

Presenter Biographies

[Nancy Adams](#)

Nancy Adams, M.Ed, CRC, RID: CI/CT is a training specialist with more than twenty (20) years' experience in the field of rehabilitation as a certified rehabilitation counselor, certified sign language interpreter, employment specialist, workshop presenter, and master mentor. She has served as the Interim Training Coordinator in the Staff Development and Training Office of the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS) since 2016. Nancy coordinates, develops and provides professional training opportunities for a staff of over eight hundred employees in a wide variety of disciplines. She earned the Master Mentor Certification through Troy University in 2014 and her Master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Auburn University in 2013. Nancy resides in Montgomery, Alabama, with her husband, Stephen and their pets, Casper and Percy. Due to her own near-fatal experience due to self-neglect, Nancy's focus is to educate, encourage, and empower helping professionals on the importance of self-care.

[Lisa Akine](#)

Lisa began in the substance abuse field twenty (20) years ago. She received her formal education at Oral Roberts University and The Pennsylvania State University. Lisa has served in many modalities of treatment, but has found her place in medication assisted treatment. She has served in this modality for the past ten (10) years. Over the past five (5) years Lisa has specialized in medication assisted treatment and pregnancy and treating women who are dependent to opiates while in Opioid Treatment.

[Eddie Albright](#)

Eddie Albright has been with the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services for the last twenty-four (24) years and is currently a Senior Counselor. Eddie has been a field supervisor for the past two (2) years. He received his BSW in Social Work and his Master's degree in Agency Counseling from Jacksonville State University. Mr. Albright is also an Adjunct Psychology teacher at Gadsden State Community College and currently serving as a Board Member of the Alabama Alcoholism and Drug Counselor Certification Board.

[Lionnetta Albright](#)

Lionnetta Albright, is one of the most dynamic and transformative speakers, facilitators and coaches working nationally and internationally (Canada, the Caribbean and Africa) adding value to and changing the lives of thousands. She is particularly focused on developing those she fondly calls the Next Generation. As President and Owner of Forward Movement Inc. a small minority and female-owned company she offers Coaching for individuals and organizations; Personal and professional growth; Organizational and leadership development; Speaking and Consulting. As a certified personal and executive coach, she is an Independent Executive Director with the John Maxwell Team. She also has a weekly Coaching segment on the Lonnie Hunter Radio Show, ugospelradio airing each week. For 17 years Lionnetta served as Executive Director of the Great Lakes Addiction Technology Transfer Center /University of Illinois /Jane Addams College of Social Work. Her regional ATTC led the ATTC Network in Recovery Management and Recovery-Oriented System Transformation efforts for the field. She led her ATTC's ROSC efforts in Africa to train and build capacity within the substance abuse systems and recovery community in Tanzania and Zanzibar, Africa. Her popular "Heart-Mind-Time (HMT) program has impacted countless lives! Her recent book release, *Women Thriving Fearlessly, Volume 1: Inspirational stories of women who journeyed from fear to fearlessness* is a collective project with 11 amazing women. Her newest book, *She Dreams in Real Life: Stories of Women Living Their Wildest Dreams (released December 2017)* and her upcoming *Women Thriving Fearlessly Business: Rock Star Women Show You How to Build a Rock Star Business* is scheduled for release March 2018. Find her at www.lionnettaalbright.com or <http://www.johnmaxwellgroup.com/lionnettaalbright> and <https://www.facebook.com/LionnettaAlbrightCoach/>

[David Angwin](#)

David Angwin is a native of Birmingham, Alabama. He has been involved in addiction recovery for the past sixteen (16) years. David graduated from the University of Alabama MSW Advanced Standing program and currently is pursuing his LGSW and Psychodramatist certification. He has served with the Jefferson County Public Defenders Social Work Department and Aids Alabama Addiction Treatment Program. Currently he is the standing Treasurer for the Southern Chapter of the American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama and Ordained minister of Pine Haven Church.

[Jacques L. Austin](#)

Jacques is a Licensed Professional Counselor and a Nationally Certified Counselor. He completed his graduate work at The University of Alabama at Birmingham, receiving honors as Most Outstanding Student in Rehabilitation. He has trained and worked with addiction, domestic violence and felony drug offenders. Jacques is a counselor for Alabama Psychiatric Services. He formerly counseled at the D.A.Y. Program in Alabaster, where he developed the Anger Management program. He also facilitated groups for the Shelby County Juvenile Detention Center. He is Past-President of the Alabama Association for Specialists in Group Work, and Treasurer for the Alabama Counseling Association. Jacques also maintains a private practice, is a volunteer with the American Red Cross Disaster Mental Health, and a Board member of the Shelby County Branch American Red Cross.

