



ILAPSC

2025 CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts 13th Annual Conference

October 22-24, 2025

**Embassy Suites by Hilton East Peoria
Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center
100 Conference Center Drive
East Peoria, IL 61611**

The mission of the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts is to promote problem-solving courts in Illinois by providing education, assistance, training, and development through collaboration of behavioral health and justice systems.

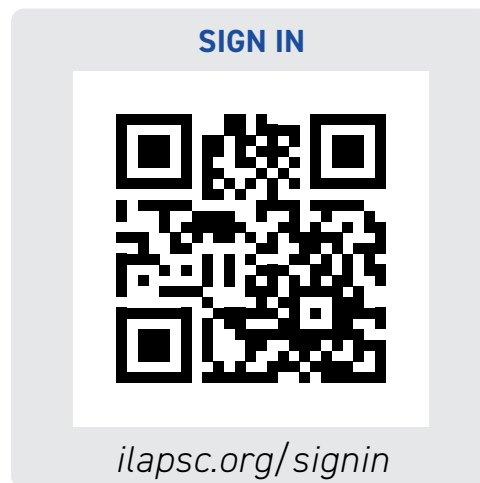
CONFERENCE SIGN IN AND EVALUATION

In an effort to save paper and to receive more accurate and valid results from our conference evaluation, we are using electronic evaluations this year. Your conference certificate will only be issued once you have signed in to and completed an evaluation for each session you attend. Please complete the session and conference evaluations at your earliest convenience after the conference concludes on Friday at 12:00pm. **Evaluations must be completed by 5:00pm on Monday, October 27.** Thank you for attending the 12th Annual Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts Conference. We look forward to your feedback.

To access the session sign ins, please visit: ilapsc.org/signin

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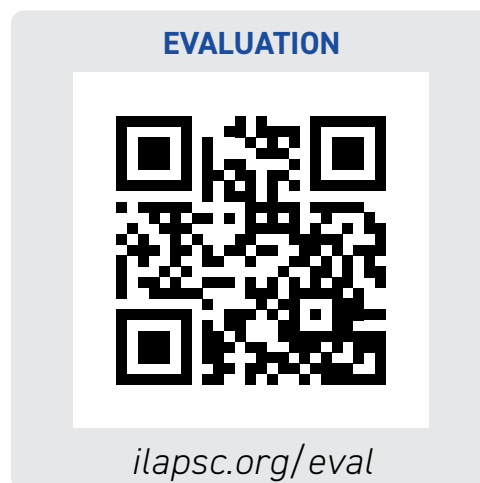
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ILAPSC 2025 AGENDA

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

7:00 a.m. **Registration and Exhibits – Ballroom Pre Function**

8:45 a.m. **Welcome and Overview – River A-F**

Hon. Janet Holmgren, 17th Judicial Circuit, President, ILAPSC Board of Directors

9:00 a.m. **General Session – In Plain Sight -River A-F**

Officer Jermaine “Tall Cop” Galloway

This workshop is designed to educate professionals on the current drug trends affecting their communities, schools, and workplaces. By the end of the workshop, attendees will be able to identify drug paraphernalia, methods of consumption, methods of concealment, common terminology, and different trends appearing in their communities. Galloway also covers the impact of legalization, if this affects your state.

This workshop covers alcohol and drug clothing, alcoholic energy drinks, prescription drug abuse and misuse, alcohol and drug concealment methods and containers, drug paraphernalia, drug-related music and groups, logos, stickers, new technology, youth party tendencies, party games, non-traditional alcoholic beverages, social networking sites, synthetic drugs, OTC drugs, inhalants, marijuana concentrates, E-cigarettes, and popular party drugs, including opioids, Adderall, and ecstasy. This session can also cover common stash compartments that can be used to hide weapons inside everyday clothing containers and other items, in addition to the impact on traffic safety.

This session is unique, in that it provides over 70 visual aids through photos, videos, and physical items. In today's culture, everything is person-specific and has different meanings to different individuals. Meanwhile, certain items have gained popularity in the alcohol and drug scene - which changes every day.

Learning Objectives

- Attendees will be able to identify drug paraphernalia
 - Attendees will be able to understand the methods of consumption
 - Attendees will be able to identify methods of concealment
 - Attendees will understand common terminology used in the drug world
 - Attendees will obtain information that can be applied to their sector
 - Attendees will have the tools to inform their communities of the most current drug trends.
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11:00 a.m. **Lunch – River A-F**

Plated lunch served in the ballroom. Attendees must be seated at a table to be served.

12:30 p.m. **General Session – Understanding Gambling-Motivated Crime – River A-F**

Michelle L. Malkin, JD, PhD, Assistant Professor - Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Director - Gambling Research & Policy Initiative

Gambling disorder is associated with increased rates of gambling-motivated crime. While individuals accused of other addiction-motivated crime have opportunities throughout the U.S. to receive treatment through diversion courts, there is currently a dearth of these options available for gambling. This presentation provides details on gambling-motivated crime, the current response by the criminal justice system, and the need for diversion and treatment. Dr. Malkin also includes details of her relevant lived experience. The presentation includes suggestions for counselors and others who have clients who may have been involved in gambling-motivated crimes.

2:00 p.m. **Break and Exhibits – Ballroom Pre Function**

Breakout Sessions

B1A – Understanding Psychological Evaluations – River F

Jeremy Jewell, PhD., Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

The presentation will focus on how psychological evaluations can assist in treatment planning with clients involved in problem solving courts. Topics will include how to craft relevant questions prior to requesting a psychological evaluation, understanding scoring used in evaluations, the types of psychological tests that are likely to be used, and more.

B1B – Making the Last DUI, the Last DUI—Tools and Strategies to Stop the DUI in their Tracks – River I/J

Les Schultz, APPA Region 5 Probation Fellow

In 2023, 12,429 men, women and children in the U.S. were killed in impaired driving crashes. While DUI's are 100% preventable, they represent 32% of all traffic fatalities. About a third of all DUI individuals have multiple impaired driving convictions. This is the population most likely to find themselves under community supervision. How can we confront the threat they pose to our communities?

This interactive presentation will address the effective management of high-risk impaired drivers through research-based DUI specific screening, assessment, supervision and monitoring. Topics will include

How DUI risk/need screening and assessment tools help determine appropriate community supervision practices

Placement into programs specifically designed for individuals convicted of impaired driving.

Learning Objectives

- Participants will identify how DUI screening and assessment tools help sentencing and supervision practices
- Participants will identify the characteristics and profiles of the OVI client and the criminogenic risk factors that increase their likelihood of recidivating
- Participants will understand evidence-based supervision strategies for the impaired driving population

B1C – Transforming Trauma Into Triumph for Our Veterans! – River H

Dr. Kenneth Robinson, Correctional Counseling, Inc.

Wendy Standifer, MA, NCC, LPC, Chief Operating Officer, Correctional Counseling, Inc.

Traumatic experiences during military deployments, such as life-threatening situations, loss of comrades, and witnessing severe injuries and death, often have profound and lasting emotional effects. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a common condition among veterans exposed to such trauma. This workshop aims to provide participants with a deeper understanding of trauma and its impact on veterans. We will explore the different types of traumas, including moral injury, and discuss their prevalence. Additionally, we will focus on the development of a trauma-informed care approach, trauma-specific therapies, and strategies for recovery, helping veterans regain control and begin the healing process.

B1D – RNR Meets Resistance—Understanding the Pathways Into and Out of Criminal Behavior – River E

Becky Self, Training Manager, Probation Services Division, Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

This course explores the integration of two prominent frameworks in behavior change for justice involved individuals. The Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) Model and Desistance Theory. This interdisciplinary approach examines how individuals enter and exit the criminal justice system, emphasizing the dynamic processes of behavior change.

B1E – Before It Escalates: What Non-Clinicians Need to Know – River A-D

Tanya Thorne, Recovery Support Specialist, State of Illinois Division of Mental Health

A practical, skill-based 75-minute session designed for non-treatment team members serving in Illinois Specialty Courts. Many professionals in these roles have limited training in engaging with individuals experiencing serious mental health conditions, especially when those individuals may be in or approaching crisis. This session provides tools to enhance safety, build rapport, and respond effectively during escalating situations. Participants will learn to recognize verbal and non-verbal signs of distress, demonstrate person-centered communication techniques, and apply de-escalation strategies grounded in trauma-informed and recovery-oriented approaches. The presentation is interactive, combining instruction with real-world examples and opportunities for guided reflection. By building confidence and competence in crisis interactions, this session supports improved outcomes and stronger multidisciplinary collaboration across Specialty Court teams.

