



ILAPSC

2026 CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts 13th Annual Conference

October 21-23, 2026

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 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 completed the online evaluation form for each session you attend and the overall conference evaluation. This will also serve as your sign in form this year. Please complete the session and conference evaluations at your earliest convenience after the conference concludes on Friday at 12:00 p.m. **Evaluations must be completed by 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 26.** Thank you for attending the Annual Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts Conference. We look forward to your feedback.

To access the evaluations, please visit: ilapsc.org/eval

OR

Scan the QR Code with your mobile device



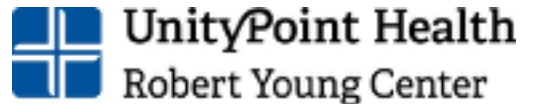
CONTINUING EDUCATION INFORMATION

Continuing Education Units: 15.25 (Day 1 - 5.5, Day 2 - 6.75, Day 3 - 3.0)

Provided by UnityPoint Health Trinity Robert Young Center (15.25 IDFP Credits)

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, LSW/LCSW

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, LPC/LCPC



Provided by Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts (15.25 IAODAPCA Credits)

IAODAPCA 15.25 hours approved: PROGRAM NUMBER: 31814 Category: COUN I or II, PREV I or II, CARS I or II, CODP I or II, PCGC I or II, CCJP I or II, CRSS I or II, CPRS I or II, MAATP II, CFPP I or II, ATE, CVSS I or II

Provided by Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts

MCLE Credits: 14 MCLE General Credit hours approved

Probation: 15.25 hours approved

Court Administration Credit: 15.25 hours approved by the Illinois Judicial College

Judicial Education Credit: 6 hours approved by the Illinois Judicial College

ILAPSC 2026 AGENDA

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

7:30 a.m.

Registration & Exhibits – Ballroom Pre Function

Conference registration opens with access to vendor exhibits. Attendees are encouraged to visit exhibitor tables to explore innovative tools, treatment resources, and community-based services that support the work of problem-solving courts. This time also provides an opportunity to network with colleagues from across the state and begin building connections that will enhance the conference experience.

9:30 a.m.

Honor Guard – River A-F

We are proud to open our conference with a presentation by the Honor Guard in recognition of the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. In alignment with the mission of our Veterans Treatment Courts, this moment honors the service, sacrifice, and continued resilience of veterans in our communities. It reflects our shared responsibility to ensure that those who have served receive the support, structure, and opportunities needed to move forward successfully. Today's presentation is conducted by the Tazewell County Honor Guard, whose members represent a continued commitment to service, professionalism, and respect.

9:35 a.m.

Welcome & Opening Remarks – River A-F

Hon. Janet Holmgren

Opening remarks will provide an overview of the conference, including key themes, goals, and opportunities for learning over the next three days. Attendees will be welcomed and oriented to the structure of the conference, setting the stage for collaboration, innovation, and professional growth.

10:00 a.m.

General Session 1: Artificial Intelligence in Treatment Courts – River A-F

Hon. Gayle Williams-Byers (Ret.)

Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming systems across the country, including the justice system. Within problem-solving courts, AI is beginning to influence how decisions are made regarding participant screening, supervision, compliance monitoring, and service delivery. This session provides a practical, real-world overview of how AI is currently being used in justice and behavioral health settings. Participants will explore how AI tools intersect with core court functions such as risk and needs assessments, digital monitoring platforms, and treatment-related technologies. The session will examine both the potential benefits and the risks associated with AI, including concerns related to data accuracy, bias, transparency, and over-reliance on automated systems. In addition, attendees will review how established legal standards—including Frye, Daubert, and Rule 702—apply to AI-generated information and decision-making. The session will provide clear, actionable guidance on how courts can evaluate emerging technologies and implement safeguards that protect due process while supporting innovation. Participants will leave with a stronger understanding of how to thoughtfully integrate AI into their programs without compromising fairness or participant-centered practices.

11:30 a.m.

Plated Lunch – River A-F

Lunch is provided. This is an opportunity for attendees to connect with colleagues, continue discussions from the morning session, and engage with exhibitors.

Vendor Connections at Lunch: Participating vendors and sponsors will be seated at designated, clearly marked tables during lunch. Attendees are invited to join them to learn more about their services, resources, and solutions.

12:30 p.m.

General Session 2: Gambling Disorder: Should Problem-Solving Courts Care? – River A-F

Jeremiah Weinstock, PhD, ABPP

Session Sponsored by  **ILLINOIS COUNCIL
ON PROBLEM GAMBLING**

Gambling disorder is an often under-recognized condition that can significantly impact individuals involved in the justice system. While it may not always be immediately visible, gambling-related behaviors frequently intersect with substance use, mental health conditions, and criminal activity. This session examines the prevalence of gambling disorder among justice-involved populations and explores its implications for treatment and supervision. Participants will learn how gambling disorder contributes to financial instability, strained relationships, and increased risk of recidivism. The session will highlight how gambling behaviors can complicate recovery efforts, particularly when co-occurring with substance use disorders or mental health conditions. Attendees will be introduced to practical screening approaches, warning signs, and assessment considerations that can help identify gambling-related issues. The session will also explore evidence-based treatment strategies and discuss how courts can incorporate appropriate interventions into existing program structures. By increasing awareness and understanding of gambling disorder, problem-solving courts can enhance participant outcomes and support more comprehensive recovery.

2:00 p.m.

Break – Ballroom Pre Function

Passport to Prizes: Register once, then scan the QR code at participating exhibitor tables using the same email address at each stop. Visit at least 7 unique exhibitors to qualify for Thursday's prize drawing. Use the break to meet our partners, explore resources, and make progress toward your 7 visits.

2:15 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

B1A - Building Recovery from the Inside Out: Core Elements of Effective Behavioral Health and SUD Treatment – River A-D

Dr. Kenneth Robinson, EdD

This session provides an in-depth exploration of the foundational elements of effective behavioral health and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment within justice-involved populations. Participants will examine how cognitive patterns, emotional regulation, and behavioral responses contribute to ongoing substance use and criminal behavior. The session highlights evidence-based approaches, including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT®), and Motivational Interviewing (MI), and demonstrates how these models can be applied within problem-solving court settings. Participants will learn how to structure interventions that promote accountability, enhance motivation, and support lasting behavior change. Practical strategies will be shared for conducting assessments, developing treatment plans, facilitating group sessions, and collaborating across disciplines. Attendees will leave with tools they can immediately apply to strengthen engagement, improve compliance, and support long-term recovery outcomes.

