a common occurrence for many of us; siloing within and across systems adds to our own workloads and can reduce access to services. The Mesabi Behavioral Health Network (MBHN) found a way to bring together community partners across North St. Louis County to expand access to comprehensive, person centered services and resources for mental health and wellbeing by strengthening collaboration across our communities. Learn more about what they've learned in structuring the network, finding ways to effectively address needs in North St. Louis County, and even reducing waitlists for behavioral health services.

Join us and hear directly from our panel of network members about what it is like to be part of a collaborative. What brings them to the table each month? What does the community stand to gain?

Presented by Kelly Sather, MSW, LICSW, Social Service Supervisor, St. Louis County PHHS, Cassandra Hainey, BA, Mesabi Behavioral Health Network Coordinator, Range Mental Health Center

23 Lay of the Land: Encouraging Signs and Persistent Challenges Dot the Terrain of America's Evolving Drug Use Epidemic

 **Gooseberry Falls 3**  **Non-virtual**

Although fentanyl's contribution to the overdose crisis has dominated the national conversation for over a decade, overdoses involving stimulants—alone and in combination with fentanyl—have increased and are gaining more attention. Because overdose data do not fully capture the scope of illicit stimulant use in the U.S., the analysis of over 1.6 million clinical UDT specimens collected from adults with a substance use disorder (SUD), discussed in this presentation, provides insight into the broader picture of illicit stimulant and fentanyl use—each in total and in combination with one another—between January 2016 and November 2025.

Presented by Kelly Olson, PhD, Director, Clinical Affairs, Millennium Health

24 Closing Gaps for Older Adults: The Role of Independent Patient Advocacy

 Harborside 202  Non-virtual

Independent patient health advocates play a critical role in helping older adults and their families navigate complex healthcare systems, especially during times of crisis or transition. This workshop will explore how advocacy supports care coordination, reduces hospitalizations, and helps older adults remain safely in their homes and communities. Participants will gain a clear understanding of what independent advocates do, how they complement—not duplicate—existing services, and when a referral is most appropriate. Through real-world examples, attendees will learn how advocacy can ease the burden on care teams and case managers, improve client outcomes, and support overwhelmed caregivers. The session will also highlight practical strategies for collaboration and referral pathways.

Presented by Sarah Beehler, PhD, BCPA, CSA, Owner & Founder, Zenith Health Advocates

25 Bridging the Mind-Body Connection: Somatics and Mindfulness for Lasting Clinical Change

 Harborside 203  Non-virtual

Many clients develop meaningful cognitive insight yet remain stuck in persistent emotional and physiological patterns. This presentation explores how integrating somatics and mindfulness can help bridge that gap, supporting more durable and embodied change. Participants will examine how awareness functions as an active mechanism with potential to re-shape neural pathways and behavior, and how this process can be intentionally leveraged in clinical work. Through a brief didactic overview, clinical examples, and guided experiential practice, attendees will gain a practical framework for helping themselves and clients reconnect with their bodies, regulate their nervous systems, and translate insight into meaningful, sustained change.

Presented by Neil Rasmussen, B.S. Exercise Science, M.S. Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Integrative Mental Health Counselor, Northern Edge Counseling (Duluth)

26 Dementia Essentials From Crisis to Connection: A Turning Point in the Dementia Journey

 Harborside 204  Non-virtual

Dementia doesn't just affect the person living with it—it reshapes the entire family system. Many caregivers find themselves overwhelmed, reacting to situations they don't understand, and making decisions in crisis mode. Dementia Essentials is a grant-funded, community-based program that changes that.

This session explores how a shift in thinking, planning, and feeling moves caregivers and professionals from crisis-driven responses to meaningful connection. Grounded in real-life application and measurable outcomes, this approach helps caregivers understand brain change, adjust expectations, and respond in ways that reduce distress and build trust.

With 85% of participants reporting repeated use of strategies and 92% integrating program language into daily interactions, Dementia Essentials demonstrates that meaningful change is not only possible—it is measurable. Participants will leave with practical tools, language, and perspective shifts they can immediately apply to improve communication, reduce resistance, and better support both caregivers and the people they serve.

Presented by Krisie Barron, LSW, BSW, Caregiver and Human Specialist, Embrace LLC; Diane Kittelson, BSW, Social Worker, Caregiver Coach, Western Prairie Human Services

27 Integrated Care: Women at the Intersection of Child Protection, Corrections, and Substance Use

 **Harborside 205**  **Non-virtual**

Women involved in child protection, corrections, and substance use systems often navigate complex, overlapping challenges that are too frequently addressed in isolation. This fragmentation can lead to gaps in care, delayed access to services, and poorer outcomes for women and their families.

This fireside chat brings together leaders from family treatment, child protection, and probation to explore the realities women face at the intersection of these systems. Through a candid, cross-sector conversation, panelists will highlight where systems align, where they fall short, and what becomes possible when collaboration is intentional. Participants will gain insight into how integrated, person-centered approaches can improve engagement, reduce system duplication, and support more sustainable recovery and family stability.

Presented by Gina Evans, BA, Director of Government Relations, Mn Adult & Teen Challenge; Sadie Hosley, MA, LPC, President, Recovering Hope Treatment Center; Dani Aune MA, LPCC, LADC, Chief Program Officer, RS Eden; Karen Klabunde, B.S in Public Relations/Speech Comm., Center Director, Wellcome Manor Family Services

28 A Pathway Home: A Person-Centered approach to Outreach and Engagement

 **Harborside 301-302**  **Non-virtual**

Moving Home Minnesota (MHM), aims to give people more choice and control over where they live and how they receive care. It provides services that standard Medical Assistance or waivers do not cover to help with the transition to independence.

This workshop will offer an overview of Moving Home Minnesota including services, eligibility, and the application process; strategies, examples, and success stories of utilizing a No Wrong Door approach for outreach and engagement; and lessons learned on the importance of providing person centered education for people living in long term care.

Presented by Zach Johnson, Outreach and Engagement Specialist, Department of Human Services, Transitions, Tribal & Transformation Division; Emma Shepard, Gerontology and Public Health, Self-Advocacy Specialist, Department of Human Services, Office of Ombudsman for Long-Term Care

29 Ten Mindset Shifts for Leadership Success

 **Harborside 303**  **Non-virtual**

This leadership-focused session explores ten core mindset shifts demonstrated by highly successful leaders. Participants will complete a ten-point leadership self-assessment and discuss strategies for strengthening each of the ten key traits. Some checklist keys include: perception of time management, professional image, being a light spreader, mentorship, spotting talent in others and continuous learning. See how you stack up?

Presented by Michael Kiefer, Ph.D. Behavioral Psychology, Professional Speaker/ Life Coach/ Author, Powermind Systems Inc.; Heidi Allen, B.S. Engineering, Professional Speaker/ Life Coach/ Manufacturing Executive, Steinwall Inc.

30 Understanding The 8 Dimensions of Wellness to Improve Overall Health and Vitality by Balancing Mind, Body, and Spirit

 **Harborside 304**  **Non-virtual**

Do you or your clients feel out of sync? Do you or your clients want to investigate how to balance mind, body, and spirit? This interactive presentation is designed to explore the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)'s 8 Dimensions of Wellness. Examine an eight-piece framework for holistic well-being: physical, emotional, occupational, environmental, financial, social, intellectual, and spiritual. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of each dimension, reflect on ways to support them, and apply this knowledge to their personal lives or community work.

Presented by Rachel Hasbargen-Glowack, MA English and BAA Teaching English Language Arts and Spanish, Mental Health Educator & Suicide Prevention Trainer, Rachel on the River LLC

31 Pornography and Youth: Understanding and Responding to Current and Changing Trends

 Harborside 305  Non-virtual

With a national increase in access to the internet and AI, teens and adults now have more exposure to violent and harmful pornography. This increase in access not only creates harm to youth but is, at times, used in child sexual abuse as a method of manipulation and further abuse. As professionals, it is important to communicate effectively with youth and caregivers about the internet and its relationship to personal safety. This session will discuss the impact of porn/AI on youth, the role of porn/AI usage in the process of victim manipulation and grooming, and harm reduction for youth access to porn/AI.

Presented by Gracie Getschel, BA, Criminology BA, Biochemistry, Prevention Education Coordinator, Senior Family Advocate and Trainer, and Megan Prouty, Bachelors of Social Work, Senior Forensic Interviewer and Training & Outreach Specialist, First Witness Child Advocacy Center

32 Beyond the Hero's Journey: Redefining Resilience, Reclaiming Wellbeing, and Creating Pathways for Collective Wellbeing and Resistance Against Structural Harm

 Lake Superior Ballroom J  Virtual  Clinical Hours

Resilience is generally defined as one's ability to return to stability and typical levels of functioning following exposure to adversity, stress, or trauma. Indeed, stories of becoming a better version of one's self as a result of overcoming life's challenges, or the "hero's journey," are common and beloved in the United States. However, these narratives can fail to account for adversity and trauma that are multi-generational, ongoing, pervasive, and structurally embedded in policies and dominant cultural norms. This session will explore current research and narratives that expand our understanding of "resilience" to include lived experiences of those impacted by harms resulting from marginalization and oppression. Discussion will center voices of those who identify experiences beyond the term "resilience" and call us into broader appreciation for the variety of ways diverse groups of people create their own pathways to wellbeing in the face of disproportionate exposure to harm that include community-based, spiritual, culturally specific, and politically strategic ways to survive, thrive, resist, and persist.

Presented by Jillian Wright, MPS, LPCC, LADC, Associate Director of Community Engagement, Center for Practice Transformation at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

**Supporting families
and their caregivers
since 2005.**

- CFSS – Both Agency and Budget Models
- PCA Choice
- FMS
- 245D Basic Homemaker Services



BEST CARE
YOUR CARE. YOUR WAY.

651.330.2550
bestcaremn.com



33 Adopting AI Practices: Opportunities and Risks

 Lake Superior Ballroom K  Virtual

AI tools are reshaping our daily lives, creating new opportunities and new risks. This session examines current AI tools, the skills needed to effectively apply these tools, and the harms these technologies pose. Presenters will provide examples of AI solutions and introduce a practical framework to help practitioners evaluate when AI supports client growth and practitioner effectiveness and when it is disruptive to its intended purpose.

Presented by Dave Swenson, PhD LP, Psychologist, Brandon Olson, PhD, PMP, Professor, College of St. Scholastica

34 Mental Health benefits of nerd fandoms

 Lake Superior Ballroom L  Virtual

Often the term “nerd” has a negative connotation and related consequences related to ostracization, bullying, and withdrawal from community and social interactions. However, nerd fandoms can have a significant positive impact on mental health for historically marginalized or ostracized individuals and groups. With the societal move away from traditional clubs, sports, and civic community groups, organizations that support gaming, collecting, and fan groups for various genres, such as sci-fi, fantasy, anime, video gaming, role playing, and others have risen to take the place of more traditional sports and clubs. As such, it is wise for communities and schools to recognize this shift, respond to it, and support a growing community of nerd groups and the support that they can provide. This workshop will primarily focus on children and young adult groups, resources and how we can respond and encourage the mental wellness of people who connect with these groups.

Presented by Stephen Kaarbo, Master of Education, President MNSWCA.org/ Mental Health Therapist (LPCC), MNSWCA.org; Kasey Crowley, MSED, LPCC, Therapist, Northwood Children's Services

35 The Story I Almost Believed: What Failure Taught Me About Leadership, Life, and Letting Go

 Lake Superior Ballroom MN  Virtual

Most of us carry stories about ourselves that were written during moments of disappointment, failure, criticism, or self-doubt. Stories that whisper, “You’re not ready,” “You’re not enough,” or “You should have done better.” Over time, those stories can become the lens through which we view our leadership, our relationships, and our potential.

In this engaging and reflective session, leadership trainer and storyteller Jennifer May shares candid personal and professional experiences that challenged long-held assumptions about success, failure, confidence, and growth. Through storytelling, discussion, and practical reflection activities, participants will explore how the meaning we attach to setbacks often shapes us more than the setbacks themselves. Participants will leave with practical strategies for reframing setbacks, quieting the inner critic, supporting growth in others, and leading with greater authenticity and understanding.

Presented by Jennifer May, MA/BA, Vice President, STAR Services

36 Power of Our Story

 Lake Superior Ballroom O  Virtual

This workshop centers the voices of current and former foster youth who are actively working on advocate for meaningful, youth-informed improvements to the system. Drawing from their personal experiences, participants highlight not only their resilience and leadership, but also the critical role professional relationships have played in their lives. Trusted relationships with social workers, counselors, mentors, educators, and other caring professionals have often been key sources of stability, guidance, and encouragement during times of uncertainty.

The workshop provides space for youth to reflect on how consistent, respectful, and trauma-informed professional relationships can positively shape outcomes, self-worth, and long-term success. Through storytelling, discussion, and advocacy skill-building, the Youth Leadership Council demonstrates how lived experience can drive policy change.

Presented by Jennifer Mulligan, Youth Advocate, Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency

37 Supporting informed decision making in housing for people with disabilities: Leveraging Housing Benefits 101

 Split Rock  Non-virtual

This session explores informed decision-making in housing for people with disabilities, with a focus on practical tools and real-world application. Participants will learn how to navigate complex housing options by leveraging Housing Benefits 101, a comprehensive resource designed to clarify eligibility, costs, and supports. The session will highlight common challenges individuals face when balancing affordability, accessibility, and long-term stability. Through case examples, attendees will gain strategies to support person-centered choices that align with individual goals and needs. Emphasis will be placed on empowering individuals and professionals with accurate, up-to-date information to reduce risk and uncertainty. By the end,

participants will be better equipped to guide and support informed housing decisions that promote independence and quality of life.

Presented by Rajean Moone, PhD, Consultant, Heidi Sandberg, BSW, MPA, Program Consultant, and Bethany Schwerr, BA, Community Living Infrastructure Specialist, Minnesota Department of Human Services

38 "Yes, You Still Have Rights" Legal Rights of Minnesota Inmates with Disabilities

 St. Louis River  Virtual

People with disabilities who are incarcerated do not lose their civil and human rights at the prison or jail door. Federal protections including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and other human rights laws continue to apply within correctional settings. Yet many incarcerated individuals with disabilities and the people supporting them are unaware of these protections or face significant barriers in accessing accommodations, advocacy, and meaningful support.

Across Minnesota, there has been a growing increase in inquiries related to disability accommodations and rights violations within correctional facilities. Families, advocates, service providers, and community organizations are seeking tools, guidance, and pathways to help individuals navigate these systems safely and effectively. Together, we recognize the urgent need to increase education, strengthen advocacy capacity, and provide practical resources that empower communities to respond when disability rights are overlooked in correctional settings.

Presented by Amanda Crosby, Bachelor's of Science, Executive Director, Arc Northland; Chad Wilson, Juris Doctor, Attorney, Minnesota Disability Law Center

39	The South St. Louis Veterans Treatment Court	 French River	 Non-virtual	
40	What to Know in the Housing Support Program This Year	 Gooseberry Falls 1	 Non-virtual	
41	Overcoming OCD - My journey, practice, and treatment	 Gooseberry Falls 2	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
42	Connection Creates Calm: Trauma-Informed De-Escalation	 Gooseberry Falls 3	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
43	Stop Calling It Burnout: Recognizing Moral Injury in Human Services	 Harborside 202	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
44	Mental Health: You don't have to be a professional to help.	 Harborside 203	 Non-virtual	
45	Start Seeing Eating Disorders: Increasing Awareness of Eating Disorders in Public Health System	 Harborside 204	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
46	The Benefits of People Planning Together	 Harborside 205	 Non-virtual	
47	Crisis and Neurodiversity	 Harborside 301-302	 Non-virtual	
48	Smooth: Emotional Intelligence in High Stress Workplaces with Challenging Clients	 Harborside 303	 Non-virtual	
49	Assessment Guide on Father Inclusive Practices	 Harborside 304	 Non-virtual	
50	Centering Empathy in Your Work: A Strengths-Based Approach to Working with Parents & Caregivers	 Harborside 305	 Non-virtual	
51	Grace Under Pressure: Emotional Intelligence Tools for the Work That Wears on You	 Lake Superior Ballroom J	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
52	Becoming Grief-Informed: Understanding the layered realities of suicide bereavement	 Lake Superior Ballroom K	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
53	The Basics of Clinical Supervision	 Lake Superior Ballroom L	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
54	Decrease Anxiety and Increase Ability to Handle Dilemmas	 Lake Superior Ballroom MN	 Virtual	
55	NCJFCJ Trauma-Informed Courtroom Practices and Managing Trauma-Activation with Co-Parenting AppsOutline	 Lake Superior Ballroom O	 Virtual	
56	Child Welfare at the Crossroads: Anti-Oppressive Practice with Refugee and Immigrant Families	 Split Rock	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
57	Teen Dating Violence: The Importance of a Child Advocacy Center Approach	 St. Louis River Room	 Virtual	

39 The South St. Louis Veterans Treatment Court

 French River  Non-virtual

The South St. Louis Veterans Treatment Court is a trauma-informed, treatment-focused, that has been designed to assist veterans with a healing and re-establishing environment for our veterans to get back into the communities. The South St. Louis Veterans Treatment Court assists by treating veterans with dignity, acting with diligence, and providing the resources by which the veterans can start to rebuild their lives. Additionally, the Court seeks to break the cycle of addiction, criminal behavior, and instead replace it with the ability to empower the veterans on their journey to be productive citizens. In this session we will be discussing a brief history of the Veteran court, the process of referrals, how the court works, the treatment court team, the treatment court rules (to include both sanctions and incentives), program phasis, veteran resources, and the advantages of being part of the treatment court. Lastly, we will discuss the roles of the probation officer and social worker team dynamics with the veterans.

Presented by Livingston Faircloth, Licensed Graduate Social Worker (LGSW), Social Worker (Veterans), St. Louis County; Thomas Florestano, BA in Criminology and Sociology, Probation Officer, Arrowhead Regional Corrections; Sheridy Lortez, Master of Social Work, Veterans Court Coordinator, Sixth Judicial District

40 What to Know in the Housing Support Program This Year

 Gooseberry Falls 1  Non-virtual

We plan to cover details on the Certified Recovery Residences transition to DHS holding the agreements with Level 2 providers; over How to get Community Settings in your county/community if you are in Greater MN and have not yet added a provider in that area; and New Housing Support on-demand training options.

Presented by Karina Lutze, Master of Science, Housing Support Program, Maiah Uhrich, Housing Support Program Supervisor, State of MN- DHS

41 Overcoming OCD - My journey, practice, and treatment

 Gooseberry Falls 2  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) is one of the most debilitating diagnoses an individual can experience, it can take an average of 14 to 17 years to get a proper diagnosis. As a lived experience psychotherapist I am passionate about ensuring that individuals in the community know how to assess for OCD and treat it in an appropriate/ethical manner.

In this workshop we will explore how OCD can present in clients, psychoeducation on OCD subtypes and various compulsions, overlap with other diagnoses, and evidenced based treatment modalities for OCD (ERP and I-CBT to name a few).

Presented by Rebekah Dockendorf, Master of Clinical Social Work, Psychotherapist, Two Rivers Counseling - Duluth

42 Connection Creates Calm: Trauma-Informed De-Escalation

 Gooseberry Falls 3  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

The x-factor of human services work, calm in a crisis, requires intention and practice. In this session we will use a neurobiology lens and the evidence-based practice of Trauma-Informed Care to help de-escalate real-world situations and minimize risk of re-traumatization. Build on your communication skills and add new de-escalation approaches for a strategy that begins PRE-escalation. Join in as we apply the model of Trauma-Informed Care to manage the moment when unique situations require unique responses.

Presented by Ray Young, BA Communication Studies, Certified Peer Specialist, Motivational Speaker, Peer Leadership Impact

43 Stop Calling It Burnout: Recognizing Moral Injury in Human Services

 Harborside 202  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Across behavioral health and social service systems, the term burnout is frequently used to describe the emotional exhaustion experienced by professionals working in high-stress environments. However, many clinicians report something deeper than fatigue or workload stress.

Moral injury occurs when professionals feel forced to participate in, witness, or tolerate actions that conflict with their professional ethics, values, or commitment to client well-being. In human services, this can emerge through resource scarcity, administrative constraints, policy barriers, or organizational expectations that limit a clinician's ability to act in the best interests of clients. Over time, this conflict can erode professional identity, contribute to compassion fatigue, and drive workforce attrition across behavioral health systems.

This workshop explores the concept of moral injury within social work and behavioral health practice and examines how it differs from traditional understandings of burnout and secondary trauma.

Presented by Carmichael Finn, MA, LMFT, LADC, AACR-MN, Executive Director, Recovering Hope Treatment Center

44 Mental Health: You don't have to be a professional to help.

 Harborside 203  Non-virtual

This is an interactive presentation that touches on the basics of mental health and how everyday people can "Be There" for someone who may be struggling. Basic skills and resources are shared as well as opportunities to more deeply build skills that will empower you to be there for someone.

Presented by Casey Mickelson, Bachelors of science- Exercise Science Public Health Educator II, Donovan Doffing, Bachelors of Applied Human Science- Public Health, Health Educator I, Kyra Kjeldahl, Bachelors of Art- Global Health, Health Educator II, and Joshua Gorham, MA in Exercise Physiology and BS in Nursing, Program Coordinator- Community Health Unit- Mental Health, St. Louis County Public Health

45 Start Seeing Eating Disorders: Increasing Awareness of Eating Disorders in Public Health System

 Harborside 204  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

This workshop is a collection of three years of undergrad research and a lived experience centering around eating disorders. The presentation includes systemic understandings and barrier, diagnoses criteria, treatment methodologies and historical/cultural impacts. This is all woven together through stories of personal experiences of living with and receiving treatment for ARFID, avoidant restrictive feeding intake disorder.

Presented by Lily Mead, Bachelor of Science and Social Work, Pruitt Center Intern and Peer Ambassador, UW-Superior: Pruitt Center for Mindfulness and Well-Being

46 The Benefits of People Planning Together

 Harborside 205  Non-virtual

The best Person-Centered plans are developed by the people who live them. Join us to hear about People Planning Together! This session gives information about a new approach to Person-Centered planning. People Planning Together is a self-advocate lead, two-day workshop that puts people in charge of their own planning! People develop their own plan in their own voice working with Person-Centered tools, learning conversations, and lived experience. We will share stories of the power of planning, hear from self-advocates who facilitate the sessions, and share when and where these opportunities are taking place. These workshops are happening now across the state and you or someone you know could benefit.

Presented by Jennifer Steger, BA Sociology, Program Director, Melissa Weber, Program Director, Jake Peterson, Program Supervisor, Henry Batjes, Self-Advocate, and Jeffrey Arfman Self-Advocate, Trillium Services

47 Crisis and Neurodiversity

 Harborside 301-302  Non-virtual

This workshop focuses on the intersection of crisis intervention and neurodiversity, highlighting how neurodivergent people may experience, express, and respond to crisis differently. With a closer look at autism, ADHD, OCD, and other neurodivergent experiences, participants will learn how neurodiversity can impact crisis presentation, escalation, and de-escalation. The workshop is designed to strengthen crisis response by increasing understanding of neurodivergent needs, offering practical, actionable strategies for interventions, and sharing best practices that are trauma-informed, neuro-affirming, and grounded in lived experience.

Presented by Cheyenne Ver Voort, Masters in Education, Behavior Analysis, Care Manager, Self-Employed

Workshop participants will generate specific strategies to establish and implement a more father-friendly environment and father-inclusive practices and procedures.

Presented by Neil Tift, M.A. in Counseling Psychology, Agency Assessment on Father Inclusive Practices, Native American Fatherhood & Families Association

48 Smooth: Emotional Intelligence in High Stress Workplaces with Challenging Clients

 Harborside 303  Non-virtual

Working in high stress environments with challenging clients can feel like riding in a small boat through choppy waters. It's unstable. It's uncomfortable. It's unpredictable. It can even make you feel nauseated with dread. It doesn't have to be that way. In a profession that requires grit to navigate difficult situations, growth to strengthen our skills, and grace for the people we serve and ourselves, emotional intelligence can help smooth out those choppy waters. In this training you will learn emotional intelligence techniques to smooth out those choppy waters, turning turbulent days into manageable, productive ones.

Presented by Josh Dye, Master's Degree in Public & Nonprofit Administration, President & Founder, Convene Training

49 Assessment Guide on Father Inclusive Practices

 Harborside 304  Non-virtual

Are you comfortable with your agency's approach to recruiting and serving fathers and men in families? The Assessment Guide provides a comprehensive tool for agency staff, at all levels, to examine their programs, policies, practices, and procedures that may inadvertently preclude fathers from benefiting from your services.