3:30 p.m.

Break and Exhibits – Ballroom Pre Function

3:45 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Collaborative Problem Solving by PSC Role

This role specific breakout will give participants the opportunity to gather with others who face many of the same challenges in their PSC roles. Discuss the good, the bad and the ugly and work together to find solutions to issues facing teams. Following this collaboration with others, participants will be encouraged to share ideas with their individual teams upon return to the office.

B2A – Judge – River H

Hon. Janet Holmgren, 17th Judicial Circuit Court

Hon. Mark Shaner (ret.) State of Illinois Judicial Outreach Liaison for the American Bar Association Impaired Driving Judicial Outreach Liaison Program and is a Problem-Solving Courts consultant for the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts

Hon. Ben Roe, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit

Hon. Lindsey Waldrop, Richland County

B2B – Coordinator – River A-D

Bernadine Howard, LCSW, DuPage County Program Manager

Kelly Gallivan-Illaraza, Cook County Director of PSC's

B2C – Prosecution – River G

Anne Stevens, JD, Winnebago County Assistant State's Attorney

Michelle O'Brien, JD, National Center for State Courts

B2D – Defense – River I/J

Jim Lane, JD, Richland/Crawford Counties, Defense Attorney

Baron Heintz, JD, Rock Island County Defense Attorney

B2E – Probation – River E

Anthony Foster, Adams County Director of Court Services

Deena Kuranda, 18th Judicial Circuit, Department of Probation & Court Services

B2F – Treatment – River F

Wayne Gilliland, Adams County Graduate, Preferred Family Healthcare

B2G – Peer Support – Fon Du Lac A-C

Liesl Wingert, MHA, SIU School of Medicine Rural Health Project Coordinator

B2H – Law Enforcement – Fon Du Lac D-F

Frederick Chinn, Crawford County Chief of Corrections

Chris Mueller, Adams County, Quincy Police Department

5:00 p.m.

End of Day - Evaluations

7:00 a.m.

Registration and Exhibits – Ballroom Pre Function

8:30 a.m.

Breakout Sessions

B3A – Integrating Employment Interventions into the Problem-Solving Court Programs – River E/F

Thomas Faber, CWDP

Kelly Scimeca, Director Special Projects, 22nd Judicial Circuit Court

Better client outcomes with better employment interventions. The session will describe the pilot program launched in 2024 by the Twenty Second Judicial Circuit Problem Solving courts in McHenry County for Integrating Employment Interventions into the Specialty Court Programs. The session will define cohesive treatment and employment plans that complement each other. Assessment tools and processes of determining the employment risks and needs for work readiness will be described. Attendees will be introduced to a work readiness program for justice impacted job seekers. Employment resources available on a national scale will be outlined. The employment integration approach has been successful in leveraging the change talk in recovery to manifest better occupation outcomes. Attendees will be able to construct their own program that intentionally brings employment interventions and treatment plans together.

B3B – Three to Seven Minutes for 153% Reduction in Recidivism – River I/J

Hon. Mark Shaner (Ret.), State of Illinois Judicial Outreach Liaison for the American Bar Association Impaired Driving Judicial Outreach Liaison Program and is a Problem-Solving Courts consultant for the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts

Best practices have long indicated that problem-solving court judges should spend at least 3 to 7 minutes with each participant. In fact, according to All Rise Best Practice Standards, judges who spend at least 3 minutes with each participant will produce 153% greater reduction in recidivism.

However, for a number of reasons, spending those 3 to 7 minutes with each participant often doesn't happen week in and week out. Moreover, the content of those 3 to 7 minutes makes a difference as well. This session will provide practical ideas to help judges not only achieve the recommended time duration more consistently, but, more importantly, make the 3 to 7 minutes more meaningful and helpful to participants.

Learning Objectives:

- Better prepare for meaningful interaction with participants
- Improve the effectiveness of their interaction with participants, including finding ways to make sure they achieve the recommended minimum time on a consistent basis
- Develop a list of questions and resources to maximize the effectiveness of their time with each participant

B3C – Due Process and Expediting Time Frames in Veterans Courts – River A-D

Hon. Carla Baldwin, All Rise

The presentation assists treatment courts in reviewing and establishing clearly defined policies and procedures that promote due process and equal protection of the laws. The discussion focuses on balancing fairness with swift program entry, participants' progression, and successful program completion.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify due process considerations of written notice, reasons for decisions, independent magistrate, right to counsel, equal access, and equitable treatment.
- Describe the collection and review of data to recognize and reduce unintended disparities in program entry and completion.
- Describe the early identification process and means/methods for effectively "capturing" potential participants for your program.

B3D – Affirming Legal Services for LGBTQ+ – River H

Carolyn Wahlskog, LCSW, Director of Operations and Programming at Youth Outlook

The national and local landscape continues to evolve for LGBTQ+ individuals. Join Youth Outlook for a presentation on understanding LGBTQ+ terminology and current trends when working with LGBTQ+ individuals. We'll cover updates to state and federal laws pertaining to name changes and access to care. Participants will practice common scenarios that may occur when supporting LGBTQ+ individuals and leave with resources and referrals.

B3E – The Development and Recommendations for Gambling Treatment Diversion Courts – River G

Michelle L. Malkin, JD, PhD, Assistant Professor - Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Director - Gambling Research & Policy Initiative

The only currently existing Gambling Treatment Diversion Court (GTDC) in the U.S. is located in Clark County, Nevada, although many other jurisdictions in the U.S. are currently in deliberations about beginning similar programs. Based on the need to further understand the need for, administration of, and considerations for GTDCs and set up standards for other states, Dr. Malkin conducted an evaluation of the Clark County court leading to a deeper understanding of the court, issues within its structure and practice, and important considerations. One key issue that has arisen is how a GTDC may be similar to and different from the drug court standards that are usually followed in other diversion-style courts. This workshop provides details on unique considerations for GTDCs and how the well-established drug court model can inform recommendations for jurisdictions considering establishing gambling diversion programs. Specifically, this workshop considers workgroup and community buy-in, eligibility, program compliance, treatment, and rewards/sanctions that any locations developing a GTDC should consider.

9:45 a.m.

Break and Exhibits – Ballroom Pre Function

10:00 a.m.

General Session - Drug Endangered Children and Family Human Trafficking: The Intersection – River A-F

Liesl Wingert, MHA, Program Coordinator, Eastern Region, SIU School of Medicine Center for Rural Health and Social Service Development

Drug endangered children are at risk of suffering physical, mental or emotional harm as a result of parent or caregiver substance. Children are often the first affected but the last recognized which puts them at risk for negative long-term challenges. In addition, drug endangered children are often the same children who are at risk for Familial Human Trafficking (FHT). Identifying these children as early as possible is critical in order to break the generational cycle of substance misuse. In addition, it is imperative that we learn to identify adults who were subjected to these traumas as children with the goal of guiding them toward appropriate healing opportunities that are needed to move forward as a healthy adult.

11:30 a.m.

Lunch – River A-F

Grab-and-go boxed lunch which will be available in the pre function area. Enjoy your lunch in the ballroom or around the conference center.

12:30 p.m.

General Session - Best Practice Standards Overview: What's New – River A-F

Hon. Carla Baldwin, All Rise

The Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards were first published in 2013, providing detailed guidance for implementing research-based practices and achieving optimal treatment court outcomes. A decade later, All Rise has released the second edition of the standards with important updates that reflect new research and lessons learned. This session will provide an overview of the standards and offer attendees practical tips for presenting them successfully.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand how the second edition of the standards is intended to be used.
- Identify the key additions, clarifications, and other changes in the revised standards.
- Understand some of the important implementation issues that treatment courts will need to address under the revised standards.

2:00 p.m.

Break and Exhibits – Ballroom Pre Function

Breakout Sessions

B4A – Problem-Solving Court Transfers Between Counties: Overcoming Barriers in Order to Service More Participants – River A-D

Hon. Mark L. Shaner (Ret.), State of Illinois Judicial Outreach Liaison for the American Bar Association Impaired Driving Judicial Outreach Liaison Program and is a Problem-Solving Courts consultant for the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts

William Blundell, Problem Solving Court Manger, Administrative Office of Illinois Courts

Most problem-solving courts will not accept referrals for non-residents. This makes perfect logistical sense, but unfortunately many justice-involved individuals are often arrested in counties other than their county of residence. This leads to individuals who are otherwise psc-qualified candidates being deprived of the benefits of problem-solving courts. There are also situations in which it would be beneficial for current participants to reside in other counties for extended periods of time and continue with problem-solving court in another county. An obvious solution for both of these situations would involve transferring the participant's problem-solving court probation. However, many problem-solving courts have been reluctant to accept transfers. This interactive session will explore some of the potential barriers to transfers and, borrowing ideas from other states, offer some practical solutions to overcome those barriers and allow more individuals the opportunity to experience the benefits of problem-solving courts.