B1B - Using Contingency Management for Substance Use Disorder Treatment – River H

Jeremiah Weinstock, PhD, ABPP

Contingency management is one of the most effective evidence-based practices for treating substance use disorders. This approach uses structured incentives to reinforce positive behaviors such as abstinence, treatment participation, and compliance with program expectations. In this session, participants will learn how contingency management works and why it is effective. The presentation will review research demonstrating improved treatment retention, reduced substance use, and enhanced participant outcomes. Attendees will explore how to design and implement incentive systems that are practical, sustainable, and aligned with court goals. The session will also address common concerns, including cost, fairness, and consistency, and will provide strategies for integrating contingency management into existing court frameworks without disrupting operations. Participants will leave with a clear understanding of how to implement this approach to support behavior change.

B1C - Right Intervention, Right Time: Evidence-Based Interventions Across the Stages of Change – River F

Michael Oldenburg, MA, LCPC, CADC, CODPI

Understanding where individuals are in the process of change is critical to delivering effective interventions. This session explores the stages of change model and how it can be applied in justice and treatment settings to improve engagement, reduce resistance, and support lasting behavioral change. Participants will learn how to accurately assess readiness for change using evidence-based tools and identify behaviors that correspond to each stage. The session will focus on matching interventions to an individual's level of motivation, helping treatment providers apply appropriate evidence-based strategies at the right time in the change process. The presentation will also review research and statistical data supporting stage-matched interventions and their impact on participant engagement and outcomes. Through real-world examples, interactive discussion, and insights drawn from more than 20 years of field experience, attendees will gain practical tools they can immediately implement in their work. This session is especially beneficial for treatment providers who are newer to the field or seeking to strengthen foundational intervention skills within justice-involved and behavioral health populations.

B1D - Incentives, Sanctions and Service Adjustments: Balancing Accountability and Behavior Change – River E

Bill Blundell, MPA, LCPC, Kelly Gallivan-Illaraza, & Hon. Mark Shaner (Ret.)

Incentives, sanctions, and service adjustments are crucial components in problem-solving courts. However, applying them effectively, consistently, and fairly can be challenging. This interactive session will examine evidence-based principles to help decide when and how to most appropriately provide each type of response to participant behavior, suggest examples of each type, and help take the guess work out of when to sanction and when to make a service adjustment. The session will also discuss when is termination called for.

B1E - Bridging the Gap: How Law Enforcement Deflection Strengthens Problem-Solving Courts – Fon Du Lac D-F

Matt Doss & Chief Mike Boley

Law enforcement deflection programs offer an alternative pathway for individuals who might otherwise enter the justice system through arrest. This session explores how deflection strategies can strengthen problem-solving courts by creating opportunities for early intervention and connection to services. Participants will learn how deflection programs operate and how they can be integrated with court processes. The session will highlight the importance of collaboration between law enforcement, courts, and community providers, and will address practical considerations such as training, policy development, and liability. Real-world examples will illustrate how deflection can reduce system burden, improve participant outcomes, and enhance community safety. Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of how to build and sustain effective deflection partnerships.

B1F - Filling Your Cup: Restoring Purpose and Resilience in the Helping Professions – River G

Wendy Standifer, MA, LPC, NCC

Every day, professionals in criminal justice, behavioral health, and substance use services give their time, energy, and compassion to others. But constant exposure to stress and trauma can take a toll on personal well-being. This uplifting session is designed to help professionals recharge, reconnect with their purpose, and rediscover joy in their work. Through engaging discussion and practical, research-based strategies, participants will learn to recognize burnout and secondary trauma, manage emotional fatigue, set healthy boundaries, and build routines that support resilience and long-term professional sustainability.

B1G - Embedding Peer Specialists in the Judicial System – River I/J

Liesl Wingert, MHA & Jamal Oxford

Peer support specialists bring lived experience that can enhance engagement, trust, and recovery outcomes for participants in problem-solving courts. This session explores how peer roles can be effectively integrated into court teams. Participants will learn how to define peer responsibilities, establish appropriate boundaries, and build collaborative relationships with court staff. The session will also address challenges and opportunities associated with incorporating peer support into structured court environments. Attendees will gain insight into how peer specialists contribute to participant success and how programs can develop and sustain effective peer support models.

3:30 p.m.

Break – Ballroom Pre Function

Passport to Prizes – Keep It Going: Continue visiting participating exhibitor tables and scanning their QR codes. Remember to use the same email address at every stop. Seven unique exhibitor visits qualify you for Thursday's drawing.

3:45 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

B2A - Why Good Teams Struggle: Communication Styles in High-Stress Environments – River E

Nicole O'Brien

In high-stress environments, communication breakdowns are rarely about intent — they are about how pressure amplifies differences in style, pace, and priorities. This interactive session introduces a practical framework for understanding communication styles and how they show up under stress, particularly within interdisciplinary teams working in demanding roles. Participants will explore their own communication preferences, recognize how stress can intensify misunderstandings, and learn strategies for navigating internal team conflict more effectively. Through guided reflection, small-group discussion, and real-world examples, attendees will gain language to describe differences and learn how to adjust communication in moments that matter most. The focus is not on labeling personalities, but on building self-awareness and shared understanding to reduce friction, improve collaboration, and strengthen team functioning.

B2B - Parallel Plans, Shared Goals: Bridging Probation Case Plans and Treatment Plans – River F

Becky Self

This session examines how probation case plans and treatment plans can be aligned to support shared goals. Participants will explore how improved communication and coordination between supervision and treatment providers can enhance outcomes. The session will highlight strategies to reduce duplication of effort, clarify roles, and ensure consistency in messaging to participants. Attendees will leave with practical approaches to strengthen collaboration and improve program effectiveness.

B2C - Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Gambling Disorder – River H

Jeremiah Weinstock, PhD, ABPP

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) is a widely used and effective treatment for gambling disorder. This session provides an overview of CBT principles and how they can be applied to address gambling-related behaviors. Participants will learn how to identify maladaptive thought patterns, implement behavioral interventions, and support participants in developing healthier coping strategies. The session emphasizes practical application within problem-solving court settings.

B2D - Creating Effective Trauma-Informed Courtrooms – River A-D

Hon. Gayle Williams-Byers (Ret.)

Trauma can significantly impact how individuals interact with the justice system. This session explores how trauma-informed practices can be integrated into courtroom settings to improve engagement and outcomes. Participants will learn strategies to create environments that promote safety, trust, and accountability while maintaining program integrity. The session emphasizes practical changes that can be implemented immediately.

B2E - From Court to Community: The Missing Link in Engagement (Peer Recovery in Action) – River G

Kelsey Driskell & Chris Murphy

Even the strongest supervision and treatment models can fall short when participants struggle to engage, stabilize, or remain connected to services. Peer recovery support offers a powerful, often underutilized solution to this challenge. This session explores how peer recovery specialists—individuals with lived experience in recovery and the justice system—bridge critical gaps between courts, supervision, treatment, and the community. Attendees will gain insight into how peer support enhances engagement, builds trust, and supports long-term success for individuals who may not respond to traditional approaches alone. Through real-world examples and practical strategies, this session will highlight how peer recovery can be integrated into existing systems, including problem-solving courts, probation-based models, and community supervision. Participants will leave with a clearer understanding of how to leverage peer support to improve outcomes, strengthen collaboration, and better meet the needs of the populations they serve.