Asura
Homecare Advisors



We connect people with
the tools, information,
and services they need
to live their best life.

Learn more at Asura.org



50 Centering Empathy in Your Work: A Strengths-Based Approach to Working with Parents & Caregivers

 Harborside 305  Non-virtual

This session highlights the importance of leading with empathy and understanding when working with parents whose families are now a part of systems. We will be taking a closer look at how we, as professionals, can use a strength-based approach to successfully assist families who are navigating a disclosure of child maltreatment. Attendees will also learn how to understand their biases when working with parents of different backgrounds, cultures, and experiences. Lastly, we will explore different techniques that can be used with members of a multidisciplinary team, to assist in expressing the crucial role that empathy plays in our work with parents and caregivers.

Presented by Ava Scheffler, BA in Criminology, Minor in Psychology, Family Advocate & Trainer, First Witness Child Advocacy Center

51 Grace Under Pressure: Emotional Intelligence Tools for the Work That Wears on You

 Lake Superior Ballroom J  Virtual  Clinical Hours

Most people in human services don't burn out because they don't care. They burn out because they care deeply and carry too much for too long without proper tools to process the weight. In this practical workshop participants get time to pause and reflect on common stress triggers and then learn new tools to impact their everyday situations and to grow their emotional intelligence. This session ties to the conference overall theme of having GRIT to keep showing up, GROWTH to learn how to show up differently, and GRACE to give yourself and others room to be human while choosing a better response.

Emotional intelligence is a research-based, neuroscience-grounded skill set that helps people recognize what is happening in their brain and body under stress, regulate their response, and choose communication that builds trust instead of tension.

Presented by Nicole Karnowski, Masters in Christian Counseling/B.S. Broadcast News, and Michael Karnowski, B.S. Mechanical & Industrial Engineering/Doctorate Physical Therapy, Business Coaches/Consultants, Metamorphosis Coaching, Consulting, and Training

52 Becoming Grief-Informed: Understanding the layered realities of suicide bereavement

 Lake Superior Ballroom K  Virtual  Clinical Hours

Suicide bereavement is often understood primarily through its emotional impact; however, survivors frequently experience layered physiological, cognitive, relational, existential, and sociocultural responses following the loss of a loved one to suicide. Informed by contemporary grief theory, neurobiology, meaning reconstruction, and grief companioning approaches, this presentation explores how becoming more grief-informed can deepen clinical attunement, reduce stigma, and strengthen trauma-informed responses to suicide loss.

Presenters will examine experiences associated with suicide bereavement. Panel members with lived experience will share reflections on how grief evolves over time and discuss experiences of feeling seen, misunderstood, supported, or accompanied in the aftermath of suicide loss. Participants will be invited toward greater grief literacy and the application of grief-informed and companioning approaches that support attuned, compassionate engagement across practice settings.

Presented by Deb Semmelroth, DNP, MSW, LICSW, CT, Owner/Psychotherapist, facilitator, educator, Selah Center for Grief & Loss; Seth Gamst, Cassie Morris, and Walt Pfister, BA: sociology & criminology, Support group members

53 The Basics of Clinical Supervision

 Lake Superior Ballroom L  Virtual  Clinical Hours

The focus of providing and receiving supervision has expanded; not only is supervision identified as a best practice for service delivery to clients, there are also has legal implications as identified in various state rule requirements. This session will provide a basic overview of the four domains of Clinical Supervision, will highlight what a supervisee can expect from supervision and the supervisee's "bill of rights".

Presented by Karen Edens, BA, MPH, President & Director of Training, Edens Group Training Center

54 Decrease Anxiety and Increase Ability to Handle Dilemmas

 Lake Superior Ballroom MN  Virtual

Anxiety and moral challenges are creating dysfunction at unprecedented levels. Leaders who can decrease stress, recognize moral dilemmas, and handle challenges with integrity promote healthy, effective teams. This session provides strategies to lower anxiety, promote purpose, and effectively deal with ethical challenges. We will consider the dynamics of anxiety from a systems perspective and how to use it as a force for good while navigating difficult situations. Participants will discover ways to decrease anxiety, handle challenges with integrity, counter moral fatigue, and expand team effectiveness.

Packed full of strategies, my workshops and book "Resilient and Sustainable Caring: Your Guide to Thrive While Helping Others" are based on proven theories and conversations with people in helping roles around the world. My interactive style engages humor, practical learning, and discussion.

Presented by Dr. Karen Schuder, EdD, MDiv, MAM, Resilient and Sustainable Caring

55 NCJFCJ Trauma-Informed Courtroom Practices and Managing Trauma-Activation with Co-Parenting AppsOutline

 Lake Superior Ballroom O  Virtual

Judges and system stakeholders must have a shared understanding of trauma and how it affects the behavior of the youth and families involved in the court system. It is essential that they also have the capacity to respond effectively to victims of trauma by creating a healing environment that promotes safety, agency, and meaningful social connections. Learn about the National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) Trauma-Informed Courtroom Practices BenchCard, and how OurFamilyWizard (OFW) features can help litigants manage trauma-activation.

Presented by Racheal Howitz, BFA, Rule 114 Qualified Neutral, NCJFCJ Trauma-Informed Courtroom Practices and Managing Trauma-Activation with Co-Parenting Apps, OurFamilyWizard

56 Child Welfare at the Crossroads: Anti-Oppressive Practice with Refugee and Immigrant Families

 Split Rock  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Refugee and immigrant families are increasingly involved in child welfare systems across the United States, including Minnesota. While child welfare involvement is often framed as a response to concerns about child safety, research suggests that system contact is frequently shaped by structural inequities rather than intentional harm by caregivers. This interactive training will be facilitated by 5 social workers with extensive child welfare experience in the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Florida who will work in facilitated breakout groups to analyze real-world inspired scenarios involving refugee and immigrant families interfacing with the child welfare system. This training will aid professionals working with this community in understanding the role of the worker in promoting dignity and engaging in anti-oppressive practice. Attendees will leave with a keener understanding and consideration of power differentials and ethical considerations that will support their work with immigrant and refugee families.

Presented by Julie Jones-Svatos, B.S. Psychology, Social Worker, St. Louis County and current UMD MSW Child Welfare Scholar; Caitlen Christensen, BS Psychology, Social Worker, UMD MSW Child Welfare Scholar, previous child welfare worker in FL with certification; Andrea Larson, BS Human Services, Social Worker (extensive experience in Initial Intervention and Ongoing Case management for Child Protection), St. Louis County Child Protection and UMD MSW Child Welfare Scholar; Ashley Maki, BS Psychology and current MSW student at UMD, Social Worker, Previous Child Welfare Social Worker for Bayfield County, Wisconsin; Cory Mooney, BS Psychology, Social Worker/Safety Planner, St. Louis County Children & Family Services

57 Teen Dating Violence: The Importance of a Child Advocacy Center Approach

 St. Louis River  Virtual

This workshop will discuss the prevalence of teen dating violence in our community. There will be a focus on the importance to forensically interviewing teenagers who are survivors of teen dating violence, as well as providing individualized advocacy services to the teenagers and their caregivers. Using a child advocacy center model and a multidisciplinary team model, this presentation will also highlight the dynamics of teen dating violence nationally.

Presented by Tyra Jaramillo-Kraemer, BA in Criminology, MBA in Leadership and Change, Associate Director/Senior Forensic Interviewer, First Witness Child Advocacy Center

58	We Don't All Burn Out! Real Talk from Experienced Child Welfare Staff	 French River	 Non-virtual
59	Never a Safe Bet: The impacts of problem gambling and gambling addiction	 Gooseberry Falls 1	 Non-virtual
60	Reframing Aging: Shifting from Anti-Aging to Anti-Ageism	 Gooseberry Falls 2	 Non-virtual
61	Helping The Helpers: We Support Those Who Support Our Community.	 Gooseberry Falls 3	 Non-virtual  Clinical Hours
62	Estate Planning at End of Life: Issue Spotting and Supporting the Grief Process	 Harborside 202	 Non-virtual
63	Breaking the Chronic Pain Cycle: A Holistic Approach to Lasting Relief	 Harborside 203	 Non-virtual
64	One Client. Five Diagnoses. Now What? Personality-Driven Care for Complex Comorbidity	 Harborside 204	 Non-virtual  Clinical Hours
65	What Actually Helps: Real Talk from Lived Experience	 Harborside 205	 Non-virtual
66	Brain Injury & Corrections	 Harborside 301-302	 Non-virtual  Clinical Hours
67	Grit, Growth and Grace in Action: Building a Culture of Safety Through Courageous Conversations	 Harborside 303	 Non-virtual
68	The Missed Call: Why People Don't Answer—and How to Reach Them	 Harborside 304	 Non-virtual  Clinical Hours
69	When Everything Falls Apart: Supporting Clients While Navigating Complex Systems	 Harborside 305	 Non-virtual  Clinical Hours
70	The Art of Vulnerability	 Lake Superior Ballroom J	 Virtual
71	Keeping the Humanity in AI	 Lake Superior Ballroom K	 Virtual  Clinical Hours
72	Kerry's Life Story – From Guardianship to Independence a Success Story!	 Lake Superior Ballroom L	 Virtual  Clinical Hours
73	Ethics and Critical Decision Making	 Lake Superior Ballroom MN	 Virtual  Clinical Hours
74	Rethinking How We Engage Fathers	 Lake Superior Ballroom O	 Virtual
75	The Roles of Humor in Psychotherapy, Social Work, and Self-Care	 Split Rock	 Non-virtual  Clinical Hours
76	Media and Pop Culture: How Our Culture Impacts Perceptions of Child Abuse and Maltreatment	 St. Louis River Room	 Virtual

58 We Don't All Burn Out! Real Talk from Experienced Child Welfare Staff

 French River  Non-virtual

What makes a child welfare worker resilient? A panel of St. Louis County Child & Family Services employees who have all been in this work for 15+ years will share their perspectives on what has kept them in this important and inherently difficult work, and what keeps them grounded in being able to show up for kids and families in good ways, even after all these years. Grit, Growth and Grace? You betcha!

Presented by Lindsay Sauer, MSW, LGSW, Social Services Supervisor, SLC PHHS

59 Never a Safe Bet: The impacts of problem gambling and gambling addiction

 Gooseberry Falls 1  Non-virtual

As access to gambling and its influences on society and communities increases, the need for problem gambling awareness becomes vital to ensure that those communities remain healthy. The typical gambler, now younger and more diverse, can also be affected by mental health issues, disabilities, substance use disorders, and financial distress. All of which can co-occur with problematic gambling behavior. The blurred lines between gambling and gaming can also cause problems for young people, as well as adults. Social service professionals are in the pivotal position of recognizing the signs of problem gambling and gaming and providing services to those in need. This presentation will include the signs of problem gambling and gaming, the risk factors for those affected by problem gambling, common co-morbidities, treatment and tools that are available, and the concept of low-risk guidelines and other prevention topics.

Presented by Sonja Mertz, MLIS, CPP, Community Educator, Minnesota Alliance on Problem Gambling

60 Reframing Aging: Shifting from Anti-Aging to Anti-Ageism

 Gooseberry Falls 2  Non-virtual

This session examines how ageism—often subtle, systemic, and internalized—shapes policies, services, and everyday interactions in social services. Using principles from the Reframing Aging Initiative, participants will explore how common narratives, language, imagery, and assumptions about aging can reinforce bias and limit opportunities for older adults. Through real-world examples and discussion, attendees will learn practical strategies to reframe aging in ways that promote equity, dignity, and inclusion. The session emphasizes applying strengths-based approaches in communication, program design, and community engagement to help challenge ageist assumptions, influence organizational culture, and build more age-inclusive communities. This session is ideal for social service professionals, advocates, and policymakers committed to advancing equity across the lifespan.

Presented by Rajean Moone, PhD, Associate Director for Policy, UMN Center for Healthy Aging & Innovation; Georgia Lane, BA, MSW, Director of Aging Initiatives, Ecolibrium3; Lori Kangas-Olson, BA, MLIS, MEd, Aging & Community Development Lead, Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging

61 Helping The Helpers: We Support Those Who Support Our Community.

 Gooseberry Falls 3  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Our goal is to help First Responders live longer, healthier, happier lives. This workshop shares the Lake Superior Model for helping first responders combat post-traumatic stress injury through wellness checks, crisis diffusing/debriefing and free confidential support sessions. Participants will learn how our community supports the mental health and resilience of those who serve our communities. Northland Psychological Services was founded in the spirit of collaboration. We believe in holistic methods including therapeutic yoga and exercise, animal assisted interventions with dogs and horses, peer support models and many others. Our clinic is within the First Responder Resource Center. We partner with the Fraternal Order of Police: Lodge 9 and Reinforcement911 to create a first responder-friendly environment.

**Therapy dogs will be present in the workshop.*

Presented by Leslie Chaplin, PhD, LICSW, Psychotherapist, Heather Rose Carlson, PsyD, LP, Owner, Clinical Director, Alex Ross, MA, LPCC, Psychotherapist, Adam Hout, MSW, LICSW, Psychotherapist, and Claire Dzierzak, M.Ed, LPCC, Psychotherapist, Northland Psychological Services

62 Estate Planning at End of Life: Issue Spotting and Supporting the Grief Process

 Harborside 202  Non-virtual

This session offers practical and compassionate guidance for end-of-life care providers on how to identify common legal and estate planning needs that arise as patients approach the end of life. Beyond the legal considerations, this presentation explores how supporting these conversations can also serve as a form of grief support—helping patients and families find a sense of peace, closure, and control during an emotionally charged time. Attendees will gain tools to approach these topics in a trauma-informed, gentle, and ethically sound manner, fostering both clarity and comfort for those they serve.

Presented by Rachel Schromen, Juris Doctor, Founder and Managing Attorney, Schromen Law, LLC

63 Breaking the Chronic Pain Cycle: A Holistic Approach to Lasting Relief

 Harborside 203  Non-virtual

Chronic pain affects individuals across all stages of life and often persists despite traditional treatment approaches. This workshop introduces a holistic, non-invasive method for addressing the root causes of pain by integrating body mechanics, movement awareness, and stress-related patterns. Participants will gain insight into how physical and emotional tension contribute to ongoing discomfort and learn practical techniques to support relief and improved mobility. Through simple, accessible strategies, this session empowers professionals to better support the individuals they serve while also applying these tools for their own well-being.

Presented by Patricia Marchal-Dumont, Certified Myotherapist, Founder & Holistic Pain Relief Specialist, The Five Bodies Wellness Studio

64 One Client. Five Diagnoses. Now What? Personality-Driven Care for Complex Comorbidity

 Harborside 204  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Today's clinicians are increasingly working with clients who present with multiple overlapping diagnoses, chronic treatment histories, emotional dysregulation, trauma, substance use, relationship instability, and significant functional impairment. While mental health treatment is often organized around individual diagnoses, many clients do not fit neatly into a single category, leaving clinicians struggling to create coherent and effective treatment plans.

This workshop introduces a personality-driven approach to understanding and treating complex comorbidity across mental health and substance use disorders. Drawing from contemporary dimensional models of personality and psychopathology, participants will explore how underlying personality patterns shape emotional experiences, coping strategies, interpersonal functioning, treatment engagement, relapse risk, and symptom presentation across diagnoses.

Presented by Tanya Freedland, MPS, LPCC, LADC, Founder & CEO, ARCS Institute; Robert Krueger, PhD, Distinguished Professor, University of Minnesota

65 What Actually Helps: Real Talk from Lived Experience

 Harborside 205  Non-virtual

This facilitated panel centers lived experience as expertise, creating space for honest conversation about what helps, what harms, and what truly supports change. Rather than an open-ended discussion, this session will be intentionally structured with guided questions that explore themes of trust, stigma, access, and the role of connection in service delivery.

Participants will be invited to reflect on their own roles and engage in guided dialogue that connects panel insights to everyday practice. The session will close with clear, actionable takeaways that attendees can immediately apply in their work.

This session embodies grit, growth, and grace—honoring the realities people face, learning from those experiences, and applying that learning with humility and compassion.

Presented by Cellie Dudley, Co- Executive Director | Director of Programs, Jessica Niemi, Program Support Coordinator, and McCoy Salgy, Team Lead, Recovery Alliance Duluth

66 Brain Injury & Corrections

 Harborside 301-302  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

The purpose of this presentation is to address the intersection between acquired brain injuries (ABI) and incarceration. New research indicates that the percentage of incarcerated individuals with ABI is approximately 60%, and when compared to 8.5% in the general population, it helps to illustrate how ABI disproportionately impacts these communities. Additional studies show that, broadly speaking, ABI survivors have roughly 2.5 times greater odds of being incarcerated. This increased risk is exacerbated by the cognitive and behavioral symptoms that arise as a result of the brain injury; however, due to the invisible nature of brain injury, survivors are often not given the patience and support that would allow them more success in their recovery.

This session is geared towards teaching professionals about the struggles these survivors face, with the goal of reducing recidivism, and ensuring that justice served is appropriate for the survivor.

Presented by Alec Wendelboe, Bachelors of Science in Neuroscience, Education & Community Outreach Coordinator, Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance & Minnesota Stroke Association

67 Grit, Growth and Grace in Action: Building a Culture of Safety Through Courageous Conversations

 Harborside 303  Non-virtual

Human service professionals navigate complex cases, difficult conversations, and emotionally charged environments every day. Yet many organizations lack shared, practical tools for initiating high-stakes conversations that protect clients, strengthen teams, and prevent harm. This interactive session introduces a cross-sector framework for building a culture of safety grounded in psychological safety, protective factors, and structured communication tools.

Grounded in the conference theme of Grit, Growth, and Grace, this workshop explores the courage required to speak up, the skill-building necessary for effective communication, and the grace needed to support colleagues while maintaining high standards of care.

Presented by Cassie Liubakka, BSN, RN, Director, Family Services Collaborative of St. Louis County; Michelle Metzger, BS Psychology, Dean of Students, Mesabi East Schools

68 The Missed Call: Why People Don't Answer—and How to Reach Them

 Harborside 304  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Ever wonder why people don't pick up the phone, return calls, reply to an email, or fill out that form? It's easy to label it as "noncompliance," but the reality is far more complex. Trust, past experiences, communication style, and access barriers all play a role. In this session, we'll unpack what's really behind the silence and explore practical ways to build trust and actually reach the people we're trying to serve. You'll learn from those who share that frustration and have found successful (and failed) ways to reach them. You'll walk away with approaches you can use to increase response rates and engage people in a way that is respectful, accessible, and effective.

Presented by Marina Olson, BA, Sr. Marketing Manager, Circle of Life Home Care

69 When Everything Falls Apart: Supporting Clients While Navigating Complex Systems

 Harborside 305  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

When services are disrupted and systems become difficult to navigate, HHS professionals (e.g., case managers, PCAs, etc) must support clients in complex situations with limited options. Drawing on statewide data and lived experiences from Minnesotans with disabilities, this session examines common patterns of service instability and their impact on daily practice. Participants will be introduced to a practical framework for responding to service disruptions, including how to stabilize situations, adjust plans, and communicate effectively under stress. Through real-world scenarios, participants will explore ethical and culturally responsive approaches to care and leave with strategies they can apply immediately in their work.

Participants will leave with tools to navigate complex systems while continuing to provide effective, client-centered care.

Presented by Joel Runnels, PhD, Minnesota Department of Children, Youth and Families

70 The Art of Vulnerability

 Lake Superior Ballroom J  Virtual

This is a workshop that breaks down the utilization of art, and personal narrative as a methodology to reach and engage the clientele, especially youth clientele. Creating spaces and opportunities for you to be able to share their experiences from their own mouths without it being diminished or tampered with by other people's ideas or concepts. This interactive workshop will have learning activities that Brandon will do with his students, and will teach them how to facilitate workshops and provide open mic opportunities for students to share and create their own stories.

Presented by Brandon Leake, gifted spoken word poet, educator, and impactful motivational speaker, emerged from the challenging environment of south side Stockton, California. As a compelling motivational speaker, his journey is a testament to resilience and the power of artistic expression. He further gained national recognition as the winner of the fifteenth season of America's Got Talent.

will apply core social work ethics to common AI dilemmas and develop practical strategies for responsible use. Attendees will leave better equipped to critically evaluate AI tools and ensure technology augments, not replaces, the human relationships at the core of our work.

Presented by Nick Polovitz, Master of Social Work, LICSW, Essentia Health; Marcus Kubichek, Master of Social Work, LICSW, Monarch Healthcare Management

71 Keeping the Humanity in AI

 Lake Superior Ballroom K  Virtual  Clinical Hours

Artificial intelligence is rapidly transforming health and human services, creating both opportunities and ethical challenges. This interactive presentation examines how AI is used across micro, mezzo, and macro levels of practice, including clinical tools, documentation, and policy applications, while exploring key risks such as algorithmic bias, data privacy, and over-reliance on automation. Through real-world case studies and guided discussion, participants

72 Kerry's Life Story – From Guardianship to Independence a Success Story!

 Lake Superior Ballroom L  Virtual  Clinical Hours

I worked with Kerry for 17 years as her legal guardian. I present with Kerry as she describes in her own words how she went from an abusive childhood, through the foster care system, into adulthood with a guardian and eventually gaining the skills to be restored to capacity. Kerry is very candid about her history, struggles, and work she has done to be successful and reach her goals in life. She discusses how the system failed her, her anger/rebellion and struggles and what it took to get her where she is today. It is a very inspiring presentation of hope and persistence. Kerry and I have presented at MSSA, WINGS and the National Guardianship Conference with very positive reviews.

Presented by Shannon Butler, B.S. in Psychology and Social Work, Nationally Certified Master Guardian, Ethical Solutions LLC, Owner/Director (Guardianship and Conservatorship Agency); Kerry Gerber, Person formerly receiving guardianship services

EOSIS

The Healing Potential of Personalized Care

Detox, Residential and Outpatient Co-Occurring Substance Use and Mental Health Treatment Throughout Minnesota.

- Walk-ins welcome
- In-network with insurance but no insurance required
- Transportation provided
- Specialized Programs
 - Professional program
 - Relapse Program
 - LGBTQIA+
 - Justice-Involved



952-843-4149



AccessTeam@EOSISRecovery.com



73 Ethics and Critical Decision Making

 Lake Superior Ballroom MN  Virtual  Clinical Hours

Ethics and ethical practice have both been long-standing competencies required of helping professionals. Ethical practice is often challenged when resolving an ethical dilemma or compromise. Helping professionals need a critical decision-making model that can be integrated into daily practice.

This session will highlight the core values of ethical practice and provide an effective critical decision-making model that can be adapted to ethical concerns often encountered in the helping professions.

Presented by Karen Edens, BA, MPH, President & Director of Training, Edens Group Training Center

74 Rethinking How We Engage Fathers

 Lake Superior Ballroom O  Virtual

Research clearly indicates that we have better outcomes for children and families when healthy fathers are involved. Yet too many community agencies, government organizations and child welfare systems often overlook fathers when offering family services. This session will examine common barriers to father involvement and propose specific solutions to enhance father engagement in health and human service delivery systems.

Presented by Neil Tift, M.A. in Counseling Psychology, Family Resource Specialist, Native American fatherhood & Families Association

75 The Roles of Humor in Psychotherapy, Social Work, and Self-Care

 Split Rock  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

This workshop examines humor and how it fits within our profession. It will identify humor as being evolutionarily beneficial by examining the research and evidence showing humor's ancient origins. It will identify several primary uses of humor as intervention based on the research about humor in psychotherapy and other professions. It will explore humor's importance in terms of our own self-care regimens as well as identify the importance of encouraging client use of humor in their own self-care, in their emergency planning, and in their daily lives. Along the way, humorous examples of intervention from real-world sessions, collected from therapists and social workers from around the world, will be used to illustrate pertinence points.

Presented by Glenn Maloney, MSW, Psychotherapist, Author, Educator BA, Most Excellent Psychotherapy

76 Media and Pop Culture: How Our Culture Impacts Perceptions of Child Abuse and Maltreatment

 St. Louis River  Virtual

This training explores how societal beliefs, media portrayals, and pop culture shape public understanding of child abuse. Participants will review key research and statistics and learn how movies, television, and news coverage influence perceptions of victims, perpetrators, and the systems designed to protect children. The session will highlight common misconceptions, discuss the consequences of sensationalized reporting, and offer practical guidance for promoting accurate, solution-focused narratives. Attendees will leave with a deeper awareness of how cultural influences affect child protection efforts and how to counter harmful myths through informed dialogue and practice. Attendees will gain tools to assess media messages, challenge harmful myths, and strengthen efforts to protect children through informed practice.

