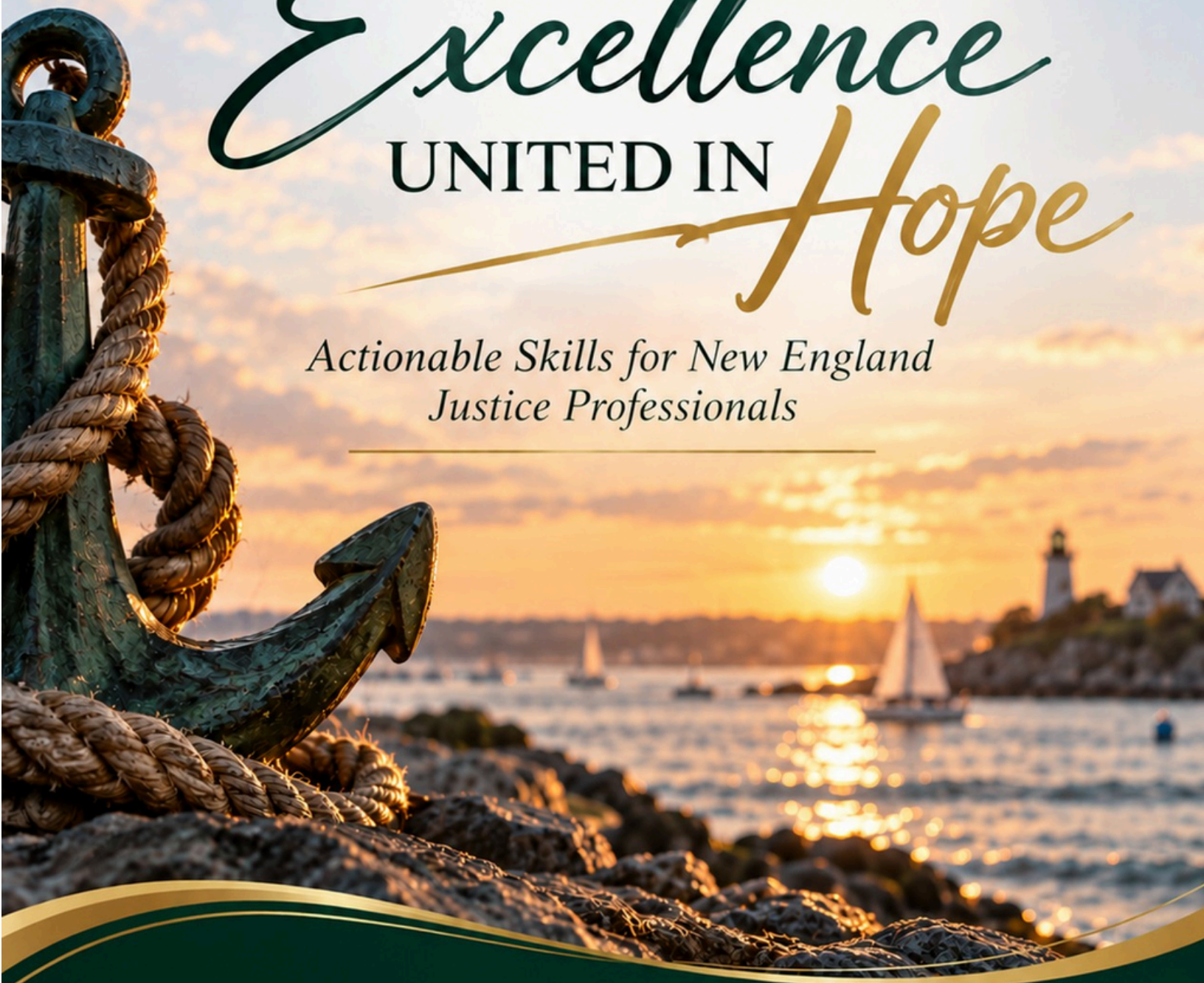
NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL
ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

ANCHORED IN *Excellence* UNITED IN *Hope*

Actionable Skills for New England Justice Professionals



87TH ANNUAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

OCTOBER 25 – 28, 2026 ~ WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND

#

New England Council on Crime and Delinquency
1328 Hooksett Rd, STE 45, PO Box 16325, Hooksett, NH 03106
www.neccd.net

President
Courtney Jansen
Rhode Island
401-462-0903
Courtney.Jansen@doc.ri.gov

Vice President
Carmen Z. Gomez, PhD
Massachusetts
617-645-1454
carmen.gomez@jud.state.ma.us

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Amy Jacobs
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802-370-4426
amy.jacobs@vermont.gov

Secretary
Tara Brooks
Connecticut
203-805-6646
tara.brooks@ct.gov

Executive Director
Lauren Dyer
Rhode Island
401-932- 6439
ldyer712@cox.net

Dear Institute Attendees,

Welcome to the 87th Annual Training Institute of the New England Council on Crime and Delinquency! It is my absolute honor to welcome you to Rhode Island for this year's conference. I am so excited to host all of you here in the Ocean State for a few days of learning, connection, and inspiration.

This year holds a deeply personal significance for me as well— 2026 marks my tenth year serving on the NECCD Executive Board. Over the past decade, I have had the privilege of watching this incredible community grow, adapt, and lead the way in criminal justice and community correction standards across New England. Serving as President this year is both a profound privilege and a wonderful full-circle moment.

The focus of this year's Institute is "Anchored in Excellence, United in Hope: Actionable Skills for New England Justice Professionals." Our theme reflects our commitment to bringing you real-world, tangible strategies— the kind of evidence- based tools that you can immediately take back to your agencies to enhance community safety, improve outcomes, and support professional wellness across our field.

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our Program Committee. They have worked tirelessly to curate a truly exceptional, beautifully designed program packed with dynamic workshops, visionary keynotes, and critical discussions. I also want to send a special thank you to our generous sponsors and exhibitors. Your generous support, dedication, and partnership make an event of this scale possible. I encourage all of our attendees to spend time in the exhibit hall, play along with our Vendor BINGO, and connect with our exhibitors to discover the cutting-edge tools, resources, and technology available to support our industry.

Beyond the training sessions, I hope you take full advantage of the networking opportunities over the next few days. Reconnect with old colleagues, forge new partnerships, and make sure to share the valuable insights you gain here with your co-workers and supervisors back home. Thank you for your dedication to our field and for being such an essential part of the NECCD community. Enjoy the conference, enjoy Rhode Island, and have a fantastic Institute!

Sincerely,



Courtney Jansen, MSW
NECCD President

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October 1, 2026

Dear Invited Guests and Conference Attendees,

A heartfelt welcome to the 87th Annual NECCD Training Institute! This year's theme, Anchored in Excellence, United in Hope: Actionable Skills for New England Justice Professionals, focuses on helping each of you gain tangible skills you can use immediately upon returning to work.

I am thrilled to have Lena Sisco, MA, as our Opening Keynote Speaker. Lena is a former DoD expert interrogator who created the SISCO interviewing method, designed to communicate with people in a manner that trust is built and honesty is encouraged. I'm also excited to share that our Closing Plenary Speaker is Brian Lovins, PhD, MSW. Brian will deliver a dynamic session utilizing coaching and modeling approaches that focus on successes, intentionally recognize the positives, and celebrate the good work each of you does daily.

Our amazing program committee has worked diligently to secure skilled and knowledgeable presenters. All sessions fall under our theme, teaching practical, tangible skills attendees can use immediately. This will be accomplished via a myriad of topics relevant to criminal justice professionals. I'm sure you'll find each session to be informative and significant to your work. Please take the time to review our sessions and design your day around those sessions best suited to meet your needs.

At this year's conference, we are pleased to be hosting the return of our Leadership Breakfast. We are honored to have with us Directors, Commissioners and other leadership from the six New England states to discuss new initiatives and trends. I trust that these pioneers in our field will have a great deal to discuss, and we are privileged to offer this forum once again.

We ask that you spend time at our Exhibitor Showcase to take advantage of the opportunity to experience "hands on" the latest electronics, tools, software, and programs our exhibitors have to offer. Our receptions also provide time for you to reconnect with colleagues, while engaging and welcoming those new to the NECCD community. Thank you to our exhibitors for their continuous support.

I am grateful to each of you for being here. May your take aways from your brief time with us stay with you for years to come. Have a great conference!

Sincerely,
Lauren Dyer, LICSW
NECCD Executive Director

State of Rhode Island
Department of Corrections

Lynne Corry, Interim Director
40 Howard Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920
(401) 462-2611
doc.ri.gov

Dear NECCD Annual Training Institute Attendees,

On behalf of the Rhode Island Department of Corrections, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Rhode Island for the New England Council on Crime and Delinquency's 2026 Annual Training Institute. We are honored that Rhode Island is hosting this year's Institute and grateful to have colleagues from across New England gathered together in our state.

