

# UNT | DALLAS™

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS AT DALLAS

## Cultural Lenses

### A Symposium Addressing Mental Health and Substance Use

Sponsored by

South Southwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center

&

National Hispanic and Latino Mental Health Technology Transfer Center

July 21st and 22nd, 2021

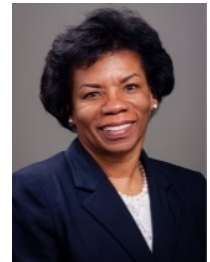
---

July 21st, 2021

8:45am-9:00am Welcome

#### Dr. Betty Stewart, Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Betty Hill Stewart has served in her role at UNT Dallas since the spring of 2017. Dr. Stewart is a graduate of Mississippi State University (BS) and Carnegie-Mellon University (Ph.D.). She has amassed several noteworthy accolades for her work, and her leadership in higher education has been recognized nationwide. Prior to her time with UNT Dallas, Dr. Stewart served as provost for Midwestern State University (MSU), where a science lab was named in her honor. At MSU, Stewart implemented new core curriculum standards and new academic programs and started a summer research program that paired students with professors and oversaw constructing a new building on campus. She also served as vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, FL; as a dean of the College of Science and Mathematics at MSU; and as department chair and professor of chemistry at Austin College in Sherman, Texas. Most importantly, Dr. Stewart cares about her team of faculty, strives for what is best for her students, and is an academic leader worthy of respect.



9:00am-9:45am Virtual Interactive Guided

Conversation

#### Resmaa Menakem, MSW

Resmaa Menakem is a New York Times bestselling author of *My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending our Hearts and Bodies*. He is a psychotherapist, trauma specialist, who created Cultural Somatic, which utilizes the body and resilience as a mechanism for growth. As a therapist, trauma specialist, and the founder of Justice Leadership Solutions, a leadership consultancy firm, Resmaa Menakem dedicates his expertise to coaching leaders through civil unrest, organizational change, and community building. He helps "Justice Leaders realize their potential in the areas of Equity and Race." Resmaa's embodied approach which he calls Somatic Abolitionism is a living, embodied philosophy that requires endurance, stamina, and discernment.



## 10:00am-10:45am Session Speakers

### **1A. Dawn Tyus, PhD**

#### ***Session Topic: The African American Center of Excellence***

Dr. Dawn Tyus is the Principal Investigator (PI) of the African American Behavioral Health Center of Excellence. Dr. Tyus is also the PI and the Director of the Southeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center (SATTC), a member of the Addiction Technology Transfer Center National Network and a sister center to the new AABH-COE at Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM). Among the innovative programs she has spearheaded there are the Center's "Minority to Priority" initiative, focusing on the strengths and needs of African Americans; and a faith initiative aimed at bridging secular and spiritual efforts to address substance use disorders, called "Let's Have the Conversation! One Voice: One Mission." Dr. Tyus is also a Licensed Professional Counselor in the State of Georgia, where she provides family, individual, and group behavioral health therapy.



### **1B. Joe Powell, LCDC, CAS**

#### ***Session Topic: Peer Recovery Support Services***

Joe Powell is in long term recovery with thirty-two years free of alcohol and other drugs. President/CEO of APAA-Association of Persons Affected by Addiction in Dallas, TX. APAA is a recovery community organization that provides peer-to-peer mental health and substance use recovery support services for individuals, family members, and the community. Mr. Powell is a licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor for over 25 years. He founded the first Recovery Community Organization (APAA) in Texas in 1998 by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).



### **1C. Rochelle Dunham, MD**

#### ***Session Topic: The Groundwater Effect: Understanding Racism and Health***

Dr. Rochelle Head-Dunham is the Executive and Medical Director for Metropolitan Human Services District (MHSD), the Local Governance Entity tasked with service delivery for persons suffering from Mental Illness, Addictive Disorders and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities for Orleans, St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes. Dr. Dunham's academic appointments include Clinical Assistant Professorships at both Tulane and LSU Schools Medicine. Her past immediate appointments were Assistant Secretary and Medical Director for the Office of Behavioral Health within the Louisiana Department of Health. Dr. Head-Dunham's academic and clinical leadership has fostered statewide advances in the field of behavioral health, where she has lectured, trained and taught, both locally and nationally. Her pioneering efforts have advanced knowledge, skills and application of the standard of care for co-occurring mental and addictive disorders.