Presented by Megan Prouty, Bachelor of Social Work, Senior Forensic Interviewer and Training & Outreach Specialist, First Witness Child Advocacy Center

77	Costs Rule Everything Around Me: Findings from DWRS Cost Reporting 2021-2025	 French River	 Non-virtual
78	Building Capacity and Strengthening Collaboration: Minnesota's Human Trafficking and Exploitation Prevention and Response Network	 Gooseberry Falls 1	 Non-virtual
79	Supporting Long-Term Services Supports in Minnesota's Current Landscape	 Gooseberry Falls 2	 Non-virtual
80	Suicide Safe Language	 Gooseberry Falls 3	 Non-virtual
81	Understanding PSLF: Requirements, Pitfalls, and Practical Strategies	 Harborside 202	 Non-virtual
82	Advance Care Planning 101: Creating Peace of Mind	 Harborside 203	 Non-virtual
83	The Nitty-Gritty of Foster Care	 Harborside 204	 Non-virtual
84	The Ethical Bridge: Navigating Spirituality & Religion in Clinical Practice	 Harborside 205	 Non-virtual  Clinical Hours
85	Navigating Complexity & Change with your Inner Compass	 Harborside 301-302	 Non-virtual
86	Games as a Therapeutic Intervention with Autistic Youth	 Harborside 303	 Non-virtual  Clinical Hours
87	Leading Well : 10 Essential Practices for Supervisors and Managers	 Harborside 304	 Non-virtual
88	Your Pathway to ASAM's Fourth Edition in Minnesota	 Harborside 305	 Non-virtual
89	Behavioral Health Networks in Rural Communities: Cultivating Collaboration and Mutual Support	 Lake Superior Ballroom J	 Virtual
90	Schizophrenia & Schizoaffective Disorder: Breaking Down the Stigma	 Lake Superior Ballroom K	 Virtual
91	Navigating the State Medical Review Team Process	 Lake Superior Ballroom L	 Virtual
92	Beyond the Uniform: Trauma-Informed Care for Veterans in Community-Based Services	 Lake Superior Ballroom MN	 Virtual  Clinical Hours
93	Mentoring and Supervision of Therapists: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly.	 Lake Superior Ballroom O	 Virtual  Clinical Hours
94	Internal Family Systems (IFS): Why IFS Is So Effective	 Split Rock	 Non-virtual  Clinical Hours
95	What Children Remember: The Science of Memory and the Art of Asking Questions	 St. Louis River Room	 Virtual

77 Costs Rule Everything Around Me: Findings from DWRS Cost Reporting 2021-2025

 French River  Non-virtual

Minnesota DHS's Disability Services Division conducted research into provider costs from 2021 to 2025 as part of the DWRS Cost Reporting Program. In this workshop, we will go over what Cost Reporting is, why it is important, and what the main findings were from the 2026 legislative report. Experts from DHS will go over standard provider costs, where spending aligned with frameworks, and where spending exceeded or deviated from what the Legislature assumed disability services cost. DHS staff will also discuss what happens next with the findings from Cost Reporting.

Presented by Dylan Adams, Master of Public Policy, Data and Compliance Lead; Lillian Norman, Master of Public Policy, Fiscal Compliance and Data Analyst; Colleen Viner, Master of Business Administration, Fiscal Policy Analyst; Matthew Grafsgaard, Master of Business Administration, Fiscal Policy Analyst; Christina Honsa, Master of Science, Fiscal Policy Analyst, MN Department of Human Services

78 Building Capacity and Strengthening Collaboration: Minnesota's Human Trafficking and Exploitation Prevention and Response Network

 Gooseberry Falls 1  Non-virtual

Join us to delve into Minnesota's Human Trafficking Prevention and Response Network (HTEPRN). Discover the roles of Safe Harbor Regional Navigators, supportive services, shelter/housing options, and effective collaboration strategies to raise awareness and enhance prevention efforts.

Presented by Mel Alvar, BASc, Safe Harbor Regional Navigator, PAVSA; Andrea White, Safe Harbor Regional Navigator, Dodge and Olmsted County Victim Services; Mary Bowen Bantle, BA Women's Studies, Safe Harbor Shelter & Housing Grant Manager, MN DHS Homelessness, Housing and Support Services

79 Supporting Long-Term Services Supports in Minnesota's Current Landscape

 Gooseberry Falls 2  Non-virtual

This workshop will explore Minnesota's current efforts to strengthen and sustain Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) during a time of significant challenge and change. Aging and disability service providers across the state are navigating increased oversight following fraud investigations, workforce shortages among Direct Support Professionals (DSPs), financial pressures, and growing demands for accountability and compliance.

Participants will learn how the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) is responding through targeted grant initiatives and capacity-building efforts designed to support providers, strengthen the workforce, and improve access to quality services. The session will highlight strategies that balance equity, accessibility, compliance, and fiduciary responsibility while demonstrating measurable success and strong program integrity.

Presented by Kim Hicks, Program Administrator, Carol Anthony, LGSW, Masters in Public Policy and Social Service Association, Director of Grants, Equity, Access and Research Division, Redwan Hamza, Grants Supervisor, Danielle Mielke, Grant Program Administer, MN Department of Human Services

80 Suicide Safe Language

 Gooseberry Falls 3  Non-virtual

This training will focus on identifying what safe language is in terms of mental and suicide prevention, why it is important, and how to apply safe language immediately in your community. This presentation highlights the powerful impact language has on mental health and suicide prevention. It emphasizes how the words we choose can either reduce stigma, encourage understanding and help-seeking, or unintentionally cause harm. By increasing awareness of language use, the presentation underscores the role communication plays in fostering hope, healing, and supportive communities. Discomfort around mental health and suicide often stems from personal beliefs, lived experiences, and stigma. Participants are encouraged to embrace growth, recognize that learning is ongoing, and move forward without shame while committing to more supportive communication.

Presented by Brina Ellison, BS, Suicide Prevention Regional Coordinator, Steller Human Services; Molly Johnson, BA, CHES, Suicide Prevention Regional Coordinator, Carlton County

81 Understanding PSLF: Requirements, Pitfalls, and Practical Strategies

 Harborside 202  Non-virtual

The Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program was implemented to compensate the employees that are required to have higher-education degrees but receive lower wages with student loan forgiveness after working for ten years in the field. PSLF allows borrowers in Public Service to have an end date on student loans that can often feel oppressive. With so much uncertainty around this program and student loans in general, it has created an uncertain environment for not only Student Loan borrowers but the employers that hire them. This presentation will break down what PSLF is and how it is changing, exact steps people can take to not only be on the path to forgiveness but also to use their voices and votes to advocate for the PSLF Program's sustainability.

Presented by April Sanderson, BAs in Communications & Sociology, Certified Student Loan Counselor, LSS Financial Counseling

83 The Nitty-Gritty of Foster Care

 Harborside 204  Non-virtual

Foster care is the hardest job I have ever loved. This reaffirming and informative workshop is the perfect opportunity for all interested parties to get an in-the-trenches, after-hours, real life perspective of the Foster Life. With 30 years of educational, 20 years of respite/ foster care, and 8 years of adoptive experience, there is so much to share, and even more to learn.

Humor is the key to success. We will touch on some basic reminders including, communication, self care, the art of "NO", and the sharing of some "never did I ever ..." This one hour could be the hour that changes your life, professionally and personally. If nothing else, you will learn you are not alone!

Presented by Steven Johnson, BAS - Education, Foster Parent, Teacher; Michelle Brown, MA, Child Foster Care Licensor, St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services

82 Advance Care Planning 101: Creating Peace of Mind

 Harborside 203  Non-virtual

Advance Care Planning is a tool to increase the likelihood that individuals receive the care they want, while simultaneously reducing challenges amongst family members providing that care. In both our personal and professional lives, advance care planning often goes neglected. This workshop will provide a basic understanding of advance care planning and how to implement it. Based on their experiences as social workers in hospice and medical settings, the presenters will discuss how crucial advance care planning is in times of life-threatening diagnoses and end of life. Through case studies, ethical dilemmas, and experiential data, presenters will illustrate the importance of documenting wishes in a clear and concise way. At the end of this session, attendees will be able to: understand advance care planning, describe why it is important, and name tools and resources to complete these important conversations with loved ones.

Presented by Kate Barton, LICSW, MSW, Hospice Social Worker, Minnesota Hospice, Compassion & Choices; Susan Lohmann, LICSW, MSW, Retired Clinical Social Worker, Compassion & Choices

8:00am - Session 5

84 The Ethical Bridge: Navigating Spirituality & Religion in Clinical Practice

 Harborside 205  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

In clinical practice, spirituality remains a complex and often avoided aspect of our work. Research highlights spirituality as a vital component of resilience and personal identity. However, fear of imposing personal bias or violating professional boundaries can lead to total avoidance of the subject.

This workshop will move mental health professionals from hesitation to thoughtful ethical practice. We will explore the “taboo” nature of spiritual discourse in clinical practice and identify barriers that lead to avoidance, including our own biases and lived experiences. Workshop participants will learn practical approaches to maintaining professional neutrality, while creating a welcoming space for clients to explore their own belief systems and spirituality. Through case examples and discussion, we will examine how to integrate spiritual literacy into person-centered care, without letting our personal interaction with spirituality, or lack thereof, obstruct the therapeutic process.

Presented by Rachele Walker, Master of Social Work, LCSW; Britta Bloomquist, Master of Social Work, LGSW; Alyssa DeFoe, Master of Social Work LGSW, Lake Superior Community Health Center

85 Navigating Complexity & Change with your Inner Compass

 Harborside 301-302  Non-virtual

Public health and human service professionals are navigating sustained complexity, ongoing change, workforce strain, and increasing demands on both individuals and systems. This workshop introduces Mountain 10: Accessing Your Inner Wisdom, a structured reflective framework designed to support clarity, resilience, and values-aligned practice in uncertain and changing environments.

Through guided reflection and practical tools, participants explore awareness, letting go, vision, and realization as a way to strengthen discernment, reduce burnout, and support decision-making. The process helps individuals and teams reconnect to purpose, improve reflective capacity, and identify actionable next steps in both leadership and practice.

Presented by Rachel Gilbertson, Masters of Education with graduate minor in Integrative Therapies and Healing Practices, Founder, Art of Presence

86 Games as a Therapeutic Intervention with Autistic Youth

 Harborside 303  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

This workshop will provide education about the use of games as a therapeutic tool when working with autistic youth and is relevant for clinicians, school setting providers, and caregivers. The goals of this workshop are to teach:

- The benefits of games as a teaching and therapeutic tool.
- How to choose a game or activity that fits the needs of the client as well as supports the goals of therapy.
- How to customize the game or activity to increase engagement.
- How to address therapy goals during game play.
- Table Top Role Playing Games (TTRPGs) in a therapy setting.

This workshop will, provide examples from research, proved examples from personal experience, provide examples from a clinic setting.

Presented by Megan Armstrong, Masters of Social Work, LICSW, Essentia Health

87 Leading Well : 10 Essential Practices for Supervisors and Managers

 Harborside 304  Non-virtual

Leading well is not about having all the answers. It is about showing up each day with the practices that help people, teams, and workplace culture thrive. This session explores ten essential leadership behaviors that have a powerful impact on trust, engagement, communication, performance, and retention. Grounded in real-world leadership challenges, the training offers practical tools, relatable examples, and immediately usable strategies to help supervisors and managers lead with greater clarity, confidence, fairness, and intention. Whether you are new to leadership or have been leading for years, this session is designed to strengthen the day-to-day habits that create healthier teams and better outcomes.

Presented by Ryan Bauers, Master of Business Administration, Master of Divinity, Organization Development Specialist, St. Louis County / Ryan Bauers Coaching



Champions of Homecare

Care that works.

- ✓ CFSS Agency Model
- ✓ CFSS Budget Model
- ✓ 245D In Home Waivered Services
- ✓ Basic Homemaking
- ✓ Consumer-Directed Community Supports

Partnerships that last.

"Our team at Accra cares about my needs more than anyone else. I am so lucky to have good people on my side."
-Zarina, Accra Client

Care Starts Here.

☎ (952) 935-3515

📍 Statewide coverage

🌐 accrahomecare.org/client-referral/



88 Your Pathway to ASAM's Fourth Edition in Minnesota

📍 Harborside 305 🚫 Non-virtual

The landscape of substance use disorder treatment is evolving, and Minnesota is on the move. This workshop guides SUD professionals through the transition to the American Society of Addiction Medicine's (ASAM) Fourth Edition criteria, exploring what's changed, what it means for your program, and how Minnesota is charting the course forward.

Participants will gain a clear understanding of the updates in ASAM 4th Edition, including its refined approach to dimensional assessment, level of care placement, and the continued shift toward individualized, person-centered care. We'll examine how these changes align with Minnesota's existing regulatory landscape and what providers can expect as implementation unfolds across the state. Whether you're a clinician, a program director, or an intake specialist, this workshop offers practical insight to help your team prepare with confidence. Leave with a stronger grasp of the new criteria, a clearer picture of Minnesota's implementation timeline, and concrete next steps for your organization.

Presented by Amy Anderson, BA, BAS, LADC, MPNA, Human Services Program Consultant - ASAM Policy Lead, MN DHS

89 Behavioral Health Networks in Rural Communities: Cultivating Collaboration and Mutual Support

📍 Lake Superior Ballroom J 🎧 Virtual

In this workshop, we will address the need to expand the behavioral health workforce and strengthen practitioners' integrated behavioral health (IBH) knowledge, particularly with a focus on children, adolescents, and young and older adults at risk for mental health, trauma, and behavioral health disorders. Participants will learn to identify behavioral health needs and opportunities in rural communities from a strength-based, relational-focused perspective, be introduced to the Community Capitals framework for assessing rural community resources and opportunities, and identify strategies to build and maintain collaborative networks that promote culturally responsive behavioral health in rural communities.

Presented by Connie Gunderson, PhD, Associate Professor; Cynthia Donner, MSW, LGSW; Aileen Moore, MSW, MSW Field Director, The College of St. Scholastica

8:00am - Session 5

90 **Schizophrenia & Schizoaffective Disorder: Breaking Down the Stigma**

 **Lake Superior Ballroom K**  **Virtual**

This workshop explores schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder, two of the most misunderstood and stigmatized mental health conditions. Participants will learn about symptoms, diagnosis, treatment options, and common misconceptions, while gaining practical strategies for supporting individuals experiencing psychotic disorders. The presentation also incorporates the presenter's lived experience with schizoaffective disorder to provide a personal perspective on recovery, coping, and reducing stigma.

Presented by Katie Finch, BSW, Mental Health Practitioner, Bois Forte/Portages Health

91 **Navigating the State Medical Review Team Process**

 **Lake Superior Ballroom L**  **Virtual**

Gain a clear understanding of the SMRT process, from referral through final determination. This session explores disability criteria, documentation requirements, and how collaboration among SMRT staff, social service professionals, and advocates helps individuals access and maintain essential services.

Presented by Emily Olson, Bachelor of Science, SMRT Disability Analyst Supervisor; Amy Pearson, AA, Appeals and Team Lead EDPNA State Medical Review Team, MN Department of Human Services

92 **Beyond the Uniform: Trauma-Informed Care for Veterans in Community-Based Services**

 **Lake Superior Ballroom MN**  **Virtual**  **Clinical Hours**

Many veterans accessing community-based services carry the invisible wounds of military service, combat exposure, moral injury, military sexual trauma, adverse childhood experiences, and post-service challenges. While veterans often seek support through housing programs, healthcare systems, employment services, behavioral health programs, and community organizations, providers may not always recognize how trauma influences engagement, trust, and outcomes.

This interactive workshop examines how trauma-informed care can transform the way community organizations serve veterans. Participants will explore the unique experiences of veterans, the impact of trauma on behavior and service engagement, and practical strategies for creating environments that foster safety, trust, collaboration, and empowerment.

Attendees will learn how to incorporate military cultural awareness into trauma-informed practices, reduce barriers to care, and strengthen relationships with veterans experiencing homelessness, mental health challenges, substance use disorders, and other complex needs. Through case studies, discussion, and practical application, participants will leave with actionable tools that can be implemented immediately within their organizations.

Presented by Amanda Hooper, Master in Military Psychology, Intake and Triage Manager, MACV

Thank you for surrounding our
community members with a
supportive network that uplifts and
gives them hope.



93 Mentoring and Supervision of Therapists: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly.

 **Lake Superior Ballroom O**  **Virtual**  **Clinical Hours**

Psychotherapists move through developmental stages over their careers that benefit from close working relationships with mentors and supervisors. However, research shows that while good mentors and supervisors are primary influencers of therapists, some mentors and supervisors can also be inadequate and even harmful in subpar performance. This presentation identifies gaps in early therapist training, describes stages of therapist development, the role of mentors and supervisors at each stage, characteristics and risks of insufficient engagement at all levels, how to manage inappropriate mentoring and supervision, and how to ensure a good relationship between therapists and their mentors and supervisors.

Presented by David Swenson, PhD, Psychologist, College of St. Scholastica; Brianna Schaus, MEd, Psychotherapist, Brightwater Health; Joe Olson, MEd, Therapist, Northwood Children's Services

95 What Children Remember: The Science of Memory and the Art of Asking Questions

 **St. Louis River**  **Virtual**

This training examines how children remember and recall experiences, with a focus on applying research to investigative interviews with children. Participants will learn how factors like age, development, trauma, and cognitive ability influence memory, and how memory can be both reliable and vulnerable to suggestion. We'll explore common misconceptions, the effects of stress, and the critical role that questioning plays. Research shows that poorly worded or leading questions can distort a child's memory, while open-ended, trauma-informed approaches help elicit accurate and detailed accounts. This training is ideal for professionals in child protection, forensic interviewing, law enforcement, and mental health who want to better understand and support how children recall and share their experiences.

Presented by Megan Prouty, Bachelor of Social Work, Senior Forensic Interviewer and Training & Outreach Specialist, First Witness Child Advocacy Center

94 Internal Family Systems (IFS): Why IFS Is So Effective

 **Split Rock**  **Non-virtual**  **Clinical Hours**

IFS continues to gain traction as a highly effective clinical intervention. This workshop will introduce IFS and explore why IFS is so effective focusing on its relational dynamics intra client and inter client and therapist; its organic basis and method; its various perspective embodiments; its experiential and somatic basis; its layers around function and meaning; and finally its consent-driven approach. Come learn about and experience the efficacy of IFS from Michael Clabaugh, LICSW and level two trained IFS clinician.

Presented by Michael Clabaugh, MA, LICSW, Psychotherapist, Insight Counseling Duluth

9:30am - Session 6

96	It's a Spectrum: Interviewing Children with Autism	 French River	 Non-virtual	
97	A Study of Adoption Disruptions and Dissolutions in Minnesota, Study Overview, and Findings and Exploitation Prevention and Response Network	 Gooseberry Falls 1	 Non-virtual	
98	IEP, 504, MTSS?!! Making sense of school-based supports	 Gooseberry Falls 2	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
99	Changes to Medicaid and Marketplace Coverage: what you need to know	 Gooseberry Falls 3	 Non-virtual	
100	Hope and Recovery: Voices of Lived Experience	 Harborside 202	 Non-virtual	
101	The Art of Reclamation	 Harborside 203	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
102	Self-Care First: Sustaining Your Health and Impact	 Harborside 204	 Non-virtual	
103	Why it matters how you speak~Hope and Motivational Interviewing with Suicide Ideation	 Harborside 205	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
104	The Human Side of Grit: Sustaining Yourself in Work That Never Slows Down	 Harborside 301-302	 Non-virtual	
105	Supporting Community Well-being through Promoting Resiliency	 Harborside 303	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
106	Co-Regulation Across the Developmental Ages	 Harborside 304	 Non-virtual	
107	Evolution of Co-Response and Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO)	 Harborside 305	 Non-virtual	
108	Trauma Informed Leadership Methods in Victim Serving Organizations	 Lake Superior Ballroom J	 Virtual	
109	Navigating ethical decision-making and repairing relational rupture	 Lake Superior Ballroom K	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
110	Using Motivational Interviewing in Clinical Supervision	 Lake Superior Ballroom L	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
111	Authorizing Assistive Technology and Remote Support	 Lake Superior Ballroom MN	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
112	Culture of Safety and Systems Learning	 Lake Superior Ballroom O	 Virtual	
113	Power of Connection on Well-Being	 Split Rock	 Non-virtual	
114	Supported Decision Making...It's the way to go!	 St. Louis River Room	 Virtual	

96 It's a Spectrum: Interviewing Children with Autism

 **French River**  **Non-virtual**

This workshop will survey the history of Autism diagnoses in children and how changes over time have affected stigmas and biases surrounding how people view Autistic children. We will discuss how the nuances of Autism Spectrum Disorder play a role in how we prep for and conduct an interview. We will also look at the effects of these nuances not only through the forensic interview, but also throughout the law enforcement and social services investigative process. We will discuss the intersectionality between Autism Spectrum Disorder and various interview dynamics.

Presented by Amber Bloss, Criminology BA, Sociology BA, Psychology Minor, Forensic Interviewer and Trainer, First Witness Child Advocacy Center

97 A Study of Adoption Disruptions and Dissolutions in Minnesota, Study Overview, and Findings and Exploitation Prevention and Response Network

 **Gooseberry Falls 1**  **Non-virtual**

This workshop will provide an overview of the adoption disruption and dissolution study conducted by Wilder Research and the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF). The study included in-depth surveys and interviews with adoption professionals, families, and youth in Minnesota who experienced a disruption or dissolution, as well as a demographic analysis of adoption disruptions in the state. Adoption disruption and dissolutions appear to be becoming more common in Minnesota and throughout the United States, so this is vital information to create successful prevention and intervention programs for families at-risk of an adoptive placement disruption or dissolution. Participants will learn valuable information about the background of the research study, a literature review summary, participant demographic information, and methodology. In addition, the presentation will provide an overview of findings and insights. Finally, the presentation will provide an overview of successes and challenges for the project as well a discussion of potential areas of focus for recommendations.

Presented by Michelle Frazier, Master of Education, Human Services Representative, Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF)

98 IEP, 504, MTSS?!! Making sense of school-based supports

 **Gooseberry Falls 2**  **Non-virtual**  **Clinical Hours**

Schools have a variety of supports for students, but how do you know if your child or client is eligible? In this workshop, school social workers will explain different levels of academic and behavioral support for students in schools, and strategies to effectively advocate for the students in your life.

Presented by Jennifer Fuchs, MSW, School Social Worker; Breanna Greenly, MSW, School Social Worker, ISD709 - Duluth Public Schools

99 Changes to Medicaid and Marketplace Coverage: what you need to know

 **Gooseberry Falls 3**  **Non-virtual**

Medicaid, also called Medical Assistance in Minnesota, is experiencing changes to eligibility requirements and coverage levels as a result of HR-1 ("Big Beautiful Bill"). Medicaid is the health insurance for about 1 in 4 people in the Northland, so the changes will be impactful to individuals, families, and health care providers. At this session, a representative from St Louis County, and MNsure navigators from the Insure Duluth Coalition, will talk about what the Medicaid eligibility and coverage changes are, who they will impact, and how to support enrollees in getting – and staying – covered. MNsure navigators will also describe changes to the enrollment technology used for public health care programs and the individual market, preparing attendees to support communities with the upcoming Open Enrollment.

Presented by Megan Bremmon, MA, Senior Program Director, Generations Health Care Initiatives; Samantha Karsky, BA, METS and HCT Supervisor, St Louis County; Alyssa Peoples, MSW, Access Manager, Lake Superior Community Health Center

100 Hope and Recovery: Voices of Lived Experience

 Harborside 202  Non-virtual

This panel brings together individuals with lived experience of mental health challenges who are now working as Certified Peer Support Professionals. Through honest storytelling and guided discussion, panelists will share their personal recovery journeys, the role of peer support in fostering hope and connection, and how lived experience can be a powerful tool in supporting others. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of recovery as a nonlinear, individualized process and explore how peer support promotes hope, empowerment, and meaningful change. This session highlights the value of mutual respect, trust, and shared experience in building effective, person-centered services.

Attendees will leave with practical insights into integrating peer supports into services, reducing stigma, and strengthening recovery-oriented systems of care.

Presented by Taylor Jackson, MBA, Peer Support Supervisor, Northland Counseling Center

101 The Art of Reclamation

 Harborside 203  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Evidence-based, person-centered frameworks now emphasize multiple pathways to healing, inviting providers to consider how emerging, culturally relevant practices may complement established interventions. For some individuals, tattooing represents a deliberate, consent-driven process of meaning-making, identity reconstruction, and bodily reclamation following trauma, addiction, or mental health challenges. This session positions tattooing not as treatment, but as a potential adjunctive, embodied practice that may reinforce mechanisms of change also targeted in evidence-based approaches.