[Cindy Branch](#)

Cindy Branch, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Board Certified as a Practitioner in Sociometry, Psychodrama and Group Psychotherapy. Clients say, "Cindy is kind, warm, engaging, energetic, safe, and really knows how to help others". She has worked in the mental health field for over three decades in a variety of settings and roles. She is in active private practice in Athens, GA where she provides psychotherapy services for Individuals, Couples, Families and Groups. In addition, she facilitates workshops on a regional and national level to include Onsite in Tennessee, Maui Recovery, and per special requests. Mostly, people want to be "HAPPY". Let's explore what challenges are standing in your way and move towards HEALING, LIFE BALANCE, and HAPPINESS!

[George Braucht](#)

As a Licensed Professional Counselor and Certified Professional Counselor Supervisor, George's core experience includes psychotherapy; clinical supervision and peer performance support; program evaluation, research and continuous quality improvement. Along with teaching psychology and facilitating trainings in behavioral health and social justice interventions, he currently enjoys consulting with behavioral health and criminal justice agencies on process and outcome improvement initiatives. In 2010 George co-founded the Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialist (CARES) Academy for peer recovery coaches. He serves on the Board of the Georgia Association of Recovery Residences, is a Charter Board Member of the National Alliance for Recovery Residences, is Curriculum Director and Faculty with the Recovery Outcomes Institute and Recovery People's Recovery Residence Manager Training, and he is a Certified Trainer with the Heart and Soul of Change Project whose Partners for Change Outcome Management System (PCOMS) is listed in the SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices.

[Josh Bruce](#)

Josh Bruce is the Education Director at Birmingham AIDS Outreach (BAO) an AIDS service organization located in Birmingham, Alabama. The mission of Birmingham AIDS Outreach (BAO) is to enhance the quality of life for people living with HIV/AIDS, at-risk, affected individuals, and the LGBT community through outreach, age-appropriate prevention education, and supportive services. Birmingham AIDS Outreach, the first AIDS service organization in Alabama, has thirty-one (31) years of experience in the field of HIV/AIDS prevention education and essential services. As Education Director, Mr. Bruce provides HIV/AIDS prevention efforts in schools, universities, and churches. Mr. Bruce also oversees all HIV/STD testing at the agency and works with those who are newly diagnosed to navigate them into medical care. Mr. Bruce is the Vice Chair of the Jefferson County HIV/AIDS Coalition and the Chair of the Jefferson County HIV Testing and Linkage Committee. Mr. Bruce is contracted with Bradford Health Services to test clients for HIV, Hepatitis C, and STDs and create a risk reduction plan. Mr. Bruce also works on several research studies in partnership with the University of Alabama Birmingham, Columbia University, the CDC, NIH, and the Alabama Department of Health.

Jaketra Bryant

Jaketra Bryant is a licensed professional counselor and relationship expert in Georgia and surrounding areas. She graduated with her MA from Argosy University and completed her clinical internship at the Willow Brooke at Tanner Behavioral Health. Jaketra later continued her clinical practice in state prisons and local jails providing mental health services to maximal security men and women and community work within the justice system looking at the breakage of family due to mental health. Her work continued in local communities serving those families and individuals with little to no income and individuals who plead not guilty until opening her own business. Jaketra has since become an accomplished researcher, motivational speaker, advocate and skilled clinician and has cultivated an expertise in clinical program design and implementation. She has served as the Sports Counselor/Coordinator at Georgia State University and continued her programming with other local club and AAU athletic teams across Georgia. Jaketra also dedicates her clinical experience in the focus areas of relationship building and breaking of unhealthy cycles within our communities and families.

Brenda Buckner

I have been in recovery for 5 years and am currently enrolled in the Clinical Mental Health Master's Program at Jacksonville State University. I will complete the program this spring, and I look forward to carrying my experience and education into the world of substance abuse and addiction recovery. I lost my brother to the disease of addiction on August 2, 2016. This drastic life event opened my eyes to the true pain and suffering that addiction inflicts. I am not unique in my suffering, and finding others that have lost loved ones in this way has broadened my understanding of this specific type of grief. Grieving the loss of a loved one lost to addiction is a very complicated process both personally and socially. Learning how to approach this topic from a counseling perspective can also be immensely complicated. My goal is to educate others on disenfranchised grief as it relates to the death of a loved one caused, directly or indirectly, but substance abuse and addiction.

Erin Burleson

Erin Burleson is a prevention consultant for the Alabama Department of Mental Health-Office of Prevention. She received her BS from Auburn University and began her career in the prevention field in 2002. Mrs. Burleson worked for a prevention agency for seven years, serving as a community outreach coordinator and prevention director. In 2009, she transitioned to her current position as a prevention consultant. As a prevention consultant, Mrs. Burleson provides technical assistance and training to prevention agencies throughout the state.