B2F - Data Monitoring and Evaluation: Using Data to Strengthen Outcomes – River I/J

Lisa M. Williams, MA

Data plays a critical role in improving program effectiveness and demonstrating success. This session explores how to collect, analyze, and use data to inform decision-making and support funding efforts. Participants will gain practical tools to enhance data practices, track outcomes, and strengthen program performance.

B2G - How to Start an Impaired Driving Treatment Court – Fon Du Lac D-F

Jessica Lange, MBA

The research is clear: impaired driving treatment courts (IDTC) are effective at reducing recidivism, saving money, changing lives, and making communities safer. While the research is easy to identify, jurisdictions often have a difficult time identifying the needs and resources available in their communities to start new programs. This session will help participants identify the resources needed to support the need for an IDTC, the resources and training necessary to support the operation of an IDTC, and convincing stakeholders to lend their support in promoting implementation and long-term sustainability.

5:00 p.m.

End of Day - Evaluations

Thursday, October 22, 2026

7:30 a.m.

Registration & Exhibits – Ballroom Pre Function

8:30 a.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

B3A - Mental Health Courts: Team Expectations – River A-D

Cynthia Herriott

Mental health courts rely on strong collaboration among multidisciplinary team members to effectively serve individuals with complex behavioral health needs. This session explores the roles and responsibilities of each team member and how clear expectations contribute to successful outcomes. Participants will examine common challenges, including communication breakdowns, role confusion, and managing high-need participants. The session provides practical strategies to strengthen team coordination, improve decision-making, and support participants with serious mental health conditions. Emphasis will be placed on balancing accountability with therapeutic approaches to achieve long-term stability and success.

B3B - Developing a Culture of Diversion: Adult Redeploy Illinois – Fon Du Lac D-F

Terry Stokes & Dr. Annice Fisher

What does it take to build support that actually helps diversion practitioners navigate the realities of implementation? Drawing on lessons from building a practitioner-centered training and technical assistance approach, this session explores how listening to practitioners and translating persistent challenges into targeted supports can strengthen practice, increase referrals, deepen community relationships, and build capacity over time. Participants will examine lessons from coaching, peer learning, workshops, and data-informed reflection and build a local blueprint for adapting these approaches to support local diversion success.

Participants will be able to:

- Identify key challenges and support needs within their diversion or problem-solving court program.
- Examine how coaching, peer learning, workshops, and data-informed reflection can strengthen practice, referrals, and collaboration.
- Develop an action plan to support sustainability, reduce burnout, and improve collaboration across probation, courts, and community partners.

B3C - How to Start a Treatment Court Alumni Program 1.0 – River G

Carlos Gonzales, CPSW, BA, LADAC

Have you attempted to initiate or sustain an alumni program for your treatment court graduates? We recognize the challenges in maintaining connections with past participants and encouraging their ongoing support. This session features alumni from multiple states who have successfully established and sustained long-term alumni programs. Attendees will learn strategies for preserving momentum among graduates and empowering programs to build enduring alumni networks. The presentation provides an overview of essential tools to support the development and maintenance of effective alumni initiatives.

B3D - Breaking the Cycle: Addressing Domestic Violence and Family Violence – River F

Wendy Standifer, MA, LPC, NCC

Join us for this comprehensive workshop exploring the multifaceted issues surrounding Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), Domestic Violence (DV), and Family Violence. Participants will gain a deep understanding of the complexities of these forms of violence, examining the psychological, behavioral, and social dynamics that sustain them. The session will explore underlying factors such as behavioral health challenges, substance use disorders (SUD), trauma, and other key contributors to violent behaviors. Participants will learn to identify potential red flags, apply effective intervention strategies, and utilize evidence-based practices to reduce recidivism, foster healthier relationships, and create safer communities. Additionally, this workshop highlights the importance of practitioner well-being. Participants will examine the impact of secondary trauma and develop practical tools for self-care, resilience, and professional sustainability when working with affected populations. By understanding the root causes of IPV, DV, and Family Violence—and by applying proven therapeutic and behavioral approaches—attendees will be empowered to drive meaningful change in both individuals and communities.

B3E - Movement, Connection, and Choice: Expanding Engagement Through Peer-Based Recovery – River H

Jamen Spitzer

Engagement is a critical component of successful recovery, yet traditional approaches do not always resonate with all participants. This session introduces movement-based, peer-led recovery models that emphasize connection, choice, and community. Participants will learn how non-clinical, activity-based approaches can increase engagement, reduce isolation, and support long-term recovery. The session highlights practical ways to incorporate these strategies into court programs to enhance participation and outcomes.

B3F - Emerging Adults: Developmentally Informed Supervision and Engagement – River E

Danielle Young, MPA

Emerging adults require supervision approaches that reflect their developmental stage, including ongoing brain development, identity formation, and increased risk-taking behaviors. This session explores how these factors influence decision-making and program engagement. Participants will learn strategies to tailor interventions, improve communication, and support behavior change for this population. The session emphasizes balancing structure with flexibility to promote accountability while encouraging growth and independence.

B3G - Serving Those Who Served: Strengthening Veterans Treatment Courts – River I/J

Lynn Moore, MS & Karen Smietanski

Veterans involved in the justice system often face unique challenges related to service-related trauma, mental health conditions, and reintegration into civilian life. This session explores how Veterans Treatment Courts can address these needs through specialized programming, resource coordination, and strong partnerships with veteran service organizations. Participants will learn strategies to improve access to benefits, enhance engagement, and support long-term success for veteran participants.

9:45 a.m.

Break – Ballroom Pre Function

Passport to Prizes – Start Strong: If you have not registered yet, register once and begin scanning exhibitor QR codes. Use the same email address at every stop; 7 unique exhibitor visits are required to qualify for the drawing this afternoon.

10:00 a.m.

General Session 3: Sustainability Planning and Tools for Problem-Solving Courts – River A-F

Lisa Williams, MA, Danielle Young, MPA, Bill Blundell, MPA, LCPC

Sustaining problem-solving courts requires thoughtful planning, strong partnerships, and effective use of data. This session provides practical tools and strategies to support long-term program sustainability. Participants will explore funding opportunities, stakeholder engagement strategies, and methods for demonstrating program effectiveness. The session also highlights how data can be used to support decision-making, improve outcomes, and strengthen grant applications. Attendees will leave with actionable steps to ensure their programs remain viable and impactful over time.

11:30 a.m.

Boxed Lunch & Midday Connections – River A-F & Ballroom Pre Function

Take a well-earned pause and enjoy a thoughtfully prepared boxed lunch designed to keep your day moving without missing a beat. This is more than just a meal—it's an opportunity to recharge, connect, and continue the conversation. Whether you choose to sit with your team, join new colleagues, or take a moment to reflect, this midday break offers space to refuel both personally and professionally.