Grounded in emerging qualitative research and practice-informed insights, participants will explore how tattooing may support recovery identity, agency, and narrative integration, while maintaining alignment with ethical and clinical standards. The session will address key considerations, including avoiding pathologizing or romanticizing, recognizing potential risks, and upholding autonomy, informed consent, and safety.

Presented by Julie Seitz, MSW, Project Director, All Rise; Jessica Crotty, Psychology, Fable Grove Tattoo

102 Self-Care First: Sustaining Your Health and Impact

 Harborside 204  Non-virtual

Social workers dedicate their lives to supporting others, sometimes at the expense of their own well-being. This interactive workshop is designed to help professionals reconnect with the importance of putting themselves first, not as a luxury, but as a necessity for effective and sustainable practice. Participants will explore practical self-care strategies, learn how to set healthy boundaries, and develop habits that foster resilience and prevent burnout. Through reflection, discussion, and actionable tools, this session empowers social workers to cultivate self-compassion, restore energy, and continue their vital work from a place of strength and balance.

Presented by Stacy Crawford, Master of Science in Education, Coach & Facilitator, Klear Water Coaching & Wellness

103 Why it matters how you speak~Hope and Motivational Interviewing with Suicide Ideation

 Harborside 205  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Suicide prevention requires more than risk assessment—it requires meaningful conversations that help individuals reconnect with reasons to live. This presentation explores how Motivational Interviewing (MI) and Hope Theory can be integrated to strengthen suicide prevention efforts in clinical, community, and leadership settings. Participants will learn how MI's collaborative, non-judgmental approach helps individuals explore ambivalence about living and dying while reinforcing personal values, strengths, and motivations for change.

Drawing on Hope Theory, the session highlights how fostering agency (belief in one's ability to act) and pathways (identifying realistic routes forward) can help individuals move from despair toward possibility. Through practical examples and applied dialogue strategies, attendees will see how hope can be intentionally cultivated in difficult conversations.

This session is designed for professionals who want practical tools to engage people experiencing suicidal thoughts in ways that build connection, restore hope, and strengthen intrinsic motivation for life.

Presented by Scott Nyegaard, Master of Science, Organizational Psychologist, Legacy Group, LLC

104 The Human Side of Grit: Sustaining Yourself in Work That Never Slows Down

 Harborside 301-302  Non-virtual

In Health and Human Services, grit is often worn as a badge of honor, the ability to push through, carry more, and keep going no matter what. But over time, that version of grit can come at a cost.

This session invites participants to explore a more sustainable, human-centered definition of grit—one that includes emotional awareness, boundaries, and intentional recovery. Grounded in emotional intelligence, this session will help participants recognize the difference between operating in survival mode and building true resilience. Through relatable examples and practical tools, participants will learn how to stay engaged in meaningful work without losing themselves in the process. Because grit isn't just about how much you can carry, it's about how well you can sustain yourself while carrying it.

Presented by Sara Jackson, MA, HR Training Specialist, Human Resource Development, Dakota County

105 Supporting Community Well-being through Promoting Resiliency

 Harborside 303  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

This presentation will utilize positive psychology and public health theories to explore interventions that promote resilience. By attending our workshop, participants will: (a) learn definitions of resilience as it may relate to cultural values, (b) identify interventions mental health providers and public health professionals can utilize that promote resilience, and (c) learn about a public health model that takes a multi-faceted approach to building and supporting resilience.

Presented by Samantha Hinnenkamp, MA, PhD, Licensed Psychologist, Catalyst Mental Health; Josh Gorham, Program Coordinator, St. Louis County Public Health

106 Co-Regulation Across the Developmental Ages

 Harborside 304  Non-virtual

In my training it focuses on, defining what co-regulation is and how it supports emotional and behavioral regulation in youth and adults. I examine how our own nervous systems contribute to creating or undermining safety. I identify signs of dysregulation across developmental stages and match our interventions accordingly. I provide the information on the importance of the clinician's self-regulation — because our state is our primary tool and finally, apply these concepts to real clinical scenarios while avoiding common pitfalls like reactivity or power struggles. I provide information on the nervous system and brain development and why it matters in the work that we do.

Presented by Kaitlyn Liimatta, MSW, LGSW, Northwoods Children Services

107 Evolution of Co-Response and Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO)

 Harborside 305  Non-virtual

Nationally, co-response programs have a 50-year history, but many were started in the last 10-20 years. The Duluth Police Department (DPD) was the first police department in Minnesota to embed a social worker in 2017. Since then, the unit has evolved from grant funded positions to a fully staffed team. DPD's CORE (co-response) Unit includes a Sergeant, two DPD officers, two St. Louis County LICSWs, and a Mental Health Practitioner. Over the last ten years, the role of a co-responder and the priorities of the unit have evolved. CORE officers are now tasked with navigating Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO).

Minnesota's "red flag" laws, officially called the Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO), went into effect January 1, 2024. It allows certain people to petition a court to temporarily remove firearms from someone who possess a significant risk or harm to others or is at a significant risk of suicide.

This session will discuss co-response, what it is and what we do, and how we got involved with ERPOs. We will also discuss the process of obtaining an ERPO and look at a few different case studies that our unit has been a part of.

Presented by Megan Tezak, Masters in Social Work, Social Worker / Co-Responder, St. Louis County PHHS / DPD's CORE Unit; Richard LeDooux, CORE Officer, Duluth Police Department; Ian Young, City Attorney

108 Trauma Informed Leadership Methods in Victim Serving Organizations

 Lake Superior Ballroom J  Virtual

This workshop will review the research behind the characteristics and workplace environments of victim-serving organizations to increase general understanding of the effects these characteristics have on secondary trauma, mental health, job satisfaction, and burnout. Leaders and supervisors will leave with recommendations for trauma-informed leadership methods to effectively respond to the needs of their staff and employees.

Presented by Tyra Jaramillo-Kraemer, BA in Criminology, MBA in Leadership and Change, Associate Director/Senior Forensic Interviewer, First Witness Child Advocacy Center

109 Navigating ethical decision-making and repairing relational rupture

 Lake Superior Ballroom K  Virtual  Clinical Hours

Making an ethical decision doesn't guarantee a perfect outcome. This workshop will illustrate how to apply an ethical decision-making model, rooted in reflective, cultural, and anti-oppressive principles, to a clinical case, and highlight how an ethically-grounded decision can result in a rupture in the relationship. Then it will explore common signs of rupture in relationships and discuss "ways of being" and micro-skill rupture repair strategies.

Presented by Michael Van Wert, LICSW, MSW, MPH, Clinical Trainer and Associate Director of Research and Evaluation, University of Minnesota School of Social Work/Center for Practice Transformation

110 Using Motivational Interviewing in Clinical Supervision

 Lake Superior Ballroom L  Virtual  Clinical Hours

Clinical supervisors are responsible for multiple tasks including assuring ethical practice, adherence to organizational policies, enhancing skill development, and addressing clinician personal well-being. Surprisingly, there has been no consolidation of evidence around the success of any given model of supervision. Motivational interviewing (MI) has demonstrated success in multiple settings where change is the desired outcome.

Presented by Steve Carlson, Psy.D., Clinical Trainer, Center for Practice Transformation at the University of MN

111 Authorizing Assistive Technology and Remote Support

 Lake Superior Ballroom MN  Virtual  Clinical Hours

This workshop is designed for case managers, providers, and assessors who support individuals enrolled in MN HCBS Waiver Programs who want to know more about implementing Assistive Technology (AT) and Remote Support (RS). Participants will explore best practices for identifying support needs, understanding service definitions and policy requirements, and navigating the authorization process collaboratively across teams.

Real-world examples will be used to strengthen understanding of how Assistive Technology and Remote Support can enhance quality of life while promoting greater independence and efficient use of support resources. Attendees will leave with increased confidence in evaluating, recommending, and authorizing technology supports in a way that is collaborative, compliant, and person-centered.

Presented by Alaina Gallagher, BS, Assistive Technology and Remote Support Consultant, ARRM and MN STAR Program; Anna MacIntyre, Bachelors, Policy Lead/ Disability Services Division, DHS

112 Culture of Safety and Systems Learning

 Lake Superior Ballroom O  Virtual

Culture of safety is a model built on safety science, commonly used in the aviation, health care and nuclear power industries to improve systems and develop a culture of safety. This allows a better understanding of organizational decisions and how leaders can guide staff to achieve desired outcomes. It is a model of systemic review of adverse events and process decisions that moves organizations from superficial reactionary responses to a more complex understanding of systemic factors.

The model focuses on improving the reliability and safety of services through a robust and proactive response to critical incidents or undesirable outcomes that emphasizes learning. Years of research have shown that assigning blame might decrease accountability because it inhibits the ability of an organization to understand and improve. This workshop will help

organizations engage their employees and make improvements to their systems. It will also discuss statewide activities with community partners and how these efforts are influencing systems change within disability services in Minnesota.

Presented by Scott Schifsky, BA, Person Centered/Positive Support Specialist, Minnesota Department of Human Services

OVER 50 YEARS OF Restoring Hope, Reshaping Futures

OUR SERVICES

Community Mental Health

Crisis & Stabilization

Foster Care & Adoption

Residential Treatment



NexusFamilyHealing.org

113 Power of Connection on Well-Being



Split Rock



Non-virtual

The LiveWell team of the UW-Superior Pruitt Center for Mindfulness and Well-Being implemented a social and nature prescription pilot project in spring of 2026 (LiveWell Rx). The goal of the pilot was to improve physical and mental well-being through a prescription of LiveWell activities. The impact on the participants was significant and beyond what we expected. We will provide an update on the LiveWell initiative, share the findings of our in-depth assessment, and discuss implications for your organizations and work.

Presented by Lynn Goerd, MSW, EdD, Research and Innovation Lead UW-Superior, Pruitt Center for Mindfulness and Well-Being

114 Supported Decision Making...It's the way to go!



St. Louis River



Virtual

Whether big or small, most people enjoy making their own decisions in their lives. Why would people who have disabilities be any different? Supported Decision Making is a model that folks can choose instead of going the traditional guardianship route in their lives. Really many people naturally use the supported decision-making model throughout their lives with the people who are important to them. The SDM model is when instead of one person dictating one's life or making a majority of all the decisions, the person has a team of natural supports (parents, siblings, friends, pastor, etc.) in their lives that they work with together to make decisions. In the end, they make the decision, but they have a team of people supporting them with the decision. Join me in exploring why SDM is so cool and the ticket for people to gain more independence in their lives!

Presented by Meredith Kujala, BSW, Program Coordinator, Advocating Change Together



2026 Ally Sponsors

Ally sponsors are featured in the Pioneer Exhibit Hall and DECC Arena Exhibit Hall and under the AllySponsor icon in the mobile app. They provide a wide array of services within the human services industry and their on-going support of the conference is a vital component of its successful history. Please stop by and visit them in Pioneer DECC Arena Exhibit Halls.

A New Direction

AbleLight

Above & Beyond With U (A&BWU)

Accend Services, Inc.

Access North Center for
Independent Living

AHL Healthcare Group

Alcoholics Anonymous

Al-Anon

Alzheimer's Association

Ambition to Survive LLC

AMFM Healthcare

Amory IT

Ampersand Families - Saint Paul,
MN

Arc Northland

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity
Agency

Arrowhead Regional Quality
Council-Arc Northland

Aspirus St. Lukes Plus One Doula
Program

Assisted Living Locators LLC

Beacon of strength

Birch & Pine Counseling

Birch Tree Center

Bold North Recovery

BoundaryCare

Burkwood Treatment Center

Capitol Park Mental Health Hospital

Cassia - Moose Lake Village

Catalyst Mental Health

Cedar Hill Therapy

Center for Advanced Studies in
Child Welfare

Center for Alcohol & Drug
Treatment

Chum

Clarity Consulting, Inc

Co-Nexio

Consumer Directions Inc.

Covenant Ability Network of
Minnesota

Department of Children, Youth, and
Families

Department of Human Services
- Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of
Hearing State Services

Diamond Willow and Keystone
Bluffs Assisted Living

Disability Partners

Disability Specialists

Diversion Solutions

Dose Health, LLC

DRCC

DRS

eBrief by EtectRx

Ecumen Home Care and Hospice

Edward Jones

Empowered Events & Exploring Inc.

Enlight Counseling

Essentia Health

Essentia Health Pharmacy

Essentia Health St. Mary's Hospice

Everyday Miracles

Expanding Horizons

Fairview Range

Firefly Mental Health LLC

Fond Du Lac Human Services
Division – SUD Department – Tagwii

Fond du Lac Reservation Human
Services Division

Foster Adopt Minnesota

Genesis Recovery Services, LLC

Grace Medical Supplies

GT Independence

Hammer Travel

Harry Meyering Center

Help Me Grow

Hmong Home Health Care

Homestyle Direct

Homeward Bound, Inc.

HP Psychological Associates

Innovative Human Services

Insure Duluth (Generations Health
Care Initiatives)

Interim HealthCare

Katherine's House

Lake Superior Community Health
Center

Lakeplace Retreat Center

Lakeview Behavioral Health

Lifeway Mobility

Lifeworks Services

Little River Autism Services

Little Sand Group Home
 Lutheran Social Services
 McCarthy Manor/ Lakeside Manor
 MDH
 Melrose Center
 Mental Health Minnesota
 Millennium Health
 Minnesota ABLE Plan
 Minnesota Aging Pathways /
 Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging
 Minnesota Alliance on Problem
 Gambling
 Minnesota Assistance Council for
 Veterans
 Minnesota Board of Social Work
 Minnesota Child Welfare Training
 Academy
 Minnesota Council on Disability
 Minnesota Council on Disability
 Minnesota Council on Disability
 Minnesota Department of Human
 Services
 Minnesota Department of Human
 Services, Housing and Support
 Services Division
 Minnesota Rare Disease Advisory
 Council
 Minnesota Sex Offender Program

Minnesota Social Service
 Association
 Minnesota Suicide Prevention
 Regional Coordination
 MN Brain Injury Alliance & MN
 Stroke Association
 MN Department of Human Services
 MN Department of Human Services
 MN Department of Human Services
 MN Office of Inspector General -
 Background Studies Division
 Mom's Meals
 Moments Hospice
 Monarch Healthcare Management
 NASW-MN
 NHS Northstar
 Nirvana North
 Northern Lights Area of Narcotics
 Anonymous
 Northern Waters Float Center
 Northland Psychological Services
 Northstar Behavioral Health
 Network LLC
 Northwoods Counseling, LLC
 Northwoods Therapeutic Services
 On Demand Billing
 OurFamilyWizard
 Overeaters Anonymous (OA)

Northern Serenity Intergroup
Owl Moon Mental Health
PAL Medical Systems
Pavillio
People Incorporated
Pioneer Recovery Center
Port Group Homes
Prairie Care/ Newport Healthcare
PrairieCare
Precision Diagnostics
Progress Valley
Psycnsew Creations
QPI MN
Rainbow Heart Healing Arts
Recovering Hope Treatment Center
Recovery Alliance Duluth
Residential Providers Association of
MN
Riverside Counseling
SENSE-ational Spaces, LLC
ShareHouse
Solsura
St. Catherine University
St. Croix Hospice
St. Louis County Public Health and
Human Services

STAR Services
Svalja Whole-Being
The College of St. Scholastica
The Retreat
Therap Services, LLC
Thomas Allen Inc
TLC of Duluth
Tranquility Lifestyle Solutions Inc
Transformation House
Tribal Training and Certification
Partnership (UMD)
True North Goodwill
Two Rivers Counseling
UMD College of Pharmacy
Unified Work, powered by MDI
UW-Superior Pruitt Center for
Mindfulness & Well-Being
Valley Medial & Wellness
Village Caregiving
VRI
WebMed Mental Health and
Recovery Services
Wellness in the Woods
Winter Family Care
Zenith Health Advocates

11:00am - Session 7

115	Myth-Busting Child Abuse & Child Abuse Investigations	 French River	 Non-virtual	
116	Empathy vs Compassion	 Gooseberry Falls 1	 Non-virtual	
117	Conflict Coaching: Turning Tension into Teamwork	 Gooseberry Falls 2	 Non-virtual	
118	Outer Chaos, Inner Calmness	 Gooseberry Falls 3	 Non-virtual	
119	Perspective Changes Everything: 6 Themes We Discovered Through Sharing Our Stories	 Harborside 202	 Non-virtual	
120	Bringing Science to our Stories in Animal Assisted Services: A Practitioner's Guide to Blending Anecdotes and Evidence	 Harborside 203	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
121	Beyond the Critical Boundary: Leveraging Natural Supports for Long-Term Independence	 Harborside 204	 Non-virtual	
122	Results & Lessons Learned in the Development & Operations of Hope Haven Peer Run Respite	 Harborside 205	 Non-virtual	
123	No Wrong Door - A Trusted & Effective [FREE] Solution to Address Health-Related Social Needs	 Harborside 301-302	 Non-virtual	
124	Trust in Action: Building Psychological Safety and Strong Teams in Human Services	 Harborside 303	 Non-virtual	
125	Overeaters Anonymous as an Option for Compulsive Eating	 Harborside 304	 Non-virtual	
126	Ambitious for Survival: Stepping into Services	 Harborside 305	 Non-virtual	
127	The Psychology of Long-Term Homelessness	 Lake Superior Ballroom J	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
128	Hidden in Plain Sight: The Epidemic of Sexual Violence Against People with Disabilities	 Lake Superior Ballroom K	 Virtual	
129	Recovering the Brains Abilities in Addiction Treatment, a neurologically informed approach.	 Lake Superior Ballroom L	 Virtual	
130	Helping Families Navigate Multiple Support Systems	 Lake Superior Ballroom MN	 Virtual	
131	Ethical Applications in Human Service Agencies	 Lake Superior Ballroom O	 Virtual	
132	Building Better Systems Together: The Evolution and Impact of Minnesota's Regional Quality Councils	 Split Rock	 Non-virtual	
133	Rewiring Learning: A Brain-Based Approach to Lasting Change	 St. Louis River Room	 Virtual	

115 Myth-Busting Child Abuse & Child Abuse Investigations

 French River  Non-virtual

A child feels safe enough to tell their caregiver, or teacher, or friend that someone has been hurting them or touching them in an unsafe way. A report is made to the authorities. What happens next? Do kids lie about these sorts of things often? What if investigators get it wrong? What rights do parents have in these situations? Who is most likely to commit child physical or sexual abuse in general? Come hear from two speakers about common myths and realities of working in the field of child physical/sexual abuse, and how grit and grace have gotten them through this inherently taxing work. With over 50 years of combined experience in this field, they will tell it like it is and share real-life examples.

Presented by Lindsay Sauer, MSW, LGSW, Social Services Supervisor; Lisa Salo, MSED (Master's in Education), Social Services Supervisor, St. Louis County Public Health & Human Services

116 Empathy vs Compassion

 Gooseberry Falls 1  Non-virtual

Empathy helps us connect with others, but unregulated empathy can lead to emotional overwhelm, burnout, or withdrawal - especially for those working in substance use and mental health recovery. Drawing on the neuroscience of Dr. Tania Singer, this breakout session explores the crucial difference between empathy (feeling with) and compassion (feeling for with warmth and care). Participants will learn how empathic distress arises, why compassion is a more resilient response, and how to shift from one state to the other.

This highly interactive session includes brief partner exercises inspired by Singer's contemplative dyad practices, reflection activities, and a guided loving-kindness meditation that begins with someone easy to care about and then gently turns inward. Attendees will leave with practical tools to cultivate compassion, for consumers, colleagues, and themselves, in order to sustain well-being while continuing to offer meaningful support.

Presented by Kevin Stifter, BS; Certified Peer Support, Peer Support Specialist; Brianna Pearson, HSA; Certified Peer Support, Peer Support Specialist, indiGO

117 Conflict Coaching: Turning Tension into Teamwork

 Gooseberry Falls 2  Non-virtual

Building conflict competence across individuals, teams, and the broader organization is essential to any effective conflict management system. This interactive workshop introduces the principles and practices of conflict coaching, offering tools to navigate and transform workplace relationship challenges. Participants will learn a structured coaching approach they can use for their own self-reflection or to guide others through difficult conversations.

Presented by Laraine Mickelson, Bachelors Degree - Psychology and Criminology, Conflict Management Systems, State of Minnesota

118 Outer Chaos, Inner Calmness

 Gooseberry Falls 3  Non-virtual

To develop a foundation of Calmness to profoundly influence the interpretation, impact, and meaning of chaos is the core focus of this workshop. Ancient teachings and principles (e.g., Yin/Yang, Five Element theory) and specific practices help in understanding current situations, influencing decision making and planning as another way of living one's everyday professional and personal life.

Presented by Glenn Tobey, LISCW, Qigong Master, Licensed Psychotherapist; Rebecca James Alsum, B.A Sociology, Qigong Trainer, 500 RYT, Executive Director, Svalja Whole-Being

119 **Perspective Changes Everything: 6 Themes We Discovered Through Sharing Our Stories**

 **Harborside 202**  **Non-virtual**

How can our life stories be so different, yet still feel so relatable? As working professionals and colleagues, we discovered that many of our most personal and defining moments shared common themes, even though our experiences and journeys were vastly different. During this presentation, we will share the six themes that emerged from our stories, along with personal experiences, photographs capturing meaningful moments, and resources for those interested in exploring these ideas further.

More importantly, we hope something meaningful emerges through our time together. Perhaps parts of your own story will resonate with ours, and through reflection and audience participation, you may even help uncover new themes still waiting to emerge from our collective experiences.

Presented by Laura Kleffman, BSOT, M. Ed, Occupational Therapist, Outlook Therapy LLC; Brent Harju, Master of Social Work (MSW), Social Service Supervisor (HCBS Division), St Louis County

120 **Bringing Science to our Stories in Animal Assisted Services: A Practitioner's Guide to Blending Anecdotes and Evidence**

 **Harborside 203**  **Non-virtual**  **Clinical Hours**

Elizabeth Letson and Angela Fournier recently published a book based on their professional journey over the past decade and they describe how they developed a partnership between a private practice (Eagle Vista Ranch & Wellness Center) with Bemidji State University. They model how mental health professionals doing animal-assisted services (AAS) can create an evidence-based approach to support their clients optimally, bring ASS to the forefront of intervention options, and bridge the gap between “let’s just play with the ponies” to “that animal-assisted session just transformed how I look at my future.” Animal-assisted professionals carry powerful stories of change—moments of connection, growth, and insight that unfold through human–animal interaction.

Bringing Science to Our Stories in Animal-Assisted Services (print version available October 2026; available for pre-order now) shows how those stories can become the foundation for clear, credible evidence. Through

the practical SAGA method (Start with a story, Ask a question, Gather data, Analyze and act), this book guides readers in turning meaningful experiences into measurable insights without losing heart or humanity. Using real-world examples and accessible tools, practitioners learn how to observe human and animal behavior, gather useful data, evaluate programs, monitor wellness, and communicate findings with confidence.

By blending story with science, this book strengthens professional credibility, supports animal welfare, and invites practitioners to contribute to the growing evidence base of the field—one story at a time. Letson and Fournier will share insights and skills from this book to inform folks about the possibilities and advances in Animal-Assisted Services data collection and research.

Presented by Elizabeth Letson, MS in Counseling Psychology, LPCC, Certified Founder, Eagle Vista Ranch & Wellness Center; Angela Fournier, PhD Clinical Psychology, Licensed Psychologist, Researcher, Bemidji State University

121 **Beyond the Critical Boundary: Leveraging Natural Supports for Long-Term Independence**

 **Harborside 204**  **Non-virtual**

This interactive workshop explores the critical balance between paid services and natural support systems for individuals with disabilities. We will feature one person’s journey from a life of paid supports to building natural supports and contributing successfully in his community. His team will provide their own valuable perspectives in employment, advocacy and sustainable relationships. Participants will learn to identify potential sources of natural support within their own communities—such as civic organizations, recreation centers, and faith groups—and develop strategies to transition from a reliance on paid staff to sustainable, reciprocal relationships.

Participants will be able to understand the benefits and potential challenges in building natural supports. We will feature a Person Centered Toolkit that is used to design strengths, skills and individual contributions that build strong inclusive networks that reduce social isolation and encourage a “full life”.