B4B – The Opioid Epidemic: Should the Legal Community be Concerned – River I/J

Dr. Diana Uchiyama, JD, PhD, CAADC, Illinois Lawyer Assistance Program

1.25 MCLE Mental Illness/Substance Use Professional Responsibility Credits Approved

Recent studies have confirmed that mental health and substance use issues are commonplace in our legal profession and that judges, lawyers and law students suffer higher levels of depression, anxiety, substance use, compassion fatigue, burnout, cognitive problems, addiction, and other serious issues at rates much higher than those seen in the general population. There is a significant overlap of Substance use and mental health issues, including the use of heroin, prescription pain medications, and other drugs.

Learning Objectives:

- What is the overlap between substance use and mental health issues
- Most recent national rates of Problematic Substance use by drug including Opioids
- What factors make lawyers particularly vulnerable to Substance Use and Mental Health Issues
- Legal Competency Issues Related to Opioid Use
- Comparing Opioid Use to other Substance Use Problems
- What to do if someone is struggling with Opioid Use problems

B4C – Emerging Drug Trends (Legal and Illegal) – What you can find in Convenience Stores and Smoke Shops – River E

Frederick Chinn, Crawford County, Chief of Corrections

The evolving world of substance use presents a complex and rapidly shifting landscape. This session explores emerging drug trends, shedding light on both illicit substances and the growing wave of "legal" but unregulated drugs that are often easily purchased in convenience stores, vape shops, and online marketplaces.

Participants will gain critical insights into:

- Illegal drug trends, including the rise of fentanyl and synthetic opioids, the resurgence of methamphetamine and cocaine use, and the dangers of lab-made compounds like synthetic cannabinoids, cathinones ("bath salts"), and benzodiazepines.
- The increasing presence of xylazine ("tranq"), a veterinary tranquilizer now found in street drug supplies, compounding the overdose crisis.
- Legally sold but potentially dangerous substances, such as Delta-8 THC, kratom, tianeptine ("gas station heroin"), phenibut, and high-dose loperamide, which operate in regulatory grey areas and are marketed as wellness or research products despite serious health risks.
- The deceptive marketing of these substances in retail environments, often labeled as "herbal incense," "dietary supplements," or "not for human consumption" to avoid regulation.

B4D – Engaging High Needs Individuals into Treatment While Improving Outcomes! – River F

Dr. Kenneth Robinson, Correctional Counseling, Inc.

Wendy Standifer, MA, NCC, LPC, Chief Operating Officer, Correctional Counseling, Inc.

This presentation focuses on the challenges and strategies for engaging high-need individuals with Mental Health Disorders, Substance Use Disorder (SUD), Personality Disorders, and Co-Occurring Disorders. Emphasizing the importance of building effective therapeutic alliances, the session explores evidence-based practices, systems coordination, and communication techniques to address the complexities of these conditions. Participants will leave equipped with tools to foster engagement, enhance therapeutic relationships, and design comprehensive, individualized care plans for better outcomes.

B4E – Movement, Connection, and Choice: Expanding Pathways to Recovery in Problem-Solving Courts – River H

Jamen Spitzer, The Phoenix – Sober Active Community

This presentation will explore how physical activity, community connection, and choice can enhance long-term recovery for individuals involved in problem-solving courts. It will highlight The Phoenix - Sober Active Community and its free, peer-led programs that combine fitness, emotional support, and social engagement to reduce recidivism and prevent relapse.

Attendees will learn how integrating movement-based recovery and peer support offers individuals multiple pathways to sobriety, complementing traditional treatment models like 12-step or SMART recovery. Real-world examples, including Phoenix's expansion into Cook County Jail and collaborations with treatment courts in Michigan and Illinois, will showcase how these programs are transforming recovery for justice-involved individuals.

This session is designed for court professionals, treatment providers, and community recovery organizations seeking innovative solutions to improve outcomes for participants and expand access to sober activities and peer-led recovery resources.

3:30 p.m.

Break and Exhibits – Ballroom Pre Function

3:45 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

B5A – Bridging Systems and Communities: Law Enforcement's Role in Treatment Courts – River I/J

Mike Boley, Chief of Police, Hamilton Police Department

As members of Law Enforcement, we have the opportunity to make a positive impact on some of the issues plaguing our communities, albeit from a different approach other than enforcement. There is no one size fits all solution to these issues. Being open minded to a multi-pronged approach to address them gives us the best chance to make a difference, and we have the ability to do that as members of our problem solving teams.

There can be a stigma amongst members of law enforcement about the efficacy of a problem solving court program, and that mindset can also be shared by members of the community as well. It is important for us to be advocates of the program to other members of law enforcement and in the community as well.

We are also an integral part of the team as we can bring a perspective that other members are unable to provide. In addition, we have the chance to have positive interactions with participants, which for many of them could be the first time they've had such an experience.

B5B – Bridging the Gap: How Deflection Supports and Enhances Problem-Solving Courts – River A-D

Koren VanderWeele, Senior Program Manager, TASC

Aryn Keyel-Datta, JD, TASC

Deflection is transforming justice by deflecting individuals away from the legal system and into treatment, saving lives and reshaping community responses. This session will explore Illinois' evolving deflection landscape, highlighting active communities, the State's strategy, and key stakeholders driving change. Participants will examine how problem-solving courts and deflection efforts align, identifying ways their expertise can support and enhance these initiatives. By engaging in deflection, an early upstream approach, communities create earlier intervention opportunities for individuals facing mental health and substance use challenges. This approach not only prevents justice system entry but also complements treatment courts by establishing pathways to services. Those ineligible for deflection may later qualify for treatment courts, and prior deflection participation can contribute to success within problem-solving court programs. Join us to explore how deflection builds on existing court practices, fostering collaboration without reinventing the wheel. Be part of shaping a more effective, community-driven justice response.

B5C – Enhancing Justice Through Collaboration: Evidence-Based Practices and Restorative Approaches – River F

Kevin Jones, MS

This interactive session will explore the integration of collaborative learnership, evidence-based practices, and restorative justice principles within problem-solving courts. Participants will engage in discussions and activities that highlight the importance of a holistic approach to justice that prioritizes rehabilitation, accountability, and community involvement. Attendees will leave with practical strategies and tools to implement these concepts in their own jurisdictions.

B5E – Peer Recovery Support Services in Rural Communities: How to define, incorporate, and fund peer services – River G

Liesl Wingert, MHA, Program Coordinator, Eastern Region, SIU School of Medicine Center for Rural Health and Social Service Development

Lynn Moore, Grants Manager, Probation Services Division, Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Peer Support Specialists serve as a non-clinical role for clients in recovery. PRSS are trained and certified to use their own personal, lived experiences with mental health and/or substance use challenges in order to help others in recovery. PRSS offer insight and bridge gaps for participants that may need extra support, understanding, and guidance while working towards recovery. Many communities and court stakeholders struggle with understanding how PRSS assist clients in recovery and what PRSS can and cannot do. Many also struggle with how to fund PRSS salary, benefits, and training. This presentation will walk team members through what a PRSS does, how different PSC utilize PRSS services, available funding to support PRSS, as well as current trends and priority areas for PRSS. This presentation will be relevant for all courts and treatment providers that are new to PRSS or those who want to expand their PRSS services. This presentation, while geared towards rural communities and the unique challenges that rural communities face, is open and applicable to all types and sizes of PSC. Key components of PRSS including EBP, Best Practice Standards, Certification and Training, SUD and Mental Health treatment will all be discussed.

B5F – People, Places, and Things: Supporting Recovery in the Veteran Population – River H

Del Saam, MBA, VTC Program Coordinator, 11th Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court

People, Places, and Things: Supporting Recovery in the Veteran Population explores the vital role that people, places, and things play in supporting recovery within the veteran population. By focusing on the power of positive relationships, safe and stable environments, and meaningful activities, we can better understand how to foster resilience and long-term healing. Veterans face unique challenges as they transition back into civilian life, and recovery requires a holistic approach—one that honors their service while addressing the physical, emotional, and social aspects of reintegration. Through community engagement, tailored support systems, and trauma-informed care, VTC's can create recovery pathways that are not only effective but deeply respectful of each veteran's journey.