12:30 p.m.

General Session 4: Restorative Practices in Problem-Solving Courts – River A-F

Kevin Jones, MS, MS

Restorative practices offer an approach to justice that focuses on repairing harm, strengthening relationships, and promoting accountability. This session explores how restorative principles can be integrated into problem-solving courts to enhance participant outcomes. Participants will learn how restorative practices can be used to address conflict, build community, and support behavior change. The session includes practical examples and strategies for implementing restorative approaches within court settings.

2:00 p.m.

Break – Ballroom Pre Function

Passport to Prizes closes at 2:00 p.m. Complete at least 7 unique exhibitor QR scans using the same email address to qualify for the 2:10 p.m. drawing. Take a few minutes to visit any remaining exhibitors, recharge, and return ready for the afternoon program.

2:10 p.m. Passport to Prizes Drawing – River A-F

It's time for the Passport to Prizes drawing! Qualified attendees are entered automatically based on completed QR visits. The grand prize will be drawn first, followed by exhibitor prizes; once selected, a winner will be removed from subsequent drawings so each attendee may win only one prize. Thank you for connecting with our exhibitors and sponsors throughout the conference. Must be present to win.

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2:15 p.m.

General Session 5 - Drum Circle Experience – River A-F

Peter Alan Hussey & James Lane, JD

This interactive, experiential session brings all conference participants together to engage in a guided drum circle focused on connection, stress reduction, and group cohesion. Through rhythm and shared participation, attendees will experience how non-traditional approaches can promote emotional expression, reduce stress, and strengthen group dynamics. The session also explores how experiential and movement-based activities can be incorporated into justice and behavioral health settings to enhance engagement and build trust among participants. This shared experience provides an opportunity for reflection, connection, and renewed energy for the remainder of the conference.

3:30 p.m.

Break – Ballroom Pre Function

Take a moment to come back to center after our shared drum circle experience. This break offers space to reset, reflect, and carry forward the energy we've just created together. Whether you choose to continue the conversation, connect with someone new, or simply enjoy a quiet moment with a cup of coffee, this is your time to recharge. As the rhythm settles, consider what you're taking with you into the next session—connection, perspective, and a renewed sense of purpose. Pause, reset, and move forward together.

3:45 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

B4B - Certified Peer Workforce Development – River I/J

Jada Lutzke, BA, CRSS & Bobby Baker

Peer support plays an increasingly important role in recovery-oriented systems. This session explores the development of a certified peer workforce, including training pathways, credentialing, and program implementation. Participants will learn how to build and sustain peer programs that support recovery and enhance engagement within problem-solving courts.

B4C - Co-Occurring Disorders: Mental Health and Substance Use – River E-F

Danette Montoya

Co-occurring disorders present complex challenges for both treatment and supervision. This session focuses on identifying individuals with both mental health and substance use disorders and implementing integrated approaches to care. Participants will learn strategies to improve engagement, coordinate services, and support long-term recovery outcomes.

B4D - Law Enforcement Framework in Problem-Solving Courts – River G

Chief Cynthia Herriott (Ret.)

Law enforcement plays a critical role in the success of problem-solving courts. This session explores how law enforcement can effectively collaborate with court teams, support participant accountability, and contribute to positive outcomes. Participants will examine strategies to strengthen partnerships, clarify roles, and improve system coordination.

B4E - Growing Up Drug Endangered: Understanding Impact and Intervention – River A-D

Liesl Wingert, MHA

Individuals who grow up in environments impacted by substance use often experience significant trauma and developmental challenges. This session explores the long-term impact of these experiences and how they influence behavior and engagement. Participants will learn trauma-informed strategies to better support individuals affected by substance use environments and improve outcomes within court programs.

B4F - What Others Need to Know About Impaired Drivers – River H

Jessica Lange, MBA

Impaired drivers are not limited to impaired driving treatment courts. They are present in adult drug courts, veterans courts, mental health courts, family treatment courts, and virtually every other treatment court model—whether teams recognize them as such or not. Increasingly, impaired driving is linked to polysubstance use, where alcohol, prescription medications, illicit drugs, and other substances combine to create complex patterns of risk that extend far beyond a single charge. This session explores what every treatment court practitioner should understand about impaired drivers and the growing impact of polysubstance use across court populations. Participants will examine how impaired driving behaviors intersect with substance use disorders, mental health conditions, trauma, and criminogenic risk factors, often creating challenges that traditional supervision and treatment approaches may overlook. Designed for professionals across all treatment court models, this session will provide practical insight into identifying impaired driving risk, recognizing patterns of polysubstance use, and responding effectively within supervision and treatment planning. Attendees will leave with a stronger understanding of why impaired driving behaviors matter beyond impaired driving courts and how addressing these risks can strengthen participant outcomes, accountability, and public safety across all problem-solving court settings.

5:00 p.m.

End of Day - Evaluations

Friday, October 23, 2026

7:30 a.m.

Coffee & Connections – Fon Du Lac A-C

Coffee & Connections is our Friday-morning space for meaningful conversation, practical idea-sharing, and new connections across courts, disciplines, counties, and roles. Grab coffee and a pastry, choose a topic that interests you, and join the conversation using the guided table prompts. Add a question or need to the ASK area, share an idea or resource in the SHARE area, and leave with connections and strategies you can take back to your program. Please plan to wrap up by 8:30 a.m. so everyone has time to transition to the 8:45 a.m. general session.

Sponsored by



8:45 a.m.

General Session 6 - Graduate Panel: Voices of Experience and Recovery – River A-F

Facilitated by Hon. Mark Shaner (Ret.)

This powerful and engaging session features graduates of problem-solving court programs sharing their personal experiences, challenges, and successes. Through firsthand accounts, panelists will provide insight into the impact of treatment courts on their lives, including the barriers they faced, the supports that made a difference, and the strategies that helped them achieve long-term stability. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the participant perspective, including how court practices, team interactions, and program structures influence engagement and outcomes. The session will highlight the importance of accountability, support, and opportunity in the recovery process. This session offers a unique opportunity for reflection and learning, allowing professionals to better understand how their work directly impacts the lives of those they serve. Attendees will leave with renewed motivation and practical insight to enhance their approach to participant engagement and program delivery.

10:15 a.m.

Break – Ballroom Pre Function

Final opportunity to connect with colleagues, reflect on key takeaways, and prepare for the closing session.

10:30 a.m.