The work you do each day is both challenging and critically important. Through your dedication to effective supervision, accountability, rehabilitation, and collaboration, you play an essential role in protecting victims, promoting public safety, and supporting healthier and safer communities. The decisions and relationships you build in the course of your work have a lasting impact on individuals, families, and the communities we serve.

This year's Institute offers an excellent opportunity to learn from one another, share best practices, strengthen professional relationships, and explore innovative approaches to the challenges facing our field. The breadth of this year's program, including critical incident preparedness, youth engagement, behavioral health, and emerging technologies, reflects the evolving demandsofourprofessionandtheimportanceofcontinuingtolearnandgrow together.

Thank you for your attendance and your continued commitment to the people and communities you serve. I hope your time in Rhode Island is productive and meaningful, and that you leave with new ideas, strengthened partnerships, and renewed appreciation for the important work we share. Have a great conference.

Sincerely,

Lynne Corry
Interim Director

The mission of RIDOC is to maintain a safe and secure correctional system that prioritizes the well-being of staff, incarcerated individuals, and the community. We strive to achieve this by promoting a respectful work environment, utilizing data-driven practices to guide decisions, and offering a wide range of programs to facilitate successful reintegration into the community and reduce recidivism.

State of Rhode Island
Parole Board
40 Howard Avenue
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920

October 14, 2026

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to Rhode Island and the 87th Annual Training Institute of the New England Council on Crime and Delinquency.

This year's theme, *Anchored in Excellence, United in Hope: Actionable Skills for New England Justice Professionals*, reflects an important focus on practical, evidence-based strategies that can be brought back to our agencies and put to use in the field. Across probation and parole, corrections, law enforcement, juvenile justice, and related professions, we share a common interest in strengthening community safety, improving outcomes, and supporting the professionals who do this work every day.

I hope you take full advantage of the training sessions, but also of the opportunity to connect with colleagues from across New England, exchange ideas, learn from one another's experiences, and build relationships that continue well beyond the conference.

Thank you for being part of this year's Institute and for the work you do in your communities.

Warmly,

Laura A. Pisaturo, Esq.
Chairperson
Rhode Island Parole Board

TELEPHONE (401) 462-0900 FAX (401) 462-0915

2026 OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Lauren Dyer (RI) – **Executive Director**

Courtney Jansen (RI) – **President**

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Eric Skillings (NH) – **Past President**

Tara Brooks (CT) – **Recording Secretary**

Amy Jacobs (VT) – **Treasurer**

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Vacant	Delegate
Vacant	Delegate
Vacant	Alternate
Vacant	Alternate
Vacant	Alternate

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Samantha Morin	Delegate
Christopher Regan	Delegate
Vacant	Delegate
Michael Machado	Alternate
Vacant	Alternate
Vacant	Alternate

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Christine Ragosta	Alternate
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Jodie Johnson	Delegate
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Joseph Blancato	Alternate
Michael Groner	Alternate
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2026 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Awards & Scholarships

Ruth Fethke	ME	Chair
Katherine Aylward	VT	
Lisa Blanchette	RI	
Michael Groner Carrigan	VT	
Levesque	ME	
Jack McGrimley	MA	
Jennifer O'Day	MA	
Shawnta Reid	MA	
Ramona Reno	MA	
Lorraine Rodrigues	CT	

Audit

Michelle Dubay	ME	Chair
Carmen Gomez	MA	
Courtney Jansen	RI	
Jodie Johnson	ME	
Rich Sparaco	CT	

Constitution & Bylaws

Michele Pouliot-Holland	RI	Co-Chair
Rich Sparaco	CT	Co-Chair
Brendan Carroll	NH	
David Nesbitt	VT	
Adam Silberman	ME	

Program

Jessica Nash	RI	Chair
Tara Brooks	CT	
Brian Castonguay	ME	
Antoinetta	MA	
DeAngelis Ryan	NH	
Donovan Matthew	NH	
Fleming Amber	VT	
Gibbs	RI	
Kristine Gillespie	MA	
Carmen Gomez	CT	
Kirk Gordon	ME	
Jennifer Jaroszuk	ME	
Jodie Johnson	RI	
Christine Ragosta	MA	
Ramona Reno	NH	
Eric Skillings		

Membership & Registration

Megan Taylor	RI	Chair
Joseph Blancato	VT	
Jerrad Coffin	ME	
Courtney Jansen	RI	
Michael Machado	NH	
Trisha Truscello	CT	

Site Selection

Carmen Gomez	MA	Chair
Lauren Dyer	RI	
Courtney Jansen	RI	
Paula Keating	MA	
Jack McGrimley	MA	
Eric Skillings	NH	

Tech

Robin Brown	VT	Chair
Tara Brooks	CT	
Jennifer Jaroszuk	ME	
Paula Keating	MA	
Wayne Pittman	VT	

Vendor

Jack McGrimley	MA	Co-Chair
Jennifer O'Day	MA	Co-Chair
Antoinetta	MA	
DeAngelis May De	RI	
Gala Losse Matthew	NH	
Fleming Christina	VT	
Granger Paula	MA	
Keating	ME	
Robert LaPlante	RI	
Mario Marseglia	NH	
Samantha Morin	NH	
Christopher Regan	VT	
Herb Sinkinson		

NECCD PAST PRESIDENTS

1936	Albert B. Carter	Massachusetts
1937	Joseph P. Hagen	Rhode Island
1938	Timothy C. Dal	Vermont
1939	Charles R. Pomeroy	Maine
1940	Helen S. McPherson	Connecticut
1941	Burt R. Cooper	New Hampshire
1946	Harrison C. Greenleaf	Maine
1947	J. Paul Doyle	Massachusetts
1948	Hon. Francis J. McCabe	Rhode Island
1949	Hon. Francis J. McCabe	Rhode Island
1950	Timothy C. Dal	Vermont
1951	Kathleen Crowley	Connecticut
1952	Richard T. Smith	New Hampshire
1953	Perry D. Hayden	Maine
1954	Thomas J. Turley	Massachusetts
1955	Justin E. McCormack	Rhode Island
1956	John V. Woodhull	Vermont
1957	James J. McIlduff	Connecticut
1958	Edmund R. East	New Hampshire
1959	Martin P. Davis	Massachusetts
1960	Perry D. Hayden	Maine
1961	Justin E. McCormack	Rhode Island
1962	Rudolph M. Morse	Vermont
1963	Alton H. Cowa	Connecticut
1964	C. Eliot Sands	Massachusetts
1965	Robert A. Johnson	New Hampshire
1966	Vaughn L. Sargent	Maine
1967	John E. McGuir	Rhode Island
1968	Phillip T. Barbe	Vermont
1969	Joseph P. McCormack	Massachusetts
1970	John A. Morytko	Connecticut
1971	John A. King	New Hampshire
1972	G. Raymond Nichols	Maine
1973	Hon. John F. Doris	Rhode Island
1974	Angelo R. Musto	Massachusetts
1975	William D. White	Vermont
1976	Earl Mercer	Connecticut
1977	Dr. Michael Morello	New Hampshire
1978	Margaret B. Anderson	Maine
1979	William Laurie	Rhode Island
1980	David Linde	Massachusetts
1981	Thomas Perras	Vermont
1982	James A. Fetzer	Connecticut
1983	James Rowe	New Hampshire
1984	Michael V. Fair	Massachusetts
1985	Robert J. Hynes	Rhode Island
1986	Peter J. Tilton	Maine
1987	Pamela Rampone	Vermont
1988	Flannigan Smi	Connecticut
1989	Thomas K. Tarr	New Hampshire
1990	Stephen Ferri, Jr.	Rhode Island
1991	Jack T. Diamond	Massachusetts
1992	Mae Eischens	Maine
1993	John Gorczyk	Vermont
1994	Terry Borjeson	Connecticut
1995	Raymond Bilodeau	New Hampshire
1996	Donna A. Kenyon	Rhode Island
1997	Kathleen M. O'Toole	Massachusetts
1998	Martin Magnusson	Maine
1999	Bob Smith	Vermont
2000	Tim Salius	Connecticut
2001	Jane Coplan	New Hampshire
2002	Susan Ellis Sweet	Rhode Island
2003	John “Jack” Quinn	Massachusetts
2004	Mae Eischens	Maine
2005	Heather Simons	Vermont
2006	Andrew Cannon	Connecticut
2007	John McDermott	New Hampshire
2008	Lauren Dyer	Rhode Island
2009	Lynn Ann Clifford	Massachusetts
2010	Alan Cormier	Vermont
2011	Andrew Cannon	Connecticut
2012	Michele Naismith	New Hampshire
2013	Lisa Blanchette	Rhode Island
2014	John "Jack" McGrimley	Massachusetts
2015	Al Cormier	Vermont
2016	Richard Sporaco	Connecticut
2017	Susan Gagnon	Maine
2018	Michele Naismith	New Hampshire
2019	Michele Pouliot-Holland	Rhode Island
2020	John “Jack” McGrimley	Massachusetts
2021	Amy Jacobs	Vermont
2022	Michelle Williams	Massachusetts
2023	Lorraine Rodriguez	Connecticut
2024	Jodie Johnson	Maine
2025	Eric Skillings	New Hampshire