B5G – Alternative Ways to Get High – River E

Dr. Kenneth Robinson, Correctional Counseling, Inc.

Wendy Standifer, MA, NCC, LPC, Chief Operating Officer, Correctional Counseling, Inc.

Innovative and dangerous methods of achieving altered states continue to emerge, challenging public health and safety efforts. This presentation delves into the evolving landscape of substance use, including designer drugs and unconventional methods young adults use to get high in home settings. Alternative Ways to Get High provides a comprehensive overview of these substances, highlighting their physical properties, immediate physiological and psychological effects, and long-term impacts on the brain and body. Participants will learn about a range of substances, their physical properties, and the short-term and long-term effects they have on the brain and body. The course aims to provide critical insights into the challenges posed by emerging trends in substance use.

5:00 p.m.

End of Day - Evaluations

7:00 a.m. **Exhibits – Ballroom Pre Function**

8:30 a.m. **Problem-Solving Court Graduate Panel – River A-F**

Moderator – Hon. Mark Shaner (Ret.) State of Illinois Judicial Outreach Liaison for the American Bar Association Impaired Driving Judicial Outreach Liaison Program and is a Problem-Solving Courts consultant for the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts

Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from a panel of problem-solving court graduates. During this session, the panelists will speak about what worked and didn't for them during their time in a problem-solving court. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask panelists questions at the end of the session.

10:00 a.m. **Break and Exhibits**

10:30 a.m. **Stimulants with a Focus on Methamphetamine – River A-F**

Steve Hanson, MS Ed., All Rise

Stimulant use is on the rise again. Methamphetamine and cocaine present specific concerns for treatment courts. This presentation will describe the history and pharmacology of stimulants including caffeine, cocaine, methamphetamine as well as medications used to treat ADHD. Implications for treatment will also be discussed.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will develop an understanding of the increased use of stimulants
 - Participants will develop an understanding of the action of stimulants.
 - Participants will understand treatment implications for stimulant use disorders.
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12:00 p.m. **End of Conference - Evaluations**

Remember:

In order to receive continuing education credits, you must:

1. Log in to each conference session using the "Sign In" QR code in the beginning of the program, on this page, or by going to ilapsc.org/signin. You must use the email address you registered for the conference with.
2. At the end of each session, complete the corresponding evaluation by scanning the "Evaluation" QR code in the beginning of the program, on this page, or by going to ilapsc.org/eval
3. Complete the full conference evaluation after the conference, available at ilapsc.org/eval or by scanning the QR code in the beginning of the program or on this page.

Sign in and evaluation forms are separate links for each session and both must be completed to receive credit. You MUST complete the evaluations for your sessions and the full conference by 10/27 at 5 pm in order to receive credit. Certificates will be emailed to you 2-4 weeks after the conference.

SIGN IN



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EVALUATION



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PRESENTERS

Thank you to our 2024 Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts Conference Presenters



Hon. Carla Baldwin was elected as a Judge in Youngstown Municipal Court in 2017. She has served as Administrative and Presiding Judge of Youngstown Municipal Court since the fall of 2018. She presides over misdemeanor criminal cases and traffic cases as well as two specialized dockets, Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court. Judge Baldwin received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Capital University (Columbus, OH). She obtained her Juris Doctorate degree from Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School (Lansing, MI) with a concentration in Litigation. She has been a member of the Ohio Bar since 2008. She most recently worked as a full-time Magistrate in Mahoning County Juvenile Court where she presided over Mental Health Court. Prior to this appointment she worked for the Mahoning County Prosecutor's Office for eight years serving as an Assistant County Prosecutor in both the Criminal and Juvenile Divisions. She presently serves as an Adjunct Instructor in Criminal Justice Studies at Eastern Gateway Community College. Judge Carla J. Baldwin made history on November 7, 2017, when she became the first African-American female elected as judge in Mahoning County.



Bill Blundell is the Statewide Problem-Solving Court Manager for the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC). Prior to joining AOIC, Bill was the Problem-Solving Court Coordinator, along with being an Adult Probation Supervisor, in Peoria County. Along with his current role, Bill is also a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) in the State of Illinois and prior to his career in Probation and Court Services, was a full-time mental health counselor. Bill remains active in the counseling community and stays up to date on current trends in mental health and substance use issues. Bill brings a wealth of knowledge in substance use and mental health issues along with best practices regarding the problem-solving courts. Bill is a certified trainer in both Core Correctional Practices and the SAMHSA's GAINS Center Trauma Informed Training for Justice Professionals. Bill has a Master of Public Administration from the University of Missouri (Columbia, MO) along with a Masters in Human Development Counseling from Bradley University (Peoria, IL).



Chief Michael Boley started his career in January 2004 as a 911 dispatcher before becoming a sworn law enforcement officer in April 2005. Over those years he has worked his way up to Chief of Police, a position he has held since 2017, currently as a member of the Hamilton Police Department since 2022. Throughout his career he has always held the belief that proactive policing is the most effective form of policing, a stance that he still holds today. He is a founding member of the Hancock County Addiction Coalition, a volunteer committeeman with the Mental Health Centers of Western Illinois, and also a proud member of the Hancock County Treatment Court. Outside of work, Chief Boley enjoys hunting and fishing on one of his farms and spending time with his wife, Amanda and their two children, Ryker and Alizabeth.



Frederick G. Chinn is the Jail Administrator, and holds a rank as Chief, in the Jail Division of the Crawford County Sheriff's Office. Chinn has over 26 years in the law enforcement field. Chinn began his career in May of 1996 at the Lawrence County Sheriff's Department as a Dispatcher and in 1998 he changed his path to the corrections side of law enforcement. In 2005, Chinn was hired as Chief of Police of a small town in Southern Illinois, St. Francisville (population of 750). In December 2006, Chinn was hired by his current department in Robinson, Illinois and during this time he has worked as a Correctional Deputy, Court Security Deputy, Juvenile Officer, a Trainer/Field Training Officer, Internal Affairs, Defensive Tactics Instructor as well as a Taser Instructor. Some of the functions that Chinn has served on and continues to serve include currently serving as Treasurer/Executive Board Member of the Illinois Juvenile Officers Association, sits on several Task Force committees for topics in Mental Health, Juveniles and Pretrial. He also is a Certified Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) member. Crawford County Drug Court began in February of 2011 and Chinn was approached and happy to become involved with this important program in August of 2011. Chinn continues to serve on the Drug Court Committee. Chinn also serves as Vice-Chairman of the RENEW Committee, a 501(C)(3) organization that helps those with substance abuse issues and assists in rehabilitation efforts through the Crawford County Drug Court program.



Thomas Faber, CWDP is the Employment Specialist for the McHenry County 22nd Judicial Circuit treatment court team. As part of the team, he completes employment risk/needs assessments for the clients and develops the needed interventions for work readiness, their employment plan and assist with placement. He has created and implemented the Therapeutic Approach to Integrating Employment Interventions into the Treatment Court Programs pilot program.

Mr. Faber previously served 14 years as the Business Service Representative and career counselor at the McHenry County Workforce. As a Certified Workforce Development Professional, he has been involved in many areas related to marginalized workforce assisting reentry job seekers with referrals from Illinois Department of Corrections, McHenry County Specialty Courts, and County Probations and serves on the State Attorney's Deferred Prosecution Program panel. He also created STEP Forward work readiness program for justice impacted job seekers and received 2020 National SHRM Pinnacle Award recognition.

Mr. Faber serves on the Stateline Board of Directors for Society of Human Resource Managers, SHRM. He is the Alternative Talent team lead for the Manufacturing Pathways Consortium. He also serves on the Advisory Board for the National Alliance on Mental Illness McHenry County. He is a member and a presenter at National Association of Reentry Professionals, Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts, and the Illinois Probation and Court Services Association on the topic of employment.

Mr. Faber was recognized as recipient of the 2025 NAMI McHenry County Vision of Hope, 2023 Chicago Refuge for Women Champion of Hope and the Leadership of 2017 Greater McHenry County Distinguished Alum for servant leadership. His career also includes teacher, coach and business owner. He is a devoted Packer fan and enjoys developing his watercolor painting skills.



Anthony Foster has been the Director of Adams County Probation and Court services for 4 years. During his 20 years as a probation officer, he has served as a Juvenile Officer, DUI Officer, Drug Court Officer, Mental Health Court Coordinator, and Grant Coordinator. In addition, Anthony serves on the ILAPSC Board of Directors.



