

May 1, 2019 Disability Advocacy Conference

8:30 - 9:35 a.m. Breakout Sessions I

Restrictive Interventions in Public Schools (NC CLE 0.5) **TRAUMA**

Presenters: Kristine Sullivan, Virginia Fogg and Andrea Martinez

This session explores the legal requirements and best practices around seclusion and restraint in public schools. We will also discuss the investigations and monitoring work Disability Rights NC does concerning the use of seclusion and restraint in schools, advocacy efforts, and how you can get involved. Although not specifically focused on trauma, conference participants interested in trauma informed care may find the topic and discussion informative.

The Ins & Outs of Intake – Resources for People with Disabilities

Presenters: Karla Blackwell, Carolina Farmer and Meredith Huml

As North Carolina's federally mandated Protection and Advocacy (P&A) system, Disability Rights NC receives hundreds of requests for assistance each year. In this session, our specialists will outline the intake process starting with the initial call, email or online form submission. The agency's most commonly used referral resources and materials will be provided and attendees are asked to come prepared to share their own go-to referrals and information and to discuss what trends they are seeing in the community.

EPSDT: Medicaid for Children (NC CLE 1.0)

Presenters: Elizabeth Edwards, Lee James and Frank Skwara

This session provides an overview of Medicaid's Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit for children and youth under age 21. This will include an overview of the basics of EPSDT, a review of EPSDT under the new 1115 Waiver, and leading cases enforcing the EPSDT's mandate that children receive necessary examinations and treatment as well as updates on the NC Settlement Agreement on behalf of Children with Complex Needs.

How the ADA Came to Be

Presenter: Larkin Taylor-Parker

Learn about the civil rights advocacy of Americans with disabilities that culminated in the passage of the statutes we have today. Explore a recent chapter of U.S. history that is too rarely discussed and consider its relevance today.

9:50 - 10:55 a.m. Breakout Sessions II

Resilience: Documentary Screening **TRAUMA**

View the award-winning documentary on the ground-breaking Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) study, the harmful effects ACEs/trauma/toxic stress can have on an individual's body and life, and the visionary work of professionals across the country to create innovative ways to change the course of thinking about and treating ACEs and trauma in order to disrupt the cycles of ACEs.

Guardianship Reform in North Carolina (NC CLE 1.0)

Presenter: Corye Dunn

Guardianship removes decision-making authority from many adults with disabilities and is over-utilized in North Carolina. Guardianship laws in our state are not applied uniformly, and complete information about alternatives to guardianship is not readily available. This session focuses on reform efforts to ensure that the system protects the rights and dignity of people with disabilities.

Medicaid Waivers: Emerging Issues & Appeal Strategies - Part 1 (NC CLE 1.0)

Presenters: Emma Kinyanjui and Lisa Nesbitt

This session explains general information about currently available Medicaid Waivers including the Innovations, Community Alternative Program for Disabled Adults, and Community Alternative Program for Children Waivers. The presenters will briefly explore the eligibility requirements for each waiver and (b)(3) services and discuss emerging issues with regard to each.

Employment Essentials: Services & Accommodations (NC CLE 0.5)

Presenter: Chris Hodgson

There are numerous employment service options for people with disabilities in North Carolina. This session will unpack these different options, discuss effective ways to request a job accommodation and cover legal issues that may arise after a request is made.

11:10 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Welcome and Plenary Session with Tonier Cain ^{TRAUMA}

12:15 - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00 - 2:05 p.m. Breakout Sessions III

For Attorneys Only - Trauma Informed Legal Advocacy ^{TRAUMA} (NC CLE 1.0)

Presenters: Jan Paul and Susan Pollitt

Many clients and families involved with the justice system have experienced trauma. A trauma-informed legal practice can strengthen legal advocacy, improve attorney-client relationships, and ultimately improve outcomes for clients and the justice system. Additionally, awareness of secondary traumatic stress can improve prevention, identification, and self-care among legal professionals. This session will provide guidance to help the attorney build more effective relationships with clients to serve their legal interests, work to ensure necessary service needs are met, and support clients' current and future well-being.

Facilitated Discussion Following "Resilience, the Biology of Stress & the Science of Hope" ^{TRAUMA}
(Attendance at the *Resilience* screening is a prerequisite for this session)

Presenter: Cas Shearin

This interactive and lively session will serve as a "debrief" for the film, where participants are invited in facilitated small group discussions to share their thoughts about what they learned and how they might use the film's information to implement change in their individual lives or professional approaches.

