

Criminal Justice & Mental Health



WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 24, 2025
8AM - 4:30PM



RSVP by Wednesday, Sept. 17th, 2025
RSVP by email: npensari@saltlakecounty.gov
CEU & CLE Available

Symposium Conference Agenda

- **8:00 - 8:30:** Registration and Light Breakfast

Opening Remarks

- **8:30 - 8:35:** Recognition of Elected Officials and Others, by Sim Gill, Salt Lake County District Attorney
- **8:35 - 9:20:** Welcome and Address by Sim Gill, Salt Lake County District Attorney
- **9:20 - 9:40:** SL County Behavioral Health Welcome Addresses by Kelly Colopy, Director, Salt Lake County Human Services

Morning Session

- **VIDEO:** Stories of Lived Experience, Families, and Caregivers
- **9:50 - 10:20:** Decriminalizing Severe Mental Illness Presentation by Sherri Wittwer, MPA, Chair, Utah Coalition for Severe Mental Illness, Member Utah Shattering Silence Coalition

Break 10:20 - 10:35

Mid-Morning Session

- **VIDEO:** Stories of Lived Experience, Families, and Caregivers
- **10:40 - 11:10:** Treatment over Punishment: The Fiscal and Social Costs of Criminalizing Severe Mental Illness Presentation by Therese Cavlovic, PhD, Professor of Economics, Weber State University; Member Utah Shattering Silence Coalition
- **VIDEO:** Stories of Lived Experience, Families, and Caregivers
- **11:15 - 11:45:** Rethinking the Problem, Reimagining the Solution Presentation by Dr. Noel Gardner, MD, Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry

Lunch Session

- **12:00 - 12:30:** Sharing Miami-Dade's Efforts to Solve the Mental Health Crisis and the Partnership with Salt Lake County Presentation by Judge (Ret.) Steven Leifman, Retired Judge, 11th Judicial Circuit of Florida; President, The Leifman Group



Afternoon Session

- **VIDEO:** Stories of Lived Experience, Families, and Caregivers
- **12:45 - 1:15:** Challenges with Youth in Transition Joint Presentation by Judy Hall, MS, School Psychology, MSW, Member; Utah Shattering Silence Coalition, and Dr. Doug Gray, MD. Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry and Child Psychiatry at the University of Utah, Member of Utah Coalition for Severe Mental Illness
- **VIDEO:** Stories of Lived Experience, Families, and Caregivers
- **1:20 - 1:50:** Critical Components of Effective Crisis Response Systems Joint Presentation by Todd Soutor, PhD, Executive Director, CIT Utah; Director of Intensive Services, Davis Behavioral Health, and David Eldredge, MSW, LCSW., Executive Director, Huntsman Mental Health Institute.
- **VIDEO:** Stories of Lived Experience, Families, and Caregivers
- **1:55 - 2:20:** Civil Commitment and Ethical Considerations Presentation by LeAnne Huff, CMHC. Program Administrator, Crisis Programs; State Office of Substance Use and Mental Health

Break 2:20 - 2:35

Late Afternoon Session

- **VIDEO:** Stories of Lived Experience, Families, and Caregivers
- **2:40 - 3:10:** HIPAA -- Bridge or Barrier? Presentation by Debra Widmer, BSRC, RRT, CPHQ. Patient Safety Program Manager, CommonSpirit Holy Cross Jordan Valley; Director, Utah Shattering Silence Coalition
- **VIDEO:** Stories of Lived Experience, Families, and Caregivers
- **3:15 - 3:40:** Beyond Institutions: Building and Sustaining Robust Community-Based Solutions Joint Presentation by Nate Crippes, JD, Public Affairs Supervising Attorney, Disability Law Center, and Andrew Riggle, Public Policy Advocate, Disability Law Center
- **VIDEO:** Stories of Lived Experience, Families, and Caregivers
- **3:45 - 4:15:** Winning with a Losing Hand: How Diversion, Collaboration, and Common Sense Solve Systemic Issues Presentation by Zac Hashimoto, Program Manager, Alternatives to Incarceration Program, Salt Lake Legal Defenders Association
- **VIDEO:** Stories of Lived Experience, Families, and Caregivers

Closing Remarks

- **4:20 - 4:30:** Next Steps/Adjourn Concluding Remarks by Sim Gill, Salt Lake County District Attorney

SYMPOSIUM CONFERENCE AGENDA

Criminal Justice and Mental Health, Salt Lake County, Utah, September 24, 2025