Elizabeth Bush

Mrs. Bush attended the University of Mobile and received a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Psychology and Religion with a concentration in Youth Ministry. She also received a Masters of Arts degree in Family and Marriage Counseling from the University of Mobile. Mrs. Bush is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and in 2010 was named the Alabama Council of Community Mental Health Boards Clinician of the Year. She has worked in DYS, Substance Abuse, and Mental Health settings. She has been in Private Practice since 2014. Mrs. Bush resides in Castleberry, AL with her husband Scott, 3-year-old daughter Shelby, and 2-year-old son Luke.

Craig Caines

Craig Caines is a Licensed Certified Social Worker, Private Independent Practitioner in Clinical Social Work and an Employee Assistance Specialist-Clinical. His professional experiences include serving diverse populations, especially people with addictions, grief, trauma and other co-occurring issues. Craig is Board Certified as a Teacher, Educator and Practitioner of Sociometry, Psychodrama and Group Psychotherapy. He is the founder of Birmingham Action Centered Therapy (BACT) located in Hoover, Alabama.

James Campbell

James Campbell has been working professionally in the human services field for over twenty (20) years. His passion is helping people, families, and relationships to heal and assisting them in building on the strengths they possess. He holds two master degrees and is certified as a Licensed Professional Counselor Intern, an Addictions Counselor II through SCAADAC and is a member of NAADAC, ACA, and SCCA. He is a certified instructor of De-escalation Techniques and

PRIME for Life. James currently serves as the Adolescent Residential Manager of The Phoenix Center, Founder of Family Excellence, Inc., Director of Family Excellence Institute, LLC, and is an author, musician, performer, presenter, speaker, and a pastor. James is a gifted communicator and trainer on a range of topics including addiction, adolescence, education, cognitive behavioral therapy, communication, community supports, spirituality and addiction, family treatment and engagement, holistic recovery, the wounded healer, teambuilding, trauma, domestic violence, leadership, behavior modification, and de-escalation.

Dr. Lucy Cannon

Dr. Lucy Roberts-Cannon is the CEO/Owner of LEJ Behavioral Health Services, LLC (Consulting and Training business) in Metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Roberts-Cannon was the former Clinical Director of Lutheran Services of Georgia Behavioral Health Services Program. She has worked in various inpatient and outpatient mental health and substance abuse settings in the states of Kentucky, Indiana, Alabama, Arkansas, and Georgia. She also provided mental and health and substance abuse counseling services to military families in Camp Zama, Japan. She has managed mental health programs in Alabama, Georgia, and Indiana. She is currently a Visiting Professor at DeVry University in Stockbridge, Georgia. She teaches undergraduate and graduate students in the business field. She is also an Adjunct Professor at Clark Atlanta University School of Social Work, Atlanta, Georgia. She is a speaker/facilitator for Department of the Navy Reserve, Yellow Ribbon Program and she also serves as a Consultant for the Department of the Navy Reserve and is very instrumental in helping our returning soldiers and family members with connecting to mental health and substance abuse services. She currently serves as the Vice President of the Georgia School of Addiction Studies Board and she is also a member of the Southeastern Institute for Chemical Dependency Board of Directors.

Jenny Reese Clark

Jenny Reese Clark is a motivational speaker, blogger, volunteer and author of the Christian fiction novel, Field of Influence. While happily married to a US Army Chaplain and sharing in his passion for serving our military, Jenny's message of hope continues to inspire Americans across the country. As a multiple felon of serious drug charges including unlawful manufacturing of controlled substances, she is no stranger to breaking the rules or suffering their consequences. After serving her final sentence with the Alabama Department of Corrections, Jenny went on to become a Certified Peer Support Specialist through the Alabama Department of Mental Health and receive an official Pardon by the Governor in December of 2015.

Shevander Dykes

Shevander Dykes is the Founder and Director of Surviving Transitions, LLC. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in the state of Georgia and a National Certified Counselor (NCC) through the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC). Additionally, Shevander is a Certified Clinical Trauma Professional (CCTP), Master Addiction Counselor (MAC) and Certified Anger Management Specialist (CAMS). She earned an undergraduate degree in Management from National-Louis University, and graduate degree in Community Counseling from Argosy University (formerly known as Georgia Professional School of Psychology). Shevander previously served as a Clinical Director for CORE agencies, lead therapist, case manager, and community support staff before opening a private practice and working collaboratively with Ms. Heather Conyers of Healing Hearts Counseling Center in Douglasville. Additionally, she has worked in both outpatient and inpatient settings.