Presented by Jeffrey Mortimore, MIM, Lead Community Connector, Residential Services Inc.; Shayla Widen, LSW, Contracted Case Manager, TLC of Duluth; Jill Evans, BA SW, Employment Counselor/Employer Relations, NorthStar Community Services; Donald Lokken, AA Graphic Arts, Individual Served

122 Results & Lessons Learned in the Development & Operations of Hope Haven Peer Run Respite

 Harborside 205  Non-virtual

This workshop will provide the story of the first year of operating Hope Haven Peer Respite Home in Superior; which opened in July 2025. We are the first of its kind in the Twin Ports. In this workshop, we will include an overview of peer crisis respite homes, steps taken to develop our home, operational information, regulations and protocols, and evaluation methods.

Presented by Chrissy Barnard, BA, CPS, Executive Director, NAMI Lake Superior South Shore & Hope Haven Peer Respite; Trace Topping, BS, AAS, CPS, CPPS, House Manager, Hope Haven Peer Respite; Lynn Amerman Goerdts, EdD, LGSW, Research & Innovation Lead, University Wisconsin Superior

123 No Wrong Door - A Trusted & Effective [FREE] Solution to Address Health-Related Social Needs

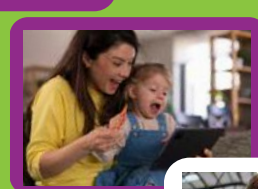
 Harborside 301-302  Non-virtual

This workshop will offer a live demonstration of an online search and referral platform called FindHelp: a free community resource to connect people in need to free and reduced-cost services with dignity and ease. These services include housing assistance, food, transportation, financial assistance and many other local social services. FindHelp aims to address health disparities and improve communities' well-being by ensuring equitable access to community resources with a closed-loop referral process. Utilized by multiple local and statewide health-systems (including Essentia Health, Aspirus-St. Luke's & Fairview Range/Grand Itasca) and their public/community health partners as a seamless social care referral network.

Presented by Jill Doberstein, BA - Public Health, MA - Policy and Advocacy, Community Outreach Program Manager, Essentia Health; Alicia Randall, Community Health Specialist, Aspirus St. Lukes/Lakeview; Lauren Pipkin, BS-RN, Community Partnerships Coordinator, Fairview Range



At Home



At Work




In the Community

Menu of Services

- Self-Directed Services
- 245D-licensed Programs
- VRS, SSB, County and more

Contact Us

800-829-7110

mymrci.org




124 Trust in Action: Building Psychological Safety and Strong Teams in Human Services

 Harborside 303  Non-virtual

Trust is the foundation of strong human service organizations—but it is built or broken through everyday leadership behaviors. In this interactive session, C-suite leaders and frontline managers will explore how psychological safety, active listening, neutral language, and open communication influence staff engagement, retention, and service quality. Participants will practice practical strategies to strengthen trust during difficult conversations and learn how to use the Solution Circle to address challenges collaboratively. Attendees will leave with tools they can immediately apply to build stronger teams, encourage honest communication, and foster a culture where staff feel safe to speak up and solve problems together.

Presented by Jennifer Billington, BA in English Education, Person-Centered Services Director, STAR Services

125 Overeaters Anonymous as an Option for Compulsive Eating

 Harborside 304  Non-virtual

A panel of OA members will discuss their experience with compulsive eating and gratitude for finding recovery. For some people, certain foods or eating patterns act like an addiction. OA is a 12-step program for any form of compulsive eating. OA can be helpful along with other treatment options. The panel will present a range of meeting options available in person and online.

Presented by Becky N, Northern Serenity Intergroup chairperson, Member, Overeaters Anonymous

126 Ambitious for Survival: Stepping into Services

 Harborside 305  Non-virtual

At just 7 years old, a devastating car accident left me with a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), marking the beginning of a lifelong journey of healing, advocacy, and attempting to find 'normalcy.' In this powerful and deeply personal workshop, participants will hear the story of surviving childhood trauma and navigating the long-term impacts of TBI - from early challenges and emotional struggles to the breakthroughs that sparked hope and purpose.

The session will explore key turning points in my mental health journey, with an emphasis on the services and supports that aided in my survival. We will uncover the growth that guided me towards purpose, and how these experiences inspired the creation of a mental health structure aimed at empowering others. Attendees will walk away with a renewed sense of possibility and practical insights into the importance of person-centered supports. Survival works best when paired with the right support — placement, guidance, and people who understand your needs.

Presented by Brad Dearth, Owner, Ambition to Survive LLC

127 The Psychology of Long-Term Homelessness

 Lake Superior Ballroom J  Virtual  Clinical Hours

For the most part, no one chooses to live without a safe, secure, comfortable home base. Yet thousands of people in America find themselves in this situation. A small percent of homeless persons are considered "long-term homeless." How do they get to this point? What factors lead a person to be homeless for many years? What is the toll homelessness takes on the human body, mind, and soul? And what strategies can human service workers use to support the re-communalization of the person who has been disenfranchised from mainstream society for years? These are the questions that will be addressed in this workshop.

Presented by Steve Carlson, Psy.D., Clinical Trainer, Center for Practice Transformation at the University of MN

128 Hidden in Plain Sight: The Epidemic of Sexual Violence Against People with Disabilities

 **Lake Superior Ballroom K**  **Virtual**

The data is clear—people with disabilities experience sexual violence at a much higher rate than people without disabilities. Despite this fact, many people with disabilities receive little to no education about important sexual and/or relationship topics which then increases vulnerability to sexual violence and exploitation. Thankfully, there are things we can do to address sexual violence beyond just raising awareness of statistical facts. We can reduce risk by coming to understand the current intersection of disability and sexual violence, by providing education, and we can support survivors. We must believe that a better world, one without sexual violence, is possible.

During this session, you will learn what research says about the victimization of people with disabilities, the tactics perpetrators use against them, the barriers that prevent survivors with disabilities from disclosing or pursuing aid, how to interact with survivors in a trauma-informed and supportive way, and how we can best address this unseen epidemic.

Presented by Camren Eidenschink-Ziebol, BA in Philosophy—Applied Ethics Tract, Community Advocate, Program for Aid to Victims of Sexual Assault (PAVSA)

129 Recovering the Brains Abilities in Addiction Treatment, a neurologically informed approach.

 **Lake Superior Ballroom L**  **Virtual**

The brain disease of addiction disrupts circuitry that regulates executive functioning (planning, inhibition, decision making), reward systems (dopamine, motivation), sleep and arousal, social cognition, emotional and stress regulation along with a host of other medical problems that reduce daily functioning. Taking a neurologically informed approach interprets addictive behaviors as brain-based impairments that can improve. Traditional approaches to rehabilitation can be helpful but also neglect working on cognitive skills. Tom Beckers will guide participants on a series of exercises that target cognitive skills including, attention and memory training, problem solving and planning exercises, and impulse control strategies. These Insights can be generalized to wherever patients with co-occurring cognitive impairments obtain health care services.

Presented by Thomas Beckers, Bachelor of Science, Director of Residential Services, Vinland Center

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH COMMUNITIES

At Trillium, we believe everyone deserves to live a life filled with dignity and respect. Come join our team and empower people to live meaningful lives.



**Join Our
Team Today!**



130 Helping Families Navigate Multiple Support Systems

 Lake Superior Ballroom MN  Virtual

Families supporting individuals with disabilities often work across multiple systems simultaneously, including schools, healthcare providers, county services, support organizations, employment supports, benefits systems, and long-term planning resources. Each system serves an important role, yet families are often trying to understand how all of these pieces fit together while also managing care-giving responsibilities, work, schedules, transitions, financial realities, and everyday life.

This session recognizes the value of existing supports while exploring practical ways to improve coordination, communication, organization, and prioritization across systems. The focus is not on replacing services or professionals, but on helping families and support teams work together more effectively within naturally complex environments.

Presented by Brian Johnson, Bachelor's Degree + Chartered Special Needs Consultant, Special Needs Planning Consultant, Clarity Consulting, Inc.

131 Ethical Applications in Human Service Agencies

 Lake Superior Ballroom O  Virtual

Have you had to make prompt ethical decisions that affected families in need? This workshop will focus on the application of problem-solving and decision-making skills to ethical issues that confront health and human service professionals. Issues regarding confidentiality, abuse and neglect, intervention and treatment, relevant laws and regulations and duty to protect will be addressed. We will also examine strategies for establishing and maintaining personal boundaries, including dual and multiple relationships, gifts, bartering, conflicts of interest, social media, appropriate touch and boundary crossings.

Presented by Neil Tift, M.A., Family Resource Specialist, Native American Fatherhood & Families Association

132 Building Better Systems Together: The Evolution and Impact of Minnesota's Regional Quality Councils

 Split Rock  Non-virtual

This session will provide an overview of the history and development of the Regional Quality Council (RQC) network, including how the councils work collaboratively with Regional Capacity Building (RCB) teams, the Minnesota Department of Human Services, and community partners to support quality improvement initiatives throughout the state.

Presenters will highlight current regional and statewide projects focused on workforce development, Positive Supports, self-advocate leadership, plain language accessibility, transportation, and community-based training opportunities. Participants will learn how the RQCs use relationship-building, collaboration, and local problem-solving to respond to regional needs and create sustainable systems change; how they provide meaningful opportunities for professionals, self-advocates, families, and community members to share expertise, build connections, identify gaps; and how they directly influence regional priorities and statewide conversations.

Presented by Becky Lambert, BA Political Science, Arrowhead Regional Quality Council Director; Beth Johnson, BA Social Work, Arrowhead Regional Quality Council Coordinator, Arc Northland; Linda Driessen, BA Psychology; MS Counseling and Psychological Services, Region 10 Quality Council Coordinator, Arc Minnesota

133 Rewiring Learning: A Brain-Based Approach to Lasting Change

 St. Louis River  Virtual

Explore practical, brain-based tools and evidence-informed learning strategies that help practitioners better understand and support the cognitive skills underlying attention, memory, and processing to create meaningful, lasting change for children and families.

Presented by Carolyn Haney, Masters of Ed Psychology, Executive Director; Lilly Carlsness-Clayton, BASc Psych, Educational Director; Cassidy Ehnes, BASc Psych, Team Supervisor; Micah Schweske, BASc, Clinical Director, Duluth Core Learning

134	From Pathology to Possibility: An Autism-Affirming Understanding for Attachment and Development	 French River	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
135	Protect Your Peace	 Gooseberry Falls 1	 Non-virtual	
136	How Can We Be Helpful If We Aren't "Feeling It": Fundamental Skills for Growth, Grace and Career Sustainability In The Helping Professions	 Gooseberry Falls 2	 Non-virtual	
137	Facilitating Caregiving on the Frontlines: Grace Through Grit	 Gooseberry Falls 3	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
138	More Than a Diagnosis: Understanding What Lies Beneath Eating Disorders and Bridging the Theory-to-Practice Gap	 Harborside 202	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
139	Don't worry I got this; The Casey Martin family story	 Harborside 203	 Non-virtual	
140	From Intake to Housing: Building Effective Pathways for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness	 Harborside 204	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
141	Leveraging MSS Data for Change: Safeguarding Minnesota Youth Against Human Trafficking	 Harborside 205	 Non-virtual	
142	Connecting Families with Autism to Services	 Harborside 301-302	 Non-virtual	
143	Building Advocacy Relationships with Resistive and Reluctant Caregivers	 Harborside 303	 Non-virtual	
144	Servant Leadership	 Harborside 304	 Non-virtual	
145	Relationships Are Your Ethical Responsibility	 Harborside 305	 Non-virtual	 Clinical Hours
146	Reading the Room: The Importance of Understanding Body Language in Child Interviews	 Lake Superior Ballroom J	 Virtual	
147	Workforce Preparedness: Partnerships Improving Outcomes for MN Children and Families	 Lake Superior Ballroom K	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
148	A Family Problem Requires a Family Solution: how families are affected by addiction, and what to do about it	 Lake Superior Ballroom L	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
149	The Other Side of Grief	 Lake Superior Ballroom MN	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
150	Building Capacity to Work with Individuals Impacted by Sex Trafficking and/or Exploitation	 Lake Superior Ballroom O	 Virtual	 Clinical Hours
151	Calling People In: Accountability, Connection, and Culture in Human Services Leadership	 Split Rock	 Non-virtual	
152	Practical AI: Using Artificial Intelligence with Skill, Ethics, and Discernment	 St. Louis River Room	 Virtual	

134 From Pathology to Possibility: An Autism-Affirming Understanding for Attachment and Development

 French River  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

There is a dynamic between attachment and authenticity; when these needs conflict, attachment wins, and self-suppression becomes survival. This tension is present as trauma-informed approaches often fail to include autistic trauma. As Autistic individuals, we are often treated as a disorder rather than a whole person. When autism is seen as something to be treated, authentic expression is targeted, distress is punished, fawning is rewarded, and masking is measured as progress. This outdated perspective creates cycles of unintentional harm, unattuned caregiving, and developmental impacts.

This session examines how barriers to attachment and authenticity influence autistic development and shape outcomes. Participants will identify these patterns within their own approaches as we will examine where these experiences and adaptations are misunderstood across various systems. Attendees will be equipped to implement intentional changes toward affirming practices through relational attunement and interventions that improve Autistic well-being.

Presented by Santanna Ficken, MHP, Advocate, Educational Consultant, Minnesota Neurodivergent Education, Advocacy and Therapy Services (MnNEAT)

135 Protect Your Peace

 Gooseberry Falls 1  Non-virtual

This workshop supports in recognizing stress response behaviors in ourselves and others—and understanding how these patterns impact our work and relationships. Come learn and practice strategies that shift your own wellbeing and how you show up for your day-to-day. Practical takeaways will be shared for you to connect to peace, clarity, and compassion in stressful work environments. Integrate simple, daily practices that prevent burnout and support thriving.

Presented by Rebecca James Alsum, B.A. Sociology, Qigong Trainer, 500 RYT, Certified Sexologist and Sex Coach, Executive Director, Svalja Whole-Being and Wise Roots Wellbeing

136 How Can We Be Helpful If We Aren't "Feeling It": Fundamental Skills for Growth, Grace and Career Sustainability In The Helping Professions

 Gooseberry Falls 2  Non-virtual

Work with individuals experiencing life struggles can adversely impact on personal and professional well-being, effectiveness and capacity for compassionate helping, as well as career sustainability. This unique workshop integrates short presentation, topic-specific live music and personal reflection space to examine the emotional challenges inherent in this work and highlights 6 specific skills fundamental to effective and compassionate helping, even in the midst of these very challenges. These skills include a sense of meaning and purpose, personal awareness, self-regulation, emotional reflection, radical compassion and compassion satisfaction. In addition to the practical and immediate application of these skills, this workshop will provide affirmation, reflection and inspiration.

Presented by Alan O'Malley-Laursen, MSW, Trainer/Consultant, Self-Employed

137 Facilitating Caregiving on the Frontlines: Grace Through Grit

 Gooseberry Falls 3  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Have you ever been so caught up in the needs of others, that you couldn't address your own? Or felt things such as compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma or moral injury? Join Jennifer Fernjack as she addresses such matters through real life stories of grit and ways that science can help along the way.

Presented by Jennifer Fernjack, MBA, Author, keynote speaker and podcast host, Emotional Grit, LLC

138 More Than a Diagnosis: Understanding What Lies Beneath Eating Disorders and Bridging the Theory-to-Practice Gap

 Harborside 202  Non-virtual  Clinical Hours

Eating disorders are often viewed through the lens of food, weight, and eating behaviors, yet clinicians quickly discover that treatment is rarely that straightforward. This workshop explores eating disorders and disordered eating across the spectrum, including both diagnosable presentations and subclinical patterns that may not meet full diagnostic criteria but still cause significant distress and impairment. Participants will examine the complex interplay of body image, identity, perfectionism, anxiety, trauma, attachment, emotional regulation, and cultural influences that often drive eating disorder symptoms.

Designed with practical application in mind, this training focuses on what clinicians can actually do in session. Through case examples, clinical tools, intervention strategies, and role play, participants will learn how to assess concerns, navigate common treatment challenges, respond to resistance and ambivalence, and create meaningful therapeutic conversations that extend beyond food and weight.

Presented by Layla Berenjian, Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology, Therapist, Exhale Therapy

139 Don't worry I got this; The Casey Martin family story

 Harborside 203  Non-virtual

In this workshop, we will present a video of a presentation we did as a family with the Virginia PD, to area High schools about an OD death of our family member.

Presented by Jonathan Salo, Bachelors, SW, Personal; Chad Nickila, Virginia PD, Deputy Chief; Seth Riihiluoma and Tracy Martin, Family

PROUD SPONSOR OF

St. Louis County Health and Human Services Conference



Together we can build stronger and healthier communities.

Blue Cross® and Blue Shield® of Minnesota and Blue Plus® are nonprofit independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

140 From Intake to Housing: Building Effective Pathways for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

Harborside 204 Non-virtual Clinical Hours

The journey from initial contact to permanent housing is often complex, requiring coordinated systems, trauma-informed engagement, and persistent case management. This interactive workshop will explore best practices for moving individuals experiencing homelessness from intake through housing placement while minimizing barriers and maximizing engagement.

Participants will examine the critical stages of the housing process, including screening and assessment, documentation collection, housing navigation, landlord engagement, housing stabilization, and retention strategies. Special attention will be given to working with individuals experiencing mental health challenges, substance use disorders, chronic homelessness, and military veterans. Through case studies, group discussion, and practical tools, attendees will learn strategies to improve outcomes, reduce delays, and create person-centered approaches that support long-term housing success.

Presented by Amanda Hooper, Master In Psychology, Intake and Triage Program Manager; Kim Wilson, Bachelors in Human Services, Housing Program Manager, MACV- Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans

141 Leveraging MSS Data for Change: Safeguarding Minnesota Youth Against Human Trafficking

Harborside 205 Non-virtual

This session will review critical data points from the Minnesota Student Survey regarding risk factors associated with human trafficking. Facilitators include subject matter experts and Safe Harbor Regional Navigators, who will engage the audience in meaningful discussions, offering best practices and effective strategies for enhancing protective factors and fostering resilience to create meaningful impact for youth at-risk.

Presented by Mel Alvar, BASc, Safe Harbor Regional Navigator, PAVSA; Andrea White, Safe Harbor Regional Navigator, Dodge, Olmsted County Victim Services; Mary Bowen Bantle, BA Women's Studies, Safe Harbor Shelter & Housing Grant Manager, MN DHS Homelessness, Housing and Support Services

142 Connecting Families with Autism to Services

Harborside 301-302 Non-virtual

This workshop will provide a brief overview of the autism pathway to services, barriers that families face, and ideas on how to streamline the process to connect families to services faster.

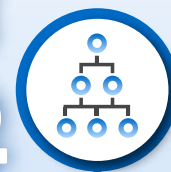
Presented by Ashton Martin, BSN, Public Health Nurse, St Louis County Public Health & Human Services

CRISIS CLEAN TEAM

From chaos to calm.



HOARDING
RESOLUTION



CLUTTER
CORRECTION



DEEP
CLEANING



FILTH
CLEANUP



MOVING
SUPPORT

612.444.4CCT

info@crisiscleanteam.com

www.crisiscleanteam.com

UMPI # A812413300

143 Building Advocacy Relationships with Resistive and Reluctant Caregivers

 **Harborside 303**  **Non-virtual**

This session will guide advocates to dive deeper into the relationships that they have with social services and law enforcement alongside the families they serve in the advocacy role. We will discuss the implications and intersectionality of “non-compliant” caregivers throughout a criminal case and/or child maltreatment investigation. The training will share the advocacy perspective rooted in the work of Ellen Pence and the Advocacy Learning Center, bridging grassroots work of domestic violence to the child advocacy center field. Participants will learn how to better advocate for caregivers labeled as non-compliant, resistive, or reluctant.

Presented by Gracie Getschel, Biochemistry BA, Criminology BA, Prevention Education Coordinator, Senior Family Advocate and Trainer, First Witness CAC

144 Servant Leadership

 **Harborside 304**  **Non-virtual**

Empower human services leadership teams to lead by example. This coaching and training workshop focuses on service through integrity and dedication to stakeholders. We will dive deep into the five pillars of servant leadership: Empathy: Connecting deeply with your team and the communities you serve. Building Trust: Creating a safe, reliable foundation for your staff. Communication: Ensuring clarity, transparency, and active listening. Modeling: Setting the standard and doing the work alongside your team. Feedback: Delivering constructive insights that foster continuous growth.

Presented by Ashley Curtis, School Administration/K-6 Education, Learning and Development Manager, NHS Northstar

145 Relationships Are Your Ethical Responsibility

 **Harborside 305**  **Non-virtual**  **Clinical Hours**

This session explores social work values and ethics through the lens of relationships as a core ethical responsibility. It examines how your lived experiences and the people who have shaped you into who you are and give your life meaning and purpose.

Ethics is action. It is the responsibility you have to become the best version of yourself in service to others. It is not occasional. It is a way of being. In social work, relationships are the first principle of the work, and you cannot separate the work from the worker. You are social work. Your ability for self-awareness and continuous growth impacts the quality of your relationships and the outcomes for those you serve. This session draws from the core ideas of my book, Relationships Are Everything. A limited number of copies may be shared with participants. Learn more at <https://paulmeunier.life>.

Presented by Paul Meunier, MA in Psychology, Author | Keynote Speaker | Leadership Trainer & Team Builder | Executive Director, Youth Intervention Programs Association (YIPA)

146 Reading the Room: The Importance of Understanding Body Language in Child Interviews

 **Lake Superior Ballroom J**  **Virtual**

In this webinar, participants will learn about the importance of being able to recognize body language cues in forensic interviews and to what extent they happen subconsciously. We will discuss how body language cues may be dependent on a child’s age, culture, and experiences. Participants will learn neutral interview statements that can be made when seeing certain body language cues with different age groups. Lastly, we will discuss subconscious interviewer body language and the possible implications this body language could have on the child being interviewed. Throughout the training we will discuss case examples looking at prominent body language cues.

Presented by Amber Bloss, Criminology BA, Sociology BA, Psychology Minor, Forensic Interviewer and Trainer, First Witness Child Advocacy Center

147 Workforce Preparedness: Partnerships Improving Outcomes for MN Children and Families

 Lake Superior Ballroom K  Virtual  Clinical Hours

Preparing the next generation of child welfare professionals requires strong partnerships and shared commitment to improve outcomes for Minnesota children and families. This workshop highlights how state, tribal, county, and university collaborations strengthen workforce preparedness through training, mentorship, internships, and community engagement.

Aligned with the conference theme of Grit, Growth and Grace, presenters will share innovative approaches to building a resilient, culturally responsive child welfare workforce and creating sustainable and impactful pathways for future professionals.

Presented by Melissa Mendez, MSW, LICSW, MN Child Welfare Education Partnership Coordinator; Andrea Bartels, MN DCYF, Training Program Operations Lead; S.K. Chung, UMD Title IV-E Child Welfare Program Director, MN Child Welfare Training Academy; Larissa Littlewolf, Tribal Training and Certification Partnership - University of Minnesota- Duluth

148 A Family Problem Requires a Family Solution: how families are affected by addiction, and what to do about it

 Lake Superior Ballroom L  Virtual  Clinical Hours

When a loved one struggles with addiction, families tend to focus their energy and attention on getting that person well. Most believe that if their loved one finds help, then everyone else will be okay. Many family members can see the negative impact and consequences of addiction on their loved ones, but find it difficult to see the depth of how they've been affected. If families aren't getting support for themselves, the fear that they've had about their loved one finding recovery often becomes fear about whether or not their loved one will maintain it. Without an understanding of this disease, families often end up reacting as they did when their loved one was still in active addiction.

This session will look at how families are affected by the disease of addiction, and how to overcome the obstacles that stand in the way of families finding support for themselves.

Presented by Sherry Gaugler-Stewart, BS, Director of Family and Spiritual Recovery, The Retreat

149 The Other Side of Grief

 Lake Superior Ballroom MN  Virtual  Clinical Hours

Western Society does not provide grief support in a manner that is always helpful. This workshop will identify the stages of grief, along with the 6th stage of Meaning and Purpose. The non-linear grief journey and identify resources for support

Presented by Jode Freyholtz-London, AA Business Management, Executive Director, Grief Educator; David Kessler, WRAP Advanced Level Facilitator, Peer Support Specialist, Wellness in the Woods

150 Building Capacity to Work with Individuals Impacted by Sex Trafficking and/or Exploitation

 Lake Superior Ballroom O  Virtual  Clinical Hours

Individuals who are impacted by sex trafficking and/or exploitation receive a range of comprehensive services. Service professionals must be ready to walk along side these individuals in a holistic, human-centered way throughout their healing processes. In this training, we will give tools and go over best practices on how to build capacity to work with these individuals. Co-presented by a Subject Matter Expert with Lived Experience in sex trafficking and exploitation.

