MCA is pleased to welcome our new President

Dr. Ajita Robinson
*SAVE THE DATE*

2nd Annual Maryland Counselors for Social Justice (MCSJ) CONFERENCE

April 18, 2020

*Keynote Speaker *Education Sessions *Poster Sessions *Vendors *Panel Discussions *Networking *Breakfast *Lunch *CE's

"IT'S ALL ABOUT ME"

HOLISTIC WELLNESS FESTIVAL
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2019

9am - 2pm

Free to the Public

Vendor Booth Info:
General Booth $75
Premium Booth $100

Lunch and other perks included*

Sponsored By

Strong Life Counseling, LLC
Enlighten Therapeutic & Consulting Services, LLC
The Bridges Wellness Group, LLC

To be a vendor register at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wellness-festival-2019-tickets-83344681047?aff=affiliate

INTERACTIVE DEMONSTRATIONS  CONSULTATIONS  MUSIC & MORE

6700 Kenilworth Ave | Riverdale, MD 20737
Prince George's County Elks Lodge #1778

PRO BONO COUNSELING PROJECT

ENROLL TODAY

JOIN YOUR COLLEAGUES:
Become a PBCP Volunteer Clinician

The Pro Bono Counseling Project matches clients with limited resources to licensed and insured clinicians who volunteer to see one client per year. Last year, over 700 active mental health professionals provided 9,952 hours of counseling services to 2,591 clients throughout the state of Maryland.

CLINICIAN BENEFITS

- Client selection at clinician discretion
- Exclusive access to over 24 hours of FREE CE's facilitated by top speakers
- Event networking opportunities
- Easy electronic documentation of volunteer hours
- FREE new volunteer orientation led by the Clinical and Executive Directors (1 CE)
- Annual volunteer appreciation luncheon

For more information, or to ENROLL, visit ProBonoCounseling.org OR call 410.825.1001
Earlier this year, I was a newly licensed graduate professional counselor (LGPC) excited to be starting a position at an outpatient mental health clinic. The staff was warm and engaging. I was given my own small office to furnish according to my taste. However, I soon had a slight disappointment. I learned that as an LGPC I was limited to seeing only Medicaid-insured clients.

While I certainly enjoy working with Medicaid clients, I feel that I’m missing out on gaining experience providing therapy to a larger variety of clients. For example, privately insured clients as a group tend to have more education, are more ethnically and racially diverse and have more diverse socioeconomic statuses. They’re also more likely to have the financial means to take part in extra-therapy activities that are beneficial to their mental health. These might include a client with PTSD attending yoga classes to decrease their ongoing level of physiologic arousal or an urban dwelling client traveling outside of the city to reduce their anxiety through immersion in nature. The Medicaid clients I see could also potentially benefit from these and other activities but usually don’t have the financial means to do so. It’s sometimes frustrating to not be able to suggest such adjunctive activities to these clients.

Just as being able to see privately insured clients could expand the experience base of LGPCs, we would benefit from being able to see Medicare clients. This would provide opportunities to explore some of the unique mental health issues sometimes encountered by older clients. This applies to LCPCs, as well, since even independently licensed clinicians cannot currently bill Medicare for services.

The good news here is that the American Counseling Association is actively advocating for licensed counselors to be able to provide services to Medicare insured clients. Perhaps we will see new legislation passed in the future that will recognize our ability to provide excellent mental health care to Medicare clients. Even better news is that a bill pertaining to LGPCs and private insurers was passed by the state of Maryland in May. This law prohibits an insurance carrier from rejecting LGPCs providing services in an accredited mental health program. The law also applies to LGSWs, LMSWs, LGMFTs, LGADCs and LGPATs. It takes effect on October 1, 2019. Therefore, we can look forward to providing services to a broader range of clients soon.

Finally, thanks are due to the legislator who introduced this bill. On behalf of the licensed graduate clinicians impacted by it, I would like to thank Delegate Jefferson L. Ghrist of the House of Delegates for proposing and facilitating the passage of this legislation.

References


PhD IN COUNSELOR EDUCATION AND SUPERVISION
with Spiritual and Pastoral Integration

grad school is calling you

NEUMANN UNIVERSITY

Chris McIntosh '17

Weekend format
(online with classes every 4th weekend)

→ Prepares you for clinical leadership in counseling practice, education and supervision
→ Provides eligibility for national certification (NCE) and state licensure
→ Unique program focus on integrating religion and spirituality into professional clinical practice
→ Ecumenical, welcomes all faith traditions

LEARN MORE
Why Should You Join MCA?

Membership is important to your professional growth and career development. It provides:

- Continuing education units at discount prices
- Early notification of MCA and all division events
- Current public policy issues and new laws of interest to professional counselors
- Grant opportunities
- Four newsletters with opportunities to publish and advertise
- Leadership training and greatly reduced registration costs to annual, regional or national conferences for board members
- Support and advocacy for professional counseling in the state of Maryland
- Electronic reminders to renew your membership
- A list of events that you have participated in

Click here to join MCA today!

Not ready to join? Choose the non-Member Contact option for a no-cost way to add your name to our email list.
To register for MCA or any of our events, please go to www.mdcounseling.org

Find us on Facebook (@mdcounseling) and Twitter (@md_counseling)

Contact the MCA President for more information about committees and open board positions.

---

**DIVISION PRESIDENTS**

**MACES President**
Sara Pula  
MACES@MDCounseling.org

**MALGBTIC President**
Sergio Washington  
MALGBTIC@MDCounseling.org

**MAMCD President**
Leslie Holley  
MAMCD@MDCounseling.org

**MAMFC President**
Miranda Mixon  
MAMCFC@MDCounseling.org

**MASERVIC President**
Maya Georgieva  
MASERVIC@MDCounseling.org

**MCDA President**
Lucinda Nobles  
MCDA@MDCounseling.org

**MCSJ President**
Don Trahan  
MCSJ@MDCounseling.org

**LCPCM Liaison**
Open  
LCPCM@MDCounseling.org

**MSCA Liaison**
Ileana Gonzalez  
ileanag@jhu.edu

---

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Advocacy Chair**
Open  
advocacy@MDCounseling.org

**Archives Chair**
Open  
archives@MDCounseling.org

**Awards Chair**
Open  
awards@MDCounseling.org

**Bylaws Chair**
Daniel Fleshner  
bylaws@MDCounseling.org

**Credentialing Chair**
Perri Hooper  
credentialing@MDCounseling.org

**Emerging Leaders Chair**
Felicia Pressley

**Membership Chair**
Kerri Legette McCullough  
membership@MDCounseling.org

**Newsletter Chair**
Michelle Schoonmaker  
newsletter@MDCounseling.org

**Public Relations Chair**
Annyck Hamez  
public.relations@MDCounseling.org

**Program Planning Chairs**
Eunice Humphrey  
& Lenese Stephens  
program@MDCounseling.org

**Registrar Chair**
Open  
events@MDCounseling.org
MACES-Maryland Association of Counselor Education and Supervision
MASERVIC-Maryland Association for the Spiritual, Ethical and Religious Values in Counseling
MAMCD-Maryland Association for Multicultural Counselor and Development
MCDA-Maryland Career Development Association
MCSI-Maryland Counselors for Social Justice
MAMCFC-Maryland Association for Marriage, Couples and Family Counseling
MALGBTIC-Maryland Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in Counseling

MCSJ-Maryland School Counselor Association
**LCPC-M-Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland
**MAMHC-Maryland Association of Mental Health Counselors
**These organizations are not active divisions, but we have liaisons with each.