Dr. Francene Gayle

Dr. Francene Gayle has been the medical director of Huntsville Recovery for the last nine (9) years and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Complete Medical Health, a medical practice with locations in Huntsville, Athens and Killen, AL for the past eleven (11) years. She also has been a preceptor for nurse practitioner and medical assistance attending local universities and colleges. Dr. Gayle has a record of exceptional leadership and vision in her community. Her prior position includes being a medical safety pharmacist at Pfizer Pharmaceutical in New York. Dr. Gayle earned her bachelors of pharmacy degree from St. John's University in New York, where she grew up, and then her Doctor of Medicine at Howard University in Washington, DC. She then relocated to Huntsville to complete her residency in Family Practice at the University of Birmingham in Huntsville and has made Alabama her home. She is a member of the American Society of Addictive Medicine, American Association of Family Physicians, American Medical Association and

the American Society of Pain Management, to name a few. She is a dedicated mother of four (4) children and committed to serving her community, educating her peers and providing comprehensive and companionate patient care.

Ryan Cate Gibson

Ryan Cate Gibson is the CEO of Holistic Performance Group. She has spent thirty (30) years developing programming and curriculum for mental health systems, supported employment, and tertiary start-ups, internationally and around the US. Community development has been at the core of her international work resulting in collaborative programs for underserved women and immigrants in Oman and Italy. She is also a documentary filmmaker and author, and multi-lingual educator who has lectured at the University of Alabama at Huntsville.

Thea Harvey-Barratt

Thea Harvey-Barratt is the treasurer and training director of Holistic Performance Group. Thea has invested time and energy as an executive and entrepreneur in businesses as diverse as an international non-profit, a retreat center, and in musical theatre for the last thirty (30) years. She manages projects, finances, and personnel, and organizes events. She is a retreat leader and certified holistic health coach.

Dr. Scott Holmes

Dr. Scott Holmes serves as the Statewide Director of Treatment for the Alabama Department of Youth Services. He is the former Clinical Supervisor of Psychological and Drug Treatment Services at Tutwiler Prison for Women and Kilby Correctional Facility for the Alabama Department of Corrections. In addition, Dr. Holmes has served as a Mental Health Consultant with Juvenile Probation, as well as a Behavior Interventionist for Montgomery Public Schools at Fews/PACE Alternatives Schools and Montgomery Co. Youth Detention Facility. He currently serves as an adjunct professor in the School of Behavioral Sciences at Argosy University in area of Counseling and Forensic Psychology. He also serves on the National Faculty for the National Institute for Corrections-U.S. Department of Justice-Board of Prisons Division, facilitating trainings in the area of Operational Practices for Women's Prisons, Executive Management in Correctional Healthcare, and Mental Health Crisis Intervention in Prisons and Jails. Dr. Holmes holds a B.A in Public Relations, M.S in Counseling/MFT, Masters of Divinity, Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S) in Clinical Mental Health Counseling., as well as a Doctor of Psychology. Dr. Holmes is a Certified Drug Counselor, Certified Sex Offender Treatment Specialist, Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), as well as an ordained Elder in the Church of God in Christ (COGIC). He is member of the Alabama Counseling Association, as well as Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. In his leisure, he enjoys running, singing, playing the piano, and reading.

Monaletto C. Irby

Monaletto Irby is a native of Demopolis, Al. Monaletto received an Athletic Scholarship (Football) to Jacksonville State University in Alabama where he graduated in 1997 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice (Correction concentration) and minor in Social Work. He started eleven (11) days after graduation working with at-risk youth and their families in Children Services at the Local Mental Health Center. Monaletto has spent the last over nineteen (19) years dedicated to encouraging youth to seek their full potential. Mr. Irby has served in several capacities to include Case Manager, Counselor, Program Director, and Director in several programs servicing youth in Alabama, before moving to Georgia in 2007. He is currently employed with Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice for nine (9) years serving as a Juvenile Probation/Parole Specialist for four (4) years before moving to the Office of Training, where he was promoted in July 2016 to the Northern Region Training Program Manager. Monaletto oversees training for the entire Northern Region of Georgia for the Department. He is invested in his community and lends a great deal of time speaking to groups on at-risk youth Behaviors, Facilitating at Youth Summits and Youth Conferences on gang activity/violence, and bullying. He is often featured as a guest panelist at Boys self-improvement conferences as well as Mentorship Conference. Monaletto believes in encouraging youth and challenging them to face their fears and overcome obstacles. He is often quoted as saying, "I encourage, because I was encouraged". He is married to his beautiful wife Charlisa Irby and has one daughter Kaelyn.

Beverly Johnson

With over fifteen (15) years of substance abuse experience, Ms. Johnson serves as the Director of Prevention Services for the Alabama Department of Mental Health. Responsibilities include managing the development, implementation and continuation of the Substance Abuse Services prevention programming within the State of Alabama. Ms. Johnson is a Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Trained (SAPST) professional, as well as, Trainer. Ms. Johnson is also trained in Mental Health First Aid (MHFA). In addition, Ms. Johnson serves as the Southeast Regional Representative Alternate for the National Prevention Network (NPN), serves on the NPN Executive Committee, Past Chairwoman of the Capitol City's neighborhood development Advisory Board, a member of the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Advisory Board and ex-officio member of the State Prevention Advisory Board (SPAB).

