

May 19, 2021 Bucks-Mont Collaborative  
Virtual Community Summit: Breakout Sessions  
Trauma and Resilience at the Intersection of  
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice



**Stay tuned for additional breakout session announcements, with plans developing for several more sessions!**

**1) Session: Ending Mass Incarceration, Enhancing Prisoner Reentry, and Hope**

**Presenter:** Robert K. Reed, Executive Deputy Attorney General for Special Initiatives, Office of Attorney General, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Lisa Kessler Peter, Associate Administrator, Sound Community Solutions; and Shannon Robinson, Reentry Specialist, Friends Rehabilitation

**Description:** This session will first focus on the impact of mass incarceration and the changes that need to happen to reduce America's mass incarceration mindset by applying trauma-informed lessons. As ending mass incarceration will further strain the prisoner reentry system, this session will then explore what steps are being made to improve the prisoner reentry system and what needs to happen to create a trauma-informed reentry system.

**Learning Objectives:**

This session addresses these questions:

1. Why is there still mass incarceration?
2. What is being done and needs to be done to reduce mass incarceration?
3. What is prisoner reentry and what are the challenges that impact reentrants?
4. What is the future of prisoner reentry applying a trauma-informed lens?
5. Why should we be hopeful that we are moving in the right direction?

**2) Session: Creating an Affirming LGBT+ Environment**

**Presenter:** Carolyn Lewis, PsyD, Executive Director, Behavioral Health Staff Development & Training, Merakey

**Description:** Explore the concepts of minority stress and sexual stigma and how they can lead to physical and mental health disparities. Strategize ways you can be a strong ally and create an affirmative environment for individuals who identify as part of the LGBT+ community.

**Learning Objectives:**

1. Define sexual stigma and minority stress.
2. Learn the differences between key identifiers.
3. Identify disparities for LGBT+ individuals.
4. Describe ways to advocate and identify as an ally.

### 3) Session: Racial Wealth Gap Learning Simulation

**Presenters:** Kristin Chapin MS, Associate Director, YWCA Bucks County; Marissa Christie MS, President & CEO, United Way of Bucks County; Erin Lukoss, CEO & Executive Director, Bucks County Opportunity Council; and Tammy Schoonover ACSW, LSW, Chief Program Officer, Bucks County Opportunity Council

**Description:** The Racial Wealth Gap Learning Simulation was co-created by Bread for the World Institute and NETWORK as an interactive tool that helps people understand racial inequality at the structural level and how it connects with social justice issues, like ending hunger and poverty. YWCA Bucks County, Bucks County Opportunity Council, and the United Way of Bucks County are collaborating to bring this learning simulation to our community.

The purpose of this learning simulation is to help participants understand the role of racial inequity in policies and their implementation. Participants will learn how federal policies created structural inequalities in many areas, such as property ownership and education, and how these policies increase hunger and poverty in communities of color. The simulation guides participants to an understanding of why racial equity is so important to ending hunger and poverty in the United States.

**Learning Objectives:**

1. Understand why racial equity is important to address structural inequality.
2. Discuss racial equity within our organizations, groups, and/or communities.
3. Incorporate a racial equity lens into our daily work, life, policies, practices, advocacy, and more.
4. Gain approaches to explain the importance of applying a racial equity lens when working to end hunger, poverty, health or achieve goals in other issue areas.

### 4) Session: #RealTalk

**Facilitator:** Kenneth V. Hardy, PhD, President of the Eikenberg Academy for Social Justice and Director of the Eikenberg Institute for Relationships in New York, NY

**Description:** As we reflect on the trauma of discrimination and injustice, what are the questions that emerge? What don't we know? What should we be asking of ourselves and others? How will we build a movement for change in our community? This facilitated session by morning Keynote Speaker, Dr. Kenneth V. Hardy, will invite conversation to inspire our examination of the deeper questions and challenging conversations we want and need to have to build equity-centered, resilient communities.

**Learning Objectives:** Engage in brave space and conversation on the tough questions that we want and need to ask to build equity-centered, resilient communities.

### 5) Session: Trauma 103, Recognizing Vicarious & Secondary Trauma for Caregivers

**Presenters:** Caroline Campbell and Pearl Calica, Lakeside Global Institute

**Description:** The emotional and physical cost of being an engaged and empathetic caregiver can be an occupational hazard. Considering the potential impact of vicarious and secondary trauma, compassion fatigue, and burn-out, caregivers are provided with critical steps in identifying signs and symptoms of each. Additionally, practical skills and a commitment to self-care are an integral part of this interactive session.