Previous Recipients of the John R. Manson - Carl Robinson Award

1985 – David Linde (MA)
1986 – Beth Gilchrist (CT)
1987 – Alice Hafner (VT)
1988 – John Moran (RI)
1989 – Terry Capshaw (CT)
1990 – Louise Ransom (VT)
1991 – Larry Meachum (CT)
1992 – Robert J. Kane (MA)
1993 – Ronald L. Powell (NH)
1994 – Ronald P. Corbett, Jr. (MA)
1995 – Earl M. Sweeney (NH)
1996 – Hon. Florence K. Murray (RI)
1997 – David Orrick (NH)
1998 – William J. Steward III (MA)
1999 – Roberta Richman (RI)
2000 – William Barber (CT)
2001 – Nicholas De Angelis (MA)
2002 – Hon. Jeremiah S. Jeremiah, Jr. (RI)
2003 – Stephen V. Price (MA)
2004 – David Packard (ME)
2005 – Vermont CERT Team (VT)
2006 – William Carbone (CT)
2007 – Guy Glodis (MA)
2008 – John Scott and the New Hope Diner Project (RI)
2009 – Honorable Maureen E. Walsh (MA)
2010 – No recipient
2011 – James Greene (CT)
2012 – No recipient
2013 – Charles “CJ” Wyatt USMS (RI)
2014 – Changing Lives through Literature Program (MA)
2015 – Andrew Pallito (VT)
2016 – Dr. Henry Lee (CT)
2017 – Randall Liberty (ME)
2018 – Brian MacMaster (ME)
2019 – Dr. Jennifer Clarke (RI)
2020 – No Recipient (COVID-19)
2021 – Sherry Caforia (VT)
2022 – No Recipient
2023 – Carleton Giles (CT)
2024 – Lisa Beecher (ME)
2025 – Pamerson O. Ifill (MA)

Previous Recipients of the Angelo R. Musto Award

1987 - Angelo R. Musto
1988 - Arthur Isberg (MA)
1989 - Carl Wentworth (NH)
1990 - Gerry Brocklesby (MA)
1991 - Thomas Perras (VT)
1992 - Robert Hynes (RI)
1993 - Paula J. Keating (MA)
1994 - Flannigan Smith (CT)
1995 - Vicki M. Sullivan (CT)
1996 - Stephen Ferri, Jr. (RI)
1997 - George Vose, Jr. (RI)
1998 - Mae Eischens Worcester (ME)
1999 - Vinnie Basile (MA)
2000 - Andrew R. Cannon (CT)
2001 - Susan Ellis Sweet (RI)
2002 - Robewrt M. Smith (VT)
2003 - Donna Kenyon (RI)
2004 - Paryse Thibodeau (ME)
2005 - Alan Cormier (VT)
2006 - Jim Roy (CT)
2007 - Jennifer Sprafke (VT)
2008 - Michele Pouliot (RI)
2009 - Jennifer O’Day (MA)
2010 - Herb Sinkinson (VT)
2011 - Laura Queenan (RI)
2012 - Michele Naismith (NH)
2013 - Jack McGrimley (MA)
2014 - John Quinn (MA)
2015 - Heather Simons (VT)
2016 - Lauren Dyer (RI)
2017 - Kirk Gordon (CT)
2018 - Eric Skillings (NH)
2019 - Michelle Carter-Donahue (MA)
2020 - Paul Mitchel (CT Posthumous)
2021 - Julie Bjelko (ME)
2022 - Courtney Jansen (RI)
2023 - Tara Brooks (CT)
2024 - Amy Jacobs (VT)
2025 - Robin Brown (VT)

Previous Recipients of the John H. Lorenzen Scholarship

Formerly the Bruce Campbell Scholarship

1984 – Steve Ferri (RI), Mary Pickett (CT)

1985 – No Applicant

1986 – Jodie Myers (NH)

1987 – Lynne Brocklesby (MA)

1988 – Julie Bailey (ME)

1989 – Jody Merrill (ME)

1990 – Lynne Brocklesby (MA), Lori Tarr (NH), Michael Gavin (MA)

1991 – George Pappas (NH)

1992 – Kara White (RI)

1993 – Meghan Smith (CT), Gregory Myhre (VT)

1994 – Christopher Boger (ME), Meghan Smith (CT)

1995 – Heather Clemmons (ME)

1996 – James D. Alves Jr. (MA)

1997 – Marie Whiting (NH)

1998 – Daniel W. Barlow (NH)

1999 – Lori Alves (MA)

2000 – Brendan Ferri (RI)

2001 – Kelly Childs (NH), Scott Caton (ME)

2002 – Nicholas Bellistri (MA)

2003 – Becky Macuch (MA), Kenneth Newburg (RI)

2004 – Matthew Kelley (NH), Charles Alves (MA)

2005 – Amy Howard (ME), Paul Riley (MA)

2006 – Ryan Sullivan (CT), Kristen Meyers (MA)

2007 – Max Tassinari (MA), Michael Lefemine (MA)

2008 – Stephanie Anderson (CT), David Delfino (RI), Richard Delfino, III (RI), Andrew Lattarulo (MA), Michaela Morgan (RI), Stephen Wallace (MA), Brittany Worcester (ME)

2009 – Andrew Broccoli (RI), Brittany Reed (CT), Jillian Ziegra (NH)

2010 – Maura Gavaghan (MA), Kate McCarthy (MA), Lauren Piccoli (RI)

2011 – Justine O'Day (MA), Dillon Fecteau (CT)

2012 – Cheyanne Chase (RI), Kevin Fecteau (CT), Sean Ryan Chmielewski (CT), Kelsey Gordon (CT)

2013 – John O'Day (MA), Aaron Propst (RI)

2014 – Megan Cannon (CT), Mark Chmielewski (CT), Haley Malloy (NH)

2015 – Taylor Bilyak (CT), Kylie Cormier (VT), Nicolas Giorgio (RI)

2016 – Jennie Dyer (RI)

2017 – Cally Roy (CT), Larnell Satchell (CT), Harley Gizzarelli (RI)

2018 – Jordyn Keating (MA), Larnee Satchel (CT), McKayla Collins (MA), Jeremy Franklin (VT), Jared Locke (MA), Daryl Williams (MA)

2019 – Jennifer Imbriglio (RI), Amy Propst (RI), Radley Theolien (MA)

2020 – Jessica Imbriglio (RI), Kevin Perry (MA), Brianna Shamaly (RI)

2021 – No Recipient

2022 – Ryan Cucinella (CT), Brenden Collins (MA), Sean Collins (MA)

2023 – Makylee Chan (ME)

2024 – No Recipient

2025 – Alexander Chamorro (RI), Vanessa Burgos (RI)

Previous Recipients of the Andrew R. Cannon Scholarship and Achievement Award

2022 – Catherine Carter (MA)

2023 – No recipient

2024 – No recipient

2025 – Julia Burgos (RI)



SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

Thank you for supporting our conference and our shared work.

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ReConnect	Seven Hills Foundation	Securus
Noble	FHE Health	Empower Community Care

WE APPRECIATE YOUR PARTNERSHIP

The New England Council on Crime and Delinquency
87th Annual Training Institute

Opening Ceremony

Monday, October, 26, 2026

8:30am - 10:00am
Grand Ballroom

Rhode Island Brotherhood of Correctional Officers Honor Guard
Presentation of Colors

Kaitlyn Tarro - National Anthem

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome and Remarks
Lauren Dyer - NECCD Executive Director
Courtney Jansen - NECCD President
The Honorable Senator Jack Reed, Rhode Island

Opening Keynote/Plenary Session
Lena Sisco, MA
The SISCO Method of Rapport-Based Interviewing:
Former Expert DoD Interrogator Shares
Non-Accusatory, Strategic Tactics to Get to the Truth

87th Annual NECCD Training Institute

Program and Networking Schedule

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Warwick, RI

Sunday, October 25, 2026

3:00pm–5:00pm	Conference Registration Open	**Grand Foyer**
3:30pm–5:00pm	Intentional Connections - Energizing, Interactive, and Group Engagement - Sure to be a Dynamic Session with Dee Lamay	**Salon I**
5:00pm–7:00pm	Exhibitor Hall Grand Opening and Welcome Reception Sponsored by NECCD Exhibitors - Meet and Greet, Networking Opportunities, Exhibitor Booth Bingo, Hot & Cold Hors D'oeuvres, Raffle Prizes, Cash Bar	**Grand Ballroom**
7:00pm–9:00pm	Gather Around the Fire, Connect with Peers, Inspire New Ideas! Tyler Technologies Community Supervision Networking Social: A Sponsored Reception with Light Apps, Refreshments, Lawn Games, and Camaraderie	**Atrium/ Outdoor Patio**