Ed Johnson

Ed Johnson obtained a Bachelor's Degree from Auburn University and a Master's Degree in Clinical Counseling from the Citadel. Ed has been with the Southeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center (Southeast ATTC) located at the National Center for Primary Care, Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta since March 2010 and currently is the Director of Training and Technical Assistance. For the previous twenty (20) years, he held various clinical positions at Charleston Center (Charleston County Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services) in Charleston, South Carolina, working in the Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) and HIV Early Intervention Service. He has provided numerous trainings in the Southeast on Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care, Professional Ethics, HIV/Addiction, Opioid Use Disorders/Treatment and issues related to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Individuals and Addiction and Clinical Supervision. He is currently credentialed/licensed as a Master Addiction Counselor (MAC), a Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS), and a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC).

Bruce Kimble

Bruce Kimble has been in the substance abuse treatment field since 1983. Bruce Kimble holds a Master's Degree in Counseling from Jacksonville State University, and is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), as well as a Licensed Clinical Supervisor. He has an Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor Certification (AADC) and an Internationally Certified Co-Occurring Disorder Diplomat (ICCADP-D). Bruce has served as President of the Alabama Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association on three occasions, and a board member for multiple terms. Recently Bruce has been appointed to the Governor's Board for the Alabama Counsel on Opioid Misuse and Addiction, as well as the State Prevention Advisory Board (SPAB). Currently Bruce is the Drug Treatment Program Supervisor for the Alabama Department of Corrections.

Andrew Kolodny

Andrew Kolodny, MD is one of the nation's leading experts on the prescription opioid and heroin crisis devastating families and communities across the country. He is Co-Director of the Opioid Policy Research Collaborative at Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy and Management. He is also the executive director and co-founder of Physicians for Responsible Opioid Prescribing, an organization with a mission to reduce morbidity and mortality caused by overprescribing of opioid analgesics. Dr. Kolodny previously served as Chief Medical Officer for Phoenix House, a national nonprofit addiction treatment agency and Chair of Psychiatry at Maimonides Medical Center in New York City. Dr. Kolodny has a long-standing interest in public health. He began his career working for the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in the Office of the Executive Deputy Commissioner. For New York City, he helped develop and implement multiple programs to improve the health of New Yorkers and save lives, including city-wide buprenorphine programs, naloxone overdose prevention programs and emergency room-based screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) programs for drug and alcohol misuse.

Joan Leary

Joan E. Leary, MA Licensed Professional Counselor and Supervisor National Certified Counselor Masters Addiction Counselor. Joan has been employed over fourteen (14) years as a Training Instructor and Project Manager for the Southeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network, University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Neurobiology, Substance Abuse Division. Joan has provided training and technical assistance to multiple behavioral health agencies, where she trains professionals working in the fields of substance

abuse and mental health. Joan serves as a Consultant to Morehouse Medical College as Project Manager of the Southeast ATTC network in Alabama and Miss. Joan received her BA in Humanities with a specialty in Spanish from Ohio State University in 1973, a Masters of Arts in Counseling from University of Alabama Birmingham in August 2000. Joan has (MAC) Masters in Addiction Counseling Credential, is a Licensed Professional Counselor and Supervisor. Joan has had her own private counseling practice in Birmingham for the past 17 years but has recently moved to southwest Florida where she is providing consulting, presentations and trainings throughout the country.

Mark Litvine

Mark is Certified Recovery Support Specialist, CRSS certified by the Alabama Department of Mental Health. He is also a trainer and helps to train the new classes of CRSS Trainees; Using Your Personal Recovery Story, Stages of Change, Recovery Dialogues and Combating Negative Self Talk. Mark has presented "Connecting with Young People in Recovery" at the 2017 Annual Peer Conference. He is Certified by the Alabama Department of Mental Health in Case Management Training. He is an active member and an Officer for ROSS the Recovery Organization of Support Specialists where he is the Director of Marketing and Community Outreach for ROSS. Mark also serves on the Opioid Addiction Task Force for the State of Alabama which is Governor Kay Ivey's as well as the previous Governor's response to the Opioid Epidemic in Alabama as well as a member of the Treatment and Recovery Support Committee for the Opioid Council Subcommittee for Bolstering Support for Family Members Throughout the state.