# July 21st, 2021

## 11:00am-11:45am Session Speakers

### **2A. Michael H. Allen, MSW**

#### ***Session Topic: Cultural Humble Solutions for Working with African Americans in Mental Health***



Michael Allen is the founder and CEO Therapeutic Connections, which was established in 2014. His training is designed to assist students, faculty, and practitioners in understanding cultural competencies in working with African Americans in the mental health field. In this session participants will be equipped with the ability to better assist clients by utilizing strategic techniques that will assist individuals achieve their goals and reach their fullest potential.

Therapeutic Connections is an Outpatient Mental Health Clinic (OMHC) located in Howard County Maryland. They provide in home/office therapy to youth, adolescents, and adults. In addition, they operate a Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program (PRP,) as well as provide Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) in the home and school system. Therapeutic Connections is accredited through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). The program is known and well respected within the Howard County provider community.

### **2B. Keilah Jacques, MSW & Durrelle Brooks, PhD**

#### ***Session Topic: Intersectionality and Liberatory Consciousness***



**Keilah Jacques (she/her)**, is a social justice pedagogic advocate and anti-oppression systems designer. She works with communities, hospital systems, and institutions of education to advance critical consciousness development around racism and health. Keilah facilitates personal and professional development, strategic planning, systems change management, political advocacy, and community conversations that advance anti-racist focuses capacity building.

**Dr. Durrelle Brooks (he/him)**, is an interdisciplinary researcher and a scholar-practitioner from Baltimore, MD. Having grown up in poverty with multiple intersecting marginalized identities, he was intimately aware at an early age the cumulative impact of oppression on his over-all well-being. Early experiences with religious oppression, homophobia, and heterosexism deeply impacted his ability to thrive. Because of this reality, Durrelle has spent the last 15 years examining complex social issues such as racism, sexism, homophobia, poverty, religious oppression, and various other forms of social oppression and its impact on historically marginalized populations in order to mitigate those effects.

**2C. Pastor Bryan Carter & Min. Brenda Richardson-Rowe, PhD, LPC-S**  
**Session Topic: Faith and Mental Health**

**Pastor Carter Bryan Carter** serves as the Senior Pastor of Concord Church, a 9,000-member congregation in southern Dallas. He is also committed to serving our community and Pastor Carter serves as the chair of Harmony Community Development Corporation, and non-profit committed to impacting the community and providing social services through the Resource Center and Counseling program. Harmony serves residents of the South Oak Cliff area of Dallas with additional concentration throughout the southern sector of Dallas including Cedar Hill, DeSoto, Duncanville, and Lancaster.



**Dr. Brenda Richardson-Rowe** is a licensed professional counselor who worked as a registered nurse for 26 years, Dr. Richardson-Rowe was then called to full-time ministry as a Commissioned Minister of Counseling, focusing on providing services to those living with mental health issues and their families. Now she serves as the counseling director of Harmony CDC. The Harmony Counseling Center is a biblically based, professional counseling center. Because of the great need in communities of color for mental health awareness and education, Dr. Richardson-Rowe and her team focus on treatment and training. She has served with various organizations in the community such as MetroCare, NAMI, and Best Southwest Partnership, and CASA Faith committee.

July 22nd, 2021

8:45am-9:00am Welcome

Robert Mong, President of the University of North Texas at Dallas and its College of Law

Robert Mong has served as the President of the University of North Texas at Dallas and its College of Law since 2015. Before joining UNT Dallas, Mong worked as a journalist for more than 40 years, most of it at The Dallas Morning News, where he served as managing editor and later as editor-in-chief.



Under his leadership, the university has undergone transformational growth in retention, the number of degrees awarded and enrollment, becoming the fastest-growing public university in Texas. During his tenure, UNT Dallas has expanded its facilities at the southern Dallas main campus and the downtown Dallas law school. Through UNT Dallas' numerous community service initiatives in urban Dallas County, the university also has greatly increased its visibility and influence.

