



**AVRASA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
***BUILDING THE FUTURE OF REHABILITATION***  
**OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup> 2018**

➤ **8:30am - 8:50am**  
**Registration & Breakfast**

➤ **8:50am - 9:00am**  
**Welcome & Introductions**  
***Michele Buoninfante-Blainey, M.A., CRC***  
**AVRASA President**

➤ **9:00am – 10:30am**  
**MORNING SESSION I**

*Total Hours: 1.50*

**Breakout Session A: Integrated Services and Early Intervention in the Vocational Rehabilitation of People Living with HCV and/or HIV**

GOAL: To provide an understanding of strategies necessary to engaging individuals with HCV and/or HIV.

OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will about integration of services for the HCV and/or HIV community.
- Participants will be introduced to educational services for this community.
- Participants will learn about awareness in providing vocational services for this population.

**Breakout Session B: Into the Workforce and Out of the System**

GOAL: To take an honest look at what we need to do as a community to change the lack of participation in the workforce for individuals with disabilities.

OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will recognize the link between poverty and mental illness.
- Participants will learn how to activate and engage individuals toward employment.
- Participants will learn how to engage family members to support consumer employment goals

**Breakout Session C: Integrating Peer Workers into the Organization's Recovery Oriented Systems of Care**

GOAL: To explore the dynamics of integrating Peer Workers within a recovery-based program.

OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will review what peer workers are and are not, roles that are appropriate and inappropriate in New York State and elsewhere.
- Participants will explore the readiness of your own organizations for the arrival of peer workers? Have all the variables of integrating a new occupational title into the organization been worked through? Are adequate supports in place for the peer?
- Participants will learn how to provide self-assessment on how to adapt supervision styles in working with peers, many of whom have little experience working in an organizational setting.

**Breakout Session D: 12-Step Programs – A Clinical Perspective**

GOAL: To increase the understanding of opiate addiction in society and the impact it has in our environment.

OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will understand addiction as a multifaceted disease.
- Participants will learn how each of the 12-stages address underlying issues.
- Participants will be provided with free community resources as a long-term support structure.

➤ **10:30am - 10:45am Break**

➤ **10:45am - 12:15pm**

**MORNING SESSION II**

*Total Hours: 1.50*

**Breakout Session A: Counselor Wellness: You Matter**

GOAL: To educate participants on how to recognize their own need for self-care by learning the common causes of stress and how stress impacts them as individuals.

OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will identify at least two personal and/or professional life stressors and one impact of this stress on personal and professional life.
- Participants will identify 5 forms of social support (i.e. emotional, informational, spiritual, instrumental, companion) and describe how each of these supports show up for us in our lives.
- Participants will create self-care action plans.

**Breakout Session B: Working with the LGBTQ Community in Behavioral Health**

GOAL: To enable the participants to provide direct services and promote practices that engage the LGBTQ community.

OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will learn about sensitivity to the specific treatment needs of this population.
- Participants will learn new insights into the similarities and differences in this community and the greater society.
- Participants will gain knowledge on how to effectively work with the LGBTQ community.

**Breakout Session C: The Path of Least Resistance**

GOAL: To educate participants of collaborative efforts to engage and advocate for individuals with addictions and legal history.

OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will understand the 21st Century Workforce needs and hiring practices.
- Participants will learn effective strategies to duplicate success after addiction with a criminal background.
- Participants will understand how to use the NYC Fair Chance Act to their advantage.

**Breakout Session D: Person-Centered Services for Re-Entry Populations**

GOAL: To provide an overview of Person-Centered approaches within employment service delivery for Re-Entry populations.

OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will be introduced to NADAP and the populations they service.
- Participants will learn about various person-centered approaches.
- Participants will learn how to work with clients that are re-entering the workforce.

➤ **12:15pm - 1:15pm LUNCH (on your own)**

➤ **1:15pm - 2:45pm**

**AFTERNOON SESSION I**

*Total Hours: 1.5*

**Breakout Session A: Integrating Mental Health Service Delivery for Employment Success**

GOAL: To increase awareness and educate participants on effective approaches in providing services and supporting individuals with mental health issues for better employment retention.

OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will learn about a holistic approach to mental health and workforce service integration and engage in ongoing dialogue for systemic impact.
- Participants will understand the persistence of mental health barriers for clients through qualitative feedback and quantitative outcomes.
- Participants will learn about a proven model of employment, retention, and advancement for clients.

**Breakout Session B: "The Forerunners:" A video for disability inclusion training in the workplace."**

GOAL: To view film on disability/employment and discussion.

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide prejudice reduction strategies in the workplace employing people with disabilities.
- To dispel stereotypes of people with disabilities among employers.
- To present a film "The Forerunner," (which depicts a cohort of individuals with disabilities working successfully as information technology professionals in Chicago) and discuss how this film can be incorporated in disability inclusion training.

**Afternoon Session I (continued)**

**Breakout Session C: Peer Social Worker: Is merging the roles of peer specialist/provider and clinical social worker a good idea?**

GOAL: To increase awareness of the role of a Peer Social Worker.

OBJECTIVES:

- To introduce to the participants the concept of Peer Social Work.
- To present descriptive statistics on the data received from a recent study.
- Participants will discuss the sustainability of Peer Social Workers in the field.

➤ **2:45pm - 4:45pm**

**AFTERNOON SESSION II**

*Total Hours: 2.0*

**Breakout Session A: Ethical Considerations for CRCs Working with Peers**

GOAL: To introduce the topics of peers and how they fit into the substance use disorder systems of care. To increase knowledge/skills when supervising peers.

OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will define at least 3 roles of peers.
- Participants will learn to state the differences between a peer and a sponsor.
- Participants will learn to state the differences between a peer and a counselor
- To describe the similarities and differences between the CRC Code of Ethics and the Peer Advocate Code of Ethics.
- Participants will be able to list at least 5 special considerations when supervising peers at your agency.

**Breakout Session B: Birds of a Feather: Ethical Issues in Working with LGBT Clients in a Residential Treatment Facility**

GOAL: To educate participants of ethical guidelines and best practices in providing services to the LGBT community within residential treatment settings.

OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will learn about the benefits and challenges of integrated treatment in a residential setting.
- Participants will learn how to provide LGBT-directed treatment.
- Participants will identify how CRCC Code of Ethics guide provision of LGBT-directed treatment.

➤ **4:45pm Closing Remarks, Wrap up and Evaluations**