Monday, October 26, 2026

7:00am–4:00pm	Conference Registration Open (Closed during program sessions)	**Grand Foyer**
7:30am–8:30am	Breakfast with the Exhibitors (Sponsored in part by BI)	
8:30am–9:00am	Conference Opening: Welcome Remarks Honorable US Senator Jack Reed - Rhode Island	**Grand Ballroom**
9:00am-10:00am	Plenary: Lena Sisco, MA – The SISCO Method of Rapport-Based Interviewing: Former Expert DoD Interrogator Shares Non-Accusatory, Strategic Tactics to Get the Truth. (Sponsored by SCRAM Systems)	
10:00am-12:00pm	New England Leadership Meeting (by invitation only)	**Salon I**

Morning Sessions | 10:15am–11:45am

Workshop 1: Prepared, Not Panicked: Tools for Readiness in Critical Incidents Presenter: Shawn Largy, AS	**Bristol A**
Workshop 2: Balancing Safety and Growth: A Comprehensive Approach to Managing Sexual Offenders in the Community Presenter: Leslie Drummond, PhD and Dr. Mindy Smith	**Bristol B**
Workshop 3: From Community Crisis to Connection: Practical Skills for Engaging Gang-Impacted Youth Presenter: Jessie Drew, LMHC CAADC LCDP	**Salon II**

11:45am–1:00pm Lunch with Exhibitors — **Grand Ballroom**

Early Afternoon Sessions | 1:00pm–2:30pm

Workshop 1: De-Escalation in Action: Practical Skills for Listening, Responding, and De-Escalating — **Bristol A**

Presenter: Steven Hoard

Workshop 2: Intersection of Human Trafficking and the Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ) — **Bristol B**

Presenter: A. Roy Curtis, BA; Trissie Casanova, MSW, LICSW; Caitlyn Bickford; and Alexander Simeone, MPA

Workshop 3: Don't Just Assess – Address: Turning Data into Lasting Change — **Salon II**

Presenter: Becca Ford, M.Ed. and Rick Parsons, MA

Late Afternoon Sessions | 2:45pm–4:15pm

Workshop 1: Stress Management - Mastering Stress on the Job & Off the Clock — **Bristol A**

Presenter: Megan L. Taylor

Workshop 2: AI and the Human Element: Enhancing Corrections Through Generative Tools — **Bristol B**

Presenter: Leslie Drummond, PhD and Jessica J. Warner, PhD

Workshop 3: Safety Without Removal: Practical Tools for Stabilizing High-Risk Youth in the Community — **Salon II**

Presenter: Jason Colon, BA and Kristina Jandron, LMHC

4:30pm–6:30pm Exhibitor Reception — **Grand Ballroom**

Sponsored by NECCD Exhibitors - Meet & Greet, Networking Opportunities, Exhibitor Booth Bingo, Hot & Cold Hors D'oeuvres, Raffle Prizes, Cash Bar

8:00pm–11:00pm Monday Night Football — **The Crossings**

Dallas Cowboys @ Philadelphia Eagles | Everyone Welcome - Attendees, Presenters and Exhibitors

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

7:00am–8:30am Conference Registration Open — **Grand Foyer**

7:30am–8:30am Continental Breakfast with the Exhibitors — **Grand Ballroom**

Early Morning Sessions | 8:30am–10:00am

Workshop 1: How the Fusion Center Can Help You! — **Bristol A**

Presenter: Raymond J. Angell III, Esq.

Workshop 2: Biohazard/Death/Hoarding/Drug Scene Safety Seminar — **Bristol B**

Presenter: Kerry Delano, BA

Workshop 3: Gang Identifiers (Clothing/Tattoos/Symbols/Graffiti) **Salon II**

Presenters: Stephen Perry and Mario Marseglia

Late Morning Sessions | 10:15am–11:45am

Workshop 1: From Conversation to Confession: Modern Interview & Interrogation Strategies **Bristol A**

Presenter: Michael A. Pezzullo, MS

Workshop 2: Resilience in the Trenches: Combating Compassion Fatigue and Burnout **Bristol B**

Presenter: Dr. John Watts, DCJ

Workshop 3: Different, Not Less: Supporting Autistic and Neurodivergent Individuals in the Courtroom and the Community **Salon II**

Presenter: Kate Hooven, MS and Ryan Hooven, BA

12:00pm–1:30pm Awards Luncheon **Grand Ballroom**

1:45pm–3:45pm Plenary

Plenary Speaker: Brian Lovins, PhD, MSW – Coach or Referee? Aligning Practices with Purpose

3:45-4:30 State Caucus Meetings- Locations To be posted at the Conference. **TBD**

8:00pm–11:00pm Closing Reception - A Halloween Themed Event **Atrium**

Wednesday, October 28, 2026

8:30am–9:30am Breakfast Buffet **Rotunda**

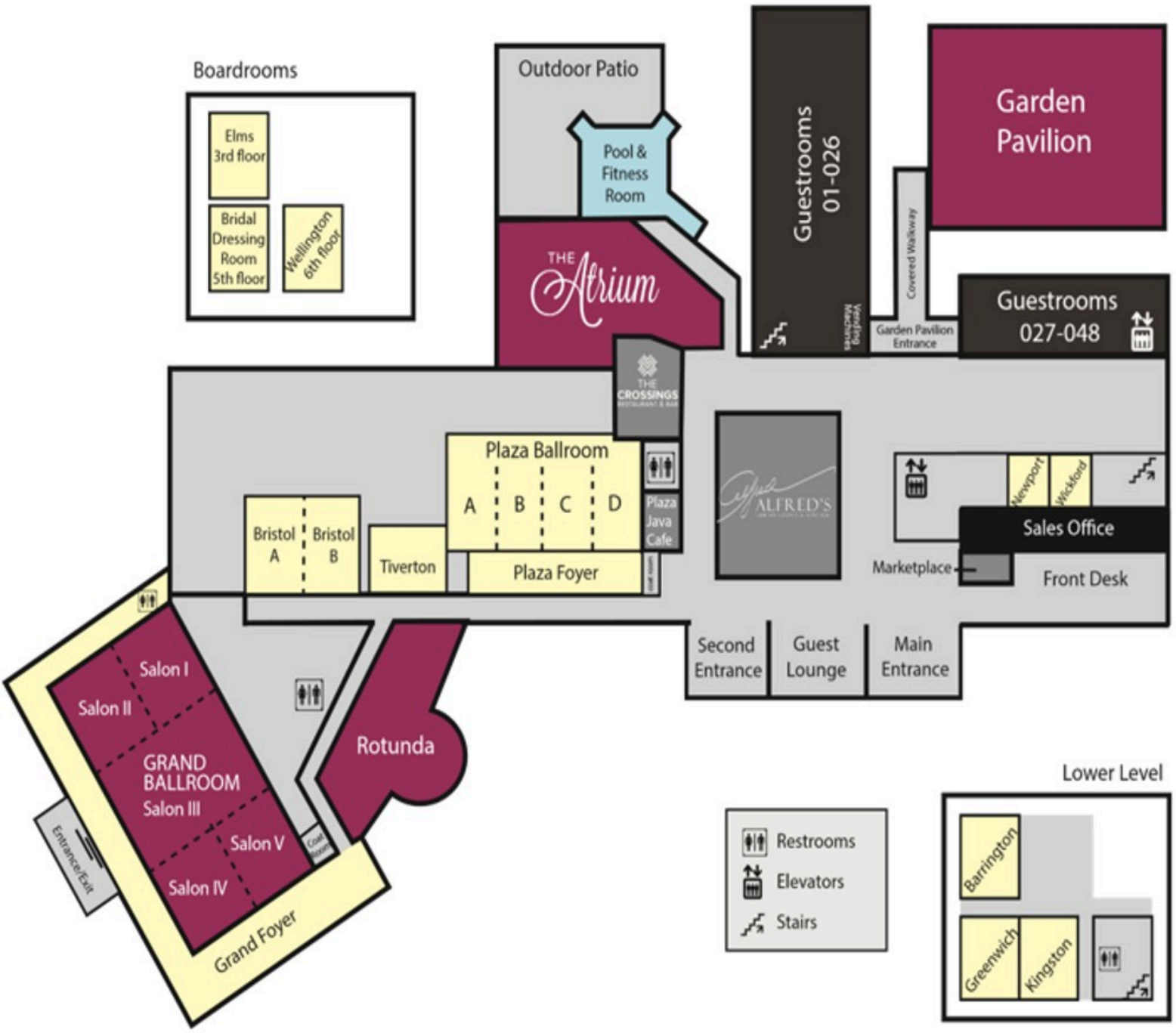
9:30am–11:00am Annual Business Meeting and Final Raffles