Presented by Emma Olsen, B.A. Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies, Safe Harbor Program Coordinator, North Homes Children and Family Services; Monica Miller, B.S. Social Work and Minor in Chemical Dependency, Subject Matter Expert with Lived Experience, LSW

151 Calling People In: Accountability, Connection, and Culture in Human Services Leadership

 **Split Rock**  **Non-virtual**

In human services, leadership happens in the middle of stress, emotion, and high-stakes decisions. Leaders are expected to address behavior, support their teams, and maintain standards—often all at the same time. Too often, accountability shows up as “calling people out,” leading to defensiveness, disconnection, and teams that shut down instead of step up. This session offers a different approach.

“Calling people in” is a way of leading that holds people accountable while preserving dignity, trust, and relationships. It recognizes that how we address behavior matters just as much as what we address—especially in environments where people are already carrying a significant emotional load.

Through real-world scenarios and practical, usable language, participants will learn how to navigate difficult conversations in ways that reduce defensiveness, invite ownership, and strengthen team culture without lowering expectations. Participants will leave with tools they can immediately apply to address challenges, support their teams, and lead with both clarity and compassion.

Presented by Krisie Barron, BSW, LSW Caregiver and Human Specialist, Embrace LLC

152 Practical AI: Using Artificial Intelligence with Skill, Ethics, and Discernment

 **St. Louis River**  **Virtual**

Artificial intelligence is no longer a distant future concept. It is already shaping how people write, plan, learn, organize information, make decisions, and solve everyday problems. But using AI well requires more than curiosity; it requires skill, ethical judgment, and practical discernment. This engaging 60-minute session introduces participants to the fundamentals of AI, common platforms and everyday uses, responsible boundaries, environmental considerations, and simple prompting strategies that make AI more useful and less intimidating. Designed for professionals from all backgrounds, this workshop helps participants move beyond hype or hesitation and begin using AI as a practical thinking partner while keeping human judgment, privacy, accountability, and care at the center.

Presented by Ryan Bauers, Master of Business Administration, Master of Divinity, Organization Development Specialist, St. Louis County

Your FMS partner in bridging
the **future of self-direction.**

Supporting **CDCS** and **CFSS** participants and their teams.



www.mainsl.com/minnesota/fms



EXHIBITOR HALL MAPS

EXIT

EXIT

Beacon of strength 124	Ecumen Home Care and Hospice 125	Accend Services, Inc. 126	Expanding Horizons 127	Recovering Hope Treatment Center 128	HP Psychological Associates 129	Foster Adopt Minnesota 130	Innovative Human Services 131	Interim HealthCare 132	Disability Specialists 133	Catalyst Mental Health 134
---------------------------	-------------------------------------	------------------------------	---------------------------	---	------------------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------------

Little Sand Group Home
11

Refreshments

Refreshments

Alcoholics Anonymous
10

STAR Services
12

Harry Meyering Center
27

UMD College of Pharmacy
28

NorthStar Community Services
43

Modern Access
44

Mains'l Services
58-59

Nexus Family Healing
60-61

Livewell Alert
74-75

Firefly Mental Health LLC
9

Minnesota Sex Offender Program
13

MN Alliance on Problem Gambling
26

TLC of Duluth
29

Provide Care Inc.
42

Horowitz Integrated Services
45

The Retreat
8

Monarch Healthcare Management
14

Homestyle Direct
25

Two Rivers Counseling
30

QMedic
41

Genesis Group Homes, Inc.
46

Peace of Mind Duluth
56-57

Asura Homecare Advisors
62-63

EOSIS
72-73

Help Me Grow
7

Covenant Ability Network of Minnesota
15

Bold North Recovery
24

Insure Duluth (Generations Health Care Initiatives)
31

Northwood Technical College
40

Falk's Nursing Service LTC Pharmacy
47

Hammer Travel
6

PAL Medical Systems
16

A New Direction
23

Alzheimer's Association
32

PICS (Partners in Community Supports)
39

Duluth Core Learning
48

Trillium Services
54-55

Best Care
64-65

MRCI
70-71

Northern Waters Float Center
5

Essentia Health Pharmacy
17

Lake Superior Community Health Center
22

Lifeway Mobility
33

REM Arrowhead, Inc
38

Charlie Health
49

Edward Jones
4

Essentia Health
18

Co-Nexio
21

Capitol Park Mental Health Hospital
34

Psych North
37

Altru Inpatient Behavioral Health
50

Brightwater
52-53

ACCRA Homecare
66-67

Blue Cross Blue Shield and Blue Plus of MN
68-69

PrairieCare
3

Essentia Health St. Mary's Hospice
19

Consumer Directions Inc.
20

Overeaters Anonymous Northern Serenity Intergroup
35

Northland Counseling Center
36

Aerial Recovery Services
51

Transformation House
2

Clarity Consulting, Inc
1

Northway Academy
165

Rural AIDS Action Network (RAAN)
164

Sagent Behavioral Health
163

St. Scholastica Monastery
162

University of Wisconsin Superior
161

Vinland National Center
160

FIRST AID

Men's Restroom

Women's Restroom

Main Entrance

Udac, Inc
159

South Hall Entry

North & South Hall Entry

Pioneer Hall

				EXIT		EXIT		
MDH 135	MN DHS, Housing and	MN DHS 137	Hmong Home Health	Grace Medical Supplies	Zenith Health Advocates	Amory IT 141	Al-Anon 142	

Refreshments

Crisis Clean Team 76-77	Circle of Life Home Care 91	Housing Benefits 101 92	Center for Al- cohol & Drug Treamtent 107	Valley Medial & Wellness 108	DHS - Deaf, Deaf- Blind and Hard of Hearing State Services 123
	Circle of Life Home Care 90	DHS Homeless- ness, Housing & Support Services Admin 93	Millennium Health 106	Melrose Center 109	MN Aging Path- ways/ Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging 122
Steri-Clean 78-79	Grace Place LLC 89	HealtheMed 94	Northern Lights Area of Narcot- ics Anonymous 105	Ambition to Survive LLC 110	Northland Psychological Services 121
	Fernbrook Family Center 88	Mental Health Systems 95	Psycnew Creations 104	Northstar Behavioral Health Network LLC 111	Arrowhead Eco- nomic Opportunity Agency 120
Medica 80-81	Dungarvin 87	Minnesota Disability De- termination Services 96	Residential Providers Association of MN103	Owl Moon Mental Health 112	Enlight Counseling 119
	Disability Hub MN 86	Hazelden Betty Ford 97	NASW-MN 102	Arc Northland 113	DRCC 118
Mn Adult & Teen Challenge 82-83	Center for Practice Transformation 85	North Homes Children and Family Services 98	Minnesota Board of Social Work 101	Diversion Solutions 114	Tribal Training and Certification Part- nership (UMD) 117
	Advocating Change Together 84	Prairie St. Johns 99	Minnesota Social Service Alliance Duluth Association 100	Recovery Alliance Duluth 115	Winter Family Care 116

U of M Institute on Com- munity Integration 158	Support- ive Living Solutions 157	Safe Transitions 156	Residential Services, Inc (RSI) 155	UMD Dept. of Social Work 154
--	--	----------------------------	--	---------------------------------------

Mom's Meals 143	Port Group Homes 144	MN Brain Injury Alliance & MN Stroke Association 145	Therap Services, LLC 146	Lutheran Social Services 147	Wellness in the Woods 148	Genesis Recovery Services, LLC 149	MN Child Welfare Training Academy 150	Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare 151	MN Rare Disease Advisory Council 152	St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services 153
-----------------------	----------------------------	---	-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------	---	--	---	--	--

To Arena
Exhibits 166-242
and Wellness Walkway

EXHIBITOR HALL MAPS

DECC Arena

Access North Center for Independent Living 214	Assisted Living Locators LLC 215	WebMed Mental Health and Recovery Services 216	Cedar Hill Therapy 217	MN DHS 218	AMFM Healthcare 219
---	-------------------------------------	---	---------------------------	---------------	------------------------

St. Croix Hospice 213	UW-Superior Pruitt Center for Mindfulness & Well-Being 202
--------------------------	---

QPI MN 212	DRS 203
---------------	------------

Arrowhead Regional Quality Council-Arc Northland 211	Fairview Range 204
---	-----------------------

Unified Work, powered by MDI 210	Minnesota ABL Plan 205
-------------------------------------	---------------------------

Tranquility Lifestyle Solutions Inc 209	McCarthy Manor/Lakeside Manor 206
--	--------------------------------------

NHS Northstar 208	Dose Health, LLC 207
----------------------	-------------------------

Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans 201	Minnesota Council on Disability 190
--	--

Disability Partners 200	Minnesota Council on Disability 191
----------------------------	--

Katherine's House 199	Minnesota Council on Disability 192
--------------------------	--

On Demand Billing 198	Solsura 193
--------------------------	----------------

Chum 197	eBrief by EtecRx 194
-------------	-------------------------

Minnesota Suicide Prevention Regional Coordination 196	Prairie Care/Newport Healthcare 195
---	--

Assisted Technology Village

Everyday Miracles 242	SENSE-ational Spaces, LLC 241	AHLHealth-care 240	Riverside Counseling 239	Fond du Lac Human services Div - SUD Dept - Tagwii 238	Pioneer Recovery Center 237
--------------------------	----------------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------------	---	--------------------------------

To Fitzgerald
Hall

MN Office of Inspector General - Background Studies Division 220	MN DHS 221	Thomas Allen Inc 222	Boundary- Care 223	ShareHouse 224
--	---------------	----------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------

Northwoods Therapeutic Services 189	Birch & Pine Counseling 178
GT Independence 188	Little River Autism Services 179
True North Goodwill 187	Pavillio 180
Lakeview Behavioral Health 186	Fond du Lac Reservation Human Services Division 181
AbleLight 185	Fond Du Lac Human Services Community Health Department, Harm Reduction Program 182
Moments Hospice 184	Northwoods Counseling, LLC 183

Mental Health Minnesota 177	Progress Valley 166
Diamond Willow and Keystone Bluffs Assisted Living 176	Department of Children, Youth, and Families 167
Cassia - Moose Lake Village 175	Lifeworks Services 168
Precision Diagnostics 174	Nirvana North 169
Village Caregiving 173	OurFamily- Wizard 170
Lakeplace Retreat Center 172	St. Catherine University 171

Rainbow Heart Heal- ing Arts 225	People Incorpor- ated 226	Homeward Bound, Inc. 227
---	------------------------------------	--------------------------------

To Pioneer Hall
Exhibits 1-165

Birch Tree Center 236	The College of St. Scholastica 235	Ampersand Families - Saint Paul, MN 234	Burkwood Treatment Center 233	Empowered Events & Exploring Inc. 232	VRI 231
-----------------------------	---	---	--	---	------------

Aspirus St. Lukes Plus One Doula Program 230	MN DHS 229	Above & Beyond With U (A&BWU) 228
--	---------------	---

To Pioneer Hall
Exhibits 1-165

2026 EXHIBITORS

A New Direction

Ally Sponsor - Booth 23

8075 Sterling Drive
Po Box 128 | Saint Joseph, MN | 56374
Sara Theisen: Sara@anewdirection.info
320-247-7058 | www.anewdirection.info

AbleLight

Ally Sponsor - Booth 185

600 Hoffmann Dr | Watertown, WI | 53094
Kayla Ewing: Kayla.Ewing@ablelight.org
952-443-2048 | ablelight.org

Above & Beyond With U (A&BWU)

Ally Sponsor - Booth 228

PO Box 65 | Two Harbors, MN | 55616-1540
Jenna Udenberg | jenna.udenberg@gmail.com
218-349-5325 | www.aboveandbeyondwithu.org

Accend Services, Inc.

Ally Sponsor - Booth 126

101 West 2nd St. | Duluth, MN | 55802
Michael Clevette: mike@accendservices.com
218-724-3122 | accendservices.com

Access North Center for Independent Living

Ally Sponsor - Booth 214

1309 E 40th St | Hibbing, MN | 55746
Jacob Knaffla: jknaffla@accessnorth.net
218-262-6675 | accessnorth.net

Accra Homecare

Champion Sponsor - Booths 66-67

12600 Whitewater Drive, Suite 100
Minnetonka, MN | 55343
Rhiannon Smith: rhiannonsmith@accracare.org
218-290-5883 | www.accrahomecare.org

Advocating Change Together

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 84

1821 University Avenue West, Suite 177
St Paul, MN | 55104
Jennifer Walton: walton@selfadvocacy.org
651-399-6824 | selfadvocacy.org

Aerial Recovery Services

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 51

412 West Superior Street | Duluth, MN | 55811
Jodi VonVille: jvonville@arsduluth.com
218-481-4019 | www.arsduluth.com

AHL Healthcare Group

Ally Sponsor - Booth 240

1010 Brainerd Ave | Duluth, MN | 55811
Jenesis Johnson:
jejohnson@ahlhealthcaregroup.com
218-728-4360 | www.ahlhealthcaregroup.com

Al-Anon

Ally Sponsor - Booth 142

P O Box 16332 | Duluth, MN | 55816
Ann M
218-391-9737 | minnesotanorth-al-anon.org

Alcoholics Anonymous

Ally Sponsor - Booth 10

5032 Dodge St | Duluth, MN | 55804-2433
scott ahlgren: ahlgrenscott@yahoo.com
763-228-0730 | twinportsaa.org

Altru Inpatient Behavioral Health

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 50

860 S. Columbia Rd. | Grand Forks, ND | 58201
Melissa Lennon: mlennon@altru.org
701-780-5687 | altru.org/behavioral-health

Alzheimer's Association

Ally Sponsor - Booth 32

4960 Miller Trunk Hwy, Suite 700
Hermantown, MN | 55811
Jenna Pogorels: jpogorels@alz.org
218-722-4335 | alz.org/mnnd

Ambition to Survive LLC

Ally Sponsor - Booth 110

2917 London Rd | Duluth, MN | 55804
Brad Dearth: dearth.brad@yahoo.com
218-340-9870

AMFM Healthcare

Ally Sponsor - Booth 219

12178 Arcola Trail North | Stillwater, MN | 55082
Samantha Huberty:
samantha.huberty@amfmhealthcare.com
612-592-6234 | amfmtreatment.com

Amory IT

Ally Sponsor - Booth 141

79 13th Ave NE, Suite 207
Minneapolis, MN | 55413
Micah Thor: micah@amoryit.com
612-235-4895 | amoryit.com

Ampersand Families - Saint Paul, MN

Ally Sponsor - Booth 234

1751 County Road B West #300
Saint Paul, MN | 55113
Cassie McDuffie:
cassie.mcduffie@ampersandfamilies.org
612-559-1254 | www.ampersandfamilies.org

Arc Northland

Ally Sponsor - Booth 113

222 E Superior St Ste 302
Duluth, MN | 55802-2277
Jenny Kempfert: jkempfert@arcnorthland.org
218-726-4724 | www.arcnorthland.org

Arrowhead Economic

Opportunity Agency

Ally Sponsor - Booth 120

702 S 3rd Ave | Virginia, MN | 55792
Emily Simonson: planning@aeoa.org
218-735-6834 | www.aeoa.org

Arrowhead Regional Quality

Council-Arc Northland

Ally Sponsor - Booth 211

222 E Superior St. Suite 302
Duluth, MN | 55802-2277
Becky Lambert: rlambert@arcnorthland.org
218-355-8264 | www.qualitycouncilmn.org

Aspirus St. Lukes Plus One Doula Program

Ally Sponsor - Booth 230

915 East First Street, Duluth, MN | 55805
Kat Buckman: katherine.buckman@aspirus.org
218-249-3783 | www.aspirus.org/doulas-birth-support

Assisted Living Locators LLC

Ally Sponsor - Booth 215

581 W Redwing St | Duluth, MN | 55803
Troy Olson: Troy@assistedlivinglocators.com
218-321-0030 | Duluth.assistedlivinglocators.com

Asura Homecare Advisors

Champion Sponsor - Booths 62-63

5610 Rowland Rd, Suite 100
Hopkins, MN | 55343
Peter Noss: peternoss@asura.org
612-474-3110 | asura.org

Beacon of strength

Ally Sponsor - Booth 124

205 West 2nd Street, Suite 335
Duluth, MN | 55802
Donna Olsen:
Donna.olsen@beaconofstrength.com
612-440-3499 | Beaconofstrength.com

Best Care

Champion Sponsor - Booths 64-65

2562 7th Avenue E, Suite 201
North St. Paul, MN | 55109
Leann Lindahl: leann@bestcaremn.com
763-710-2003 | bestcaremn.com

Birch & Pine Counseling

Ally Sponsor - Booth 178

1618 Cloquet Ave | Cloquet, MN | 55720
Ashley Rhoads: arhoads@bpcounseling.org
218-451-2116 | www.bpcounseling.info

Birch Tree Center

Ally Sponsor - Booth 236

4730 Matterhorn Circle | Duluth, MN | 55811
Rachel Broadway:
rachel.broadway@thrivebn.com | 218-481-3406
www.thrivebehavioralnetwork.com

**Blue Cross Blue Shield and
Blue Plus of MN**

Champion Sponsor - Booth 68-69

3400 Yankee Drive | Eagan, MN | 55121
Brad Vold: bradley.vold@bluecrossmn.com
651-662-9915 | [www.bluecrossmn.com/our-plans/
medical-assistance-medicaid](http://www.bluecrossmn.com/our-plans/medical-assistance-medicaid)

Bold North Recovery

Ally Sponsor - Booth 24

5645 Lindsay St | Golden Valley, MN | 55422
Randy Anderson: info@boldnorthrecovery.com
763-200-1180 | www.boldnorthrecovery.com

BoundaryCare

Ally Sponsor - Booth 223

N1132 Mormon Dr | La Crosse, WI | 54601
Darcie Marks: darcie@boundarycare.com
715-894-7151 | www.boundarycare.com

Brightwater Health

Opening Keynote Sponsor - Booths 52-53

1401 E 1st Street | Duluth, MN | 55805
Dan McGaffey:
daniel.mcgahey@brightwaterhealth.org
218-730-2351 | www.brightwaterhealth.org

Burkwood Treatment Center

Ally Sponsor - Booth 233

615 Old Mill Road | Hudson, WI | 54016
Crystal Caruso:
crystal.caruso@burkwoodtreatmentcenter.com
651-900-0084 | burkwoodtreatmentcenter.com

Capitol Park Mental Health Hospital

Ally Sponsor - Booth 34

559 Capitol Blvd | Saint Paul, MN | 55103
Nolan Mulligan:
nolan.mulligan@capitolparkmh.com
651-253-5832 | www.capitolparkmentalhealth.com

Cassia - Moose Lake Village

Ally Sponsor - Booth 175

710 South Kenwood Avenue
Moose Lake, MN | 55767
Alicia Amlin: alicia.amlin@cassialife.org
612-777-8272 | www.mooselakevillage.org

Catalyst Mental Health

Ally Sponsor - Booth 134

1502 London Rd suite 205 | Duluth, MN | 55812
Kira Peterson: kira@catalystmentalhealth.com
800-336-5973 | www.catalystmentalhealth.com

Cedar Hill Therapy

Ally Sponsor - Booth 217

3432 Lyndale Ave S | Minneapolis, MN | 55408
Grace Johnston: admin@cedarhilltherapy.com
612-284-4291 | www.cedarhilltherapy.com

**Center for Advanced Studies in
Child Welfare**

Ally Sponsor - Booth 151

1711 County Road B, Suite 320
Roseville, MN | 55114
Denise McKizzie Cooper: mcki0055@umn.edu
612-644-8850 | casw@umn.edu

Center for Alcohol & Drug Treatment

Ally Sponsor - Booth 107

314 W Superior Street, Suite 400
Duluth, MN | 55802
Kris Ciurleo: kparker@cadt.org
218-336-4651 | www.cadt.org

Center for Practice Transformation

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 85

1404 Gortner Ave, Rm 170 | St. Paul, MN | 55108
Kelly Johnson: transform@umn.edu
612-626-9042
practicetransformation.umn.edu

Charlie Health

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 49

710 28th Street | Cloquet, MN | 55720
Shawna Suomi:
shawna.suomi@charliehealth.com
218-600-8845 | charliehealth.com

Chum

Ally Sponsor - Booth 197

21 W 1st Street | Duluth, MN | 55802
Danna Griffy: dgriffy@chumduluth.org
218-720-6521 | chumduluth.org

Circle of Life Home Care**Advocate Sponsor - Booth 91**

4100 Lexington Ave N, #150
Shoreview, MN | 55126
Marina Olson: marketing@onecircle.care
651-253-3140 | onecircle.care

Circle of Life Home Care**Advocate Sponsor - Booth 90**

4100 Lexington Ave N Ste 150
Shoreview, MN | 55126-3025
Marina Olson: marina.olson@onecircle.care
651-253-3140 | onecircle.care

Clarity Consulting, Inc**Ally Sponsor - Booth 1**

4060 Sangstrom Rd | Hermantown, MN | 55810
Brian Johnson: brian@clarityconsultingus.com
218-461-0281 | clarityconsultingus.com/landing-page/

Co-Nexio**Ally Sponsor - Booth 21**

830 West 6th Street | Duluth, MN | 55806
Tracy Chaplin: tracy@co-nexio.com
218-461-7670 | www.co-nexio.com

Consumer Directions Inc.**Ally Sponsor - Booth 20**

1140 Elm ST E | St. Joseph, MN | 56374
Dori Vredenburg: dori@yourfse.com
320-257-8177 | consumerdirections.info

Covenant Ability Network of Minnesota**Ally Sponsor - Booth 15**

322 N 60th Ave W | Duluth, MN | 55807
Gallaya Karpeh: gdkarpeh@covabilitymn.org
218-576-7778 | www.covabilitymn.org

Crisis Clean Team**Champion Sponsor - Booths 76-77**

6010 Lone Oak Rd Unit 1
Rockford, MN | 55373
Amber Kramer: amber@crisiscleanteam.com
612-444-4228 | www.crisiscleanteam.com

Department of Children, Youth, and Families**Ally Sponsor - Booth 167**

444 Lafayette Rd N | St. Paul, MN | 55101
Shinay Rasmusson:
shinay.rasmusson@state.mn.us
651-539-7980 | dcyf.mn.gov

Department of Human Services - Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing State Services**Ally Sponsor - Booth 123**

540 Cedar St | Saint Paul, MN | 55101
Calla Kevan: calla.kevan@state.mn.us
800-657-3663 | mn.gov/deaf-hard-of-hearing

DHS Homelessness, Housing & Support Services Administration**Advocate Sponsor - Booth 93**

540 Cedar Street | PO Box 64842
St. Paul, MN | 55125-6308
Kaytlyn Lundstrom:
Kaytlyn.C.Lundstrom@state.mn.us
651-431-3468 | mn.gov/dhs

Diamond Willow and Keystone Bluffs Assisted Living**Ally Sponsor - Booth 176**

302 W Superior St, Ste 70 | Duluth, MN | 55802
Jenny Sailer: jsailer@diamondwillow.com
218-348-3432 | www.diamondwillow.com
www.keystonebluffs.com

Disability Hub MN**Advocate Sponsor - Booth 86**

530 Robert St N | St Paul, MN | 55101
Kristin Kveno: outreach@disabilityhubmn.org
866-333-2466 | disabilityhubmn.org

Disability Partners**Ally Sponsor - Booth 200**

2579 Hamline Ave. N. Ste. C
Roseville, MN | 55113
Corey Zahm: info@disabilitypartners.net
651-633-4882 | www.disabilitypartners.net

Disability Specialists

Ally Sponsor - Booth 133

1907 Wood Rd | Cook, MN | 55723
Bart Payner: bart@disabilityspecialists.net
218-666-2676 | www.disabilityspecialists.net

Diversion Solutions

Ally Sponsor - Booth 114

8053 Industrial Park Rd | Baxter, MN | 56425
Trisha Huerta: trisha@diversionsolutions.net
651-385-4341 | diversionsolutions.net

Dose Health, LLC

Ally Sponsor - Booth 207

6104 Olson Memorial Hwy
Golden Valley, MN | 55422
Hannah Sohre: hannah@dosehealth.com
844-300-6212 | www.dosehealth.com

DRCC

Ally Sponsor - Booth 118

5629 Grand Avenue | Duluth, MN | 55807
Amy Stark: stark@drccinfo.org
218-393-9454 | DRCCinfo.org

DRS

Ally Sponsor - Booth 203

3390 Annapolis Ave N, Unit B-200
Plymouth, MN | 55447
Amanda Nordstrom: amanda.n@directrecovery.org
directrecovery.org
612-760-5387 | www.directrecovery.org

Duluth Core Learning

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 48

4801 Burning Tree Road | Duluth, MN | 55811
Lillian Carlsness-Clayton:
lilly@duluthcorelearning.com
218-481-0654 | www.duluthcorelearning.com

Dungarvin

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 87

1440 Northland Dr, Suite 100
Mendota Heights, MN | 55120
Jeana Moreno: jmoreno@dungarvin.com
651-699-6050 | www.Dungarvin.com

eBrief by EctectRx

Ally Sponsor - Booth 194

13859 Progress Blvd, Suite 300
Alachua, FL | 32615-9403
Cole Traynor: cole.traynor@etectrx.com
850-281-2108 | www.ebriefcommunity.com

Ecumen Home Care and Hospice

Ally Sponsor - Booth 125

4000 London Rd | Duluth, MN | 55840
Shelia Boyat: sheliaboyat@ecumen.org
218-235-3047 | Ecumen.org

Edward Jones

Ally Sponsor - Booth 4

2200 London Rd, STE 200 | Duluth, MN | 55812
Lauren Farden: lauren.farden@edwardjones.com
218-724-3037 | www.edwardjones.com/us-en/
financial-advisor/lauren-farden

Empowered Events & Exploring Inc.

