

This Week at AMHCA

AMHCA News Updates



Angele Moss-Baker Becomes First African-American Woman President of AMHCA

Angele Moss-Baker is the first Black Woman to become President of the American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA) in its 44-year history. She is the owner of Comprehensive Addiction & Psychological Services LLC, in Washington D.C. Angele is a Licensed Professional Counselor, Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, Master Addiction Counselor, Employee Assistance Counselor-C, and holds the Diplomate, Clinical Mental Health Specialist in Substance Abuse and Co-Occurring Disorders. She has over 25 years of experience providing behavioral health treatment services to diverse populations.

"It is my honor to represent the thousands of clinical mental health counselors at the forefront of discussions when policymaker and mental health stakeholders search for practical solutions to the challenges in our nation's mental health system. I am committed to do whatever I can to address the needs and promote the interests of clinical mental health counselors around the country," Moss-Baker said. "I will listen and serve as your liaison to open doors and make tough decisions for the enrichment of AMHCA and its membership as a whole."

[Read the Press Release](#)

AMHCA's Resource Site for COVID-19 - **Continuously Updated**

We are grateful for all that you -- AMHCA members -- and our partners are doing on the ground to support the health, safety, and well-being of people with mental health conditions. The AMHCA team is so proud to be working for you knowing during this crisis, as you are on the frontlines providing critically important treatments and services to vulnerable Americans who suffer from an array of conditions such as depressive, anxiety, panic, PTSD, trauma-related, and other mental health disorders. We will continue to update our site with information as soon as we get it. Please also look for a new Coronavirus-edition of our newsletter that is coming out every two weeks with the latest updates.

[COVID-19 Resources](#)



Continuing Education

In the Beginning: A Workshop Towards Equitable and Anti-Racist Assessment (Graduate Student and Emerging Professionals Webinar Series)

Sep 25, 2020 from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM (ET)

Please note - space is limited so we encourage you to allow students and recent graduates the opportunity to sign up first. The presentation will be recorded and made available on our site for our members to view.

This webinar will explore the initial phase of clinical assessment through the lens of racial equity and the ongoing impact of white supremacy and oppression on our initial alliance building with clients. Participants will examine aspects of their own assessment procedures and potential ways to engage in more equitable relationship building from the beginning of the therapeutic experience. Implications for the initial assessment phase of therapy as well as treatment planning and documentation will be discussed. Specific focus will be directed towards how to create sustainable shifts towards a more equitable clinical practice.

Presented by Taylor Ariel Pettway, AMFT

Objectives:

1. Participants will identify and discuss examples of racism and oppressive language in their own initial assessment of clients.
2. Participants will examine potential strategies to implement more equitable alliance building at the beginning of the therapeutic relationship.
3. Participants will explore ways to sustain more equitable clinical practices within the assessment phase and throughout the therapeutic experience.

Current AMHCA Student and Professional Associate Members: FREE

Current AMHCA Members in Other Categories: \$10

Non-Members: \$20

[Register](#)

FACEBOOK LIVE: A Federal CMHC Recognition Policy Road Map

Oct 1, 2020 from 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM (ET)

[Attend](#)

The NCMHCE: Purpose, Preparation and (No) Panic (GSEP Webinar Series)

Oct 30, 2020 from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM (ET)

Please note - space is limited so we encourage you to allow students and recent graduates the opportunity to sign up first. The presentation will be recorded and made available on our site for our members to view.

Presented by Francesca Giordano Ph.D., LCPC

Objectives:

1. Participants will learn how the NCMHCE is different from the NCE.
2. Participants will learn effective strategies for NCMHCE preparation.
3. Participants will understand how to use their NCMHCE preparation in their clinical work with clients.

Current AMHCA Student and Professional Associate Members: FREE

Current AMHCA Members in Other Categories: \$10

Non-Members: \$20

[Register](#)

2021 Conference Updates



Viva Las AMHCA! Early Bird is OPEN!

We are headed to Vegas for AMHCA's Annual Conference Wednesday, June 23 - Friday, June 25, 2021

Early bird is open and we are anticipating our call for proposals to come out in the next month or two. Join colleagues in Vegas next year at the LINQ for empowering sessions and energizing fellowship. This year's theme is UNITE! Recognize. Reframe. Restore.