General Session 7 - The Missing Piece: Employment & Recovery – River A-F

Thomas Faber, BEd, CWDP & Dr. Kenneth Robinson, EdD

Employment is a critical factor in long-term recovery, stability, and reduced recidivism, yet it is often one of the most challenging areas for justice-involved individuals. This session explores the role of employment as a key component of successful reentry and sustained behavior change. Participants will examine common barriers to employment, including criminal history, gaps in work experience, lack of soft skills, and limited access to opportunities. The session will highlight practical strategies to address these barriers, including job readiness assessments, individualized employment planning, and partnerships with employers and workforce development programs. In addition, the session will explore how employment supports recovery by promoting structure, accountability, and self-sufficiency. Attendees will learn how to integrate employment-focused strategies into court programming and how to support participants in achieving meaningful, long-term employment outcomes. Conference Closing Closing Remarks & Adjournment Conference leadership will provide final reflections, summarize key themes from the conference, and recognize the contributions of attendees, presenters, and partners. Participants will be encouraged to carry forward the knowledge, strategies, and connections gained throughout the conference into their daily work.

12:00 p.m.

End of Conference - Evaluations

Remember:

In order to receive continuing education credits, you must:

1. 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, on your nametag, or by going to ilapsc.org/eval
2. 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, on this page, or on your nametag.

Evaluation forms are separate for each session and must be completed for each session to receive credit. You MUST complete the evaluations for your sessions and the full conference by 10/26 at 6:00 p.m. in order to receive credit. Certificates will be emailed to you 2-4 weeks after the conference.

EVALUATION



ilapsc.org/eval

PRESENTERS

Thank you to our 2026 Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts Conference Presenters



Bobby Baker is a Program Coordinator at Southern Illinois University working with the SIU CRSS Program. He has worked with SIU over the past six years across multiple initiatives, including COVID-19 Response, Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT), and Certified Recovery Support Specialist (CRSS) programming and development.



Bill Blundell, MPA, LCPC is the Statewide Problem-Solving Court Manager for the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC). Prior to this role, he served as a Problem-Solving Court Coordinator and Adult Probation Supervisor in Peoria County.

Bill is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) and previously worked as a full-time mental health counselor. He remains actively engaged in the counseling field and stays current on trends in mental health and substance use.

He is a certified trainer in Core Correctional Practices and SAMHSA's GAINS Center Trauma-Informed Training for Justice Professionals. Bill holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Missouri and a Master's in Human Development Counseling from Bradley University.



Chief Michael Boley began his career in 2004 as a 911 dispatcher and became a sworn law enforcement officer in 2005. He has served as Chief of Police since 2017 and currently leads the Hamilton Police Department.

Throughout his career, Chief Boley has emphasized proactive policing while also recognizing the importance of proactive approaches to addiction response and treatment. He is a founding member of the Hancock County Addiction Coalition, serves with the Mental Health Centers of Western Illinois, and is an active member of the Hancock County Treatment Court.

Outside of his professional role, he enjoys hunting, fishing, and spending time with his wife, Amanda, and their two children.



Kelsey Driskell is a dedicated Peer Recovery Specialist and Site Supervisor for the Carbondale Recovery Resource Center with Take Action Today. With both professional expertise and personal lived experience in recovery, she is passionate about helping individuals navigate substance use recovery, rebuild stability, and reconnect with their communities.

In her role, Kelsey provides peer support, advocacy, and resource coordination for participants involved in Jackson and Williamson County Drug Courts. She works closely with individuals throughout their recovery journeys by offering mentorship, encouragement, accountability, and connection to community-based services and recovery supports.

Kelsey is also a proud graduate of Perry County Drug Court, successfully completing the program in September 2022. Since beginning her recovery journey, she has remained committed to personal growth and service to others. Her lived experience allows her to connect authentically with participants and serve as a powerful example that long-term recovery and positive change are possible.



Matt Doss is a Program Manager with TASC's Center for Health and Justice, where he provides training and technical assistance to deflection programs throughout Illinois. He is currently leading efforts to establish a statewide veterans deflection initiative focused on connecting veterans with support before a crisis occurs.

Prior to joining TASC, Matt served with the Springfield Police Department, retiring in March 2024 after a career as a Patrol Officer and Patrol Sergeant. He supervised the department's homeless outreach team and managed its co-responder program, which paired mental health professionals with law enforcement officers to connect individuals in crisis with community-based treatment rather than emergency departments or incarceration. He also helped develop Springfield's homeless deflection initiative.

A U.S. Army veteran and former military police officer, Matt continues his commitment to veteran advocacy as District Commander of AMVETS' 3rd District in Illinois and through his involvement with AMVETS Post 100.



Thomas Faber, BEd, CWDP is an Employment Specialist with the McHenry County 22nd Judicial Circuit treatment court team, supporting participants in mental health, drug, and DUI courts. He conducts employment assessments, develops individualized work readiness plans, and assists with job placement.

With 16 years of experience as a Certified Workforce Development Professional, Thomas has worked extensively with justice-involved individuals and marginalized populations, including individuals with disabilities and survivors of human trafficking. He collaborates with probation, specialty courts, and the Illinois Department of Corrections on reentry employment pathways.

Thomas serves on multiple workforce and community boards and regularly presents on employment strategies for justice-involved populations.



Dr. Annice E. Fisher is the Founder and CEO of Developing Capacity Coaching (DCC), a leadership infrastructure and systems advisory firm focused on strengthening leadership capacity and organizational alignment within complex systems. With more than 20 years of experience, she has partnered with mayors, boards, superintendents, state agencies, and criminal legal system leaders to support sustainable systems change and effective leadership practices.

Her work in the criminal legal system includes addressing disparities in diversion access, strengthening oversight board practices, co-designing statewide diversion initiatives, and developing culturally responsive training and technical assistance for probation officers and service providers. Dr. Fisher has also facilitated leadership development initiatives for individuals in custody to support successful reentry and long-term growth.

She holds degrees from the University of Illinois, Iowa State University, and Harvard University.



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 served as the Manager of the PSC for the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC) and 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 PSC Standards and Certification Process.

Prior to joining AOIC, Ms. Gallivan-Illaraza was a trainer for the United States Census Bureau and 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, with a focus on 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) Board of Directors.



Carlos F. Gonzales, CPSW, BA, LADAC is the Statewide Program Manager for the New Mexico Administrative Office of the Courts Therapeutic Justice Support Program. A 2001 graduate of the First Judicial District Adult Drug Court in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Carlos now leads statewide alumni and peer initiatives for treatment court programs and supports Medicaid leveraging efforts for treatment providers serving justice-involved populations.

Carlos is a Certified Peer Support Worker, Licensed Alcohol and Drug Addiction Counselor, Chair of the National Treatment Court Alumni Association, and faculty trainer for All Rise. He also serves as a subject matter expert for SAMHSA GAINS, Policy Research Associates, and the National Center for State Courts.

Now celebrating 25 years in long-term recovery, Carlos has dedicated his career to mentoring and supporting others through recovery, peer support, and treatment court services. His work reflects a deep commitment to helping individuals find hope, stability, and lasting change.



