



**August 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> 2022**

## Live Streaming Select Presentations

- For those who are unable to make the conference in person we are offering the option to join us online for live, virtual offerings of select presentations.
- Free for people receiving services and direct support professionals/caregivers/Direct Care Workers (DCWs)!
- All presentations are 60 minutes in duration and there is a \$15 charge per 60 minute session.
- Most Presentations include 1 hour of Michigan Social Work Continuing Education Credit. CE offerings noted in brochure by **blue highlight**.
- All Times are EST (Eastern Standard Time).
- Individual Certificates of completion, based on attendance data, will be provided to you via the email you used to register for the presentations by August 31<sup>st</sup> 2022.
- If there are any changes or cancellations we will provide a full refund by August 31<sup>st</sup> 2022.

For questions please complete this form:  
<https://form.jotform.com/222164158028149>

**Wednesday August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 9:30am -10:30am**

**Touching the Heart of Our Work**

***Peter Leidy, BA, Independent Consultant***

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for this Session](#)

Think of a time when you felt “YES -- I love my job!” or “Today was a great day at work!” Chances are, these emotions did not come from filling out forms. While paperwork, regulations, and layers of bureaucracy may have necessary places in our work, let’s admit it: This is not why most of us do what we do. The heart of the work is relationships and valued social roles. The heart of the work is helping people live a good life that has meaning. The heart of the work is making someone’s day, and having your day made by them. The heart of the work is sharing your gifts and receiving the gifts others bring to the relationship. We need to keep the joy, the love, the HEART in our work.

In this session we will acknowledge with intention what this means in our own work, on our own team, in our own workplace. We will be inspired by each other’s stories and experience. Peter will also share examples of specific strategies and practices that help us find the heart and profound joy in our work. Peter brings to this not only many years of being in direct support roles, but also supervising and supporting supporters to bring their best selves to the job/relationship.

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**Wednesday August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 10:50am -11:50am**

**Making a House a Home: Personal Stories of Connection and Growth**

**John Williams, Consultant Bonnie Cowan, Manager Meaghan Hall, Residential**

**Program Director Progressive Lifestyles 1 Social Work CE**

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for this Session](#)

When we use the principles of Gentle Teaching to create and nurture an environment of emotional and physical safety, truly amazing things can happen. This presentation will walk participants through the strategies utilized and lessons learned in the process of opening a home to support the needs of several individuals in Oakland County, Michigan with a history of significant trauma and violent behaviors. We’ll partner with the individuals supported to share their personal stories of growth and hear their perspectives. We’ll discuss the ways that each of the six elements informed decision-making, planning, and outcomes for those individuals as well as the caregiving team

**Wednesday August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 1:00pm – 2:00pm**  
**Gentle Teaching Video Coaching: An Introduction**  
**Simone Schipper-Eindhoven, Gentle Teaching Mentor,**  
**Prinsentstichting**  
**Floris van de Kamer, Gentle Teaching Master Mentor,**  
**Prinsentstichting**

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### **1 Social Work CE**

Gentle Teaching video coaching (GTvc) is a short term intervention (12-18 weeks) that has been developed at Prinsentstichting based on the GT framework. We use GTvc when caregivers and the people they serve experience tension in their interactions which prevents them from developing companionship. The results are very promising in clinical practice and that is why we are currently conducting a multiple case series in order to provide some evidence based data. In this study we focus on the effect of GTvc on the level of tense interactions, the emotional availability of caregivers and the people they serve, the way the GT principles are used, the experienced companionship and physiological arousal of both caregivers and the people they serve. In our keynote we will give an introduction of GTvc and its principles and the way the case study is designed. We will also show you some first results and illustrate this with video materials.