Patricia McCay

Ms. McCay earned a B.S.B.A. (Business Administration) degree in marketing and marketing and management from the University of Alabama in Huntsville in 1981. In 1993, she started The Consulting Group, Inc., a software consulting firm with customers across the United States. In 1999, she became a partner in TriTech Solutions, LLC, another software consulting firm serving a different nationwide software market. She founded the North Alabama Human Trafficking Task Force in 2010 and has served as its Chair since that time. In 2014, Ms. McCay assisted in establishing the Alabama Human Trafficking Task Force and has served as its Secretary since its inception. She also serves as the Chair of the task force's Community Relations and Awareness Committee; Co-Chair of the annual statewide Alabama Human Trafficking Summit; and Chair of the Alabama Human Trafficking Awareness Day each year in January. On behalf of the Alabama Human Trafficking Task force, she has participated as a member of the U. S. Department of Health & Human Services' Region 4 (HHS/ACF) Human Trafficking committee from 2016 to present. Since February 2016, Ms. McCay serves as the President of the Board of Directors for Safe Harbor Youth, Inc., (formerly known as Tennessee Valley Family Services). Ms. McCay has received several awards for her extensive work in human trafficking: 1.) She was the 2017 recipient of the Interfaith Mission Service's Charles L. Ray, Jr. Memorial Social Justice Award for her work with IMS's Social Justice Committee as well as their "Daybreak in Alabama" Study Guide on human trafficking. 2.) In 2013, she received the University of Alabama in Huntsville's "Alumni of Achievement Award". 3.) In 2011, she was the Alabama recipient of the National FBI Director's "Community Leadership Award". She is a member and Past President (2003-2005) of the University of Alabama in Huntsville Alumni Association. Ms. McCay has been a member of Soroptimist International of Huntsville, AL, a business and professional women's group since 2005. She has held several Board of Director positions since becoming a member of Soroptimist including President, Membership Vice President, Director, and Corresponding Secretary. Since 2005, she has also been a member of Soroptimist International Southern Region. She has served as its Governor, Governor Elect, District Director, and currently serves as its Parliamentarian. As Governor, her duties included presiding over all clubs in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, Puerto Rico and The Bahamas. In 2012, she attended FBI Citizens' Academy and graduated in May 2012. Since that time, she has been a member of the FBI Citizens' Academy Alumni Association. She has also served as a member of her neighborhood's Community Watch group for Cedarcrest community since 2011. Since 2013, she has been a volunteer for the annual Community Kite Festival, serving as its Sales Vendors Chair (2013-2017) and Co-Chair of the event (2017). Recently, she was appointed the 2018 Community Kite Festival Chair. Ms. McCay served as Chair of the Madison County Coordinated Community Response Task Force Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault from 2008 to 2011. The task force added human trafficking to its focus in 2010, making it one of its sub-committees. In 2012, the Human Trafficking Task Force was formed as a stand-alone group.

Rick Meriwether

Richard Meriwether is currently serving as a Field Coordinator/Health Educator with the Alabama AIDS Education and Training Center (AETC), an initiative of Medical and Advocacy Outreach (MAO) of Alabama. He had been employed with the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, as a Program Manager/Health Educator/Trainer beginning in 1994. Prior to his employment with UAB, he was employed by the Alabama Department of Public Health, STI/HIV/AIDS Divisions, as a Disease Intervention Specialist in the STI/HIV program. He has worked in several areas of STI/HIV prevention and control, i.e. epidemiology, research, surveillance, education, clinical/medical/community relations, etc. His work has allowed him opportunities for working with several medical entities, as well as community-based organizations in the areas of prevention education on both the individual and community-based levels.

Elana M. Parker Merriweather

Elana has worked in the field of behavioral health and public health for the last fifteen (15) years. Elana currently serves as the State Medical Reserve Coordinator and Minority Special Populations Coordinator in the Center for Emergency Preparedness for the Alabama Department of Public Health. Elana also serves as a Training Coordinator and Trainer on humanitarian and behavioral health topics. Elana has a passion to serve individuals who have been impacted by health and social disparities including chemical addictions, mental health, disabilities, incarceration, and chronic health conditions. Elana has an Education Specialist Degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Alabama State University and a Masters of Education Degree from the University of Montevallo. Elana is a Licensed Professional Counselor, National Certified Counselor, Certified Sex Offender Treatment Specialist, Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor, Associate Prevention Specialist and Distant Credentialed Counselor. Elana is a member of the Alabama Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association, Alabama Counseling Association, National Association of Forensics Counselors, and Chi Sigma Iota National Honor Society. Elana is also the 2009 recipient of the Carl Nowell Leadership Award. Elana also serves on the Statewide Prevention Advisory Board with the Alabama Department of Mental Health, Positive Behaviors Intervention Support Committee with the Alabama Department of Education, and the Functional and Access Needs Task Force coordinated through the Governor's Office on Disabilities.