11:00am – Conference Adjourns to Reconvene in Natick, MA ~ November 13-17, 2027

***Please note that 10.5 Social Work CEU's have been approved through NASWRI.**

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Warwick, RI

HOTEL MAP



Curriculum Details ~ October 26, 2026

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
Time: 9:00am - 10:00am
Location: Grand Ballroom

Plenary Session: The Sisco Method of Rapport-Based Interviewing: Former Expert DoD Interrogator Shares Non-Accusatory, Strategic Tactics to get to the Truth
Presenter: Lena Sisco, MA

Description:
In this workshop, Lena will provide you with actionable skills from a proven framework she developed called the Sisco Interviewing Method. It is a strategic, rapport-based, science-backed, non-accusatory approach to communicating with people in ways that foster psychological safety, build trust, and encourage honesty. Drawing from her experience as a former military interrogator who conducted hundreds of interrogations at Camp Delta in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, after 9/11, she understands that people don't have to speak and that interviewing can test one's own will, patience, and skill. Lena's method draws on psychology, including understanding human behavioral drivers, personality traits and disorders, deceptive analysis, and cognitive interviewing to help interviewers build deeper connections, strengthen trust, avoid false confessions, and gather truthful information. She will show you how ineffective questions can give someone a way out, make it easy for them to lie by omission, or make or break trust. In addition, Lena will teach you proven ways to identify deception and bring someone to the breaking point, so they thank you for allowing them to be honest.

Objectives:

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Develop rapport and persuasion. Participants will learn to connect with the person and leverage mirror neurons to help persuade them to want to be open. Practitioners need to build unbeatable rapport and trust to convince others to be open and honest. Rapport is about being in alignment; you are either similar to them, or you are the type of person they want to be.
- Decode what drives human behavior. There is one key factor that drives human behavior. By understanding it, one can easily influence honesty and accurately read others' behaviors to identify when they are being truthful and when they are lying. Participants will learn the most accurate indicator of deception and be able to differentiate between when someone is stressed and when someone is stressed from lying.
- Discover effective interviewing skills to get to the truth. Participants will learn how to ask the right questions to get the detailed information that is needed. Participants will learn advanced questioning techniques to build rapport, gain trust, and get the truth. Participants will learn how to uncover a person's motivations and needs to gain cooperation.

Presenter:

Lena Sisco, MA is the CEO and Founder of two companies, The Congruency Group and Sector Intelligence. She is a former Naval Intelligence Officer and Marine Corps-certified interrogator who conducted hundreds of interrogations during the Global War on Terror. She is an expert in body language, communication techniques, lie detection, and leadership. She appears on multiple news outlets, FoxLiveNow, Newsmax, and CourtTV, as an expert in body language. She has appeared on the HBO Series "Burden of Proof," Reelz Series, "Killer Performance," and two Emmy-nominated Court TV shows. She is a TEDx speaker, a keynote speaker, and an expert panelist for SPYEX and the SPY Museum in Washington, D.C. Since 2003, Lena has trained the Department of Defense, government agencies, law enforcement, special forces, and private sector industries in body language, interviewing, detecting deception, elicitation, executive presence, and change leadership. She is the author of four books.

Curriculum Details ~ October 26, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
Time: 10:15am - 11:45am
Location: Bristol A

Workshop 1 Prepared, Not Panicked: Tools for Readiness in Critical Incidents
Presenter: Major Shawn Largy, AS

Description:
Current events involving active shooter incidents often leave individuals feeling unprepared and uncertain about how to respond. This workshop provides practical preparedness strategies to build confidence and reduce hesitation during critical incidents. Participants will learn proactive planning techniques, situational awareness, and tools to prevent freezing under stress. The session also introduces a personal "go bucket" concept for shelter-in-place readiness and emphasizes pre-planning and environmental problem-solving to improve response in high-stress situations.

Objectives:
By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Utilize a simple action framework to help overcome freezing, quickly assess options, and make safer decisions during an active threat or rapidly evolving situation.
- Identify exits, cover, barricade options, and everyday objects that can be used to increase safety and buy time during an incident.
- Create personal and workplace action plans, including "go bucket" readiness concepts and strategies for sheltering in place during extended emergencies.

Presenter:
Major Shawn Largy, AS is a seasoned corrections professional with over 36 years of experience in training supervision, emergency response, and correctional team leadership with the Rhode Island Department of Corrections. He currently serves as Major and Training Supervisor, where he leads Correctional Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) training programs and oversees staff development, operational readiness and emergency preparedness initiatives. Throughout his career, he has held progressive leadership roles within CERT operations, specializing in riot control, high-risk incident response, and crisis management. He is a certified SIG Active Shooter Response Instructor and has developed and delivered training programs focused on tactical readiness and active threat response. Shawn has also provided international instruction through the Prison Emergency Response Program in the Caribbean. He is widely recognized for his expertise in incident command systems, staff training, and operational preparedness, and has received the Corrections Meritorious Award for his service.

Curriculum Details ~ October 26, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
Time: 10:15am - 11:45am
Location: Bristol B

Workshop 2 **Balancing Safety and Growth: A Comprehensive Approach to Managing Sexual Offenders in the Community**
Presenters: Leslie Drummond, PhD, Research Manager and Dr. Mindy Smith, Executive Director

Description:
This workshop introduces a comprehensive model for managing sexual offenders in the community grounded in the Principles of Effective Intervention. The model emphasizes risk-based supervision, cognitive- behavioral strategies, and reentry planning. Participants learn to apply validated risk and responsivity tools, tailor interventions to individual needs and implement fidelity monitoring and outcome measurement. Strengths-based rehabilitation from the Good Lives Model is integrated alongside Containment Model strategies, including multidisciplinary collaboration, supervision, polygraph use, and victim-centered safeguards.

Objectives:

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Describe the components and structure of the comprehensive model for sexual offender management.
- Identify components of the model that can be attributed to the three main theoretical models.
- Design supervision strategies that integrate accountability with rehabilitation.

Presenters:
Leslie Drummond, PhD is the Research Manager at the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI). She works with both the research and implementation teams to measure success within the Institute and with external partners. Dr. Drummond has led projects funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention focused on system reform while also managing, training, and assessing for UC's Evidence-based Correctional Program Checklist (CPC). She holds a PhD in Cognitive Neuroscience from the Geroge Washington University. Dr. Drummond's background is in Experimental Psychology/Physiology with performance in extreme environmental conditions (e.g. hypoxia, spatial disorientation, fatigue) and she has worked with academic, industry and military collaborators in support of vulnerable and underserved populations.

Curriculum Details ~ October 26, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
Time: 10:15 - 11:45am
Location: Salon II

Workshop 3 From Community Crisis to Connection: Practical Skills for Engaging Gang-Impacted Youth
Presenter: Jessie Drew, LMHC, CAADC, LCDP

Description:
Youth impacted by gang involvement face barriers linked to trauma, community violence, systemic inequities, and exclusionary practices. This session explores how Functional Family Therapy - Gang (FF-G)m a strengths based, family-centered model, promotes equity and long-term success. Participants will learn practical strategies for engagement with youth and young adults, de-escalation reframing, and coordination across systems while maintaining community safety and trust, The session emphasizes restorative approaches, youth/family voice, and interactive skill-building to support immediate effective intervention.

Objectives:
By the end of this session participants will be able to:

- Understand the overlap between oppositional behavior & trauma and the core principles and structure of Functional Family Therapy - Gang(FFT-G), including how it addresses trauma, community violence and systemic inequities impacting gang-involved youth.
- Identify practical strategies (e.g., engagement techniques, relational reframing, de-escalation, cross-system coordination) to support gang-involved or affiliated youth and their families while maintaining safety, dignity and high expectations.
- Understand local gang dynamics and systemic barriers to identify opportunities for integrating restorative, family-centered, and evidenced-based approaches that elevate youth and family voice and improve outcomes,

Presenter:
Jessie Drew, LMHC, CAADC, LCDP is the Senior Director of Evidence-Based Family Therapy at Child & Family in Rhode Island, where she leads innovative, community-embedded approaches to crisis response and system diversion foryouth and families. Child & Family is the first organization in the world to implement Functional Family Therapy – Gang (FFT-G) outside of the research phase, positioning Rhode Island as a leader in national crisis system transformation efforts. With nine years of experience at Child & Family, Jessie is not only a system lead but also an active FFT-G clinician, bringing a frontline perspective to the challenges of engaging high-risk, system-involved youth and families. Her clinical work centers on trauma- informed engagement, family-based interventions, and reducing repeated contact with law enforcement, probation and emergency services. Jessie also serves as a national consultant for FFT, LLC, providing training and consultation to FFT teams across the country including Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Michigan, Virginia, and New York. Her work supports agencies in implementing FFT's evidence-based family interventions with fidelity while adapting to local crisis response systems and community needs.