**Learning Objectives:**

1. Identify and distinguish between the various ways trauma impacts professionals.
2. Recognize signs and symptoms of secondary traumatic stress for individuals and organizations.
3. Distinguish the difference between compassion fatigue and empathy fatigue.
4. Discover risk and protective factors related to secondary and vicarious trauma.
5. Develop a self-care plan.

**6) Session: How To Be An Advocate for Advancing Trauma-Informed and Equitable Policies**

**Presenters:** Jesse Kohler, CTIPP Executive Director; Suzanne O'Connor, CTIPP Executive Board Member; and Diane Wagenhals, CTIPP Executive Board Member

**Description:** This session will focus on advocacy and policy reform that will help participants understand best practices in advancing trauma-informed, equitable policies and practices for our community. Board Members and the new Executive Director for the national Campaign for Trauma Informed Policy & Practice (CTIPP) will provide an overview of trauma policy, CTIPP's current policy agenda and opportunities to develop and practice an advocacy "pitch."

**Learning Objectives:**

1. Share CTIPP history accomplishments and current policy agenda.
2. Equip trauma-informed advocates with information and skills needed to educate policymakers.
3. Connect participants to trauma resources.

**7) Session: Human Trafficking: An Overview**

**Presenters:** Karen Kutzner (BCAT); Carly Bruski, LSW (MCAT); Stephanie Shantz-Stiver (NOVA, BCAT); Carla Clanagan (Worthwhile Wear, MCAT)

- BCAT, Bucks Coalition Against Trafficking
- MCAT, Montgomery County Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition

**Description:** This session will provide an overview of human trafficking as a human rights issue, both labor and sex trafficking, including information from research done about traffickers and buyers. Some of the influences and adversities that are associated with vulnerability to exploitation and

victimization, including the topics of trauma and resilience as they relate to this population, will be presented. Some options for prevention and restorative services will be identified, as well as opportunities for engagement.

**Learning Objectives:**

1. To create awareness of the issue of human trafficking, both labor and sex trafficking.
2. To present information about traffickers, buyers, and victims.
3. To consider vulnerabilities related to trauma and adverse experiences.
4. To share information about local and national resources.

**8) Session: Racial Disparities in Healthcare: Implicit Bias, Microaggressions, and the Path Toward Recovery**

**Presenters:** Jaymie Campbell Orphanidys, PhD, MEd, MA, Director, Diversity Equity Inclusion Education, Office of Diversity, Inclusion & Community Engagement, Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health; and Brenda E. Snipes, MBA, MHA, MSHRM, Vice President, Diversity, Inclusion & Community Engagement, Enterprise Office of Diversity, Inclusion & Community Engagement, Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health

**Description:** Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) continue to experience negative outcomes in healthcare that stem from implicit and explicit racial biases. Implicit and explicit racial biases can take the form of microaggressions in healthcare, and microaggressions research indicates that experiencing microaggressions can lead to racial trauma for BIPOC. In this session, the facilitators will describe racial disparities in health care for BIPOC with a focus on the experiences of Black and Brown patients. By the end of the session, participants will have a working understanding of the impact of racial trauma and how to take a healing centered approach using the BIPOC Racial Microaggressions Recovery Model.

**Learning Objectives:**

1. Describe racial disparities in healthcare for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC).
2. Understand the impact of racial microaggressions in healthcare.
3. Define the four steps to the BIPOC Racial Microaggressions Recovery Model.

**9) Session: Understanding Trauma: The Refugee and Asylum Seeker Experience**

**Presenters:** Gwen Soffer, MSW, TCTSY-F, Wellness and Intake Coordinator, Nationalities Service Center; and Ocelia Stanley, Community Resource Coordinator, Nationalities Service Center

**Description:** This session presents the trauma experienced by refugees and asylum seekers now living in the US. Using the Nationalities Service Center's Wellness Program as a model, various wellness services will be introduced as potential methods of healing. The session will include time for questions and discussion.

**Learning Objectives:** Establish a foundational understanding of the Triple Trauma Paradigm of the refugee and asylum seeker experience and potential services and healing modalities.