Merrill Norton

Dr. Merrill Norton is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy with his specialty areas to include psychopharmacology and addiction pharmacy. He has also been a faculty member of the Fairleigh-Dickinson University Postdoctoral Training Program in the Masters of Psychopharmacology, Alliant International University of San Francisco College of Psychology, University of Georgia School of Continuing Education, and Berry College in the areas of Psychopharmacology and Addiction Pharmacy. His area of specialty in addiction pharmacy is the management of chronic pain in the addicted patient. Dr. Norton completed his undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy. He accomplished a three (3) year addiction medicine fellowship under the direction of Douglas Talbott MD at Ridgeview Institute and has state, national, and international credentials in the treatment of mentally ill/addicted/chronic pain individuals. Recently, Dr. Norton received an Emmy from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences' Southeastern Chapter for his work on the Spanish language documentary *Prescription Drugs, Legally Dangerous*. The award was presented to a collaboration of experts in the field of addiction pharmacy and medicine for their participation and contributions to the production, which describes the dangers of prescription drug abuse in Latino populations. Winning in the Topical (Environmental) category, the documentary was produced by CETPA (Clinic for Education, Treatment and Prevention of Addiction), Georgia's first and only Latino behavioral health agency providing counseling and prevention services, along with the Univision Network, the 5th largest television network in the U.S. Dr. Pierluigi Mancini, CETPA's founder and executive producer of the documentary, expressed his gratitude to Dr. Norton for his contributions to the documentary. "Dr. Norton was able to clearly articulate the effects and dangers of prescription drugs regardless of whether the drug was administered for medical or nonmedical use. He did so in a way that our intended audience could understand. We could not have asked for a better expert." Dr. Norton also was honored by the Georgia Addiction Counselors Association in receiving the prestigious Distinguished Service Award for 2015. The award is bestowed on individuals for recognition of their long-term support and commitment to the treatment and welfare of those affected by alcohol and drug addiction in Georgia and nationally. Dr. Norton's efforts of educating thousands of behavioral health practitioners nationally to the disease states

of substance use disorders and his dedication to the early prevention and intervention of addictive disease in Georgia's families makes him a person uniquely qualified for this award. Also, Dr. Norton was the 2009 recipient of the Georgia School of Addiction Studies (GSAS) Excellence in Addiction Treatment Individual Achievement Award "for his unselfish dedication to the treatment of addicted families, not only in the state of Georgia, but nationally." Dr. Norton was recognized by the GSAS Board of Directors for the ongoing development of undergraduate and graduate curriculum and drug research in the area of addiction pharmacy. His book, *The Pharmacology of Psychoactive Chemical Use, Abuse, and Dependence*, and his DVD series, "The Hijacking of the Brain" have been used to train thousands of mental health professionals nationally; they have become the standards of teaching excellence in the addiction treatment profession. His new books, *The Pharmacology of Substance Use Disorders* and *The Practitioners' Guide to Opioid Use Disorders* will be released in 2017.

Cardwell C. Nuckols

Dr. Cardwell C. Nuckols is described as "one of the most influential clinical and spiritual trainers in North America." He has served the behavioral medicine field for almost forty (40) years and for the last twenty (20) years is considered one of the leading experts in the world on addiction and recovery. His background includes advanced work in such areas as medical research, pharmacology, neurobiology and psychology. Dr. Nuckols is widely published, having authored more than sixty (60) journal articles, thirty (30) books and workbooks, fifty (50) DVDs, CDs and videos, and twenty-five (25) audiotape series. His latest book entitled *Finding Freedom Through Illumination: Realizing Christ Consciousness* was released in May of 2014. His previous publication is a best seller entitled *The Ego-Less SELF: Achieving Peace and Tranquility Beyond All Understanding*. Dr. Nuckols' first book *Cocaine: Dependency to Recovery* is also a trade best seller, as are, his booklets *Quitting Heroin*, *Quitting Alcohol* and *Quitting Marijuana* (Hazelden). He is the author of the book *Healing an Angry Heart* (HCI) and video *Chalk Talk on Drugs with Father Martin* (Kelly Productions).

Derek Osborn

Derek Osborn, CPS is a native of Tuscaloosa who earned his B.S. in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Law and the Courts from UT Chattanooga. He is a former Court Referral Officer and has been a moderator of new CRO's for the Administrative Office of Courts in Montgomery. Derek has been the Executive Director of the Parents Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE) of Tuscaloosa since October 2013 and is a Certified Prevention Specialist for the State of Alabama. He has been a featured presenter at multiple conferences throughout the State as well as on the national circuit including the CADCA Mid-Year Institute. Derek is a member of the AADAA Board of Directors and is a huge advocate of prevention.