Curriculum Details ~ October 26, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm
Location: Bristol A

Workshop 1 De-Escalationin Action: Practical Skills for Listening, Responding, and De-Escalating
Presenter: Steven Hoard

Description:
This workshop focuses on building effective tools to manage challenging interactions through intentional communication. Participants will learn active listening techniques, verbal and non-verbal strategies, and approaches to reducing tension before it escalates. The workshop emphasizes practical, real-world application, helping attendees improve their ability to recognize escalation cues, respond constructively, and maintain professionalism in difficult situations across workplace and community settings.

Objectives:
By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Utilize active listening techniques that de-escalate tension in real time (reflecting, paraphrasing, and validating without escalating emotion).
- Learn verbal de-escalation phrasing to reduce defensiveness and redirect difficult conversations.
- Utilize communication repositioning strategies that redirect interactions toward cooperation rather than conflict.

Presenter:
Steven Hoard is a Correctional Officer with the Rhode Island Department of Corrections (RIDOC), serving since December 1996, and currently assigned to a minimum security facility. Throughout his career, Steven has held leadership and investigative roles, including serving as a Three-Day Rule Investigator and Lieutenant. He is currently the Team Leader of the RIDOC Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) and has been an active member of CIT for over 24 years. In addition to his operational responsibilities, Steven serves on multiple state boards and steering committees focused on policies, crisis response, de-escalation strategies, and mental health initiatives. He also serves as an Adjunct Instructor at both the Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy and the RIDOC Training Academy, where he teaches courses in Active Listening, Interpersonal Communications, and Hostage Awareness. While in this role, the CIT also developed a First Responder Training Program designed to educate and prepare RIDOC personnel in crisis recognition, communication skills and effective response strategies.

Curriculum Details ~ October 26, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm
Location: Bristol B

Workshop 2 Intersection of Human Trafficking and the Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ)

Presenters: A. Roy Curtis, BA, Trissie Casanova, MSW, LICSW, Caitlyn Bickford , and Alexander Simeone, MPA

Description:

This session explores the critical intersection between human trafficking and the Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ), equipping participants with practical knowledge and tools to better identify and respond to at-risk youth. Attendees will learn to recognize key indicators of both sex trafficking and labor trafficking, with particular attention to the heightened vulnerabilities faced by runaway and homeless youth.

Objectives:

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Identify indicators of sex trafficking and labor trafficking among juvenile populations.
- Identify key partner agencies within your state and resources to support case management.
- Apply coordinated response strategies that align with ICJ requirements.

Presenters:

Roy Curtis, BA has served with the Maine Department of Corrections for 29 years following completion of his Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology from University of Southern Maine. He currently serves as a Regional Correctional Manager for Juvenile Field Services, where he works closely with Community Corrections Officers and stakeholders across four counties. Roy has served on the Executive Committee for the Juvenile Restorative Justice Council, as well as the Department of Corrections Restorative Justice Committee. Since 2019, Roy has represented the State of Maine as the Deputy Compact Administrator and Commissioner on the Interstate Commission for Juveniles (ICJ). In this role, he has worked to strengthen the ICJ State Council and enhance ICJ policies and protocols within the Maine Department of Corrections. Within the Commission, Roy currently serves as the Chair of the Workgroup on Returning Non-Delinquent Youth, Vice-Chair of the Information Technology Committee, and Alternate Regional Representative for the East Region. Previously, Roy served on the ICJ Rules Committee and the UNITY User Acceptance Team.

Trissie Casanova, LICSW serves as the ICJ/ICPC Deputy Compact Administrator and Human Trafficking Consultant for the State of Vermont. She has served in these roles since 2016. Ms. Casanova has worked for the Vermont Department for Children and Families Family Services Division for over 23 years, working as a child protection worker, juvenile probation officer and child protection investigator. She currently chairs the ICJ East Region, is the AAICPC Executive Committee Vice-President, and co-chairs the Revised Compact Committee. Ms. Casanova sits on the Vermont Training & Outreach Committee on Human Trafficking; co- chairs a Human Trafficking Multi-Disciplinary Team in Vermont's largest county; and, co-chairs DCF's Human Trafficking Work Group. She obtained her Master's degree in Social Work at the University of Vermont and her undergraduate degree in Psychology at St. Michael's College.

Presenters Continued to next page

Curriculum Details ~ October 26, 2026 ~ Continued

Caitlyn Bickford began her career with the New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth and Families (NH DCYF) in August 2007 as a Child Protective Services Worker (CPSW). Working first as a Family Service CPSW with families, following substantiated findings of abuse or neglect, her work focused on supporting families through reunification and helping parents safely maintain their children in their homes whenever possible. Caitlyn then worked as a Permanency CPSW, with a focus on achieving safe, sustainable permanency for children who were legally free for adoption, before being promoted to Permanency Supervisor, where she supervised a team of six to eight workers while maintaining a strong focus on achieving permanency for children in the office's care. In August 2017, Caitlyn accepted a position as the Deputy Compact Administrator for the Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC). Recognizing the significant similarities and opportunities for collaboration between ICPC and ICJ, and the unique intersection of child protection and juvenile justice within NH DCYF, Caitlyn advocated for both interstate programs to be overseen by the same administrator, and in 2018, Caitlyn became New Hampshire's Commissioner for ICJ, expanding her leadership responsibilities across the state's interstate programs. Today, as New Hampshire's Interstate Programs Administrator, Caitlyn oversees the state's ICPC, ICJ, and foster care and kinship licensing programs. Her career reflects nearly two decades of experience in child welfare, with a professional focus spanning child protection, permanency, interstate practice, juvenile justice and family-based care.

Alexander Simeone, MPA is the Human Trafficking Prevention Coordinator for the State of Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF), a role he has held since June 2018. With over a decade of dedicated service in crisis intervention and multi-disciplinary coordination, Alex specializes in establishing victim-centered responses that unite medical, social service, and law enforcement agencies. In his role, he works side by side with law enforcement to help recover missing children. Alex is a member of Rhode Island's anti-human trafficking task force, where he sits on multiple subcommittees from policy to training. He serves as the internal trainer for Rhode Island DCYF on human trafficking prevention. Notably, Alex's team in the Special Investigations Unit was honored as the 2025 Rhode Island P.A.C.E. Award recipients for outstanding teamwork, exemplifying the core P.A.C.E. pillars of Prevention, Accountability, Collaboration, and Engagement. Prior to his current role, Alex served as the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) Coordinator at Day One RI, where he acted as the primary community referral point and successfully led information-sharing and cross-agency collaborative efforts. An experienced speaker and educator, Alex frequently develops and facilitates specialized training sessions for diverse audiences. He holds a Master of Public Administration from Roger Williams University (December 2023), a Bachelor of Arts in History from Rhode Island College (January 2014), and an Associate of Arts in Education/Special Education from the Community College of Rhode Island (May 2009). Alex's unique educational background, combined with his deep field experience, drives his commitment to community leadership and systemic public health solutions.

Curriculum Details ~ October 26, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm
Location: Salon II

Workshop 3 Don't Just Assess – Address: Turning Data into Lasting Change
Presenters: Becca Ford, M.Ed. and Rick Parsons, MA

Description:
Risk, need, and strength assessments are essential – but often underutilized. This session pairs a former educator with a seasoned justice professional to present a practical framework to community supervision. Learn how to translate assessment data into targeted learning objectives, actionable interventions, and skill-building opportunities. Blending instructional insight with real-world supervision experience, participants will explore how to drive meaningful behavior change through intentional, skill- based engagement.

Objectives:
By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:
- Understand the importance of using risk/needs assessments to inform interventions.
- Match criminogenic needs with appropriate skills and tools.
- Implement practical strategies that reinforce skill acquisition in real-world contexts.

Presenters:
Becca Ford, M.Ed. is an Evidence-Based Solutions Consultant with Empower Community Care and a former classroom teacher, academic associate, and school counselor with over 15 years of experience in education and behavior change. Her work focuses on helping Probation and Parole professionals apply evidence-based practices by translating assessment data into actionable, skill-based interventions, With a strong foundation in instructional design and data-informed teaching, Becca brings a unique "teacher mindset" to community supervision, equipping practitioners to move beyond compliance- driven approaches by developing targeted learning objectives, reinforcing cognitive-behavioral skills and supporting long-term behavior change. She is passionate about offering solutions that provide meaningful outcomes for justice-involved individuals.

Rick Parsons, MA joined Carey Group in 2022 as Deputy Director after 30+ years of experience in probation and parole in two Pennsylvania counties. In addition to his leadership roles at the county level, he served on the Governor's Board of Probation, the Executive Board of the County Chief Adult Probation and Parole Officers Association of Pennsylvania, and the Pennsylvania Evidence-Based Practices Implementation Team. He specializes in identifying organizational roadblocks
and facilitating needed organizational changes.