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**Wednesday August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 2:20pm – 3:20pm**

**One Oar, an Inflatable Boat and a Vast Ocean: Surveying the Tsunami of Change in Our Current World**

**John Ball, BAS, Vice President**

**Lisa Goyette, BAS, President & CEO**

**CH Training & Coaching 1 Social Work CE**

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Well over 2 years ago, life as we knew it changed forever. The tsunami of change was already beginning to form with cultural dynamics, political and social polarization, generational diversity, globalization, disruption in the supply chain and so much more. All of this individually and collectively has created a heightened level of anxiety, stress, and trauma in our world that continues to impact each and every one of us in one fashion or another. Though we may not have much control over these conditions, how we elect to respond to any and all of these does have the power to shift the emotional and psychological impact that we experience. In this seminar, we will discuss the impact that the current cultural conditions have upon each of us, especially as mental health professionals. We will also provide tools based upon principles of social/emotional intelligence to help participants continue to navigate the times that we are living in successfully, both in their personal and professional life.

**Wednesday August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 3:40pm – 4:40pm**  
**Asset Maps: Practical Tools to Build Connectedness, Companionship and Community**  
**David Hornibrook, Community Services Coordinator**  
**North Country Community Mental Health**  
**1 Social Work CE**

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for this Session](#)

Asset mapping is a process for connecting with and engaging community members to discover the gifts, talents, resources, and opportunities that exist in a given community. The results are categorized and mapped resulting in a practical tool that can be used to create connection, foster companionship, and build community. David Hornibrook from North Country Community Mental Health will share insights from their ongoing project to map the counties in their service region as part of a larger transition from traditional day programs to fully integrated, community-based services.

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## THURSDAY AUGUST 18<sup>th</sup>

**Thursday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 9:30am – 10:30am**  
**Nurturing a Psychologically Safe Workplace**  
**Michael Lavis, CEO, Creative Options Regina**  
**1 Social Work CE**

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In this presentation, the CEO of Creative Options Regina (COR), Michael Lavis, shares how their non-profit, charitable organization has woven a culture of gentleness throughout the fabric of their organization; specifically, in its people (HR), policy, governance and care practices. Michael will speak to their organization's values and the personalized strategies utilized to create an environment of safety, warmth, and equality, and how rooting themselves in the philosophy of Gentle Teaching has strengthened the fabric of companionship and community for all they serve. Michael shares how a caring and gentle organizational culture can dramatically lower turnover rates, contribute to organizational growth, and cultivate a multiple award winning organization.

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**Thursday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 10:50am – 11:50am**  
**The Next Right Thing: Embracing Structure to Fight Despair in the Pandemic Era**  
**Jennifer Bohne, MBA, Executive Director & CEO**  
**Kathryn Simpson, Operations Director**  
**Progressive Lifestyles, Inc.**  
**1 Social Work CE**

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When the problems of the world seem too big to tackle, feelings of helplessness and fear can start to turn quickly to despair. To fight the loss of hope and optimism in our caregivers during the pandemic era, Progressive Lifestyles leaned on structure to create a culture of emotional safety in an unsafe time. The presentation will include a journey

through both our successes and missed opportunities to illustrate how doing, "the next right thing" doesn't always mean perfection. Attendees should expect to learn: how to identify signs that a person or team is approaching a state of despair, ways to introduce structure in a non-threatening and supportive manner, identifying ways to reduce demand when non-negotiables are on the to-do list, and how to approach making course corrections without losing the structure that is providing safety. This will be an interactive session that includes opportunities for self-reflection and personal goal setting.

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**Thursday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 1:00pm – 2:00pm**  
**Harm Reduction and Gentle Teaching**  
**Dave Lappin, Executive Director, H.O.M.E. Society**

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How a Culture of Gentleness and HARM Reduction are congruent in their approach to serving those most marginalized. Folks living with serious substance misuse are often viewed as, "living with their choices and need to learn to pull up their bootstraps," as opposed to recognizing that they are self-medicating to ease their pain and broken hearts. A Culture of Gentleness focuses on healing the heart and creating safe spaces where they are not judged. When people are connected and feel safe, they tend to make healthier decisions, reduce harmful choices and often connect with proper medical care for the first time in many years.

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**Thursday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 2:20pm – 3:20pm**  
**Anti-Stigma vs. Anti- Sanism: Suicide Prevention and Liberating Neurodiversity**  
**Kiersten Gutherman 1 Social Work CE**

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for this Session](#)

Anti-stigma campaigns have focused on normalizing mental illness and neurodivergence, but it is time to address the structural oppression that mad, mentally ill, and neurodivergent (MMIND) individuals face. This session will define sanism, confront discrimination against mad, mentally ill, and neurodivergent folks, discuss suicide prevention through an anti-sanist lens, and envision liberation.