Medicaid Transformation Listening Session

Presenters: Corye Dunn and Meisha Evans

Big changes are coming to our state's Medicaid system. This year the state will implement "Standard Plans" for enrollees who do not need enhanced mental health, developmental disability, or substance abuse services, administered by several private entities announced earlier this year. "Tailored Plans" for people who use those enhanced services will follow in 2021 and will be administered by LME/MCOs. As we move toward managed care for nearly all enrollees we want to know what is on your mind. What are you hoping for? What are you concerned about? What do you think policy makers need to know?

Equal Access to Health Care for Individuals with Disabilities

Presenters: Cassie Crawford and Chris Hodgson

Discrimination against individuals with disabilities persists in the critical area of healthcare services. In this session, a presenter from the Department of Justice will explain the Department's Barrier Free Healthcare Initiative and a presenter from Disability Rights North Carolina will explain a current North Carolina case involving the rights of blind patients to receive written materials in alternative formats.

2:20 - 3:25 p.m. Breakout Sessions IV

What's Happening at the N.C. General Assembly? (NC CLE 1.0)

Presenters: Corye Dunn and Meisha Evans

DRNC's Public Policy team provides insight on how the 2019 long session of our legislature impacts people with disabilities.

Recent & Upcoming Changes in Special Education

Presenters: Virginia Fogg, Carol Ann Hudgens and Sherry Thomas

Join representatives from the exceptional children's division of the N.C. Department of Public Instruction and Disability Rights NC for a panel discussion of recent and upcoming changes in special education in North Carolina. Topics will include the new statewide special education forms and software system, MTSS, behavior support, mental health in schools, and dispute resolution.

Medicaid Waivers: Emerging Issues & Appeal Strategies - Part 2 (NC CLE 1.0)

Presenters: Tadra Martin and Josh Prater

Whether appealing a denial of services under the Innovations Waiver or under one of the Community Alternative Program waivers, beneficiaries have a right to a fair hearing. This part of the Medicaid Waivers session will outline steps in appealing a denial, reduction or termination of services; preparing for an administrative hearing - including obtaining a complete file; and preparing your best legal case during the Medicaid state fair hearing.

The R.I.C.H. Approach (Respect, Individuality, Connection and Hope) ^{TRAUMA}

Presenter: Tonier Cain

The R.I.C.H. Approach workshop educates providers on how to engage with trauma survivors using trauma informed care practices. The R.I.C.H. Approach is Respect, Individuality, Connection and Hope, helping survivors to feel safe so they may begin to heal from past trauma experiences as well as learning to understand how the survivors cope.

3:40 - 4:45 p.m. Breakout Sessions V

For Attorneys Only - Ethical Considerations When Representing Clients with Diminished Capacity (NC CLE Ethics 1 .0)

Presenter: Kristine Sullivan

What do attorneys need to consider when representing a client who may have diminished capacity? How do you identify if this is an issue and, if so, what are your responsibilities to those clients? Using the N.C. Rules of Professional Responsibility as a guide, session attendees will discuss and explore these and other tough ethical issues including how to preserve attorney-client privilege, how to communicate best with clients with diminished capacity, and how to deal with conflicts.

Addressing the Needs of Veterans with Disabilities

Presenter: Paul Berry

North Carolina is home to the fourth largest active duty military population in the United States and a major veteran population. This session will highlight how NCServes Central Carolina works with a coordinated network of more than 80 public, private and non-profit organizations to serve veterans, identify and address barriers veterans with disabilities face, and share how veterans with disabilities receive assistance through the network providers.

Healing Neen Screening ^{TRAUMA}

See the award winning documentary that follows the amazing recovery of plenary speaker Tonier 'Neen' Cain from a lifetime of abuse and drug addiction to a career as a nationally-known speaker and educator on the devastation of trauma and the hope of recovery.

Accessible Yoga for Disability Rights Advocates ^{TRAUMA}

Presenter: Virginia Knowlton Marcus

All people can profoundly benefit from and deserve equal access to the empowering practices of yoga, regardless of ability or background. Yoga can help remedy trauma and the effects of exclusion, ableism and other forms of oppression. Yoga can also offer spiritual awakening and connection to community. Best of all, if you can breathe, you can do yoga! This session will describe exciting efforts within the yoga community to ensure that marginalized groups have opportunities to engage in yoga practice, and also provide a needed opportunity for hard-working disability rights advocates to move and breathe together.

5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Sponsors/Presenters Reception (conference sponsors, presenters and invited guests only)