Curriculum Details ~ October 26, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
Time: 2:45pm - 4:15pm
Location: Bristol A

Workshop 1 Stress Management - Mastering Stress on the Job & Off the Clock
Presenter: Megan L. Taylor

Description:
This session equips professionals with practical tools to stay effective and in control under pressure, on and off the job. The session will cover stress management strategies, resiliency building, and tactical breathing techniques, supported by interactive practice. Participants will learn short, mid, and long- term approaches to stress regulation, gain a clear understanding of the body's physical stress response, and develop skills to regulate it in real time. The training also focuses on recognizing early signs of burnout to support sustained effectiveness in high-demand environments.

Objectives:
By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Recognize their body's physical stress response and use practical techniques to regulate it in the moment under pressure.
- Gain hands-on, repeatable breathing and grounding strategies that can be used immediately in high-stress situations to regain control and improve focus.
- Develop short, mid, and long-term strategies to manage stress consistently on and off the job, including tools to recognize early signs of burnout, and take corrective action.

Presenter:
Megan Taylor serves as the Departmental Grievance Coordinator for the Rhode Island Department of Corrections and is an active member of the Department's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT). She holds advanced Crisis Intervention certifications through both the FBI and the Rhode Island Crisis Intervention Team (RICIT) and has training in Psychological First Aid and Stress Management and Resiliency (SMART). With experience presenting on stress management within first responder training environments, Megan brings a unique perspective to the field of wellness. Her approach to resilience is deeply practical, tactical, and grounded, drawing from both her professional background in high- stress correctional settings and her personal journey in developing effective strategies for health and well- being. Megan is dedicated to providing actionable tools for resilience that professionals can apply both on the job and in their personal lives.

Curriculum Details ~ October 26, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
Time: 2:45pm - 4:15pm
Location: Bristol B

Workshop 2 AI and the Human Element: Enhancing Corrections Through Generative Tools
Presenters: Leslie Drummond, PhD and Dr. Mindy Smith

Description:
This interactive workshop examines how generative AI can support – rather than replace – the human connection central to corrections work. Participants will gain a practical overview of AI tools such as ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot and Canva, with hands-on demonstrations. Using real-world "day in the life" examples, the session highlights when AI can enhance productivity, documentation, and decision-making, and when empathy, ethics and professional judgment must lead. Attendees leave with practical and ethical guidance for meaningful AI integration.

Objectives:
By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:
- Apply generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot, Canva) to common corrections tasks.
- Evaluate when AI use is appropriate by distinguishing tasks suited for automation from those requiring humanjudgment, empathy and discretion in supervision contexts.
- Integrate AI ethically into daily workflows using practical decision-making frameworks that center human connection, accountability, and professional responsibility.

Presenter:
Leslie Drummond (See presenter biography listed under Monday morning, workshop 2.)

Curriculum Details ~ October 26, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
Time: 2:45pm - 4:15pm
Location: Salon II

Workshop 3 Safety Without Removal: Practical Tools for Stabilizing High-Risk Youth in the Community

Presenters: Jason Colon, BA, Organizational Leadership Studies, and Kristina Jandron, LMHC

Description:
This interactive workshop provides participants with practical field-tested strategies to build and implement real-time community-based safety plans for youth experiencing behavioral health crises, system instability, or justice involvement. The focus is on translating risk into action, strengthening family and caregiver capacity, and coordinating effectively across child welfare, education, and juvenile justice systems. Participants will learn how to move beyond compliance-based safety planning to develop structured, behavior-specific intervention plans; distinguish between false stability and true risk reduction; and implement high-frequency, high-intensity contact models that support stabilization in the home and community.

Objectives:
By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:
- Translate "risk" into actionable safety plans.
- Create real-time intervention structures (what you DO when risk escalates).
- Provide system coordination to prevent unnecessary removal/reincarceration.

Presenters:
Jason Colon, BA is an experienced Program Coordinator and Supervisor at Tides Family Services who has worked with youth and young adults ages 10 through 24 throughout the state of Rhode Island. He has had a specific focus in supporting youth who have dealt with, or been involved with, the Juvenile Justice system. Jason has found that in Juvenile Justice youth driven work, one has to be non-judgmental, transformative, and understanding in all situations. He has demonstrated excellence in the development of programs, such as the racial justice initiative, and the creation of curriculum specifically for young people. Jason serves youth throughout RI, helping them to define their skills and interests, and create plans that will enable them to take advantage of post-secondary, workforce, and/or trade school opportunities. He has provided programs that encourage the use of social and emotional learning to understand young adults in their environments. Jason has a proven track record of leading initiatives and programs which support young people in developing their skills and talents, allowing them to excel, and providing them with the tools they need to achieve success.

Kristina Jandron, LMHC is a dedicated clinical leader with over 15 years of progressive experience in behavioral health, juvenile justice and educational settings, along with more than 20 years of service at Tides Family Services in Rhode Island. She currently serves as Clinical Director of the Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) and Seven Challenges Substance Use Program, where she leads program development, clinical oversight, and multidisciplinary teams serving adolescents with co-occurring needs. Throughout her career, Kristina has held a range of roles including Clinical Director of the Tides Outreach Program, Assistant Clinical Director, Clinician and school-based leadership positions, giving her a comprehensive understanding of community-based, outpatient, and most systems of care. In addition, she brings over 13 years of experience as a private practice holistic mental health counselor, providing individual, family and couples therapy using integrative strengths-based approaches. Kristina is recognized for her expertise in program development, staff supervision and fostering trauma-informed environments that support both client outcomes and team growth. Kristina holds a master's degree and Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Holistic Counseling from Salve Regina University and is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in Rhode Island. Her work is deeply rooted in the Lasallian mission, reflecting a longstanding commitment to serving at-risk youth and families with dignity, compassion, and integrity.

Curriculum Details ~ October 27, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Time: 8:30am - 10:00am
Location: Bristol A

Workshop 1 **How the Fusion Center Can Help You!**
Presenter: Raymond J. Angell III, Esq.

Description:

In this session attendees will learn what the RI State Fusion Center can do for you and your agencies. Fusion Centers across the nation support local, state, and federal agencies providing information and training. A Fusion Center gathers, analyzes, and shares threat-related intelligence to prevent crime and terrorism, as well as improves information sharing in an effort to enhance our country's security. Additionally, attendees will learn about the current trends in Nihilistic Violent Extremism (NVE) and Sovereign Citizen trends.

Objectives:

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Gain knowledge of Fusion Center capabilities and how agencies will benefit from working with their State's Fusion Center.
- Understand Nihilistic Violence Extremism trends, including 764 activity.
- Gain exposure to Sovereign Citizen movement and how to interact with followers of the movement.

Presenter:

Raymond J Angell III, Esq. has over 40 years of experience in the criminal justice field as a local Law Enforcement Officer, attorney, Professor, and Department Chair of the Criminal Justice AS and BS Degree Programs at New England Institute of Technology, where he created both unique and hands-on educational programs from the ground up. He has done extensive course development and has served as Legal Counsel for the town of Coventry, RI. Attorney Angell currently serves as an Intelligence Analyst at the RI State Fusion Center. He is also a Bail Commissioner/Justice of the Peace for the RI 6th Division District Court.

Curriculum Details ~ October 27, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Time: 8:30am - 10:00am
Location: Bristol B

Workshop 2 Biohazard/Death/Hoarding/Drug Scene Safety Seminar

Presenter: Kerry Delano, BA

Description:

This session will explore how to safely navigate hazardous situations that staff are commonly faced with while on the job. Exposure control plans, personal protective equipment (donning and doffing), pre and post exposure to various hazards (needles, how to disinfect shoes and clothing, etc.), post exposure plans and risk management, bloodborne and airborne diseases, and death scenes will be discussed. Additionally, safety and procedure when dealing with hoarding/squalor homes, and all the hazards that come with those situations (feces, mold, bed bugs, animals, etc.) will be covered. Finally, there will be a discussion on drug/overdose scenes and how to protect oneself and avoid being exposed to fentanyl, meth, etc.

Objectives:

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Appropriately, don and doff personal protective equipment.
- Safely navigate hazardous scenes.
- Handle exposures and what to do to prevent them.

Presenter:

Kerry Delano, BA graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a BA in Communications and Sociology. Kerry has worked in the biohazard remediation industry for over 17 years and has been teaching safety seminars to law enforcement, housing authorities, property management, and public health officials for over 15 years.

Curriculum Details ~ October 27, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Time: 8:30am - 10:00am
Location: Salon II

Workshop 3 Gang Identifiers (Clothing/Tattoos/Symbols/Graffiti)
Presenter: Lieutenant Stephen Perry and Mario Marseglia

Description:

Gang members utilize a combination of specific clothing, tattoos, hand signs, and symbols to signal allegiance, claim territory and communicate with both allies and rivals. These indicators – often referred to by law enforcement as "SMT" (Scars, Marks, and Tattoos) or gang paraphernalia – are designed to be instantly recognizable to those "in the know". There will also be discussion as to how to effectively work in collaboration with other agencies and law enforcement. Attendees will leave with the knowledge necessary to identify some of these signs and behaviors.

