

2024 CASSW Conference Sessions

Schedule is subject to change

CASSW Pre-Conference Sessions (6 CEU's) Thursday November 14, 2024 9AM-4PM		
Session Title	Session Description	Presenter(s)
School Social Work Law & Ethics (6 CEU's) *Can be used towards Law & Ethics CEU requirements from BBS*	Social work practice in school settings presents a variety of unique legal and ethical issues. This two part workshop first reviews the relevant legal codes such as FERPA, Minor Consent for Treatment, and HIPAA, and introduces a decision making process for coping with ethical dilemmas. The second session reviews the educational rights of foster and emotionally disturbed youth in order to enhance social workers' advocacy skills on their behalf. Participants will discuss vignettes that are drawn from situations encountered in practice.	Robert Ayasse, LCSW, PPS School Social Work Consultant
Using Expressive Arts in Schools (6 CEU's)	This workshop will be an interactive experience where participants engage in hands-on interventions that they can use with students in PK-12th grade in the area of school social work. Expressive arts is a multimodal modality that uses art, dance, music, play, drama and writing as ways to build rapport with children and adapt to the various treatment goals. This workshop uses these therapy methods in appropriation to a school based setting. Various activities and projects will be experienced by participants to use in their practice.	Christine Dennis, LCSW PPS & Nicole Espinosa, LCSW, PPS
Adult SEL Superpowers: Resilience Skills for Connection, Growth, and Healing (3 CEU's) PM Session	Our greatest asset is our own well-being. Leaders create healing and equity-centered schools through a deep understanding of our common humanity. Learn how to work with inequity, bias, discrimination, stress, and burnout using personal Resilience Skills essential for well-being. In this session you will learn how to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify Protective Patterns that pull us all off-balance including understanding how our stress impacts our wellbeing and effectiveness as leaders. • Introduce practical in-the-moment skills to Center, Connect, and Collaborate. • See intergenerational Cultural Patterns as essential to diversity, equity, and inclusion. This session will be a participatory experience in well-being to empower growth and connectedness in yourself and your school community.	Charles Fisher Dovetail Learning

CASSW Conference Sessions Friday November 15, 2024 8:30AM-4:00PM		
Session Title	Session Description	Presenter(s)
The Carpool Lane: School Counselors & School-based Mental Health Clinicians Reach Their Destination Together	Attendees will learn skills to clarify roles and discuss the relationship between School Counselors and School-based Mental Health Clinicians in their educational environments by utilizing a Multi-tiered Systems of Support framework, we'll discuss implementing various strategies in addressing student engagement and wellness. Understanding how each role and	Edwin Yau, Dr. Emily Hernandez LA County Office of Education