Chief Cynthia Herriott (Ret.) is a justice reform expert and former Chief of Police for Rochester, New York, with extensive experience in criminal justice process improvement and organizational problem-solving. Throughout her career, she has focused on advancing balanced, best-practice outcomes across justice systems and strengthening collaboration between courts and law enforcement.

As Chief, she implemented a public 90-day plan, developed a Protest Plan Protocol to support peaceful demonstrations, and enacted policies including Duty to Intervene and limits on use of force involving juveniles. Her work on the Rochester City School District's School Climate Committee contributed to rewriting the Code of Conduct and reducing suspensions by 40% to help prevent youth justice system involvement.

Chief Herriott has served as a liaison to treatment court teams, trained problem-solving court professionals, and established the region's first Community Court Academy and Community Justice Forum. She holds a Master of Science degree and is a Certified Compliance Professional.



Peter Alan Hussey is a music educator, percussionist, and performer based in the St. Louis area. He currently serves as a tenured professor of music and percussion studies at Lewis & Clark Community College and was nominated for the 2014 ICCTA Outstanding Full-Time Faculty Member Award. In addition to his work in higher education, Peter is a trained REMO-HealthRHYTHMS facilitator and regularly serves as a clinician, adjudicator, and arranger for percussion programs throughout the country.

His extensive performance career includes appearances with renowned artists and organizations such as Aretha Franklin, The WHO, Weird Al Yankovic, Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith, Johnny Mathis, Bernadette Peters, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, the St. Louis Muny Opera, and The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps. Peter is also an educational endorser for the Zildjian Cymbal Company and Innovative Percussion.



Kevin Jones, MS, MS is an educator and restorative justice advocate with more than a decade of experience implementing restorative practices within schools and community organizations. With a background in human services and alternative education, his work focuses on creating inclusive environments that prioritize healing, connection, and authentic relationships.

Since beginning his restorative justice work in 2014 following training through the International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP), Kevin has led workshops and professional development sessions for educators, community leaders, and organizations throughout Illinois. His work emphasizes practical restorative approaches to communication, conflict resolution, equity, and relationship-building.

Kevin has partnered with schools and community programs across the state to help teams integrate restorative practices into daily operations and organizational culture. He currently serves as Chair of the Illinois Judicial College Restorative Justice Task Force and is also an emerging author with several international publications.



James Lane, JD serves as a member of the Richland County Drug Court team and is a Public Defender in Richland and Crawford Counties. He is a graduate of the University of Tulsa College of Law and Eastern Illinois University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Music Education.

In addition to his legal and justice system work, Jim is a certified HealthRHYTHMS facilitator and percussionist with an interest in the therapeutic and community-building benefits of rhythm-based programming. He also serves as a member of the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts Board of Directors.



Jessica Lange serves as Project Director for Impaired Driving Solutions, a division of All Rise, where she provides training and technical assistance to impaired driving treatment court programs nationwide. Prior to joining All Rise, she served as a treatment court coordinator in Minnesota, leading her team to Academy Court designation and securing grant funding to expand statewide training opportunities for DWI court teams. Her work included directing federal grant initiatives focused on addiction recovery, supporting community alcohol education efforts, and helping develop a local sober ride program.

Jessica also served as Operations Analyst for Minnesota's Sixth Judicial District, supporting eight treatment courts through grant development, training coordination, and data analysis. She earned her bachelor's degree from Hamline University and an MBA from The College of St. Scholastica.



Jada Lutzke earned her Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from Indiana University and worked as an archaeologist for nearly nine years before transitioning into the behavioral health and recovery support field.

In 2024, she completed the Certified Recovery Support Specialist (CRSS) training program through Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. She subsequently worked as a Living Room Support Specialist at Locust Street Resource Center, providing peer support to individuals experiencing behavioral health challenges.

After earning her CRSS certification in 2025, Jada returned to SIU as an instructor in the CRSS training program, bringing both lived experience and professional expertise to the preparation of future recovery support specialists.



Danette Montoya is a national speaker and advocate dedicated to ending sexual violence. She provides expert testimony for survivors of sexual abuse and assault during legal proceedings and owns a psychotherapy practice specializing in trauma, depression, and substance use disorders.

Since 2012, she has served with the Veterans Health Administration, where she conducts diagnostic assessments, consultations, and brief treatment for trauma-related conditions among veterans.

Danette brings both clinical expertise and advocacy experience to her work, supporting survivors and advancing awareness and systemic change.



Lynn Moore, MS is the Grants Manager for the Probation Services Division with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC). She leads grant development and management efforts for AOIC and provides technical assistance to problem-solving court teams across Illinois.

Lynn currently manages a Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant supporting multiple drug courts and works closely with probation departments to strengthen funding strategies. She brings over 15 years of experience in grants and contracts, including prior work supporting research funding at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

Lynn holds a Master of Science in Psychology.



Chris Murphy is a dedicated recovery advocate and Peer Support Specialist with lived experience in homelessness, incarceration, and long-term recovery. Drawing from his personal journey, Chris is passionate about helping individuals rebuild their lives, navigate recovery, and find hope beyond addiction and involvement in the justice system.

Chris is currently certified in Peer Support in Kentucky and is working toward certification in Illinois. He serves as a Site Supervisor, providing mentorship, encouragement, accountability, and support to individuals engaged in recovery and reentry services. He is also active within the recovery community as a sponsor and advocate for sustained recovery and positive change.

In addition to his recovery work, Chris is enrolled full-time in college and is the owner of an LLC that operates sober living homes in Kentucky, helping provide safe, supportive environments for individuals in recovery. Through both his professional work and lived experience, Chris continues to inspire others by demonstrating that transformation and stability are possible.



Nicole J. O'Brien is an organizational development consultant and professional coach with more than 20 years of experience helping individuals and teams navigate stress, communication challenges, and complex interpersonal dynamics in high-pressure environments. Her work focuses on strengthening collaboration, emotional intelligence, and team effectiveness through practical, real-world strategies.

Drawing from extensive experience in leadership consulting, organizational development, and executive coaching, Nicole equips professionals with tools to improve communication, manage conflict, and build stronger workplace relationships. She has worked with clients ranging from emerging professionals to senior executives, helping them develop greater self-awareness and more effective leadership practices.

Nicole holds advanced coaching credentials and is known for delivering highly interactive sessions centered on practical skills that support healthier communication, stronger teams, and more resilient organizations.



Michael Oldenburg, MA, LCPC, CADC, CODPI has worked in the behavioral health field for more than 20 years following his service in the United States Army from 2000–2006. Throughout his career, he has worked across the continuum of care in substance use treatment and community mental health services.

Michael previously worked closely with the problem-solving courts in Winnebago County, serving as a Clinical Assessor, Therapist, and Team Leader supporting justice-involved individuals with behavioral health and substance use needs. He currently serves as a Staff Educator at Rosecrance and as an Adjunct Professor at Judson University.