Kelly Gallivan-Illaraza is the Director of Problem-Solving Courts (PSC) for the Circuit Court of Cook County. She oversees the operation of the Circuit's twenty drug, mental health and veteran's treatment courts. She previously served as Manager of the PSC for the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. As the AOIC liaison to the Special Supreme Court Advisory Committee for Justice and Mental Health Planning, Ms. Gallivan-Illaraza participated in the Working Group for the development of the Illinois Problem-Solving Courts Standards and Certification Process. Prior to joining AOIC, Ms. Gallivan-Illaraza provided training at the United States Census Bureau and was a probation officer for Cook County in the drug and domestic violence units. Ms. Gallivan-Illaraza has over twenty-five years of experience working in juvenile and adult court and treatment systems related to program and policy development, implementation and management. She is a member of the Committee on Probation Education (COPE) of the Supreme Court of Illinois Judicial College and the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts (ILAPSC).



Officer Jermaine Galloway, a Texan, known nationally as the Tall Cop, has worked in substance abuse prevention and education for over 20 years. After playing Division I basketball and receiving his BA in Sociology from the University of San Francisco, he worked as a law enforcement officer for 18 years.

His various assignments included: alcohol compliance and enforcement, crime scene investigation, DUI task force, officer mentoring, and field training officer.

In 2007, Jermaine started the company known as "Tall Cop Says Stop™". The Tall Cop has conducted trainings in every US state and Canada, and currently devotes thousands of hours each year to training professionals and communities on drug and alcohol prevention, education, and enforcement.

His program, "High in Plain Sight", is a nationally recognized program, that provides training, education, and enforcement strategies for community substance abuse issues. Additionally, Jermaine Galloway has published articles, been referenced in books, and has been highlighted in many media interviews.

Jermaine Galloway has published articles in *American Police Beat Magazine* and various newspapers. In 2015, his program "You Can't Stop What You Don't Know™" was highlighted in the book *Clearing the Haze* by Dr. Christian Thurstone and Christine Tatum.



Wayne Gilliland is a 2010 graduate of the Adams County Drug Court. In 2015, he earned his bachelor's degree in Human Services from Hannibal-LaGrange University. Mr. Gilliland launched his professional career in 2013 as a Behavioral Health Technician at Preferred Family Healthcare, now doing business as Clarity Healthcare, in Quincy, Illinois. By 2015, he had advanced to the role of Associate Counselor, and in 2017, he became a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor.

In 2017, Mr. Gilliland joined the Adams County Drug Court team as a treatment provider and began collaborating with Adams County Probation on various specialty courts. Mr. Gilliland joined the ILAPSC board in 2020.

As an individual with lived experience and long-term recovery, Mr. Gilliland has dedicated his life to serving those in need. His education and professional background empower him to continually enhance his knowledge of evidence-based approaches for supporting individuals with substance use disorders involved in the judicial system.



Steve Hanson, MS Ed., is a Senior Treatment Consultant for All Rise. Previously, he served as the Associate Commissioner for Courts and Criminal Justice at New York's Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS), managing relationships with criminal justice entities. He also held the role of Associate Commissioner of Treatment at OASAS, overseeing various treatment programs and services. Mr. Hanson began his OASAS career in 2001 as the director of the John L. Norris Addiction Treatment Center and later held multiple leadership roles. With over 40 years of experience, he is recognized for his expertise in training criminal justice practitioners on drug abuse and treatment and has been a faculty member at All Rise for over 20 years.



Baron Heintz JD, MPA is a member of the board of directors of the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts. He has practiced law for more than thirty years, including serving a term as the elected State's Attorney of Mercer County, and after ten years as an assistant public defender, served almost ten more years as the Chief Public Defender of Rock Island County. He has been involved with the operation of problem-solving courts for about twenty years.



Hon. Janet Holmgren is the Presiding Judge of the Problem-Solving Courts Division of the 17th Judicial Circuit Court, which includes Winnebago and Boone Counties. Judge Holmgren's court assignments include presiding over the Winnebago County Adult Drug Court, the Therapeutic Intervention Program (TIP) Mental Health Court, and Youth Recovery Court, a court program for youth in juvenile delinquency court with mental health or co-occurring disorders, and Boone County juvenile court proceedings. Judge Holmgren was appointed as an Associate Judge in 1995, elected Circuit Judge in 1998 and retained in 2004, 2010, 2016, and 2022. From 2007-2012, Judge Holmgren served as the Chief Judge of the 17th Circuit. Judge Holmgren is a member of the Illinois Supreme Court's Special Advisory Committee on Mental Health and Justice Planning, President of the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts (ILAPSC), and a member of the Illinois Juvenile Justice Leadership Council. Judge Holmgren is also involved in many local community initiatives and currently serves as past chairman of the board of the Rockford Regional Health Council and is a member of the governing board of Alignment Rockford, a community organization that works in partnership with Rockford Public School District 205 to improve the quality of education in the region. Past memberships include service as a member of the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, the Illinois Children's Justice Task Force, the Illinois Supreme Court Conference Committee on Criminal Law and Probation, and the Board of Directors of the Illinois Judge's Association.



Bernadine Howard, MSW, LCSW has been practicing in the field since 1996. She currently oversees all of the Problem-Solving Court Programs in DuPage County, Illinois. She has held her current position since 2017 which includes the following programs: Mental Health Court (MICAP), Drug Court, Veterans Court and the First Offender Call Unified for Success (FOCUS). Since 2018, Ms. Howard has been an active board member of the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts (ILAPSC). Ms. Howard also served as a board member of the DuPage County Heroin & Opioid Prevention & Education Taskforce (HOPE) from 2018 to 2023.



Dr. Jeremy Jewell, Ph.D. is currently a Professor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and previous Program Director of the Clinical Child and School Psychology program. He received his Ph.D. in School Psychology from the University of Texas in 2001 and completed his internship at Father Flanagan's Boys Home in Omaha, Nebraska. Dr. Jewell is both a Licensed Clinical Psychologist as well as a Licensed School Psychologist in Illinois and is one of only a few professionals in the region with both credentials. Dr. Jewell has several research articles, books, book chapters, and treatment manuals on the topic of children's mental health, psychological diagnosis, and intervention. Most recently, Dr. Jewell is the Co-Editor-in-Chief of the 10 volume *Encyclopedia of Child and Adolescent Development*. Dr. Jewell consults with county and circuit courts around Illinois providing psychological evaluation services as well as program evaluation and received the IPCSA Exemplary Service Award in 2020.



Kevin Jones, MS founder and owner of Pathways 2 Restorative Leadership (P2RL). Mr. Jones achieved a Master of Science in Restorative Practices from the International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP) and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership Organizational Policy/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion from the University of Illinois.

Mr. Jones has spent more than 40 years working in the fields of social services, mental health, and education philosophy, with particular emphasis on working with youth and their families. He honed his practice through direct care and as an administrator in residential treatment programs, group homes, mental health organizations, and alternative schools. As a retired administrator, Kevin continues to work with Central Illinois organizations to support restorative leadership team development. He has explicit experience training law enforcement, school resource officers, government officials, community leaders, security officers, and educators throughout Central Illinois, the United States, and Internationally. Mr. Jones is professionally trained in several behavior management strategies, including Therapeutic Crisis Intervention, Nonviolent Crisis Intervention, and Trust-Based Relational Intervention. He serves on the boards of Not in Our Town and Project OZ in Bloomington, Illinois. Mr. Jones also consults with the education department at Illinois State University, Illinois Wesleyan University, University of Illinois Springfield, and more. He continues to engage audiences at international conferences in the field of restorative practices. He is a lecturer, trainer, coach, and faculty at the IIRP Graduate School. Mr. Jones was granted the Martin Luther King Jr. award by the Bloomington and Normal Human Relations Commission, honored with the Philanthropy of the Year award by the Illinois Prairie Community Foundations, and was nominated for the Grabill-Homan Community Peace Prize.

Mr. Jones is a published author and aspiring writer dedicated to exploring and articulating restorative experiences personally and professionally, with a focus on developing a restorative leadership model that fosters collaborative learnership and community engagement.



Aryn Keyel-Datta, JD is a Program Manager at the Center for Health Justice at TASC, where she leads consulting, training, and technical assistance projects focused on deflection and community justice-behavioral health initiatives. She holds a J.D. from Rutgers Law School-Camden (2022), and an M.A. in Ethics, Peace, and Global Affairs from American University (2018). Her legal and academic work spans human rights, constitutional law, and social justice. She has worked with the National Civil Justice Institute, Rutgers Law School's International Human Rights Clinic, and organizations like the ACLU of Pennsylvania and Legal Assistance of Western New York. She has contributed to projects on felony disenfranchisement, civil rights, and conflict mitigation.