[Register](#)

Interested in Serving on the Conference Planning Committee?

The 2021 AMHCA Annual Conference call for proposals is open and we want to hear from you! This year's theme is UNITE! Recognize. Reframe. Restore. We hope that you will consider submitting a proposal to present at this year's conference. This is an excellent opportunity to share your expertise with colleagues from across the country.

The deadline for proposals is **September 30, 2020**. If you have any questions about our proposals process, please contact Rebecca Woodson, AMHCA's Director of Events, at rwatson@amhca.org or 703-548-6002 x108.

[Call for Proposals](#)

Call for Posters

[Call for Posters](#)

Call for Reviewers

[Call for Reviewers](#)



2020 Fall Virtual Summit: Integrating Cultural Competency Skills Into Your Practice

Register to attend AMHCA's 2020 Fall Virtual Summit!

The 2020 AMHCA Fall Summit on "Integrating Cultural Competency Skills Into Your Practice" will provide several presentations on better understanding the origins and dynamics of cultural diversity, and how to address several problems through cultural humility, cultural opportunities, and cultural comfort into your daily practice. You will learn hands-on strategies for increasing multi-cultural competencies in your work with clients and improving your overall counseling effectiveness.

[More Information](#)

Advocacy

Congress Passes Landmark VA Mental Health Counselor Bill

Today, the House of Representatives approved S. 785, sending a major VA mental health and counseling bill to President Trump for signature. The bill is the most significant new legislation for the counseling profession in over a decade and a tremendous advancement for mental health counselors working for the federal government, and particularly the Department of Veterans Affairs.

AMHCA Legislative Affairs consultant, David Bergman, posted an update in the AMHCA community today.

[Advocacy Update](#)

Publications



AMHCA released a report on the number of Americans reporting mental health distress over the last few months.

AMHCA released a major report yesterday on the number of Americans reporting mental health distress over the last few months. Please see our new study – Beyond the Perfect Storm – How Racism, Covid-19, and Economic Meltdown Imperil Our Mental Health – and our press release on the study.

Based on the AMHCA report, nearly 41 percent of adults nationally are reporting that they are suffering from a mental health disorder -- or about 103 million adults in the U.S.

[Press Release](#)

[Download Report](#)

2020 AMHCA Standards for the Practice of Clinical Mental Health Counseling

The 'AMHCA Standards' bridge professional expectations with clinical practice. "AMHCA Standards" is a living document that is updated on a continuing basis by AMHCA's Advancement for Clinical Practice Committee to meet the needs of the public and the profession. In addition to standards of practice, it includes training and supervision standards. Download the revised 2020 edition for free at AMHCA.org.

[Learn More](#)

2020 AMHCA Code of Ethics

The "AMHCA Code" is an essential component of practicing clinical mental health counseling with professionalism and integrity. While ethical guidance for the practice of clinical mental health counseling is its primary purpose, it is also intended to prompt pondering about ethical thinking and practice. Download the revised 2020 edition and see our other great ethics resources for free at AMHCA.org.

[Learn More](#)

AMHCA Practice Guidelines

AMHCA Practice Guidelines provide technical assistance, identify best practices and highlight lessons learned on successful positioning strategies for practitioners on a range of areas related to the delivery and financing of mental health services in the era of health care reform and implications on clinical practice.

[Learn More](#)

Declaring with Pride the Fundamental Values Held by Clinical Mental Health Counselors

The Declaration serves as a concise public statement of professional standards, values, and ideals. It is a voluntary pronouncement. If you desire, you are encouraged to display The Declaration in your office. It may also be used at graduations or for other appropriate occasions.

[Learn More](#)



Chapter News and Events

Chapter Leaders: List your chapter event on AMHCA.org!

Widen your audience to the entire AMHCA membership! Register your event with AMHCA and have it listed on our calendar.

[List Your Event](#)

Latest Jobs

Behavioral Health Counselor (Supplemental Evenings, Supplemental Days, & Full-Time Nights), WakeMed Health & Hospitals, Raleigh, North Carolina

[View Job](#)

Behavioral Health Counselor, Transitional Care Specialist, WakeMed Health & Hospitals, Raleigh, North Carolina

[View Job](#)

Behavioral Health Counselor, AACI, San Jose, California

[View Job](#)

Neuropsychologist - Clinical Operations, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, California

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