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**Thursday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 3:40pm – 4:40pm**  
**Full Community Inclusion—Is it Possible for All?**  
**Ray Schuhholz, Peer Mentor**  
**Annette Downey, Chief Executive Officer**  
**Community Living Services *1 Social Work CE***

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This presentation will focus on service providers adapting their service array and approaches to be more person-centered and self-directed in order to assist people in achieving life outcomes valued by all members of society. “Getting great services” is obviously not the goal of our field of work -“GETTING A GREAT LIFE” is. This will be an inter- active training session that aims to re-frame our views on service provision, with the goal of making our service systems as person-centered, compassionate, nurturing, and community focused as possible. Methods of helping people with developmental disabilities and other complex care needs achieve active, rich, and respected lives as valued members of their community via very individualized Person-Centered Planning processes will be shared. We’ll explore as a group what may hold people back from leading happy, healthy, and productive lives in their local communities. We’ll also explore what we can do to make a difference.

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**Friday August 19<sup>th</sup> 2022**

**Friday August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 9:30am – 10:30am**  
**Combatting a Culture of Fear**  
**Andy Sonntag, Development Coordinator, MCHS Family Services**  
***1 Social Work CE***

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The participants will understand the long history of propagating a culture of fear to manipulate and motivate -Understand the psychological of fear and the physiological effects on people. Understand the role technology plays in sustaining and deepening a culture of fear. Understand the “reverse” secondary trauma experienced when receiving services from a caregiver working from a culture of fear. Understand proactive ways to combat the pervasive culture of fear. Understand proactive ways to establish and deepen a culture of gentleness in light of the above.

**Friday August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 10:50am – 11:50am**

**Systemic Trauma: The Other Pandemic**

**Ann Liesen, PhD., LPC, NCC, LBSW, QIDP, Counseling and Behavioral Support  
Manager, MORC, Inc.**

**1 Social Work CE**

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The 2020's has put humanity to the test. We are moving into a polarized society where we value hate over love, conflict over kindness, disconnect over connection and violence over protection. This illness of the heart is spreading across the globe like wildfire fueling trauma and a hyper vigilant state of threat. Please join me in exploring how systemic trauma shapes our moral compass and impacts our love for others from the collective society to the kitchen table. Together we will challenge infectious agents, identify symptoms and discover a path to healing this social disease that threatens our fundamental need for human connection.

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**Friday August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 1:00pm – 2:00pm**

**Lost and Found: A Dementia Journey Jen Haak,  
LBSW, Life Circles PACE**

**1 Social Work CE**

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for this Session](#)

A dementia diagnosis can be a daunting reality. It is easy to focus on the current losses and become overwhelmed trying to anticipate the future losses. Thankfully, understanding brain chain and learning how to support/approach people living with dementia can make all the difference. In this presentation, a brief overview will be provided for 4 different types of dementia (Lewy Body, Vascular, Frontotemporal and Alzheimer's). Attendees will learn about the sensory integration changes that can occur as this disease progresses and ways to accommodate these sensory changes. This presentation will also review strategies for neutralizing stressful moment. Teepa Snow's Positive Approach to Care (PAC) education offers a meaningful life worth living for both the person living with dementia and the care partners that have joined in on this dementia journey.

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**Friday August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 2:20pm – 3:20pm**

**Lives Worth Living: A Guide to Suicide Prevention in Community Mental Health  
Riley Juntti, National Suicide Prevention Coordinator**

**Vibrant Emotional Health 1 Social Work CE**

Suicide continues to be a leading cause of death across America. This presentation will look at our beliefs and biases towards those who struggle with suicidal ideation or behavior. You will learn how to have conversations with individuals struggling with suicide and how we can move them from a space of crisis to calm. Audience members can expect to take away stories of lived experience with suicide, how we can reduce access to lethal means, and an interactive activity on how to build a safety plan. Data will be used on effective ways to reduce suicide amongst different demographics within community mental health or with- in the community itself.

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