Deena Kuranda is currently a supervisor for the DuPage County Mental Illness Court Alternative Program (MICAP), the DuPage County Veterans Treatment Court, and the DuPage County Mental Health Team. She has been involved with Problem Solving Court since 2001 when MICAP began as a pilot program. Starting in 2000 she was part of the Criminal Justice Mental Health Committee. This committee was essential in getting MICAP started and the expansion of the program. In 2017 she collected data regarding Veterans involved in the DuPage County system and presented the data to a group of stakeholders to implement the DuPage County Veterans Court. She continues to be part of CIT training with the DuPage County Sheriff's Office to educate law enforcement of the MICAP and Veterans Court. Deena has been active in the community to spread the word and obtain referrals for MICAP and Veterans Treatment Court from Police Officers, Attorneys, and Police Social Workers. She is currently an ILAPSC board member.



James Lane, JD serves as defense counsel for Crawford (Robinson) and Richland (Olney) County courts. He is a graduate of Eastern Illinois University and the University of Tulsa and is a member of the ILAPSC Board of Directors.



Michelle L. Malkin, JD, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice and Criminology and the Director of the Gambling Research and Policy Initiative at East Carolina University. Dr. Malkin's research interests include a focus on gambling-related harms, gambling-motivated crime, and the gambling prevalence, behavior and risk of historically oppressed, marginalized, and under-researched populations. Her research on the Problem Gambling, General Strain Theory and Gender received the 2022 Dr. Durand Jacobs Dissertation Award from the National Council on Problem Gambling. She is currently conducting several research studies relevant to further understanding of gambling and gambling-related harms including projects on college-student gambling behavior, gambling behavior and risk among LGBTQ+ individuals, the national landscape of self-exclusion based on jurisdictional legality, and an evaluation of the Clark County Gambling Treatment Diversion Court.



Lynn Moore, MS serves as the Grants Manager for the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC) in the Probation Services Division. In this capacity, Lynn will research, write, apply for, and manage grants for AOIC but also provide many of those same services to problem-solving court (PSC) teams in Illinois. Currently, Lynn is managing a Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant for AOIC that involves funding 5 established drug courts in Illinois and continues to assist PSC and Probation Departments as well. Lynn earned her Master of Science degree in Psychology and has over 13 years of experience working with grants and contracts. Prior to joining AOIC, Lynn wrote and applied for grants on behalf of PhDs and MDs at the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.



Chris Mueller started his career in law enforcement in 2006, graduating from the Police Training Institute in Champaign IL. Prior to that he received an Associate's Degree in Fire Science at John Wood Community College and was a part time and volunteer Fire Fighter.

He is a Crisis Intervention Team Member, Field Training Officer, Juvenile Officer and the Lead advisor for the Quincy Police Explorer Post. He was selected as the Quincy Exchange Club Law Enforcement Officer of the year award in 2018 and the Employee of the year for the Quincy Police Department in 2022. He joined the Adams County Mental Health Court in February of 2022 and was asked to join the Adams County Drug Court later that same year. He was the initial point person from QPD to assist with the EMPOWER deflection initiative. He has served on the ILAPSC Board of Directors since 2024.



Michelle R. O'Brien, JD is a Principal Court Management Consultant with the National Center for State Courts. Prior to working with NCSC, Ms. O'Brien was the Executive Director of the Illinois Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health and Justice where she provided statewide and local training and technical assistance for jurisdictions working with justice-involved persons with behavioral health disorders to improve program designs, policies, and case processing. She was also the Problem-Solving Courts Administrator and a Winnebago County Assistant State's Attorney for Winnebago County, Illinois. Ms. O'Brien helped develop the mental health court for Winnebago County and served as the prosecutor from its inception in 2005. With 30 years of experience in the criminal justice system, Ms. O'Brien has specialized in the effective administration of courts using evidence-based principles to guide initiatives from implementation to long-term impact sustainability. Ms. O'Brien is a past board member of the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts, past president and past board member of the Mental Health Court Association of Illinois, past board member of the Illinois Association of Drug Court Professionals, and past president of the Winnebago County Bar Association. Ms. O'Brien is a contributor of a chapter in *The Sequential Intercept Model and Criminal Justice*, contributor and editor to the *Illinois Department of Human Services Forensic Handbook*, and a peer reviewer for the *National Association of Drug Court Professionals' Adult Drug Court Best Practice Standards, Volume II*. She is a co-creator and facilitator of Upstream Strengthening Children and Families and Juvenile Justice Mapping and a facilitator of the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM). She has facilitated numerous cross-system information sharing and collaborations between justice and behavioral health partners. She is a trainer for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Criminal Justice System Responses and is a trainer for the Council of State Governments' Mental Health Court Curriculum. Ms. O'Brien received her JD from Drake University Law School and received a BA in Criminal Justice from Simpson College.



Dr. Kenneth Robinson, EdD is a prominent figure in the field of behavioral health and substance use, with a career marked by innovation, leadership, and dedication to improving behavioral health and substance use services. As the CEO of Correctional Counseling INC, he has made significant contributions to the field. Renowned as a teacher, lecturer, and author, Dr. Robinson's work in cognitive-behavioral treatment has earned him respect and recognition at both national and international levels. He is a sought-after speaker at symposiums and conferences. In addition to co-developing Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT), Dr. Robinson has contributed extensively to the literature on psychopharmacology and mental health services. Dr. Robinson has co-authorship of numerous cognitive-behavioral treatment programs. These programs address a wide range of issues and have been effectively implemented in all settings, demonstrating their versatility and effectiveness in diverse environments.



Hon. John B. "Ben" Roe is the Presiding Circuit Judge in the 15th Judicial Circuit, Ogle County. Prior to his judgeship, Roe was a correctional officer, probation officer, and prosecutor. In 2008, he was named the MacArthur Foundation Models For Change Juvenile Justice Systems Reform Champion For Change. Roe was the 2012 NIU College of Law Alumni of the Year. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Juvenile Courts. Judge Roe has presented at numerous conferences across the country, including the NADCP and NCJFCJ Annual Conferences. He was formerly a member of the Illinois Justice Commission, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and the Juvenile Justice Initiative.



Del Saam, MBA attended Northern Illinois University for Jewelry and Metalworking. He started Army ROTC in January 1992. He graduated with a Degree in Fine Arts in May 1996 and commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Army Infantry.

Mr. Saam deployed in 2003 and in 2005 with Special Forces. He graduated Northern Illinois University with a Master's Degree in Business Administration in 2007. In 2008, he deployed a third time with the Infantry to Afghanistan. In 2015, he deployed to Germany as part of the Russian Strategic Initiative. In 2017, deployed to Korea for ongoing exercises to evaluate Special Operations Forces. He led several mission command exercises training senior leaders, continuing to lead exercises all the way until his retirement in 2021. He graduated from Air Assault, Airborne, Infantry Officer Basic Course, Infantry Officer Advanced Course, Special Forces Qualification Course, Combat Diver Course, Command and General Staff College and National Defense Strategy Course.

Mr. Saam started working for 11th Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court in February of 2021 as the Mentor Coordinator. He developed monthly activities for the Mentors, Veterans and Caregivers to attend. He works with the community and state to improve recovery opportunities for Veterans. He is currently the Veteran's Treatment Court Program Coordinator.

In his free time, he volunteers as a CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocate for children in foster care. He sits on three nonprofit boards: Milestones Early Learning Center, Integrity Counseling and Illinois Prairie Community Foundation. His hobbies include art and other social activities with friends.



Les Schultz is the Region 5 Probation Fellow (MN, WI, IL, IN, OH, MI). Mr. Schultz retired as the Probation Director in Southern Minnesota in 2022. He has been very active in the DWI/DUI world, helping to develop an intensive DWI supervision program and a multi-county treatment court. Mr. Schultz has been very active in various correctional associations including APPA where he was a Regional Representative at Large, Program Chair, Treasurer and Constitution and By-Law Chair. Mr. Schultz also taught correctional courses at a local State college for 30 years. Looking ahead, Mr. Schultz is looking forward to assisting states to reduce impaired driving crashes and fatalities. Mr. Schultz can be contacted at ProbationReg5@csg.org



Kelly Scimeca, MA, LCPC serves as Director of the Office of Special Projects for the 22nd Judicial Circuit Specialty Courts and has worked with the Specialty Courts for the last 5 years. Before becoming Director, she was the first clinician for the DUI Court program, that was certified by the AOIC in 2019.