Objectives:

By the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- Recognize visible identifiers and behavioral indicators
- Understand localized "hybrid" gangs and adaptability
- Utilize multi-agency collaboration and information sharing

Presenter:

Lieutenant Stephen Perry is a corrections professional offering 29 years of comprehensive experience in custody and institutional security, including 10 years of leadership as a Lieutenant at the RIDOC. He is a recognized expert in gang intelligence with 25 years of specialized experience in identification, validation, and training surrounding security risk groups (SRGs). Lieutenant Perry has demonstrated proven expertise in developing and instructing gang recognition curricula, enhancing staff safetym and managing high-risk inmate populations to maintain institutional order.

Mario Marseglia has been employed with the Rhode Island Department of Corrections (RIDOC) since January 2011. Throughout his career with RIDOC, Mr. Marseglia has gained extensive experience working within the correctional environment, serving as an Investigator responsible for conducting investigations across all Department facilities.

In his role as an Investigator, Mr. Marseglia conducts and assists with investigations involving inmate incidents, contraband, narcotics, PREA, assaults, security concerns, inmate conflicts, gang activity, and other matters affecting the safety and security of RIDOC facilities. His primary responsibilities include conducting investigative interviews, reviewing surveillance footage, collecting and documenting evidence, evaluating information from multiple sources, and preparing detailed investigative reports.

Additionally, Mr. Marseglia has served as a member of the RIDOC Gang Intelligence Group, actively participating in gathering and assessing intelligence related to gang activity, affiliations, and Security Risk Groups (SRGs) within the correctional system. This experience has provided him with specialized expertise in identifying gang-related activity and evaluating information vital to institutional safety and security.

Curriculum Details ~ October 27, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Time: 10:15am– 11:45am
Location: Bristol A

Workshop 1 From Conversation to Confession: Modern Interview and Interrogation Strategies

Presenter: Lieutenant Michael A. Pezzullo, MS

Description:
This workshop examines modern, ethical approaches to investigative interviewing, emphasizing rapport-building, psychology, and evidence-based techniques. Drawing on real-world law enforcement experience, participants will explore legal considerations, effective questioning strategies, and the transition from information gathering to admission-seeking. Through case examples and discussion, attendees will gain practical tools to enhance interviews while minimizing the risk of false confessions.

Objectives:
By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Apply a structured rapport-building approach to quickly establish trust and cooperation with victims, witnesses, and suspects improving the quality and quantity of information obtained.
- Use strategic questioning techniques to guide conversations, clarify inconsistencies, and elicit more accurate and detailed statements.
- Recognize and mitigate risks of false confessions by incorporating evidence-based practices, maintaining legal compliance, and avoiding common interrogation pitfalls that can compromise cases.

Presenter:
Lieutenant Michael A. Pezzullo, MS serves as a Lieutenant with the Cranston Police Department and Department Chair of Criminal Justice Studies at the New England Institute of Technology. With nearly 30 years of experience in law enforcement and higher education, he has held key roles including patrol officer, detective sergeant, and supervisor of criminal investigations, leading complex cases and supporting human trafficking enforcement efforts. Lieutenant Pezzullo has also been a committed educator since 2008 and currently serves as the Lead Crime Scene Investigation Instructor at the Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy, where he has trained thousands of recruits in forensic practices, Lieutenant Pezzullo is widely recognized for bridging the gap between practice and instruction bringing real-world investigative insight into the classroom while mentoring students to success in competitive crime scene investigation events. He holds a Master of Science in Investigations from the University of New Haven and is dedicated to advancing professional standards, building collaborative partnerships, and preparing future leaders in the criminal justice field.

Curriculum Details ~ October 27, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Time: 10:15am - 11:45am
Location: Bristol B

Workshop 2 **Resilience in the Trenches: Combating Compassion Fatigue and Burnout**

Presenter: Dr. John Watts, DCJ

Description:
This workshop is designed to equip professionals with essential strategies to recognize, prevent, and combat the effects of compassion fatigue and burnout. The high-stress nature of working in the criminal justice system can lead to emotional exhaustion, decreased job performance, and personal distress. This workshop will explore the psychological and physiological impact of chronic exposure to trauma and high-pressure environments. Participants will learn practical resilience-building techniques, self-care strategies, and organizational approaches to foster a culture of well-being.

Objectives:
By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Identify the early warning signs of compassion fatigue, burnout, and secondary traumatic stress within themselves and their colleagues.
- Understand how prolonged exposure to trauma and stress affects mental, emotional, and physical well-being.
- Explore organizational policies and leadership approaches that promote a supportive and trauma-informed work environment.

Presenter:
Dr. John Watts is an Assistant Professor and Program Director of the Criminal Justice and Restorative Justice Program at the University of Saint Joseph. Dr. Watts is a retired Chief Probation Officer with 20 years of experience at the State of Connecticut Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division (CSSD). He is a certified instructor with the Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) Council and a nationally recognized trainer and consultant with Policy Research Associates and the Center for Effective Public Policy (CEPP). Dr. Watts is also a certified trauma trainer with the SAMHSA GAINS Center, where he supports trauma-informed care initiatives within correctional and community-based systems.

Curriculum Details ~ October 27, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Time: 10:15am - 11:45am
Location: Salon II

Workshop 3 Different, Not Less: Supporting Autistic and Neurodivergent Individuals in the Courtroom and the Community

Presenters: Kate Hooven, MS and Ryan Hooven, BA

Description:
Neurodiversity, including autism and other neurological differences, is being diagnosed in increasing numbers. In this session, we will explore understanding and accommodating autism and other neurodiversities in the justice system, the courtroom, and the community. This is accomplished by gaining a better understanding of individuals with neurodiversity as well as exploring the importance of agency training, accommodations in court, and in the community. Ryan, an autistic self-advocate, will share his lived experience as an autistic adult, creating a personal narrative for the session.

Objectives:
- By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to: Identify accommodations needed in the justice system, including the courts, corrections, and law enforcement community to better support individuals with autism and neurodiversity.
- Apply the information gained from the workshop and implement various strategies to increase awareness andacceptance for autistic and neurodivergent individuals and those who support them in your courts, corrections, and justice systems.
- Learn effective ways to prepare autistic and neurodivergent individuals for court appearances, interviews, and probation supervision success.

Presenters:
Kate Hooven, MS is the Justice System Project Coordinator for ASERT(Autism Services, Education, Resources and Training) where she uses her background as a former juvenile probation officer and juvenile court consultant for the PA Juvenile Court Judges Commission to train justice system personnel. Kate is also the mother of three amazing children, including her 24-year-old son Ryan who was diagnosed with autism when he was four years of age. Ryan graciously allows Kate to share his experiences as an autistic individual to personalize the ASERT justice training, as well as to raise awareness and promote acceptance for all autistic individuals.

Ryan Hooven, BA is a 24-year-old autistic self-advocate. Ryan graduated from Kutztown University with a BA in Music. While in his last semester of college, Ryan worked part-time for ASERT (Autism Services, Education, Resource and Training) creating social stories for autistic college students as well as other resources. Ryan is now employed by ASERT as a Justice System Training Supporter, where he supports the justice system trainings by providing his lived experience as an autistic individual as well as offering suggestions for officers and court personnel on how to better interact with individuals with autism. Ryan enjoys playing videogames, watching his favorite Youtubers, and traveling with his family.

Curriculum Details ~ October 27, 2026 ~ Continued

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Time: 1:45pm - 3:45pm
Location: Grand Ballroom

Plenary: **Coach or Referee? Aligning Practices with Purpose**
Presenter: Brian Lovins, PhD, MSW

Description:

We have amazing staff who are invested in the outcomes of those we serve, yet we continue to struggle to make meaningful inroads into sustained behavioral change. We will explore what maintains this condition and help staff align the four core principles of coaching to their work every day. Participants will learn direct skills to implement a coaching approach to interventions.

Objectives:

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Explore ways in which their approach (belief system) has significant effects on the success of individuals.
- Build meaningful interactions with people they serve and reduce the us versus them that forms between staff and individuals being served.
- Develop practical plays to utilize with people they serve and realign their metrics to be connected to success.

Presenter:

Brian Lovins, PhD, MSW is the President of Justice Systems Partners. He earned his PhD in Criminology from the University of Cincinnati School of Criminal Justice, and he is a past-president of the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA). Dr. Lovins has been instrumental in helping the criminal and juvenile justice systems create programs that align with best practices for over 30 years. He routinely consults with agencies regarding their implemtation of a coaching framework within the context of evidence-based interventions and the use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence. Dr. Lovins works closely with communities to develop effective strategies to improve the outcomes for individuals impacted by the system.


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We hope to see you there!



