

Bryant University Healthcare Summit

*“Rhode Island’s Youth
Behavioral Health Crisis:
Paths to Resolution”*

April 26, 2024



Presenting Sponsor



Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

All activities are located in the Heidi and Walter Stepan Grand Hall inside the George E. Bello Center unless otherwise noted.

8:30 to 9:00 am REGISTRATION WITH CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 am WELCOME BY: Kirsten L. Hokeness, Director, School of Health and Behavioral Sciences
OPENING REMARKS BY: Sarah Fleury

9:15 am KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Dr. Tanuja Gandhi, M.D.

10:15 am KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Dr. Ross Greene, Ph.D.

11:30 am BREAK

11:45 am COLLABORATIVE SESSIONS

Integrated Behavioral Health: The Gold Standard for Primary Care (MRC3)

Presenters: Dinusha Dietrich, M.D., Kathleen Treloar, LICSW, and Aleah Bagwell-Moreino, LMHC

Discuss the rationale and benefits to placing behavioral health clinicians in primary care settings, as well as the challenges and barriers for implementation of this model.

Building an Integrated & Resilient Behavioral Health Workforce (MRC4)

Presenter: Christina Tortolani, PhD

Explore approaches to building a robust and resilient workforce to meet the behavioral health needs of our children and adolescents.

Innovative Care Models in Behavioral Health (AIC 131)

Presenter: Sarah Fleury, Managing Director of Behavioral Health, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of RI

Focus on developing innovative care and reimbursement models for behavioral health treatment that benefit the patient and the clinician, and decrease the burden of cost on the healthcare system.

Payor-Provider Relationships (UNI 267)

Presenter: Dr. Deborah Fernandez-Turner, Deputy Chief Psychiatric Officer for Aetna, a CVS Health company

Focus on collaborative efforts to improve provider/payor relationships, improving quality care, and decreasing practitioner burnout.

12:45 pm LUNCH AND REMARKS BY: Bryant University President Ross Gittell, Ph.D.

1:30 pm KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Dr. Daisy Bassen, M.D.

2:45 pm DISCUSSION PANEL Moderators: Dr. Daisy Bassen, Dr. Dinusha Dietrich, and Dr. Deb Fernandez-Turner

3:45 to 4:00 pm CLOSING REMARKS: Joseph J. Trunzo, Ph.D., Associate Director, School of Health & Behavioral Sciences
And Professor of Psychology, Bryant University

Keynote Speakers

**DR. ROSS W. GREENE**

Psychologist Ross W. Greene, Ph.D., is the author of the influential, best-selling books *The Explosive Child*, *Lost at School*, *Lost & Found*, and *Raising Human Beings*, and a fierce and articulate advocate for the compassionate understanding and treatment of kids with concerning behavior and their caregivers.

Drawing upon vast clinical and consultation experience and research in the neurosciences, his innovative, research-based *Collaborative & Proactive Solutions (CPS)* approach posits that concerning behavior occurs when kids are having difficulty meeting certain expectations and that the quality of a kid's "frustration response" is related to important skills such as flexibility/adaptability, frustration tolerance, problem-solving, and emotion regulation.

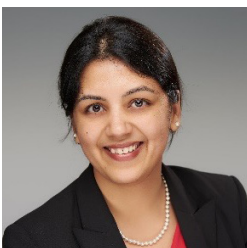
The model emphasizes problem-solving over behavior modification and has been implemented in countless thousands of families and hundreds of general and special education schools, inpatient psychiatric units, and residential and juvenile detention facilities.

Dr. Greene was on the faculty at Harvard Medical School for over 20 years and is now an adjunct professor in the Department of Psychology at Virginia Tech and an adjunct professor in the Faculty of Science at the University of Technology Sydney. He is also the founding director of the nonprofit organization Lives in the Balance, through which his advocacy work occurs.

Dr. Greene's research has been funded by, among others, the Stanley Research Institute, the National Institute on Drug Abuse/National Institutes of Mental Health, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group. A highly sought-after and dynamic speaker, he has presented over three thousand invited public lectures, professional workshops, and scientific addresses internationally. He also developed and executive produced the award-winning documentary film, *The Kids We Lose*. His numerous media appearances include *The Oprah Show*, *Good Morning America*, *The Morning Show*, and *National Public Radio*.

**DR. DAISY BASSEN**

Daisy Bassen, M.D., is an adult and child psychiatrist and has been the medical director at Thrive Behavioral Health since 2022. A magna cum laude graduate of Princeton University, Dr. Bassen completed her medical training at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and Brown University. She is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and a Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association. Dr. Bassen is the current president of the Rhode Island Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and a member of the board of NAMI-Rhode Island. She is a clinical instructor in medicine for the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and has particular interests in advocacy, narrative medicine, and the role of art in psychiatric care.

