

2024 Annual Conference of the DMH Research Centers of Excellence

Innovative Prevention and Treatment Strategies for Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Use Challenges



**MONDAY
MAY 13TH**



**12:30PM-
4:30PM**



**ZOOM
WEBINAR**

With opening remarks from **Brooke Doyle, MEd, LMHW**, Commissioner of the Massachusetts (MA) Department of Mental Health (DMH)

Featured Speakers



**Eden Evins,
MD, MPH**
Massachusetts
General Hospital



**Lourah
Kelly, PhD**
UMass Chan
Medical School



**Randi
Schuster, PhD**
Massachusetts
General Hospital



**Melissa
Anderson, PhD**
UMass Chan
Medical School



**Alexander
Wilkins, PhD**
UMass Chan
Medical School

Panel Members



**Val Comerford,
CPS, FPS, COAPS**
Central MA DMH



**Scott Francis, BA,
CPS, COAPS**
MA Organization for
Addiction Recovery

**Celeste M.
Clerk, CPS**

Western MA
Department of
Mental Health

Register: <http://tinyurl.com/DMH-Conf-24>

ASL interpreter services & CEUs for Psychology, RN, Social Work, LMHC and OT will be provided

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Conference Agenda

Theme/Title: Innovative Prevention and Treatment Strategies for Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Use Challenges

Date: May 13, 2024

Time: 12:30 - 4:30 PM

Platform: Zoom webinar

Registration Link: <http://tinyurl.com/DMH-Conf-24>

- 12:30-12:35 **Welcome** (Cori Cather, PhD and Megan Kelly, PhD)
- 12:35-12:40 **Opening Remarks**
Brooke Doyle, MEd, LMHC, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health
- 12:40-1:25 ***A Case Against Purity: What Can We Learn at the Intersection of Mental Health and Substance Use Challenges***
Eden Evins, MD, MPH
- 1:25-2:25 ***Between Silos: Connecting in the Middle as Peer Specialists and Recovery Coaches***
Val Comerford, CPS, FPS, COAPS, Director of Recovery and Employment, Central Massachusetts Department of Mental Health
Celeste M Clerk, CPS, Director of Recovery, Western Massachusetts Department of Mental Health
Scott Francis, BA, CPS, COAPS, Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery
- 2:25-2:35 **Break**
- 2:35-3:05 ***Who Has the Highest Risk of Co-occurring Substance Use Disorders and Suicide Risk? Results from a Nationally Representative U.S. Survey***
Lourah Kelly, PhD
- 3:05-3:35 ***Turning the Spigot Off: Mobilizing Schools to Support Secondary Prevention of Substance Use and Co-Occurring Disorders***
Randi Schuster, PhD
- 3:35-4:20 ***“Signs of Safety”: A Deaf-Accessible Therapy Toolkit for Co-occurring Trauma and Addiction***
Melissa Anderson, PhD & Alexander Wilkins, PhD
- 4:20-4:25 **Wrap Up** (Cori Cather, PhD and Megan Kelly, PhD)
- 4:25-4:30 **Complete evaluations**