9:00am-9:45am Keynote

Luis R. Torres-Hostos, PhD

Luis R. Torres-Hostos, Ph.D., is Founding Dean and Professor of the School of Social Work at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley in Edinburg, TX. He assumed his role in August of 2020, and rapidly integrated into the university, local, and bi-national communities of the Rio Grande Valley, where he is positioning the School of Social Work to play a key role in promoting health, health equity, and social justice. Dr. Torres-Hostos' research focuses on health inequities and social determinants of health with a focus on Hispanic and African American communities. He also works on community engagement initiatives aimed at building community resilience.



# July 22nd, 2021

## 10:00am-10:45am Session Speakers

### **1A. Luis R. Torres-Hostos, PhD**

**Session Topic:** *National Hispanic & Latino Mental Health Technology Transfer Center*

Luis R. Torres-Hostos, Ph.D., is Founding Dean and Professor of the School of Social Work at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley in Edinburg, TX. He assumed his role in August of 2020, and rapidly integrated into the university, local, and bi-national communities of the Rio Grande Valley, where he is positioning the School of Social Work to play a key role in promoting health, health equity, and social justice. Dr. Torres-Hostos' research focuses on health inequities and social determinants of health with a focus on Hispanic and African American communities. He also works on community engagement initiatives aimed at building community resilience.



### **1B. Dr. J. Rocky Romero, LMSW**

**Session Topic:** *Cultural Considerations for Addressing Mental Health Issues in Hispanic and Latino Children and Youth*

J. Rocky Romero, PhD, LMSW is the CEO and owner of JR Romero & Associates, a training and consultant company. Dr. Romero is a former Assistant Professor of the New Mexico Highlands University School of Social Work in Albuquerque, NM. He served as the co-chair for Governor Richardson's appointed NM Higher Education Department on Cultural Competency Task-Force and as an Executive Council member for the NM-Consortium for Behavioral Health Training and Research. He completed his doctoral studies at the University of New Mexico in Language, Literacy and Sociocultural Studies, focused on analyzing legal discourse through a critical race theory lens. A trainer and consultant for the NHL-MHTTC for the last 10 years, Dr. Romero is also a national trainer for Clare|Matrix for the last 12 years. He is focused on the intersections of racism, discrimination, and the impact of racialized legal discourse on people of color.





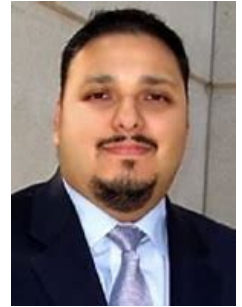
July 22nd, 2021

## 11:00am-11:45am Session Speakers

### **2A. Dr. Philip Ortiz**

**Session Title:** *The Impact of COVID19 on Latinos in Mental Health & SUD Treatment*

Dr. Phillip Ortiz is currently a Full-time Professor of Social Work in the School of Law & Public Service at Dallas College. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Dallas, a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Texas at Arlington and a Doctorate in Education from Texas A&M University-Commerce. He is also a Licensed Clinical Social Worker by the Texas State Board of Social Work Examiners. Dr. Ortiz is also an adjunct instructor of Counseling & Human Services at the University of North Texas at Dallas. In addition to teaching, Dr. Ortiz is an independent contractor for individual counseling, family therapy, & group therapy with a local Juvenile Probation department. He is also a Court Appointment Expert for clinical assessments by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dallas. In the past, Dr. Ortiz has consulted for the Department of Family & Protective Services, Dallas County Family Courts, and numerous mental health organizations. He specializes in mental health treatment of Hispanic/Latino adolescents and addiction counseling.



### **2B. Nancy Herrera, M.S.**

**Session Topic:** *Decolonized Methods of Mental Health for Historically Minoritized Communities*

Nancy Herrera is a Counseling Psychology doctoral candidate, from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She is currently completing her Predoctoral Psychology Internship at the University of Texas at El Paso. As a first-generation college student, she earned bachelor's degrees in Psychology/Social Behavior and Chicanx/Latinx Studies from the University of California, Irvine. As an aspiring bilingual psychologist, supporting historically minoritized communities' mental health and educational success through research and service is her personal and professional passion. Her clinical and research interest include post intimate partner violence (IPV) healing, wellness among women of color, and healing from trauma through ancestral and decolonial methods. Her dissertation pays homage to Latinas who are both college students and survivors of IPV, by exploring posttraumatic growth and culture-specific notions of well-being.