**DR. TANUJA GANDHI**

Dr. Tanusha Gandhi is an adult, child, adolescent, and forensic psychiatrist who is interested in clinical work at the interface of psychiatry, ethics, and the law. Dr. Gandhi completed her adult psychiatry residency training from the Albert Einstein Healthcare Network in Philadelphia followed by forensic psychiatry fellowship training from the Yale Department of Psychiatry and the Law and child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship training from the Yale Child Study Center. She has diverse academic interests and is an active member of professional organizations including the American Psychiatric Association.

Presenters & Panelists

**ALEAH BAGWELL-MOREINO**

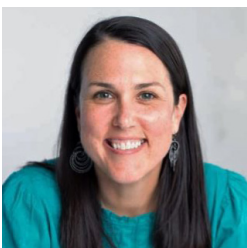
Aleah Bagwell-Moreino is a licensed clinical mental health counselor, who has several years of experience working with both children and adults in a variety of clinical settings, including emergency departments, school settings, outpatient, community mental health agencies, and home-based settings. She has experience working with diverse populations, including people of various ethnicities, cultures, gender/sexual identities, and socio-economic statuses. She has strong background in emergency psychiatric care.

She is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island, with bachelor's degrees in human development and family studies and psychology. She also holds a Master of Arts in clinical mental health counseling from Antioch University, as well as QMHP certification. As an integrated behavioral health clinician at RI Physicians Corporation Primary Care, she provides short-term solution focused therapies for children and adults from various practices, requiring behavioral health supports or crisis interventions. In her clinical work, she uses cognitive behavioral therapy, motivational interviewing, play therapy, and person-centered therapies.

**DR. DINUSHA W. DIETRICH, FAAP**

Dr. Dietrich is a board-certified pediatrician and a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. She graduated magna cum laude with distinction in biology and minors in chemistry and comparative literature from the University of Pennsylvania in 1992 and earned her MD from the Tufts University School of Medicine in 1996. She completed her residency training at the Brown University Pediatrics Residency Program at Hasbro Children's Hospital and remained there to complete a fellowship in pediatric infectious diseases. She has been in private practice as a general pediatrician at Smithfield Pediatrics since 2002.

She holds appointments as a clinical assistant professor of pediatrics at both the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and the Bryant University Physician Assistant Program. She has a strong interest in the integration of behavioral health into primary care, as well as in strengthening the pediatric primary care system, infection prevention, public health and immunization policy, and early literacy promotion. Due to these interests, she has previously served on the Behavioral Health Committee at Rhode Island Primary Care Physicians Corporation (RIPCPC) and on its board of directors, as well as on the Infection Prevention Committee at Women and Infants Hospital and the Vaccine Advisory Board at the RI Department of Health. She currently serves as chair of the RIPCPC Pediatric Steering Committee, as well as serving on the board of directors for Reach Out and Read RI and on its Practice Advisory Council and Finance Committee.

**SARAH FLEURY**

Sarah Fleury is managing director of behavioral health at Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island, where she has worked for the past 13 years in a broad range of positions, including case manager and lead behavioral clinical specialist. In her current role, she directs the development and administration of behavioral health, quality, and delivery systems transformation initiatives. Before joining Blue Cross, she worked as a clinician for AboutFamilies CEDARR Center and South Shore Mental Health Center. She earned her undergraduate degree from Providence College and a Master of Social Work degree from The Catholic University of America.

Presenters & Panelists (Continued)**DR. CHRISTINA TORTOLANI**

Dr. Tortolani is associate professor and program director of the clinical psychology program at Bryant University, effective July 2024. She also serves as an adjunct associate professor of psychiatry and human behavior at Brown Medical School. Before coming to Bryant, Dr. Tortolani served as associate professor and clinical director at Rhode Island College's graduate program in mental health counseling. As a licensed psychologist with more than 15 years of experience, she has worked with children, adolescents, and adults with eating disorders within various settings and levels of treatment, utilizing a number of evidence-based treatment models. Her research interests focus on the adaptation and dissemination of evidence-based treatments and she is currently an investigator on several grant-funded research projects. Dr. Tortolani has published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals as well as an edited book, *Adapting Evidence-Based Treatment for Eating Disorders in Novel Populations and Settings*. She frequently gives presentations and runs workshops in the community and at national conferences.

**DR. DEB FERNANDEZ-TURNER**

Dr. Deborah Fernandez-Turner is the deputy chief psychiatric officer for Aetna, a CVS Health company. In this role, Dr. Fernandez-Turner is a physician-leader for mental health within CVS Health, leading the consultation and implementation of evidence-based practices and holistic treatments for all levels of care. In addition, she provides support in mental health to Aetna's care management program and provides input into national mental health policy in close conjunction with key stakeholders across CVS Health.