Ms. Scimeca obtained her undergraduate degree in Sociology from Iowa State University, and from there she went on to complete her master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, from Argosy University. She began her counseling career as an intern for the Salvation Army where she quickly realized that working with under resourced and disadvantaged populations was her passion.

Ms. Scimeca is a 2024 graduate of Leadership of Greater McHenry County and devotes much of her time to supporting other non-profit organizations in McHenry County. She lives in Crystal Lake with her family, and they enjoy the parks and recreational activities that the county has to offer.



Becky Self, BA is the Training Manager in the Probation Services Division with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC). Prior to the AOIC, she was the Deputy Director of probation in McHenry County. Becky worked for McHenry County for twenty-two years, during that time she worked with juveniles, sex offenders, adult mental health court/veterans court and as the Evidence-Based Practices Supervisor. Becky was a part of the development, implementation, training, coaching and continued quality assurance of evidenced-based practices in McHenry County. Becky has a true interest in implementation science and how to bring evidence-based practices into different agencies. She has been a Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT) facilitator for over ten years. Becky earned a degree in Social Welfare at Northern Michigan University. She graduated from the American Association of Probation and Paroles (APPA) Leadership Academy in 2020. She is certified to deliver training in the Illinois Adult Risk Assessment, Juvenile Risk Assessment, Core Correctional Practices, EPICS-II, and SAMSHA's How to be Trauma Informed for Community Corrections.



Hon. Mark L. Shaner (Ret.) is the State of Illinois Judicial Outreach Liaison for the American Bar Association Impaired Driving Judicial Outreach Liaison Program and is a Problem-Solving Courts consultant for the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts. He retired from the bench in December, 2023, after 19 years as an Associate Judge in the Second Circuit. Prior to being appointed to the bench, he served as Crawford County State's Attorney from 1996-2005. He began presiding over the Lawrence County Adult Drug Court in 2013 and continued presiding over that drug court until his retirement. He also presided over seven other drug courts in the Second Circuit during his time on the bench. He has been on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts since 2017 and has served as Vice-President since 2020. He is a member of the Illinois Judicial College DUI/Traffic Seminar Work Group and a member of the Committee on Probation Education Problem-Solving Courts Workgroup. He serves on the Illinois Impaired Driving Task Force. He is also a member of the All Rise training faculty.



Jamen Spitzer is a dedicated advocate for recovery, fitness, and community-driven support. In long-term recovery for over five years, Jamen has committed his personal and professional life to expanding access to sober communities through movement and connection.

As a Volunteer Manager for The Phoenix - Sober Active Community, Jamen works to build and strengthen recovery communities, fostering partnerships that connect individuals to free, peer-led fitness and social events. Over the past 4.5 years, he has helped bring The Phoenix's mission to new audiences, working closely with treatment courts in Michigan to integrate sober active programming into recovery pathways for justice-involved individuals.

Jamen is also leading efforts to expand The Phoenix's presence in Chicago, working with local partners to introduce Phoenix programming to individuals in recovery. A key initiative includes bringing Phoenix-led fitness and wellness programs into Cook County Jail, providing incarcerated individuals with access to movement-based recovery resources before reentry. This initiative aims to offer a peer-supported, active recovery pathway that extends beyond incarceration, helping participants build resilience, community, and lasting sobriety.

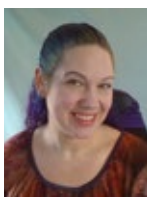
His work extends across Illinois, Michigan, and beyond, collaborating with recovery organizations, treatment courts, and community partners to expand access to multiple recovery pathways. Mr. Spitzer's expertise lies in bridging the gap between traditional treatment models and peer-driven, movement-based recovery solutions and helping individuals find lasting sobriety through connection, activity, and choice.



Wendy Standifer, MA, NCC, LPC is the Chief Operating Officer at Correctional Counseling, Inc. with over 30 years of experience in Behavioral Health and Child Welfare. Her expertise includes counseling, case management, clinical supervision, and program management, focusing on helping individuals with behavioral health issues, and substance use disorders. Wendy is recognized for her work in evidence-based practices and has been pivotal in integrating methodologies that have enhanced practices in the behavioral health and substance use fields, particularly for criminal justice, trauma-informed care, and services for veterans and at-risk populations. Wendy has shared her expertise at national conferences for over 20 years. Wendy holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Master of Arts in Counseling. She is a National Certified Counselor (NCC) and a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC).



Anne Stevens, JD is currently the Assistant State's Attorney – Mental Health for the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office in Rockford. Ms. Stevens is in her 9th year as the lead prosecutor for Winnebago County's Problem-Solving Courts. Ms. Stevens is also member of the Board of Directors for the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts (ILAPSC) and a member of the Board of Directors for the Winnebago County Bar Association. Ms. Stevens is also involved in task forces within the 17th Judicial Circuit pertaining to Human Trafficking and Firearms/Firearms Restraining Orders. Ms. Stevens is a graduate of Marquette University (Bachelor of Arts – Journalism), Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and a graduate of the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan. She holds licenses to practice law in Illinois and Wisconsin.



Tanya Thorne, MA, CRSS, CPRS currently works as a Recovery Support Specialist for the State of Illinois Division of Mental Health, as an adjunct professor at the Illinois Institute of Technology, and occasionally as a substitute teacher in her local school district. She has experience working in multiple positions within the mental health field, including residential and crisis programs, PATH (Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness), case management, drop-in centers, crisis teams, and answering calls for the Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Tanya holds a Master of Arts in Applied Psychology and has earned certifications as a CRSS (Certified Recovery Support Specialist) and the federally recognized CPRS (Certified Peer Recovery Specialist), in addition to a certificate in Suicide and Cyberbullying Prevention. She hopes that by using her own story of recovery, she can aid others along their path.



Dr. Diana Uchiyama, JD, PsyD, CAADC is the Executive Director of the Illinois Lawyers' Assistance Program "LAP". Before joining LAP, Dr. Diana was the Administrator of Psychological Services for DuPage County and worked as a Staff Psychologist and Juvenile Drug Court Coordinator for Kane County. She is a Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor, has an Advanced Mindfulness Training Certificate, and is a Trauma Informed Care Provider. She has a master's and doctorate in Clinical Psychology, is a licensed Clinical and Forensic Psychologist, and previously practiced law as a Cook County Assistant Public Defender, litigating misdemeanor and felony cases representing indigent clients for over a decade.



Koren VanderWeele serves as a Senior Program Manager for Treatment Alternative for Safe Communities (TASC's) Center for Health and Justice (CHJ). In this role, Ms. VanderWeele spearheads deflection initiatives across diverse jurisdictions in Illinois, offering training and technical assistance (TTA) to support the planning and implementation of these critical programs.

With a background in law enforcement, Ms. VanderWeele's journey began as a police officer with the Roswell, New Mexico Police Department. Her commitment to innovative approaches in the criminal justice system led her to collaborate with the Police, Treatment, and Community Collaborative (PTACC), where she played a vital role in developing the PTACC deflection fellowship program. Before joining TASC, Ms. VanderWeele was a case manager for various specialty courts in Van Buren County, Michigan, including the mental health court. In this capacity, she chaired a strategic planning committee focused on establishing a deflection program within the local community.

Ms. VanderWeele graduated Summa Cum Laude from Western Michigan University, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in criminal justice with a minor in addictions studies. Her undergraduate thesis for Lee Honors College was on the subject of pre-arrest diversion programs with a concentration on substance use disorders.

In her current role, Ms. VanderWeele drives positive change within the criminal justice system, bridging the gap between law enforcement, treatment, and community engagement. Her expertise and leadership contribute significantly to advancing deflection initiatives, making communities safer, and fostering a more compassionate and effective approach to justice, highlighting her deep commitment to the field.



Carolyn Wahlskog, LCSW (she/they) is the Director of Operations and Programming at Youth Outlook, a youth services agency that works to meet the ever-evolving needs of LGBTQ+ youth and their families in Northern Illinois. Additionally, Ms. Wahlskog is the co-coordinator of Transformative Justice Law Project's Name Change Mobilization, serving trans folks across Illinois. She serves as an adjunct professor at Jane Addams College of Social Work at University of Illinois at Chicago. She works with educators, mental health professionals, and other youth workers to create safe, supportive and affirming policies and practices for working with queer and trans young people and their families.