	skillset is uniquely valuable to MTSS to increase its overall success, fidelity, and sustainability. Creating opportunities to collaborate ensures engagement and trusting relationships within the school community.	
Self-Attuning: Tending to Emotional Activation- Healing our Own Wounds while Providing Care to Others	Held by the School Crisis Recovery & Renewal project, this workshop invites school-based or connected service providers to engage in reflective inquiry around how the experiences we've lived through impact and inform our ability to provide responsive mental health services for others. Together, we explore the ways in which we might alchemize harmful accounts into emotionally corrective experiences for ourselves and our communities, promote our relational interdependence and cultivate the conditions within our school communities that allows us to be human AND boundaried.	Oriana Ides Center for Applied Research Solutions
Selecting Strengths-Based Screeners in Schools	The use of a screener in the school setting is an essential element for identifying which students may be considered in need of targeted Tier 2 interventions. Most screeners focus on identifying student deficits. Using strengths-based screeners allows social workers to build on students' assets and improve social-emotional skills. In this workshop, participants will prioritize 12 criteria to rate the rating scales most appropriate for their schools.	Jim Raines CSU-Monterey Bay
Empowering School Social Workers: Harnessing AI for Student Support	This workshop will explore how artificial intelligence (AI) technologies can revolutionize the role of school social workers, making their job more efficient and effective. Attendees will gain insights into various AI tools and applications tailored to address the unique challenges faced by school social workers, ultimately enhancing their ability to support diverse student populations.	Maria Jarquin Sandy Segal Youth Health Center (Venice Family Clinic and Culver City Unified School District Collaboration)
A Creative Writing Mental Wellness and SEL Workshop	To foster safe and supportive school environments, research shows the profound impact that creative writing can have on mental health and overall well-being. Integrating creative writing for mental wellness programs into any classroom is a powerful strategy to contribute to a positive and secure school climate.	Maia Akiva & Julia Gabor Kid-Grit
Wellness by Design: Developing Comprehensive School Mental Health Systems	In recent years, there has been a growing recognition of the significance of mental health in the academic success and overall well-being of students. To address this critical issue, schools are increasingly implementing mental health programs. However, to ensure these programs are effective, efficient, and equitable, it is essential to utilize data-driven decision-making processes. The Los Angeles County Office of Education's Mental Health & School Counseling Unit will share how to embrace these concepts while also responding and adapting to complex changes and emerging needs caused by the pandemic.	Kim Griffin Esperon & Elsa Garcia-Sanda
School Social Workers as Administrators-Get a Seat at the Table!	As educational environments evolve, there is an increasing need for leaders who understand both academic and social-emotional facets of student development. This panel will explore the transformative journey of school social workers who have moved into administrative positions, sharing their unique perspectives and strategies for creating inclusive, supportive, and effective school environments. Attendees will gain insights into the challenges and successes experienced by these professionals, and learn how their skills can enhance school leadership.	Jeffrey Coggan, Samatra Downing, Lisette Moore-Guerra, Cristina Dobon-Claveau
Adult SEL Superpowers: Resilience Skills for Connection, Growth, and Healing	Our greatest asset is our own well-being. Leaders create healing and equity-centered schools through a deep understanding of our common humanity. Learn how to work with inequity, bias, discrimination, stress, and burnout using personal Resilience Skills essential for well-being. In this session you will learn how to: • Identify Protective Patterns that pull us all off-balance including understanding how our stress impacts our wellbeing and effectiveness as leaders. • Introduce practical in-the-moment skills to Center, Connect, and Collaborate. • See intergenerational Cultural Patterns as essential to diversity, equity, and inclusion. This session will be a participatory experience in well-being to empower growth and connectedness in yourself and your school community.	Charles Fisher Dovetail Learning

Equity Family Nights	<p>This workshop will introduce a community building approach to family engagement that celebrates diverse populations and intersectionality. Equity Family Nights began as a way to offer middle school families a chance to come together to build community, identify needs and work toward common goals. This approach has centered family and youth voices through a restorative approach. The workshop will offer a step by step walkthrough of the Equity Family Night model that creates safe and celebratory spaces for the following populations as modeled at Newcomer middle school Martin Luther King Jr in Berkeley: Arab & SSWANA Families, Asian American & Pacific Islander Families, Black & African American Families, Families with IEPs & 504s, Latine/x Families, LGBTQIA+ Families, and Multiracial Families.</p>	<p>Abbie Gregor & Yesenia Moran Berkeley Unified School District</p>
Empowering California: Macro Approaches to Youth Suicide Prevention	<p>Youth suicide rates are staggering and the state of support for young people requires continued refinement to meet the call to action. Join facilitators in learning more about an innovative project dedicated to establishing, improving, and expanding local efforts to report and respond to youth suicides and suicide attempts, and enhancing implementation of crisis response services.</p>	<p>Tina Rocha & angela Castellanos Center for Applied Research Solutions</p>
Mindfulness Practices to Support School Social Workers	<p>This workshop will discuss how practicing mindfulness supports school social workers personally and professionally. The workshop will overview three mindfulness practices that school social workers have identified as the most useful when helping students and their families. The primary purpose of this training is to encourage school social workers to practice mindfulness to help students and families while remaining calm during stressful situations.</p>	<p>Dr. Catalina Andrade</p>
Safe Harbor for At-Promise Youth: Building Equity Through an Integrated Social Work Approach	<p>Discover how to develop an effective wraparound school social work program for at-promise youth by exploring the Wheatland Union High School District's Safe Harbor program, which has been recognized as a Model Innovative Practice by the California Department of Education (CDE).The session will feature scalable best practices for a wraparound McKinney-Vento and Foster Youth program, interventions that can be implemented that have a manageable impact on budget, and strategies that have a positive impact on student connection and achievement -- all within an MTSS framework.</p>	<p>Aleia Van Dyke Wheatland Union High School District</p>
Navigating Responses to Identity Based Bullying - Secondary Level	<p>Research indicates that over half of bullying incidents in schools are identity-based, which means they are rooted in Bias. Educators often do not know how or feel uncomfortable facilitating learning about bias and/or intervening when a bias incident happens. In collaboration with the Anti-Defamation League, Welcoming Schools developed a youth-centered video that prioritizes and amplifies the voices of a diverse group of students across the US. During our time together, after watching the brief video, you will learn actionable strategies based upon advice from youth educators, creating an opportunity for educators to increase both their knowledge and confidence in addressing identity-based bullying.</p>	<p>Maria Al-Shamma Oceanside Unified School District</p>
Uplifting Youth Voices: Strategies for increasing student participation and engagement in wellness programs	<p>Student-driven wellness programs require high levels of youth engagement, yet there are many constraints to achieving and sustaining participation. Regardless of the context of your prevention work, this workshop uses principles of cultural humility and youth participatory action to engage participants in generative conversations to promote and sustain strong partnerships with young people.</p>	<p>Alex Filippelli & Angela Brand Center for Applied Research Solutions</p>
Welcome to the Well Space: Cultivating Resilience and Emotional Well-Being: Wellness Centers in Schools	<p>Step into the Well Space—an environment where emotional well-being seamlessly intertwines with the pursuit of knowledge. Within these walls, you'll find purposeful nooks, warm ambiance, and a commitment to empowerment. Our mission? Not just survival, but thriving! Whether it's quiet reflection or a deliberate self-care pause, our doors are wide open. Learn about this innovative and growing program in the educational world where healing and hope will integrate into the fabric of education.</p>	<p>Rachelle Goldenberg San Ramon Valley Unified School District</p>
Empowering Tomorrow's Workforce:	<p>The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) has developed an innovative approach</p>	<p>Kim Griffin Esperon & Elsa Garcia</p>