Ally Sponsor - Booth 232

632 Westwind Ave | Shakopee, MN | 55379
Jodi Beuch:
empoweredeventsandexploring@gmail.com
952-201-1972
www.empoweredeventsandexploringinc.com

Enlight Counseling

Ally Sponsor - Booth 119

PO Box 161462 | Duluth, MN | 55816
Dan Maki: dan@enlightcc.com
218-514-4415 | www.enlightcc.com

EOSIS

Champion Sponsor - Booths 72-73

1111 Gateway Dr NE
East Grand Forks, MN | 56721
Tami Knudson: tami.knudson@eosisrecovery.com
701-213-7687 | eosisrecovery.com

Essentia Health

Ally Sponsor - Booth 18

4614 Mike Colalillo Drive | Duluth, MN | 55807
Kallin Mikkelsen:
kallin.mikkelsen@essentiahealth.org
www.essentiahealth.org/services/behavioral-
mental-health-services

Essentia Health Pharmacy**Ally Sponsor - Booth 17**

4614 Mike Colalillo Drive | Duluth, MN | 55807
Sarah Allen: sarah.allen@essentiahealth.org
218-786-3192 | www.essentiahealth.org/services/pharmacy

Essentia Health St. Mary's Hospice**Ally Sponsor - Booth 19**

407 E 4th St | Hospice Office - 5th Floor
Duluth, MN | 55805
Brenna Krummi:
Brenna.Krummi@essentiahealth.org
218-721-8098 | www.essentiahealth.org/services/hospice-care

Everyday Miracles**Ally Sponsor - Booth 242**

31 W 5th St | Duluth, MN | 55806
Jana Studelska: jana@everyday-miracles.org
218-340-2108 | www.everyday-miracles.org

Expanding Horizons**Ally Sponsor - Booth 127**

121 W Superior St | Duluth, MN | 55802
Paul Newberg:
paul@expandinghorizonshomes.com
218-390-4513 | expandinghorizonshomes.com

Fairview Range**Ally Sponsor - Booth 204**

750 East 34th Street | Hibbing, MN | 55746
Jessica Schuster: jessica.schuster@fairview.org
218-362-6771 | www.fairview.org/range

Falk's Nursing Service LTC Pharmacy**Advocate Sponsor - Booth 47**

221 E 14th St | Duluth, MN | 55811
Brenda Hanson: hansonb@falksrx.com
218-391-3862 | www.falkspharmacy.com

Fernbrook Family Center**Advocate Sponsor - Booth 88**

150 10th St NW, Suite 2 | Milaca, MN | 56353
Brittany Weiss: marketing@fernbrook.org
507-446-0461 | www.fernbrook.org

Firefly Mental Health LLC**Ally Sponsor - Booth 9**

4891 Miller Trunk HWY, STE 206
Hermantown, MN | 55811
Karissa Haugen: info@fireflymh.com
218-306-8383 | www.fireflymh.com

Fond Du Lac Human Services Community Health Department, Harm Reduction Program**Ally Sponsor - Booth 182**

927 Trettle Lane | Cloquet, MN | 55720
Raquel Wisniewski:
raquel.wisniewski@fdlband.org
218-380-0504 | fdlband.org

Fond du Lac Reservation Human Services Division**Ally Sponsor - Booth 181**

927 Trettle Ln | Cloquet, MN | 55720
JoEllyn Steele: joellynsteele@fdlband.org
218-878-2134 | fdlband.org

Fond du Lac Human services Division - SUD Department – Tagwii**Ally Sponsor - Booth 238**

927 Trettel Lane | Cloquet, MN 55720
Becky Robinson: beckyrobinson@fdlband.org
218-878-3870 | fdlband.org/services/human_services/tagwii_recovery_center/index.php

Foster Adopt Minnesota**Ally Sponsor - Booth 130**

2446 University Ave. W, Suite 140
St. Paul, MN | 55114
Jackie Brovold: jbrovold@fosteradoptmn.org
612-746-5130 | www.fosteradoptmn.org

Genesis Group Homes, Inc.**Advocate Sponsor - Booth 46**

8245 93rd Ave N | Brooklyn Park, MN | 55445
Stacey Hakes:
stacey.hakes@synovagroup-mn.com
612-209-1844 | www.genesis-mn.com

Genesis Recovery Services, LLC

Ally Sponsor - Booth 149

5 N 3rd Ave W, Suite 310
Duluth, MN | 55802
Elizabeth Jarve: ejarve@grsduluth.com
218-722-2368 | grsduluth.com

Grace Medical Supplies

Ally Sponsor - Booth 139

11240 Stillwater Blvd N suite b
Lake Elmo, MN | 55042-9640
jason mattox: osage1973@msn.com
651-430-8184 | GraceMedicalSupplies.com

Grace Place LLC

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 89

324 W Superior St, Ste 150
Duluth, MN | 55811
October Allen:
october@graceplacehousingsupport.com
218-341-7699 | graceplacehousingsupport.com

GT Independence

Ally Sponsor - Booth 188

215 Broadus St. | Sturgis, MI | 49091
Amanda Lewis: alewis@gtindependence.com 877-659-4500 | gtindependence.com

Hammer Travel

Ally Sponsor - Booth 6

1909 Wayzata Blvd | Wayzata, MN | 55391
Katie Pease: katie.pease@hammertravel.org
952-473-8629 | hammertravel.org

Harry Meyering Center

Ally Sponsor - Booth 27

109 Homestead Rd. | Mankato, MN | 56001
Jen Drganc: jdranc@harrymeyeringcenter.org
507-387-8281 | www.harrymeyeringcenter.org

Hazelden Betty Ford

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 97

3860 112th Circle NE | Blaine, MN | 55449
Jake Lewis: jlewis@hazeldenbettyford.org
651-485-1734 | www.hazeldenbettyford.org

HealthMed

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 94

12600 Whitewater Drive, Suite 125
Minnetonka, MN | 55343
Jen Hommerding:
jhommerding@Healthemed.com
952-260-7955 | www.healthemed.com

Help Me Grow

Ally Sponsor - Booth 7

325 W 1st St Suite 300 | Duluth, MN | 55802
Kacy Jacobs: kacy.jacobs@isd709.org
218-336-8744 | helpmegrowmn.org

Hmong Home Health Care

Ally Sponsor - Booth 138

475 Etna St Suite #3 | St Paul, MN | 55106
Sarah Trena: sarah.trenda@teamsvc.com
612-816-2581 | hmonghomehealthcare.com

Homestyle Direct

Ally Sponsor - Booth 25

4520 43rd Ave S | Minneapolis, MN | 55406
Janelle Peterson:
janelle.peterson@homestyledirect.com
612-728-0769 | www.homestyledirect.com

Homeward Bound, Inc.

Ally Sponsor - Booth 227

12805 Highway 55, Suite 400
Plymouth, MN | 55441
Serena Emerfoll: semerfoll@hbimn.org
763-274-9885 | www.hbimn.org

Horowitz Integrated Services

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 45

720 Main Street, Suite 200
Mendota Heights, MN | 55119
Kara Frahm: kara@horowitzservices.com
952-240-2018 | www.horowitzservices.com

Housing Benefits 101

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 92

540 Cedar Street | PO Box 64842
St. Paul | MN 55164-0842
Rajean Moone: rajean@rajeanmoone.com
651-235-0346 | www.hb101.org

HP Psychological Associates

Ally Sponsor - Booth 129

4135 Richard Ave, Ste 201
Hermantown, MN | 55811
Kimberly Overlie: koverlie@hppspsychological.com
218-464-0908 | www.hppspsychological.com

Innovative Human Services

Ally Sponsor Booth 131

4415 Venture Ave | Duluth, MN | 55807
Gabrielle Thompson:
gthompson@ihdsduluth.com
218-464-4703 | ihdsduluth.com

Insure Duluth

(Generations Health Care Initiatives)

Ally Sponsor - Booth 31

130 W Superior St, Ste 700 | Duluth, MN | 55802
Megan Bremmon: megan.bremmon@ghci.us
218-336-5709 | www.insureduluth.org

Interim HealthCare

Ally Sponsor - Booth 132

4415 Venture Ave, Ste 204 | Duluth, MN | 55801
Bobbie Jo Taylor: Btaylor@interimduluth.com
218-722-0053 | interimduluth.com

Katherine's House

Ally Sponsor - Booth 199

8062 Hwy 37 | Eveleth, MN | 55734
Shelly Holmes: shelly@lotus-mn.com
218-744-4040 | www.lotus-Mn.com

Lake Superior Community Health Center

Ally Sponsor - Booth 22

2222 East 5th Street | Superior, WI | 54880
Maddy McClafin: mmcclafin@lschc.org
715-395-5370 | lschc.org

Lakeplace Retreat Center

Ally Sponsor - Booth 172

25704 County Road 338 | Bovey, MN | 55709
sandy@lakeplacecenter.com
218-910-9520 | www.lakeplacecenter.com

Lakeview Behavioral Health

Ally Sponsor - Booth 186

2310 NW 3rd St. | Grand Rapids, MN | 55744
Tom Johnson: tomj@lakeviewbh.com
218-327-2001 | www.lakeviewbh.com

Lifeway Mobility

Ally Sponsor - Booth 33

1528 Cliff Road E | Burnsville, MN | 55337
Blair Ferguson: blair@lifewaymobility.com
952-808-3646 | www.lifewaymobility.com/
minneapolis

Lifeworks Services

Ally Sponsor - Booth 168

6636 Cedar Ave S, Suite 250
Richfield, MN | 55423
Adrian Freeman: afreeman@lifeworks.org
651-454-2732 | lifeworks.org

Little River Autism Services

Ally Sponsor - Booth 179

6260 Hermantown Rd | Duluth, MN | 55810
Sarah Ward: sarahward@littleriverautism.com
218-481-8910 | www.LittleRiverAutism.com

Little Sand Group Home

Ally Sponsor - Booth 11

PO Box 40 | Remer, MN | 56672
Noreen Anderson:
littlesandgrouphome@gmail.com
218-566-2342 | littlesandgrouphome.com

Livewell Alert

Champion Sponsor - Booths 74-75

3800 American Boulevard W, Suite 1500
Minneapolis, MN | 55431
Megan Johnson: mjohnson@livewellalert.com
612-284-8893 | www.livewellalert.com

Lutheran Social Services

Ally Sponsor - Booth 147

1422 E Superior St. | Duluth, MN | 55805
Erik Mattson: erik.mattson@lssmn.org
218-428-5480 | www.lssmn.org

Mains'l Services

Champion Sponsor - Booths 58-59

7000 78th Ave N | Brooklyn Park, MN | 55445
Haley Tschida: hmtschida@mainsl.com
763-494-4553 | www.mainsl.com

McCarthy Manor/ Lakeside Manor

Ally Sponsor - Booth 206

2221 N Arlington Ave | Duluth, MN | 55811
Lindsey Martinson: lindsey@mccarthymanor.com
218-722-1501 | www.mccarthymanor.com

MDH

Ally Sponsor - Booth 135

625 Robert St N | PO Box 64975
St. Paul, MN | 55109
John Vruno: john.vruno@state.mn.us
651-201-4916 | www.health.state.mn.us/
communities/environment/air/index.html

Medica

Champion Sponsor - Booths 80-81

401 Carlson Parkway | Minnetonka, MN | 55305
Renee Farrow: renee.farrow@medica.com
952-992-8545 | www.medica.com

Melrose Center

Ally Sponsor - Booth 109

3525 Monterey Drive
St. Louis Park, MN | 55416
Carmen Hansen:
carmen.j.hansen@healthpartners.com
952-993-6475 | www.healthpartners.com/care/
specialty-centers/melrose-center

Mental Health Minnesota

Ally Sponsor - Booth 177

2233 University Ave W., Suite 350
St. Paul, MN | 55114
Lake Braaten: lakeb@mentalhealthmn.org
651-493-6634 | mentalhealthmn.org

Mental Health Systems

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 95

6600 France Ave. S, Suite 230 | Edina, MN | 55311
Heather Anton: hanton@mhs-dbt.com
952-460-9028 | mhs-dbt.com

Millennium Health

Ally Sponsor - Booth 106

16981 Via Tazon | San Diego, CA | 92127
Zak Laursen: sherri.edell@millenniumhealth.com
612-202-7829 | www.millenniumhealth.com

Minnesota ABLE Plan

Ally Sponsor - Booth 205

540 Cedar Street | St. Paul, MN | 55101
Peter Beierwaltes: peter.beierwaltes@state.
mn.us 651-431-2376 | savewithable.com/mn/
home.html

Minnesota Aging Pathways / Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging

Ally Sponsor - Booth 122

221 W 1st St | Duluth, MN | 55802
Laura Hoden: lhoden@ardc.org
800-333-2433 | arrowheadaging.org

Minnesota Alliance on Problem Gambling

Ally Sponsor - Booth 26

1935 County Road B2 West, Suite 420
Roseville, MN | 55113
Sonja Mertz: smertz@mnapg.org
612-484-8595 | mnapg.org

Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans

Ally Sponsor - Booth 201

5209 Ramsey Street | Duluth, MN | 55807
Paul Pedersen: ppedersen@mac-v.org
218-722-8763 | www.mac-v.org

Minnesota Board of Social Work

Ally Sponsor - Booth 101

335 Randolph Ave, Ste 245
St. Paul, MN | 55102
Kassandra Slizewski:
kassandra.slizewski@state.mn.us
612-617-2109 | mn.gov/boards/social-work

Minnesota Child Welfare Training Academy

Ally Sponsor - Booth 150

1711 West County Road B, Suite 200N
Roseville, MN | 55113
Bill OConnor: info@mnchildwelfaretraining.com
612-301-9792 | mnchildwelfaretraining.com

Minnesota Council on Disability

Ally Sponsor - Booth 192

1600 University Ave, Ste 8 | St. Paul, MN | 55104
Nicolette Shegstad:
Nicolette.shegstad@state.mn.us
651-338-3658 | Disability.state.mn.us

Minnesota Council on Disability

Ally Sponsor - Booth 191

1600 University Ave, Ste 8 | St. Paul, MN | 55104
Ginger Hedstrom: ginger.hedstrom@state.mn.us
651-338-3658 | disability.state.mn.us

Minnesota Council on Disability

Ally Sponsor - Booth 190

1600 University Ave, Ste 8 | St. Paul, MN | 55104
Linda Gremillion: linda.gremillion@state.mn.us
651-338-3658 | disability.state.mn.us

Minnesota Department of Human Services

Ally Sponsor - Booth 137

PO BOX 64842 | St. Paul, MN | 55164-0842
Antonio Reynero: antonio.reynero@state.mn.us
651-895-5451 | mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/
adults/services/housing/contact-us

Minnesota Department of Human Services, Housing and Support Services Division

Ally Sponsor - Booth 136

PO BOX 64842 | Saint Paul, MN | 55164-0842
Dawn Holmen: dawn.holmen@state.mn.us
651-431-6314 | mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/
adults/services/housing/contact-us

Minnesota Disability Determination Services

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 96

180 5th St E, Ste 500
Saint Paul, MN | 55101-1811
Tanya Heitzinger: tanya.heitzinger@ssa.gov
612-401-5115 | ssa.gov

Minnesota Rare Disease Advisory Council

Ally Sponsor - Booth 152

1600 University Ave W, Ste 8
St. Paul, MN | 55104
Sarah Dicks: Sarah.Dicks@state.mn.us
651-421-3117 | mnrareisease.org

Minnesota Sex Offender Program

Ally Sponsor - Booth 13

1111 MN Highway 73 | Moose Lake, MN | 55767
Stacey Rhodes: samantha.devries@state.mn.us
651-539-7003 | http://bit.ly/DCTMSOP

Minnesota Social Service Association

Ally Sponsor - Booth 100

125 Charles Ave | St. Paul, MN | 55103
Beth Ringer: bringer@mnssa.org
651-789-4328 | www.mnssa.org

Minnesota Suicide Prevention Regional Coordination

Ally Sponsor - Booth 196

14 N 11th St | Cloquet, MN | 55720
Dayna Grimm:
dayna.grimm@carltoncountymn.gov
218-878-2895 | www.carltoncountymn.gov

Mn Adult & Teen Challenge

Closing Keynote Sponsor - Booths 82-83

740 E. 24th St. | Minneapolis, MN | 55404
Chad Stellenwerf: chad.stellenwerf@mntc.org
612-238-6455 | www.mntc.org

MN Brain Injury Alliance & MN Stroke Association

Ally Sponsor - Booth 145

2277 Highway 36 West, Suite 200
Roseville, MN | 55113
Alec Wendelboe: alecw@braininjurymn.org
612-378-2742 | www.braininjurymn.org

MN Department of Human Services

Ally Sponsor - Booth 218

540 Cedar Street, PO BOX 64250
Saint Paul, MN | 55101
Zach Johnson: Zach.M.Johnson@state.mn.us
651-431-2928 | www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/
idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_

MN Department of Human Services

Ally Sponsor - Booth 221

PO Box 64995, St. Paul, MN 55164
Katrina Pierce: katrina.pierce@state.mn.us
651-431-3154 | mn.gov/dhs

MN Department of Human Services

Ally Sponsor – Booth 229

PO Box 64249, St. Paul, MN 55164
Lisa Jenkins: lisa.jenkins@state.mn.us
651-431-2660 | mn.gov/dhs/health-care/
resources/resolve-problems-with-care/
ombudsperson

MN Office of Inspector General - Background Studies Division

Ally Sponsor - Booth 220

444 Lafayette Rd. N. | St Paul, MN | 55101
Andrew Johnson:
Andrew.n.johnson@state.mn.us
612-528-4291 | mn.gov/dhs/background-studies

Modern Access

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 44

4820 Spire Ln NW | Rochester, MN | 55901
Dylan Mackey: dylan@modernaccessmn.com
507-881-0383 | modernaccessmn.com

Mom's Meals

Ally Sponsor - Booth 143

3210 SE Corporate Woods Dr
Ankeny, IA | 50021
Amy Hildreth:
madeline.moore@momsmeals.com
515-518-1239 | www.momsmeals.com

Moments Hospice

Ally Sponsor - Booth 184

4897 Miller Trunk Hwy, Ste 220
Duluth, MN | 55811
Sara Erickson:
sara.erickson@momentshospice.com
218-820-7927 | www.momentshospice.com

Monarch Healthcare Management

Ally Sponsor - Booth 14

7700 Grand Avenue | Duluth, MN | 55807
Maddie Keute: mkeute@monarchmn.com
218-392-0034 | monarchmn.com

MRCI

Champion Sponsor - Booths 70-71

1750 Energy Drive | PO Box 328
Mankato, MN | 56001
Tami Reuter: treuter@mymrci.org
800-829-7110 | www.mymrci.org

NASW-MN

Ally Sponsor - Booth 102

PO Box 92 | Backus, MN | 56435
Anna Ehl: aehl.naswmn@socialworkers.org
651-293-1935 | naswmn.socialworkers.org

Nexus Family Healing

Champion Sponsor - Booths 60-61

505 Highway 169 North, Suite 500
Plymouth, MN 55441
Joe Rubado: jrubado@nexusfamilyhealing.org
763-551-8640 | nexusfamilyhealing.org

NHS Northstar

Ally Sponsor - Booth 208

227 W. Lake Street | Chisholm, MN | 55719
Ashley Curtis: a.curtis@nhs-nss.com
218-966-4380 | nhs-nss.com

Nirvana North

Ally Sponsor - Booth 169

24 N. 21st Ave. W | Duluth, MN | 55806
Yumma Moore: ymoore@nirvananorth.org
218-409-2537 | www.nirvana-north.com

North Homes Children and Family Services

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 98

303 SE First Street | Grand Rapids, MN | 55744
Wade Chiodo: wade.chiodo@northhomes.org
218-999-9908 | www.northhomes.org

Northern Lights Area of Narcotics Anonymous

Ally Sponsor - Booth 105

P. O. Box 16934 | Duluth, MN | 55816-0934
Matthew Wagner: treasurer@nlana.org
218-221-5085 | www.facebook.com/NLANAMN

Northern Waters Float Center

Ally Sponsor - Booth 5

5019 Ramsey St | Duluth, MN | 55806
Elizabeth Prosnick: liz@northernwatersfloat.com
218-336-0869 | www.northernwatersfloat.com

Northland Counseling Center

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 36

301 E Howard Street, Ste 1
Hibbing, MN | 55746
Laura Maxwell: laura.maxwell@northlandcounseling.org
218-440-2066 | northlandcounseling.org

Northland Psychological Services

Ally Sponsor - Booth 121

4560 Norway Pines Pl | Hermantown, MN | 55811
Leslie Chaplin:
lchaplin@northlandpsychological.com
218-729-6480 | northlandpsychological.com

Northstar Behavioral Health Network LLC

Ally Sponsor - Booth 111

2345 Ariel Street N | Maplewood, MN | 55109
LeiLani Hauge: lhauge@northstarbhm.com
218-280-9190 | northstarbehavioralhealthmn.com

NorthStar Community Services

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 43

1804 Cloquet Ave | Cloquet, MN | 55720
Heather Wright:
heather@northstarcommunityservices.com
218-626-5175 | northstarcommunityservices.com

Northway Academy

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 165

1301 Miller Trunk Hwy, Suite 500
Duluth, MN | 55811
Alli Skupas: allison.skupas@sevitahealth.com
952-266-9173 | sevitahealth.com/northway-academy

Northwood Technical College

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 40

1019 S. Knowles Ave
New Richmond, WI | 54017
Joel Gibson: joel.gibson@northwoodtech.edu
715-246-1836 | northwoodtech.edu

Northwoods Counseling, LLC

Ally Sponsor - Booth 183

1890 County Road 4 | Carlton, MN | 55718
Kelly Tibbetts: kelly@northwc.org
218-409-7508 | www.northwc.org

Northwoods Therapeutic Services

Ally Sponsor - Booth 189

2000 West Superior Street Suite 203
Cloquet, MN | 55720
Nicole Hawkins:
nicole@northwoodstherapeuticservices.com
218-451-3359
www.northwoodstherapeuticservices.com

On Demand Billing

Ally Sponsor - Booth 198

150 W 1st St, Ste 280
New Richmond, MN | 54017
Stephanie Jackson:
stephanie@ondemandbillingllc.com
651-204-3716 | www.ondemandbilling.com

OurFamilyWizard

Ally Sponsor - Booth 170

729 N Washington Ave #600
Minneapolis, MN | 55401
Racheal Howitz: rhowitz@ourfamilywizard.com
952-548-8135 | ourfamilywizard.com

Overeaters Anonymous (OA)

Northern Serenity Intergroup

Ally Sponsor | Booth 35

Jean W: northernserenityoa@gmail.com
218-461-1792 | oanorth.org

Owl Moon Mental Health

Ally Sponsor - Booth 112

205 West 2nd Street, Ste 330, 304
Duluth, MN | 55802
Zachary Campbell: ravensong8800@gmail.com
218-300-2547 | www.owlmoonmentalhealth.com

PAL Medical Systems

Ally Sponsor - Booth 16

508 SE 10th St | Grand Rapids, MN | 55744
Wendy Chupurdia: pal2@uslink.net
218-326-9299 | palmedicalsystems.com

Pavillio**Ally Sponsor - Booth 180**

3600 American Blvd W
Bloomington, MN | 555431
Mike Madison: mmadison@hhaexchange.com
651-280-4494 | www.pavillio.com

Peace of Mind Duluth**Champion Sponsor - Booths 56-57**

2304 West Superior Street | Duluth, MN | 55806
Lisa Tryon: lisa@pomduluth.com
218-576-7363 | www.pomduluth.com

People Incorporated**Ally Sponsor - Booth 226**

3000 Ames Crossing Road, Ste. 600
Eagan, MN | 55121
Katie Dinter:
katie.dinter@peopleincorporated.org
651-228-3924 | www.peopleincorporated.org