He holds a master's degree in Community Mental Health Counseling and is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC), Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC), and Co-Occurring Disorder Professional Level I (CODP I).



Jamal Oxford is a dedicated advocate, speaker, and community leader committed to advancing recovery, reentry, and justice system transformation through lived experience, service, and hope. As a Client Advocate with the Saline County Public Defender's Office, he works directly with individuals navigating the legal system, helping bridge the gap between incarceration, recovery, and long-term stability.

Having spent more than seven years incarcerated, Jamal now uses his story to inspire change, challenge stigma, and promote second chances. Living in long-term recovery, his work focuses on reentry support, recovery advocacy, and empowering individuals to rebuild their lives and reconnect with their communities.

Jamal has spoken at regional conferences, community events, and within the judicial system, offering a powerful perspective that resonates with justice professionals and individuals directly impacted by the system. Through his advocacy and lived experience, he continues to make a meaningful impact across Southern Illinois, demonstrating that transformation and hope are possible.



Dr. Kenneth Robinson, EdD is a nationally recognized leader in behavioral health and substance use treatment, with extensive experience in cognitive-behavioral interventions, crisis response, and correctional counseling. As CEO of Correctional Counseling, Inc., he has dedicated his career to improving behavioral health services and developing evidence-based programming for justice-involved and high-risk populations.

Dr. Robinson played a key role in establishing the first mental health crisis unit in Memphis, Tennessee, helping shape modern crisis intervention approaches. He previously served as Director of Clinical Services and Director of the Crisis Stabilization Unit at Midtown Mental Health Center, where he specialized in mental health crisis management and treatment services.

A respected educator, lecturer, and author, Dr. Robinson has co-authored numerous cognitive-behavioral treatment programs focused on mental health, substance use, trauma recovery, relapse prevention, anger management, DUI offenses, and criminal thinking. His programs have been implemented nationally in behavioral health, community-based, and criminal justice settings.



Becky Self is the Training Manager for the Probation Services Division with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC). She previously served 22 years with McHenry County Probation and Court Services, including as Deputy Director of Probation.

Becky has extensive experience working with juvenile and adult populations, including individuals in mental health, veterans, and problem-solving courts. She has led the implementation, training, coaching, and quality assurance of evidence-based practices, with a strong focus on implementation science and system integration.

An experienced trainer, Becky facilitates Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT) and is certified in multiple evidence-based practices, including EPICS-II, Core Correctional Practices, and trauma-informed approaches. She holds a degree in Social Welfare from Northern Michigan University and is a graduate of the APPA Leadership Academy.



Hon. Mark L. Shaner (Ret.) helped establish an adult drug court in Lawrence County, Illinois, in 2013 and later presided over seven adult drug courts within Illinois' Second Judicial Circuit prior to his retirement in 2023. Since 2016, he has served on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts and has held the role of Vice-President since 2019.

Judge Shaner currently serves as a Consultant for the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts Problem-Solving Courts Division and is a member of the All Rise training faculty and a presenter at the RISE Conference. He also serves as the State of Illinois Judicial Outreach Liaison for the American Bar Association's Impaired Driving Judicial Outreach Liaison Program.

In addition, he is a member of the Illinois Judicial College DUI/Traffic Seminar Work Group and the Illinois College of Probation Education Problem-Solving Courts Workgroup and frequently presents at judicial and legal education seminars throughout Illinois.



Karen Smietanski is a dedicated advocate for veterans and currently serves as the Veterans Treatment Court Coordinator for the 21st Judicial Circuit. She has worked in veteran services since 2009, helping veterans and their families access county, state, and federal benefits and supports.

Karen also serves as Director of Education for the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers (NACVSO), where she trains professionals nationwide. She is a leader within the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions and has previously served in national leadership roles, including Treasurer for NACVSO.

In 2021, Karen earned the designation of Certified Veterans Advocate and continues to advance services for veterans through education and system coordination.



Jamen Spitzer is a recovery advocate and Volunteer Manager for The Phoenix – Sober Active Community, a national nonprofit providing free, peer-led fitness and social programming for individuals in recovery.

In long-term recovery for over five years, Jamen has used movement and community as key components of his journey, losing over 120 pounds and completing five marathons. He has volunteered with The Phoenix for more than four years and now leads initiatives across Michigan and Illinois.

Jamen collaborates with treatment courts and recovery partners to expand access to community-based recovery options, including efforts to bring Phoenix programming into the Cook County Jail. He also founded the Phoenix National Sober Run Crew.



Wendy Standifer, MA, NCC, LPC is the Chief Operating Officer at Correctional Counseling, Inc. (CCI) and brings more than 30 years of experience in behavioral health and child welfare services. Her background includes counseling, case management, clinical supervision, and program management, with a focus on supporting individuals impacted by behavioral health disorders, substance use, intellectual disabilities, and trauma.

Wendy is widely recognized for her work in evidence-based practices, including Moral Reconnection Therapy (MRT), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Family Psychoeducation, trauma-informed care, and co-occurring treatment approaches. Her work has supported improved services for justice-involved individuals, veterans, individuals with autism, and other at-risk populations.

Since 2005, she has served in executive leadership roles focused on strategic planning, community collaboration, and program development. Wendy is also a National Trainer for MRT, MRT-DV, and MRT Trauma and has presented at conferences nationwide for more than 20 years.



Terry Stokes is a leadership and talent development professional, coach, and facilitator with more than 15 years of experience helping individuals and organizations grow. His background includes corporate talent development, workforce development, education, recruiting, and organizational learning, with expertise in program development, professional coaching, and leadership support.

As a member of Developing Capacity Coaching, Terry provides strengths-based coaching, leadership development, and training focused on organizational growth, change management, and asset-based approaches. He is passionate about helping individuals recognize their inherent value, build upon their strengths, and overcome barriers to personal and professional success.

Terry is a Gallup-Trained Strengths Coach and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Telecommunications from Michigan State University.



Dr. Jeremiah Weinstock, PhD, ABPP is a Professor of Psychology at Saint Louis University, specializing in addiction and clinical psychology. He is board certified in addiction psychology and is a Fellow of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT), with a focus on helping individuals make lasting changes in their lives.

Dr. Weinstock's research is funded by the National Institutes of Health and the International Center for Responsible Gaming. He also maintains a small clinical practice focused on gambling disorder and families affected by addiction.

He is a licensed psychologist in Missouri, with expertise in diagnosing and treating mental, behavioral, and emotional conditions, including obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD).



Lisa M. Williams, MA is a Senior Court Management Consultant for the National Center for State Courts with more than 20 years of experience in the justice system. Prior to joining NCSC in 2024, she was a founding member and longtime program director of Ohio's first felony Veterans Treatment Court, serving in that role for 10 years.

Lisa also provided judicial support within the Stark County Common Pleas Court for 14 years, specializing in case management and data reporting for large civil and criminal dockets. She later served as a policy analyst for the Supreme Court of Ohio, where she provided evaluation and technical assistance to more than 260 certified treatment court programs across Ohio.

