

Youth and Young Adult Mental Health: Challenges & Opportunities in the Sunflower State

AGENDA

December 7, 2022

- 10:30 a.m. **Welcome**
Kari M. Bruffett, President & CEO, Kansas Health Institute
- 10:35 a.m. **Setting the Stage: A Snapshot of Kansas Youth & Young Adult Mental Health**
Wyatt J. Beckman, M.P.H., C.H.E.S., Senior Analyst, Kansas Health Institute
- 10:45 a.m. **Panel Discussion: Meeting the Mental Health Needs of Youth & Young Adults at the Local Level**
Moderator: *Wyatt J. Beckman, M.P.H., C.H.E.S.*, Senior Analyst, Kansas Health Institute
Dr. Tiffany Anderson, Ed.D., M.Div., Superintendent, Topeka Public Schools
Dan Duling, M.S.Ed., Vice President of Community Partnerships, Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas
Richard Falcon, Program Supervisor, Compass Behavioral Health
Carlee Gilley, L.M.S.W., L.S.C.S.W., School-Based Clinical Level Therapist, Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas
- 12:00 p.m. **Break**
Lunch at KHI
- 12:45 p.m. **Panel Discussion: Statewide Efforts and Strategies to Support Youth & Young Adult Mental Health**
Moderator: *Linda J. Sheppard, J.D.*, Senior Analyst & Strategy Team Leader, Kansas Health Institute
Chad Childs, M.S.F.T., Prevention Initiatives Manager, Wichita State University Community Engagement Institute
Madison Elliott, Public Policy & Advocacy Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Kansas
Monica Kurz, L.M.S.W., Vice President of Policy & Prevention, Kansas Suicide Prevention HQ
Laura Moore, Youth Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Office of the Kansas Attorney General
Stephanie Rhinehart, L.M.S.W., Prevention Program Manager, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services
- 2:15 p.m. **Closing Remarks**
Bailey Blair, L.M.S.W., Clinical Liaison, Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas
- 2:30 p.m. **Adjourn**



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ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

MORNING SESSION

Listed in alphabetical order by last name



Dr. Tiffany Anderson, Ed.D., M.Div., a long-time Kansas resident, has been a public school educator for over 26 years, serving most of that time as superintendent. Dr. Anderson has been nationally recognized as one of Education Week's *16 Leaders to Learn From*. She has improved achievement and closed achievement gaps for students of poverty in rural, urban and suburban public school districts. In 2016, she became the first African American female superintendent of Topeka Public Schools in Topeka, Kansas.

Dr. Anderson was appointed by the Governor in 2019 to the Postsecondary Technical Authority, as part of the Board of Regents, and in 2020 to co-chair the Commission on Racial Equity and Justice. Since Dr. Anderson arrived in Topeka, the district has earned three national Magna Awards, one of which is for their work in equity. Dr. Anderson serves on numerous boards in Topeka, including the Topeka Community Foundation, Rotary and the Greater Topeka Partnership. Prior to Kansas, as superintendent, Dr. Anderson led Montgomery County School District in Virginia and Jennings School District to full accreditation resulting in recognition from the Governor in the respective states. Dr. Anderson is a fierce advocate for equity and making college and career accessible to all in the community. There are several documentaries and articles that have been produced about Dr. Anderson's leadership, and the Washington Post referred to her as, "The Woman who made schools work for the poor." Dr. Anderson earned her undergraduate degree, and later her doctorate, from Saint Louis University in 2001. Dr. Anderson has received numerous awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award for volunteerism from President Obama; the Salute to Excellence for Women awarded by the Urban League; the Stellar Performance Award by the St. Louis American, the 2020 Kansas Icon in Education by Ingram, and she was honored at the 2017 Oscars for the People with Purpose Award.



Dan Duling, M.S.Ed., completed his undergraduate and master's degrees in teaching and education administration at Pittsburg State University. His professional career of 34 years includes time as a classroom teacher, school administrator, director of special education services for 13 school districts in Southeast Kansas, executive director of WestRidge Assisted Living, and currently Vice President of Community Partnerships at the Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas.



Richard Falcon has been in social services for almost 20 years. He started his career working for a psychiatric residential therapeutic facility (PRTF). He supervised cottages for 10 years that housed violent offenders, sexual offenders and younger kids that endured major trauma. Mr. Falcon was the trainer for the PRTF, and was certified in trauma informed care, therapeutic crisis intervention, and compliance. In 2014, he started working for Compass Behavioral Health as the program supervisor whose staff worked with kids ages 3 to 22 with mental health or behavioral health disorders. He continues to train in trauma informed care and therapeutic crisis intervention. In 2014, Richard became a Yellow Ribbon suicide prevention trainer. In 2017, he was elected chair of the board of Yellow Ribbon International, which is the largest suicide prevention program in the world. It operates in all 50 states and 48 countries around the world. Mr. Falcon works with an advisor board of doctors, therapists, and professionals in creating the best suicide prevention program in the world.



Carlee Gilley, L.M.S.W., L.S.C.S.W., was born and raised in rural Southeast Kansas. She has been around the mental health field her entire life as her mom worked for a local community mental health center. Ms. Gilley also found her passion to help people early on watching her younger brother struggle with mental health, especially in the school setting, which also impacted the adults in his world. Ms. Gilley began working for the community mental health center in college, where her passion and desire to help/educate children, adults and community grew stronger. Ms. Gilley obtained her bachelor's degree in criminal justice and psychology in 2010 from Pittsburg State University. From there she went to Missouri State University and obtained her master's degree in social work. She found that social work opened more opportunities to expand knowledge in holistic care for individuals.