<p>Addressing Gaps and Promoting School Social Work Through a Collaborative Internship Program</p>	<p>to supporting 15 LA County districts in the development and enhancement of their multi-tiered system of school mental health supports utilizing bachelor and graduate level social work interns. Through intentional collaboration and support for school site preceptors and a robust intern training program, social work interns are able to address equity gaps in school mental health while participating in experiences that will prepare them for a career in education.</p>	<p>Sanda</p>
<p>Cracking the C.O.D.E. on School Avoidance</p>	<p>School Avoidance, characterized by children's anxiety about attending school leading to reluctance or refusal to attend, presents more than just a hurdle in a student's educational journey. It represents a complex maze of emotions and challenges that require a compassionate and informed response from school administrators and staff. In this comprehensive two-part workshop for school administrators and staff, we delve deep into the heart of school avoidance, unraveling its complexities, understanding its underlying causes, and recognizing the unmistakable signs and subtle nuances that indicate when youth are exhibiting this behavior. We discuss the distinctions between school avoidance and typical school resistance and the social, emotional, and academic factors that make school avoidance an issue requiring a comprehensive team approach. School counselors, social workers, mental health professionals, and administrators will leave with effective, evidence-based, student-focused tools and practical strategies for supporting students facing school avoidance challenges and guiding them to academic success.</p>	<p>Anthony President Presidential Consultants</p>
<p>Depression Education is Suicide Prevention</p>	<p>Depression is a major risk factor for youth who die by suicide. By providing students with tier 1 mental health and depression education, we encourage teens to talk about their mental health, become aware of the resources available, and learn how to seek help for themselves or others. This session will review the latest data behind youth mental health as well as provide guidance into how to enhance your building's tier 1 intervention strategies around mental health education. Attendees will receive access to no-cost, mental health and depression resources that include classroom education, student empowerment clubs, family engagement and staff development to promote early identification, prevention, and reduce stigma.</p>	<p>Shantal Saldana & Anna Riley Erika's Lighthouse</p>
<p>A Look at Trauma in Latino Immigrants: Rewriting the Stories that Defined a Generation</p>	<p>The Latino immigrant experience in the United States is both multifaceted and complex. Some Latino immigrants will encounter avoidable trauma that results in damaging impacts to their personal life, in addition to the communities in which they live. The exploration of personal, professional, and global observations has led this presenter to pursue the improvement of optimal mental health outcomes for this marginalized group.</p>	<p>Dr. Christian Astorga ABC Recovery Center</p>