As a child and adolescent psychiatrist, Dr. Fernandez-Turner was the children's medical administrator for the Arizona Aetna Medicaid plan. In this role, she was responsible for the oversight of psychiatric medical programs covering over 400,000 covered lives as well as quality management, utilization management, and medical management programs operated by the plan for children and adolescents. With a focus on patient and family centered, evidence-based care, she also helped create programs and policies.

Dr. Fernandez-Turner is board certified in general psychiatry as well as child and adolescent psychiatry. She graduated from New York University, then Nova Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine, and completed a psychiatric residency at Long Island Jewish Medical Center-Hillside hospital and a child psychiatry fellowship at the University of Arizona. Prior to her work for Aetna, she has held administrative and clinical positions in both private and public sectors in New York, Arizona, and Minnesota. She is a fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and a Distinguished Fellow of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Presenters & Panelists (Continued)**KATHLEEN TRELOAR**

Kathleen Treloar LICSW is the director of behavioral health for Rhode Island Primary Care Physicians Corporation (RIPCPC). In her current role at RIPCPC, she oversees a team of community health workers, behavioral health referral coordinators, and integrative behavioral health (IBH) clinicians. The IBH clinicians are focused primarily on the pediatric patients with a hybrid hub and spoke model, providing patients with interdisciplinary care in multiple settings.

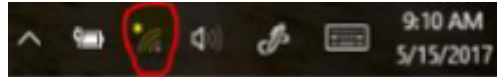
Prior to her role as director of behavioral health, Treloar was a clinical social worker for Optum Medical Services, a consultation group working within an interdisciplinary model for skilled nursing facilities. In this role, she provided mobile psychotherapy and rapid response treatment in the long-term care setting. During her tenure at Optum, she was actively involved in the creation and implementation of key programs and services to benefit both residents and staff, including creating a multi-sensory toy for dementia patients; conducting in-service education presentations for nursing home staff on behavioral intervention; and creating educational materials on the role of the social workers in long-term care.

She received her bachelor's in social services from Quinnipiac University, and her Master of Social Work degree from Rhode Island College.

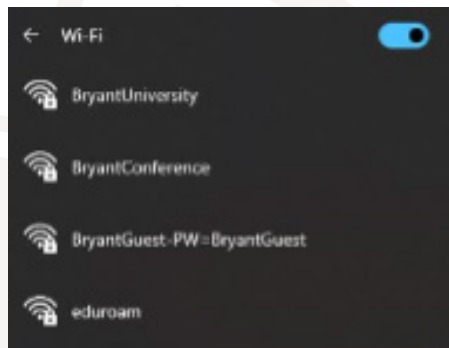
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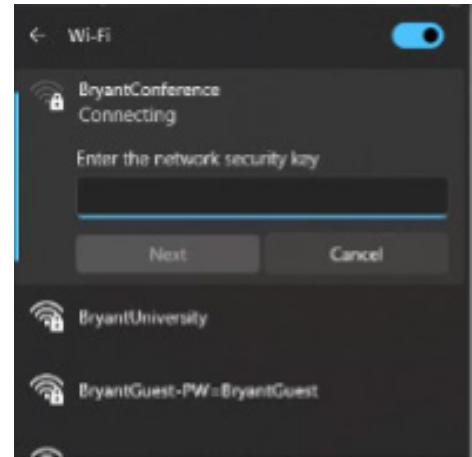
Click on the Wireless connection icon located in the lower right-hand corner of your screen.



You will see this screen.
Click on BryantConference.



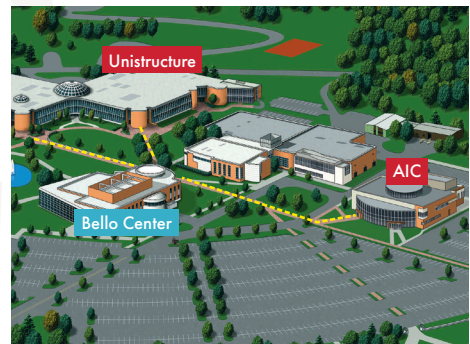
Enter **BryantWifi*** in the password field then click on Next.



You will see a dialog box that shows the connection being made. Once this has been completed, you will be connected to the Bryant Wireless Network.

DIRECTIONS TO SESSIONS

The AIC (Quinlan/Brown Academic Innovation Center) is to the right of Bello, toward the parking lot. The other 3 sessions are in the Unistructure, down the path to your left and across from the ponds. Once inside, follow signage to your rooms.



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