Ms. Gilley started her career working as a medical social worker for the first few years then was given an opportunity to work as a social worker in the school setting. Ms. Gilley has worked in the school district nearly 10 years and has been employed as a school-based therapist for eight of those 10 years. In 2019, she obtained her clinical licensure in social work.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Listed in alphabetical order by last name



Chad Childs, M.S.F.T., (he/him) is a parent and stepparent of five incredible children and the spouse of an incredible leader. He is the prevention initiatives manager for the Community Engagement Institute and a member of the Trauma-Informed Systems of Care and Early Childhood Initiatives teams. Mr. Childs has over 20 years of management and leadership experience in the mental and behavioral healthcare field and the fields of higher education, child welfare and prevention. He is a current board member of the Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition and the Kansas Mental Health Coalition and a member of the Sedgwick County Suicide Prevention Coalition, Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging & Physical Disabilities, Sedgwick County Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Advisory Board, Kansas Suicide Prevention Coalition, and the Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council's Prevention, Tobacco, and Evidence-Based Practices subcommittees. His career focus has been on providing direct services and facilitating larger systems changes with the goal of helping people to

both overcome barriers to their well-being and using their strengths and resources to improve their quality of life. Mr. Childs is a traumatic brain injury survivor, a survivor of suicide loss, and a person with behavioral health treatment experience as a provider and participant.



Madison Elliot began working for the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Kansas as the public policy and advocacy director in July of 2022. In May of 2022, she graduated from the University of Kansas with a B.S. in health sciences and a minor in public and population health. Madison is currently enrolled at Chamberlain University in the Master of Public Health program. As the public policy and advocacy director, Ms. Elliot leads NAMI Kansas in grassroots mental health advocacy efforts at the state level with focus on issues that matter to people across Kansas.



Monica Kurz, L.M.S.W., began working in the field of suicide prevention in 2005 as a volunteer counselor for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at Kansas Suicide Prevention HQ (KSPHQ). She has worked in a variety of mental health settings in Kansas including community mental health centers and emergency departments. In 2017, she joined the team at KSPHQ full-time to develop the Suicide Prevention Resource Center program as an education and advocacy resource in the state. She is a passionate advocate with lived experience of suicide loss who enjoys using her experience and talent to take a macro/systems-level approach to suicide prevention. In addition to policy advocacy activities, Monica was also instrumental in the development of the first statewide suicide prevention coalition to exist in the state of Kansas in many years, which launched in September 2021.



Laura Moore is the youth suicide prevention coordinator with the Attorney General's Victim Services Division. Her work focuses on collaborating with key state agencies and community partners for the implementation of youth suicide prevention initiatives. Laura coordinates the development and maintenance of a youth-focused suicide prevention phone app. Laura regularly brings focused attention to available youth suicide data through trainings and presentations as well as providing technical assistance to constituents, coalitions and other groups regarding evidence-based programs, policies and best practices in youth suicide prevention.



Stephanie Rhinehart, L.M.S.W., is the prevention program manager for the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services/Behavioral Health Services, where she oversees the prevention program focused on funding and supporting community-level coalitions implementing strategies and activities in youth and young adult substance use prevention and statewide efforts related to suicide prevention across the lifespan.

Ms. Rhinehart obtained her Bachelor of Social Work degree from Georgia State University and her Master of Social Work degree from the University of Georgia. She has been a social worker for over 25 years and is a licensed master social worker. Stephanie is the National Prevention Network representative for the State of Kansas and serves on the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America Coalition Advisory Committee. She serves/has served on the state Governor's Behavioral Health

Services Planning Council Prevention Subcommittee, 988 Planning Committee, Zero Suicide Advisory Board, Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) Collaboration, Statewide Suicide Prevention Coalition, Kansas Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee, and State Epidemiological Workgroup.

Ms. Rhinehart is responsible for overseeing the Kansas Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (Prevention), Synar Amendment, Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act, Suicide Prevention Resource Center State Needs Assessment, and Strategic Prevention Framework for Prescription Drugs (SPF-Rx) grant. Prior to starting her career in substance use prevention, Ms. Rhinehart worked in child abuse and neglect investigations, therapeutic foster care, infant/toddler social worker for children with developmentally disabilities, supervisor for foster care homes and family preservation, director of foster care and kinship, adoptions, including working as a regional adoption coordinator, and at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families/Children's Bureau as a child welfare program specialist.

Ms. Rhinehart is a native of Wichita, Kansas, where she currently resides, and is the mother of one young adult son with autism and loves traveling (especially to conferences), church activities, documentaries and the theater. Her philosophy of life is reflective of a quote from the poet Anatole France who wrote, "To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream, not only plan, but also believe."

CLOSING REMARKS



Bailey Blair, L.M.S.W., is a micro- and macro-level social work practitioner with more than ten years of experience in a variety of roles in the behavioral health system and in the suicide prevention arena. As the clinical liaison for the Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas, Bailey provides coordination and clinical support for consumers entering mental health services from inpatient psychiatric care, correctional facilities, homeless shelters and other community providers. She also identifies as a person with lived experience and serves as lead trainer for the Kansas Certified Peer Specialist Training program. Bailey also serves as the chairperson of the Sedgwick County Suicide Prevention Coalition and is the president of the Kansas Suicide Prevention Coalition and a member of the Kansas Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council Prevention Subcommittee and the State Suicide Prevention Plan Workgroup. Bailey is also the vice-president and lead trainer for StopSuicideICT.



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