Theresa Scott-Moon

Upon graduation from Grand Canyon University, Theresa provided services as Case Manager II, Community Re-Entry Specialist, and Home and Community Services Practitioner before attaining a Master's Degree in Professional Counseling from Grand Canyon University. She has since gained Associate Licensed Counselor (ALC) from Alabama Board of Examiner of Counseling. Theresa has practiced Individual and Family Therapy as a Profession Counselor in outpatient settings providing services to children, adolescents and adults. She has over ten (10) years of experience in nonprofit organizations in several areas, including developmental disability and behavioral disorders. Theresa is a qualified Professional Service Coordinator and she holds a certification from American Association of Service. Theresa continues her passion to eliminate domestic violence and anger management issues by facilitating domestic violence anger management groups. She empowers individuals to overcome personal obstacles to improve their relationship with individuals, family, and group formats. Theresa volunteers as an Allocation member with United Way and she is a Board Member for Council on Aging in Gadsden, AL. Theresa is a big believer in breaking the silence of domestic violence and educating to identify barriers to reaching one's goals.

Thurston Smith

Thurston S. Smith is a nationally recognized behavioral health consultant and currently serves as program manager for the Therapeutic and Supported Employment Services Programs for the Veterans Health Administration in Memphis, Tennessee. He holds national credentials specializing in clinical supervision and substance abuse counseling, is a certified coach/mentor, and has served extensively as a consultant for both public and private sector establishments. He received

his undergraduate degree from Capella University, Summa Cum Laude, with specializations in Leadership and Management, has earned a graduate certificate in counseling, and is currently pursuing advanced studies in public administration, while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. Among other accomplishments, Thurston has published a course on compulsive gambling that was sponsored by the Florida Association of D.U.I. Programs, where he's served as distance learning faculty. Thurston is a recent graduate of the American Leadership Forum's Criminal/Juvenile Justice Leadership Program and was appointed by the Tennessee Commissioner of Corrections and Chairman of Parole to the Tennessee Community Resource Board, Grand West Division.

Brooke Taylor

Brooke is a 34-year-old graduate from the University of Alabama at Birmingham with a B.A. in Sociology with a minor in Legal Affairs. While in school, she studied and researched addiction. Brooke is currently employed, by the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and works as a Peer Advocate for Jefferson County Mental Health Court working with substance abuse users everyday who also have severe mental illnesses. Brooke has had the opportunity to advocate, for clients, to be seen as consumers rather than criminals. Brooke admits to being in recovery from substance abuse for eleven years and believes in the disease concept of addiction. Brooke supports this concept in her work and presentation.

Patrick Tidwell

Patrick R. Tidwell, Ph. D, LMFT is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who has been working in the substance abuse treatment field since 2002. He has his bachelor's degree in ministry from Faulkner University (1999). He started out to be a minister as a way of reaching people to help them live better lives and be better people by showing them how much God cares about them. As a result, he was often requested to do marital therapy for members of the congregation that he served, but he felt that he was unqualified to do so. This decision led him to pursue and obtain his masters' degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from Southern Christian University/Amridge University (2002). During his practicum and internships, he seemed to keep running into clients and families that had substance abuse issues. This experience helped him land his first "real" job with Bradford Health Services in Opelika, AL in 2002 to work with substance abusing adolescents. He continued in this position until 2004. Since 2005, he has worked with the Lighthouse Counseling as an adolescent therapist (2005-2006), assessment specialist (2006-2014) and dual diagnosis counselor (2014-present). He has also helped out, when needed with the MCDF (county jail) program, the Women's program and the evening program. During this time (2008-2014), he decided that he wanted to pursue his dream of being a full-time college professor, so he pursued and obtained his Ph. D from Amridge University in 2014. He has had the honor of teaching at the ASADS conference on Ethics (2012-2014) and "Doing the Self of the Therapist Work" (2014-2017). He has Ethics been blessed to present on "Working with Dual Disorder Clients" at the Wellness Coalition Conference in 2016, and at the 2015 ALMHCA conference in Montgomery, AL. In 2017, at the ASADS conference, he was honored to receive the Carl Nowell Award. It has always been his desire along the way to stay active in his relationship with God, grow as a person, grow as a counselor and help others along the way. This is his desire for himself in all the roles of his life.

Marty Walker

Marty is the Oxford House Outreach Coordinator in Tennessee since 2013. He is a dedicated and extremely motivated Outreach Coordinator with a strong commitment to serving those who wish to recover from addiction. He is responsible for developing and maintaining current and new Oxford Houses throughout Tennessee and surrounding states. Marty is very skilled at building community support, key coalitions, and developing strategic interagency partnerships. He assisted in opening twenty-three (23) Oxford Houses in Oregon and helped develop 3 new Chapters in Portland.

Barbara Zander

Barbara R. Zander has a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from Norwich University, is a Masters Alcohol and Drug Counselor, Certified Clinical Supervisor and holds a certification in both Anger Management and Thanatology (grief and loss). She has worked with numerous populations over the past twenty-four (24) years specializing in the addiction and mental health fields. Ms. Zander has been an instruction for over twenty (20) years providing workshops in