Hon. Lindsey D. Waldrop graduated from University of Evansville with a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology in 2000. She received her Juris Doctor from Southern Illinois University School of Law in 2003. Upon admission to the Illinois State Bar, she entered private practice with her father, maintaining offices in Lawrence County, Crawford County and Champaign County, Illinois. In addition to private practice, Judge Waldrop was a certified family law mediator, Assistant State's Attorney in Lawrence County and Assistant State's Attorney in Crawford County up until she was appointed Associate Circuit Judge in 2023. In addition to presiding over the civil, juvenile and criminal docket, Judge Waldrop is the presiding Drug Court Judge in Richland County and Edwards County. Judge Waldrop is currently a member of the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts (ILAPSC) Board of Directors.



Liesl Wingert, MHA is the Program Coordinator for the Eastern region of the SIU School of Medicine Center for Rural Health and Social Service Development, as well as a Professional Consultant. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Human Development and Family Studies, and a Master of Health Administration degree (MHA). She is a Certified Drug Endangered Children's trainer and Advisory Board Member for the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children. She is the Chair for the Illinois Alliance for Drug Endangered Children, as well as the Chair for the Richland County Alliance for Drug Endangered Children. In addition, Ms. Wingert sits on the Board of Directors for Take Action Today and the Illinois Association for Problem-Solving Courts.

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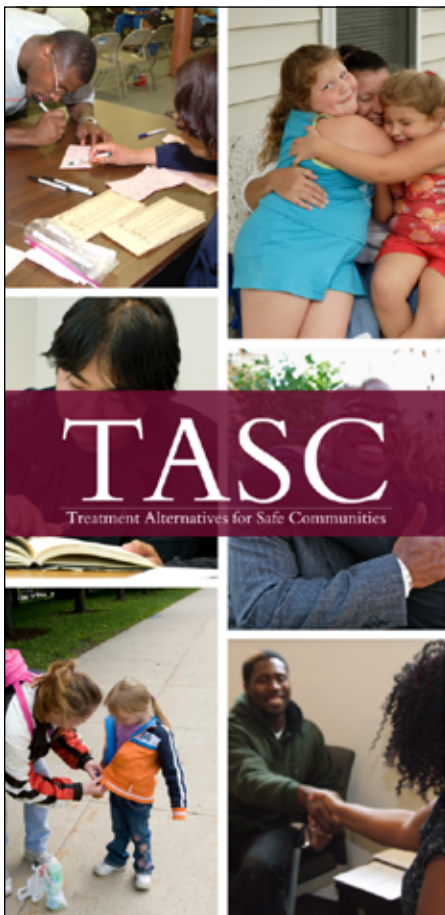
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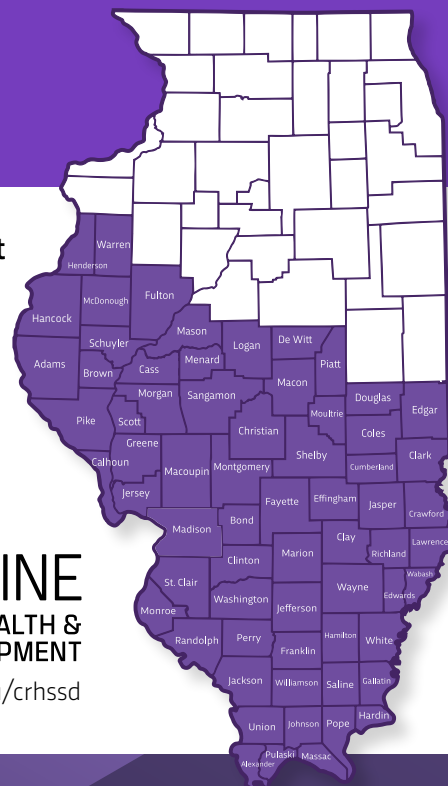
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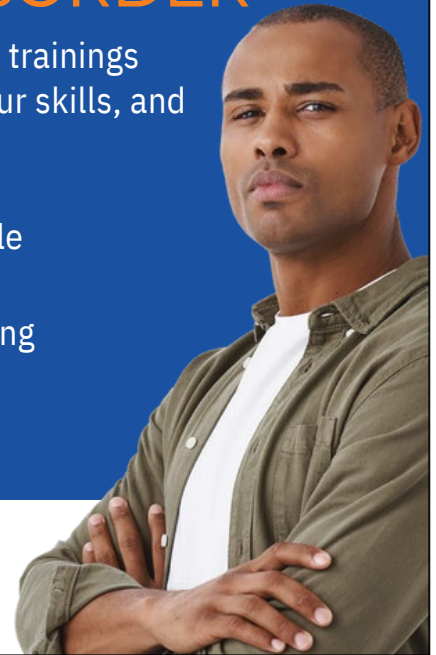
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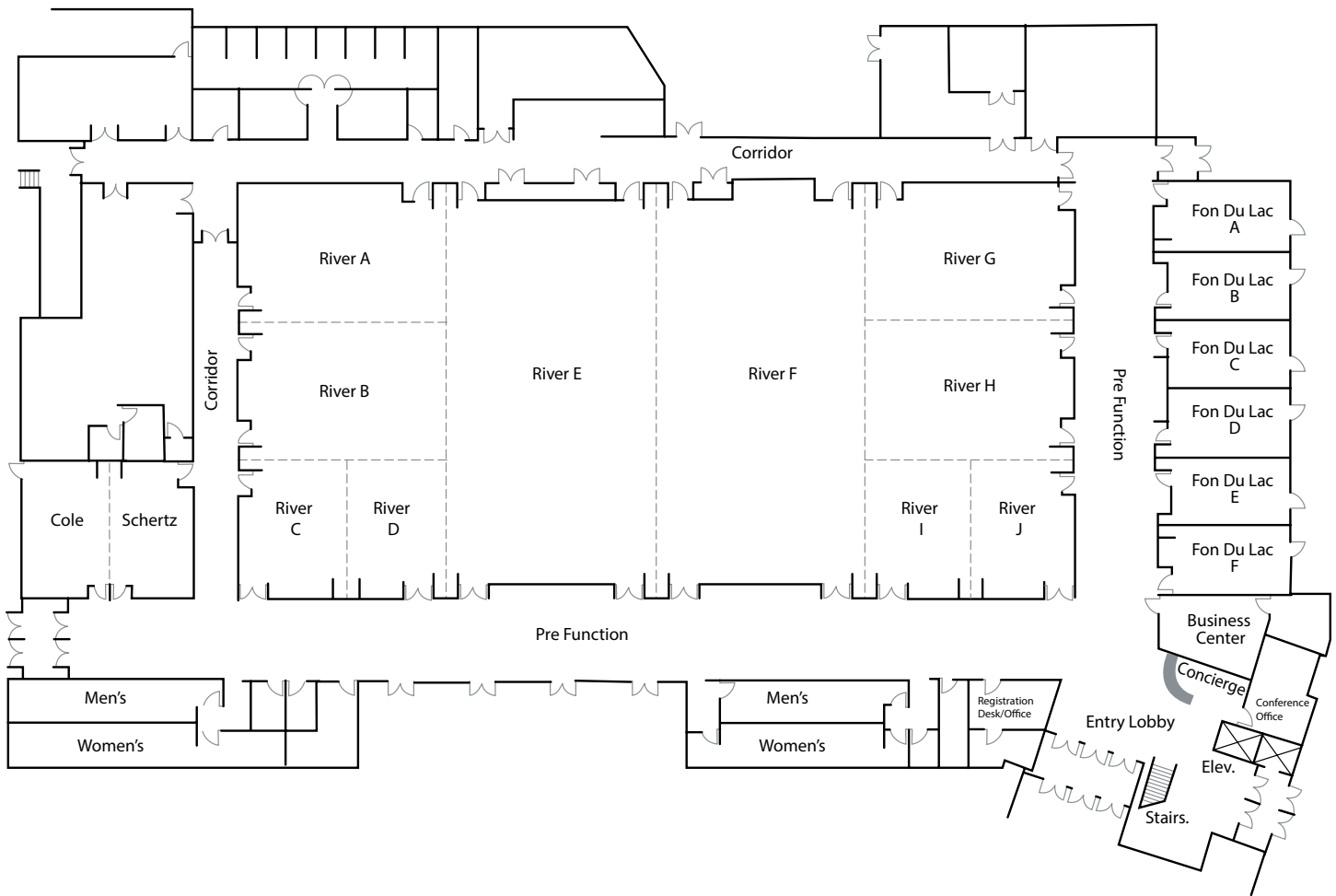
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