A frequent presenter at national, state, and local conferences, Lisa brings extensive expertise in treatment courts, program evaluation, and justice system operations. She holds a Master of Arts in Research and Evaluation Methods, a Graduate Certificate in Culturally Responsive Methods, a Bachelor of Applied Communication, and an Associate of Applied Business in Legal Assisting Technology.



Hon. Gayle Williams-Byers serves as Administrative and Presiding Judge of the South Euclid Municipal Court in South Euclid, Ohio, where she became the first African American elected to the position in the city's history. She currently serves as Vice President of the American Judges Association and contributes to national judicial education and leadership initiatives.

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Williams-Byers served as an Assistant Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, concluding her tenure as Supervisor of the Cuyahoga County Grand Jury. She is also the only Judicial Fellow for the National Judicial College, where she teaches nationally on commercial driver licensing, access to justice, judicial wellbeing, and procedural fairness.

Judge Williams-Byers has led several innovative court initiatives, including specialized mental health and drug court programming, livestreamed proceedings, and expanded community access to the court system. She holds B.A., M.N.O., and J.D. degrees from Case Western Reserve University.



Liesl Wingert, MHA is the Program Coordinator for the Eastern Region of the SIU School of Medicine's Center for Rural Health and Social Service Development. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Family Studies from Indiana University and a Master of Health Administration from the University of Southern Indiana.

Liesl is a Certified Drug Endangered Children trainer and serves on the Advisory Board for the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children. She is also actively involved in statewide leadership, serving on the Boards of Directors for Take Action Today and the Illinois Association for Problem-Solving Courts.

Additionally, she serves as Chair of the Illinois Alliance for Drug Endangered Children, advancing collaborative efforts to support vulnerable children and families.



Danielle Young, MPA is a Senior Court Management Consultant for the National Center for State Courts with over 25 years of justice system experience. Her work includes behavioral health initiatives such as Sequential Intercept Mapping, Upstream Mapping, and competency-related dockets.

Previously, she served as Program Manager in the Probation Services Division at the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC), where she led statewide initiatives including training in Core Correctional Practices and risk assessments, as well as the development and certification of problem-solving courts.

Danielle began her career as a Probation Officer in McHenry and Fulton Counties. She holds a Master's in Public Administration from Arkansas State University and a Bachelor's in Political Science from Western Illinois University.

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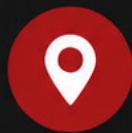
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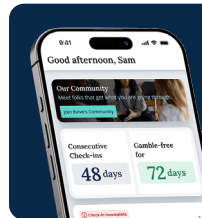
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Rosecrance Behavioral Health

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Michelle Hibbard
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Solution Specialties, Inc.

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Lake Villa, IL 60046

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The Phoenix - Sober Active Community

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Total Court Services

4060 Gravois Rd
House Springs, MO 63051

Jordan Routen
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Treatment Alternatives for Stronger Communities (TASC)

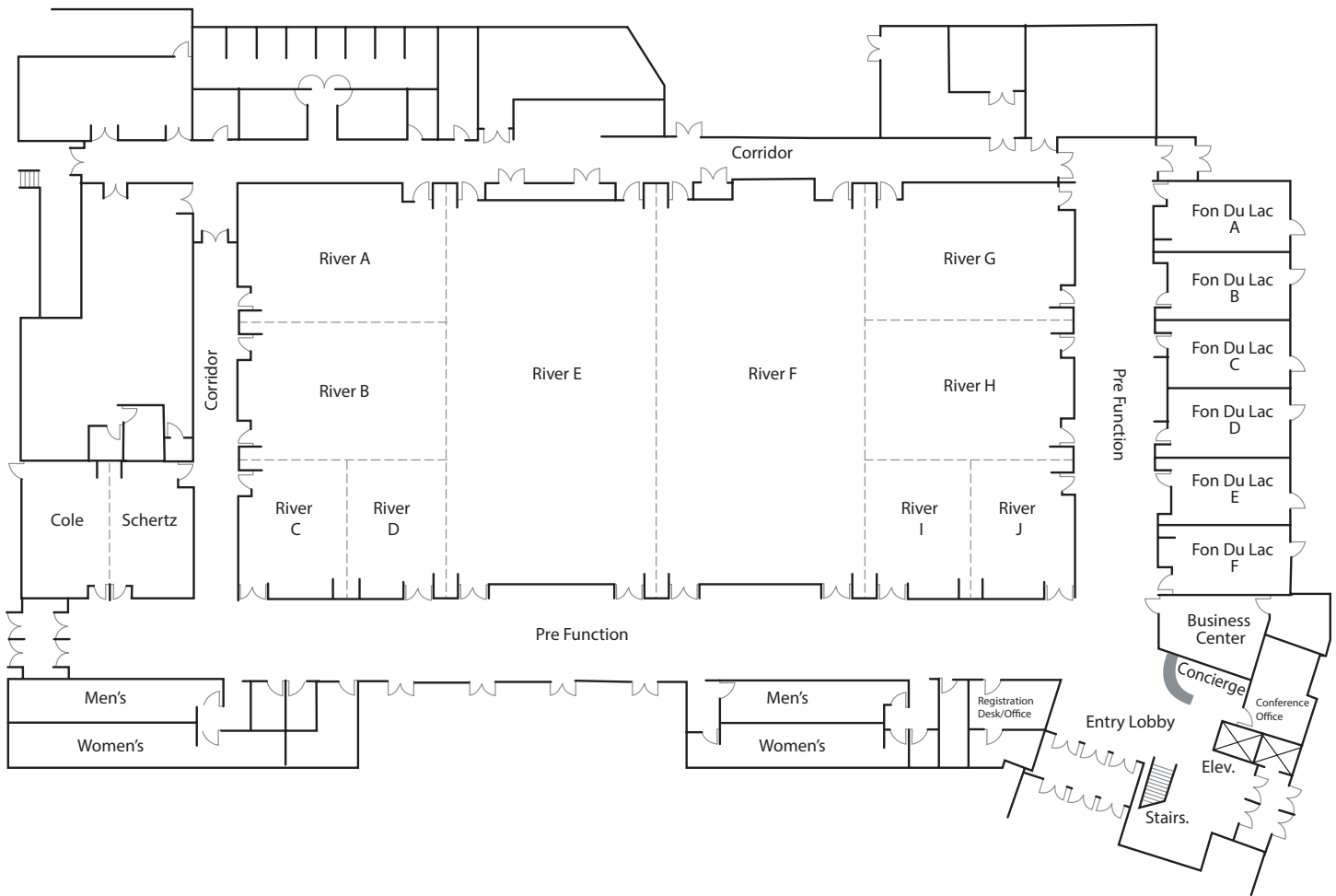
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Brad Bullock
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