PICS (Partners in Community Supports)**Advocate Sponsor - Booth 39**

1605 Eustis Street | Saint Paul, MN | 55108
Jessica Girard: jessica.girard@picsmn.org
651-432-4823 | picsmn.org

Pioneer Recovery Center**Ally Sponsor - Booth 237**

241 Highway 33 North | Cloquet, MN | 55720
Rachel Wickstrom:
pioneerrecoverycenter@outlook.com
218-879-6844 | pioneerrecoverycenter.net

Port Group Homes**Ally Sponsor - Booth 144**

PO Box 488 | Brainerd, MN | 56401
Heather Kelm: hkelm@portgrouphomes.org
218-454-7219 | www.portgrouphomes.org

Prairie Care/ Newport Healthcare**Ally Sponsor - Booth 195**

313 Minnesota Avenue | Roseville, MN | 55113
Erin Jergenson:
erin.jergenson@newporthealthcare.com
320-249-2308 | www.newporthealthcare.com

Prairie St. Johns**Advocate Sponsor - Booth 99**

510 4th Street South | Fargo, ND | 58103
marita palya: marita.palya@uhsinc.com
701-936-3548 | prairie-stjohns.com

PrairieCare**Ally Sponsor - Booth 3**

9400 Zane Ave N | Brooklyn Park, MN | 55443
Lily Hanzek: lhanzek@prairie-care.com
920-585-5401 | prairie-care.com

Precision Diagnostics**Ally Sponsor - Booth 174**

4215 Sorrento Valley Blvd | 6363 Ideal Ave South
San Diego, CA | 92121
Antwain Stephens: antwain@precisiondxlab.com
651-328-4532 | www.precisiondxlab.com

Progress Valley**Ally Sponsor - Booth 166**

1100 E 80th Street
Bloomington, MN | 55420
Michaela Heacock:
mheacock@progressvalley.org
952-956-3149 | www.progressvalley.org

Provide Care Inc.**Advocate Sponsor - Booth 42**

4722 Isanti Trail | North Branch, MN | 55056
Michael Rod: mrod@providecare.com
651-674-8312 | www.providecare.com

Psych North**Advocate Sponsor - Booth 37**

4628 Mike Colalillo Drive | Duluth, MN | 55807
Natalie Johnson: bewell@psychnorthmn.com
218-209-2150 | www.psychnorthmn.com

Psycnsew Creations**Ally Sponsor - Booth 104**

6015 E Superior St | Duluth, MN | 55804
Jennifer White: jennifer@psycnsewcreations.com
218-464-4448 | www.psycnsewcreations.com

QMedic

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 41

44 School Street, Suite B5 | Boston, MA | 02108
Mike Weidt: mweidt@qmedichealth.com
877-241-2244 | www.qmedichealth.com

QPI MN

Ally Sponsor - Booth 212

231 west 3rd street | Duluth, MN | 55806
Jessica Gunnarson: Jessica@qpimn.org
218-221-0640 | www.qpimn.org

Rainbow Heart Healing Arts

Ally Sponsor - Booth 225

1416 Elm Ave | Superior, WI | 54880
Mindi Laturi: mindi.reiki@gmail.com
906-284-0365 | rainbowhearthealingarts.com

Recovering Hope Treatment Center

Ally Sponsor - Booth 128

2031 Rowland Rd. | Mora, MN | 55051
Sadie Broekemeier: sadie@recoveringhope.life
844-314-4673 | www.recoveringhope.life

Recovery Alliance Duluth

Ally Sponsor - Booth 115

206 W 4th St, Suite 202 | Duluth, MN | 55806
Shawnacy Trent: shawnacy.w@recoveryallianceduluth.org
218-576-6005 | www.recoveryallianceduluth.org

REM Arrowhead, Inc

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 38

114 South 20th Ave West, Suite A
Duluth, MN | 55806
Ronna Butler: ronna.butler@sevitahealth.com
218-269-0826 | sevitahealth.com

Residential Providers Association of MN

Ally Sponsor - Booth 103

801 S. Marquette Ave, Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN | 55402
Rebecca Johnston: info@rpamn.org
952-222-7664 | rpamn.org

Residential Services, Inc (RSI)

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 155

2900 Piedmont Avenue
Duluth, MN | 55811
Claire Farmer-Lies: claire.farmerlies@residentialservices.org
218-740-7621 | www.residentialservices.org

Riverside Counseling

Ally Sponsor - Booth 239

517 NW 4th St, Ste 113 | Brainerd, MN | 56401
Anna Bankey: anna@riversidebrainerd.com
218-450-8400 | www.riversidebrainerd.com

Rural AIDS Action Network (RAAN)

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 164

300 E St Germain Street, Ste 220
St. Cloud, MN | 56304
Mary McCarthy: marym@raan.org
320-257-3036 | www.raan.org

Safe Transitions

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 156

3656 Front St, Barnum, MN | 55707
Lisa Mikrot: lisa.mikrot@safetransitions.org
218-389-3291 | www.SafeTransitions.org

Sagent Behavioral Health

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 163

332 W. Superior St, Ste 300
Duluth, MN | 55802
Angela Khalar:
Angela.Khalar@sagentbh.com
218-722-4379 | www.sagentbh.com

SENSE-ational Spaces, LLC

Ally Sponsor | Booth 241

4772 131st Ct NE | Blaine, MN, 55449
Marlee Olson:
senseationalspaces@gmail.com
612-412-1034 | senseationalspaces.com

ShareHouse

Ally Sponsor - Booth 224

4227 9th Ave S | Fargo, ND | 58103
Emma Quinn: equinn@sharehouse.org
701-532-4343 | www.sharehouse.org

Solsura

Ally Sponsor - Booth 193

309 E. Howard St, #108
Hibbing, MN | 55746
Mariaha Woitel: mariahawoitel@solsura.org
218-214-1025 | Clinsura.org

St. Catherine University

Ally Sponsor - Booth 171

2004 Randolph Avenue
St. Paul, MN | 55105
Greg Steenson: gpsteenson@stkate.edu
651-210-3115 | stkate.edu

St. Croix Hospice

Ally Sponsor - Booth 213

4316 Rice Lake Road #108
Duluth, MN | 55811
Cheryl Zupec: czupec@stcroixhospice.com
218-451-0799 | stcroixhospice.com

St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services

Ally Sponsor - Booth 153

PHHS Administration - 6E
320 W 2nd St | Duluth, MN | 55802
Linnea Mirsch:
murrayj@stlouiscountymn.gov
218-726-2096 | www.stlouiscountymn.gov

St. Scholastica Monastery

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 162

1001 Kenwood Ave., | Duluth, MN | 55811
Dorene King: retreat@duluthosb.org
218-723-6555 | duluthbenedictines.org

STAR Services

Ally Sponsor - Booth 12

1295 Bandana Blvd N, Suite 135
Saint Paul, MN | 55108
Jennifer May: support@starsvcs.com
651-644-3140 | starsvcs.com

Steri-Clean

Champion Sponsor - Booths 78-79

12510 Fletcher Lane, Suite A
Rogers, MN | 55374
Caitlin Allen: callen@steri-clean.com
888-577-7206 | steri-cleanminnesota.com

Supportive Living Solutions

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 157

2515 Wabash Ave, Suite 300
St. Paul, MN | 55114
Ryan Dieveney: ryand@gosupportive.com
651-209-8490 | www.gosupportive.com

Svalja Whole-Being

Ally Sponsor - Wellness Walkway

16 1/2 N 1st Ave W | Duluth, MN | 55802
Rebecca James Alsum:
rebecca@svalja.yoga
218-330-5120 | www.svalja.yoga

The College of St. Scholastica

Ally Sponsor - Booth 235

1200 Kenwood Ave | Duluth, MN | 55811
Jay Parsons: jparsons@css.edu
651-403-8625 | www.css.edu

The Retreat

Ally Sponsor - Booth 8

1221 Wayzata Blvd East
Wayzata, MN 55391
Alex Curtiss: acurtiss@theretreat.org
651-260-3108 | www.theretreat.org

Therap Services, LLC

Ally Sponsor - Booth 146

333 Kennedy Dr, Suite R101
Torrington, CT | 06790
Tiffany Brown:
tiffany.brown@therapservices.net
315-394-3636 | www.therapservices.net

Thomas Allen Inc

Ally Sponsor - Booth 222

1550 Humboldt Ave
Saint Paul, MN | 55118
Angela McNamara:
angela.mcnamara@thomasalleninc.com
651-240-1941 | www.thomasalleninc.com

TLC of Duluth

Ally Sponsor - Booth 29

394 S Lake Ave, Suite 610
Duluth, MN | 55802
Keven Johnson: keven.johnson@tlcofduluth.com
218-724-3640 | tlcofduluth.com

Tranquility Lifestyle Solutions Inc

Ally Sponsor - Booth 209

4020 Wake Forest Rd | Raleigh, NC | 27609
Andy Furlong: andyf@mac.com
908-917-4428 | www.tls.global

Transformation House

Ally Sponsor - Booth 2

1410 S Ferry Rd | Anoka, MN | 55303
Tom Ward: t.ward@transformationhouse.com
612-559-4535 | transformationhouse.com

Tribal Training and Certification Partnership (UMD)

Ally Sponsor - Booth 117

11 E Superior St, Suite 210 | Duluth, MN | 55802
Mark Erickson: merickson@d.umn.edu
218-726-8940 | tribaltraining.org

Trillium Services

Champion Sponsor - Booths 54-55

4629 Airpark Blvd | Duluth, MN | 55811
Jennifer Steger: jsteger@trilliumservice.com
218-722-5009 | www.trilliumservice.com

True North Goodwill

Ally Sponsor - Booth 187

205 W 2nd St. | Duluth, MN | 55802
Jamie Ferkingstad:
JFerkingstad@truenorthgoodwill.org
218-722-3126 | truenorthgoodwill.org

Two Rivers Counseling

Ally Sponsor - Booth 30

222 W Superior Street, Suite 200
Duluth, MN | 55802
Eve-Lynn Fellersen:
eve@tworiverscounselingduluth.com
218-606-1100 | tworiverscounselingduluth.com

Udac, Inc

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 159

4724 Mike Colalillo Dr | Duluth, MN | 55807
Karen Herman: kherman@udac.org
218-623-1703 | www.udac.org

UMD College of Pharmacy

Ally Sponsor - Booth 28

1110 Kirby Dr, Lsci 232 | Duluth, MN | 55812
Grant Anderson: ander163@d.umn.edu
218-726-6007 | www.pharmacy.umn.edu/
pharmacy-practice-pharmaceutical-sciences

UMD Department of Social Work

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 154

1207 Ordean Court, 220 Bohannon
Duluth, MN | 55812
Jackie Heytens: jheytens@d.umn.edu
218-726-7854 | cehsp.d.umn.edu/departments-
centers/departments/sw

Unified Work, powered by MDI

Ally Sponsor - Booth 210

2335 Hwy 36 W, Suite 201
Roseville, MN | 55113
Jeanne Eglinton: jeanne.eglington@mdi.org
651-999-8283 | www.unifiedwork.com

University of Minnesota Institute on Community Integration

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 158

2025 East River Parkway
Minneapolis, MN | 55414
Claire Benway: directcoursemn@umn.edu
617-413-4357 | www.facebook.com/
InstituteonCommunityIntegration

University of Wisconsin-Superior

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 161

PO Box 2000 | Superior, WI | 54880
Shawyn Domyancich-Lee:
sdomyanc@uwsuper.edu
715-394-8030 | uwsuper.edu/coming-soon-
master-of-social-work

UW-Superior Pruitt Center for Mindfulness & Well-Being

Ally Sponsor - Booth 202

Swenson Hall 3117 | P.O. Box 2000
Superior, WI | 54880
Lynn Goerd: lgoerd@uwsuper.edu
715-394-8236 | uwsuper.edu/student-life/health-
and-wellness/pruitt-center-for-mindfulness-and-
well-being

Valley Medical & Wellness

Ally Sponsor - Booth 108

2428 E 117th St | Burnsville, MN | 55337
Eli Sirotin: esirotn@valleymedical.com
612-845-6106 | www.valleymedical.com and
www.valleymedlab.com

Village Caregiving

Ally Sponsor - Booth 173

130 W. Superior St, Ste 612 | Duluth, MN | 55802
Christy Frye: christyfrye@villagecaregiving.com
218-491-3507 | villagecaregiving.com

Vinland National Center

Advocate Sponsor - Booth 160

3675 Ihduhapi Road | Loretto, MN | 55357
Molly Gilbert: mollyg@vinlandcenter.org
763-479-3555 | www.vinlandcenter.org

VRI

Ally Sponsor - Booth 231

3000 Town Center, Ste 2555
Southfield, MI | 48075
Aaron Fortenbacher:
afortenbacher@vricares.com
616-283-2560 | www.vricares.com

WebMed Mental Health and Recovery Services

Ally Sponsor - Booth 216

1102 E 4th St | Duluth, MN | 55802-2253
Liz Hunter: lizhunter@webmedmn.com
218-310-8896 | webmedmn.com

Wellness in the Woods

Ally Sponsor - Booth 148

738 3rd Ave nw | Eagle bend, MN | 56446
Jode Freyholtz-London: Jode@mnwitw.org
218 296 2067 | www.mnwitw.org

Winter Family Care

Ally Sponsor - Booth 116

4411 Venture Avenue | Duluth, MN | 55811
Nikki Sauter: nikki@winterfamilycare.com
218- 879-2275 | www.winterfamilycare.com

Zenith Health Advocates

Ally Sponsor - Booth 140

2216 West 13th Street | Duluth, MN | 55806
Sarah Beehler: sarah@zenithadvocates.com
218-514-6693 | www.zenithadvocates.com

Harborside Rooms

Gender Neutral Restroom

Symphony Hall

Harborside 3rd Floor Rooms

Nursing Mother's Room

Gender Neutral Restroom

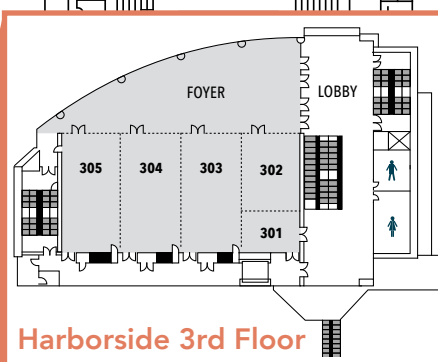
Nursing Mother's Room

Chester Creek Room

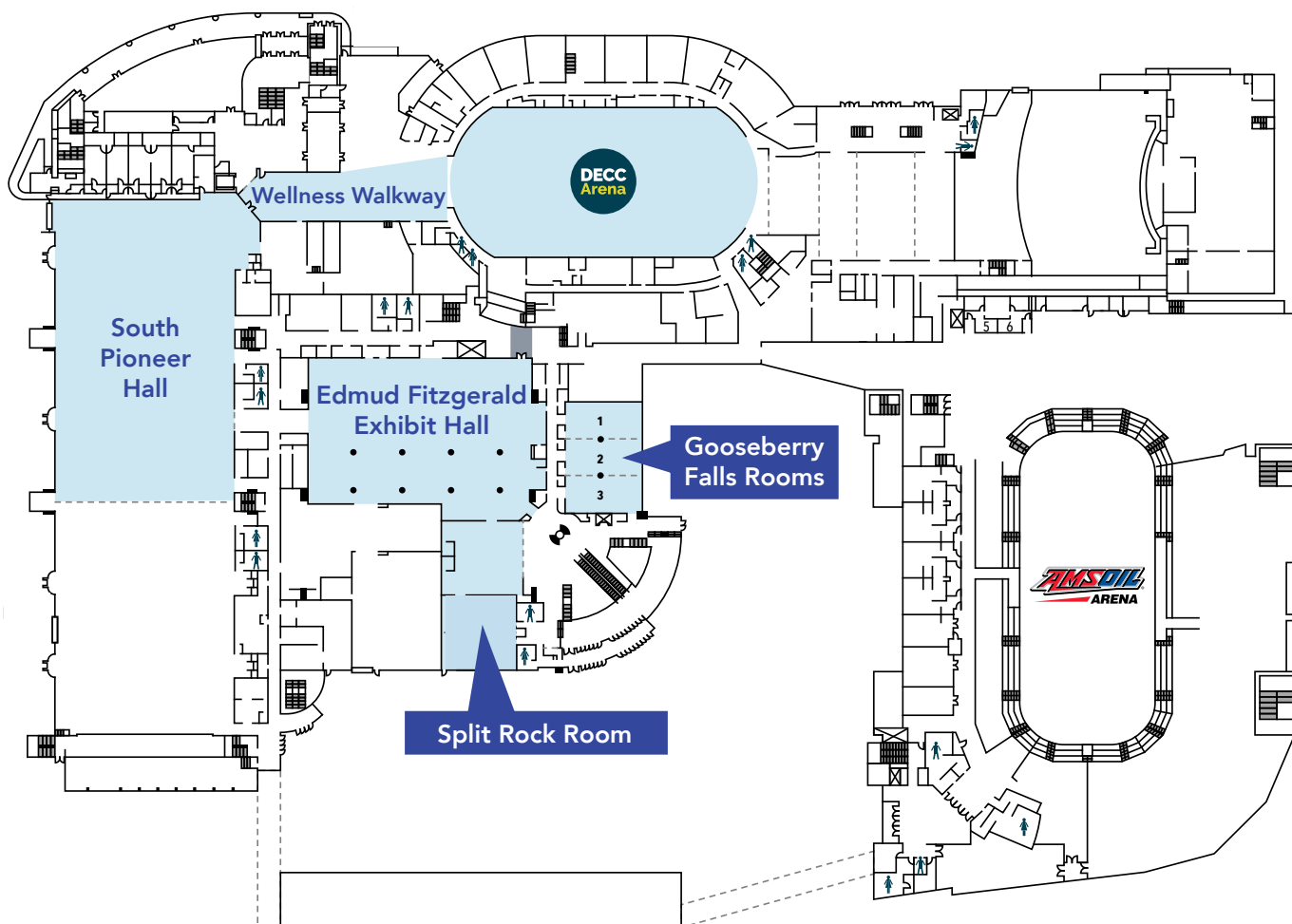
French River Room

Lake Superior Ballrooms

St. Louis River Room



DECC SKYWALK LEVEL



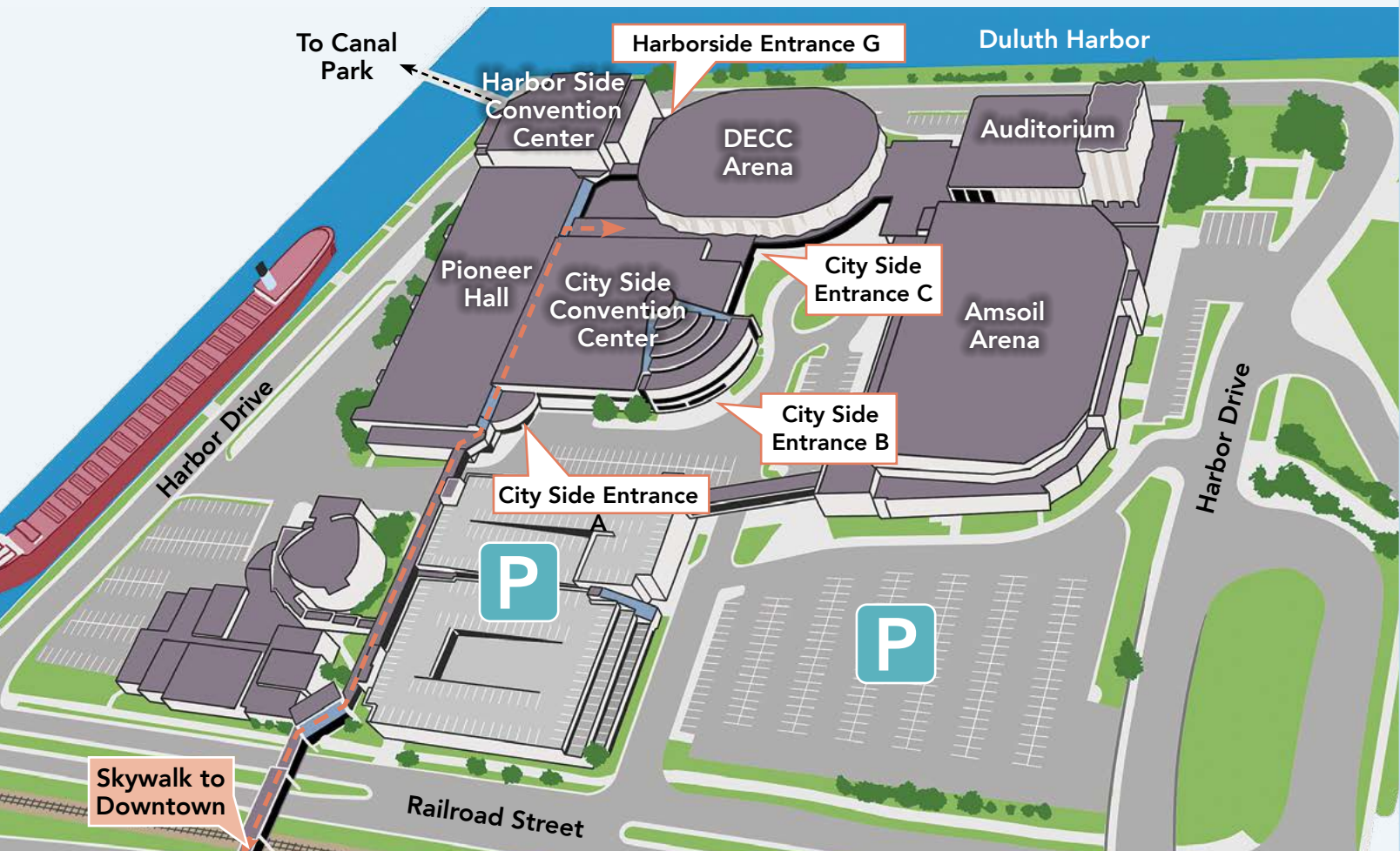
DECC GROUND LEVEL

GRI GROWTH Grace

Thank you for attending the
4th Annual St. Louis County

Health & Human Services Conference

DECC Overview



Notes:

Notes:



CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

APPROVED BY: MINNESOTA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK #CEP-399

St. Louis County Health & Human Services Conference

October 7-8, 2026
DECC - Duluth, Minnesota



Write in workshop/institute presentation title(s) you attended:

Time / CEU

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

Session 1 Workshop _____

8:30am–9:30am (1 CEU)

Opening Keynote _____

10:00am–11:30am (1.5 CEU)

Session 2 Workshop _____

12:30pm–1:30pm (1 CEU)

Session 3 Workshop _____

2:00pm–3:00pm (1 CEU)

Session 4 Workshop _____

3:30pm–4:30pm (1 CEU)

Thursday, October 8, 2026

Session 5 Workshop _____

8:00am–9:00am (1 CEU)

Session 6 Workshop _____

9:30am–10:30am (1 CEU)

Session 7 Workshop _____

11:00am–12:00pm (1 CEU)

Session 8 Workshop _____

1:00pm–2:00pm (1 CEU)

Closing Keynote _____

2:30pm–3:30pm (1 CEU)

Your Name (please print)

MN Social Work License Number

Signature

Michelle K. Nelson, Chair
St. Louis County Health & Human
Services Conference

This certificate should be kept for purposes of verification as requested by the various boards. It is your responsibility to check the Conference Program content for the required clinical criteria expected for your Continuing Education Hours. Fill in the Workshop Title as you complete the session. Please retain this certificate for your records.

SAVE THE DATE

OCT. 13-14
2027

The 45th Annual St. Louis County Health & Human
Services Conference at the DECC, Duluth, Minnesota
www.StLouisCountyMN.gov/hhsconference

Download the Conference App



1. Go to either Google Play or the Apple App Store to download the cvent Events App.
2. Search for "2026 St. Louis County Health & Human Services Conference".
3. Access the login page under your profile icon.
4. Enter your info: you'll be prompted to enter your first name, last name and email address. Then click Next.
5. Verify your account: you'll receive a verification code as an email or text. Enter the code and click Log in.



Michelle K. Nelson
Conference Chair

Government Services Center
320 West Second Street St. 6 East
Duluth, Minnesota 55802-1495
(218) 726-2248 | NelsonM1@stlouiscountymn.gov

www.StLouisCountyMN.gov