

AOTA Specialty Conference:

Mental Health

December 2–3, 2022

Columbus, Ohio

Preconference Sessions:
December 1, 2022

**Program
Guide**



Thursday, December 1

Preconference Sessions

9:00 am–6:00 pm

Franklin AB

Preconference Session 1

Adult Mental Health First Aid

Christine Urish, PhD, OTR/L, BCMH, FAOTA, Drake University, Des Moines, IA

Let's make Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) as common as CPR, because we can all be more aware and more informed. Mental Health First Aid is a skills-based course that teaches participants about mental health and substance abuse issues and how to effectively identify, understand, and respond to persons who may be experiencing a mental health crisis or be at risk for a mental health crisis. The MHFA program is evidence based and has been delivered in the United States since 2008 and in Australia since 2001. The program is sponsored by the National Council on Mental Wellbeing. Mental Health First Aid teaches about recovery and resiliency—the belief that individuals experiencing these challenges can and do get better, and use their strengths to stay well. You will learn the Mental Health First Aid Action Plan as well as how to use the plan in a variety of situations including when someone is experiencing panic attacks, suicidal thoughts or behaviors, non-suicidal self-injury, acute psychosis, overdose or withdrawal from alcohol or drug use, or reaction to a traumatic event.

12:30 pm–3:30pm

Nationwide Children's Hospital*

Preconference Session 2

Transforming Pediatric Mental & Behavioral Health Through Innovative Service Delivery: A Review of Occupational Therapy Programming at Nationwide Children's Hospital

Megan McKim, MOT, OTR/L; Sara O'Rourke, MOT, OTR/L, BCP; Shelley Coleman Casto, MS, OTR/L, BCP, CPST; Jamie Sympson, CTRS, all of Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH

Contributing Authors: Kelly Tanner, PhD, OTR/L, BCP; Lauren Justice, MOT, OTR/L, BCP, CLC; Lindsey Pauline, MA, CCC-SLP, FACHE

Aligning with AOTA's commitment to increasing access to quality OT services for individuals living with mental illness and reinforcing the distinct value of OT for this patient population, this session will examine the unique and innovative OT services offered throughout our Behavioral Health (BH) programs at Nationwide Children's Hospital (NCH). This session will include a deep dive into the design and

implementation of our programs, as well as a guided facility tour and opportunity for small group Q&A.

*Transportation provided from Hyatt Regency Columbus

*Must wear a facial mask. No exceptions.

2:00 pm–5:00 pm

Franklin CD

Preconference Session 3

Research and Reflections From a History Geek: Exploring Historical Mental Health Outcomes to Challenge the Status Quo

Ann Chapleau, DHS, OTR/L, FAOTA, and Shreena Shah; both of Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

In this session, Dr. Chapleau will focus on three projects she has undertaken to address the limited role of OT in current mental health care. She will share findings from a recent study that examined length of stay and rehospitalization from 5,626 state psychiatric hospital patient records from 1945–1954. Results demonstrate ample evidence that patients were routinely admitted for only a single episode and often returned to their homes within several years, during a treatment era of occupation-rich interventions. Describe preliminary findings of a current study exploring perceptions of occupation-based interventions among people with lived experience of serious mental illness. Discuss the importance of historical data collection, preservation, and digitization to allow researchers access to data that can support the efficacy of occupational therapy as a primary modality for people with serious mental illness. She will show the WMU oral history collection in progress and provide opportunities for participants to share their own experiences and perspectives.

Friday, December 2

Keynote

8:00 am–8:45 am

Franklin Room

“We Wear the Mask”: Everyday ‘isms and the Occupational Therapy Practitioner

Shanese Higgins, DHSc, OTR/L, BCMH, Kettering College, Dayton, OH; Brittany Collins, PhD, LPC-S (MO), LPCC (OH), NCC, Developing Me! Counseling and Consulting, LLC (Owner), Columbia, MO

This course will examine trauma and microaggressions through the lens of psychological thriving. We will explore how OT practitioners with intersections of diversity can honor their lived experiences while moving beyond resilience to thriving in practice and life.

Concurrent Sessions

9:00 am–10:00 am

Franklin Room

Concurrent 101

Occupational Discovery for Recovery: How Occupational Therapy Aligns With the Recovery Model to Support Engagement in Meaningful Occupations

Emily Petersen, OTD, OTR/L, Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital at UCLA, Los Angeles, CA; Virginia Stoffel, PhD, OT, FAOTA, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI
Contributing Author: Teresa Wickboldt, OTD, OTR/L

This short course will provide clinicians with evidence of the recovery model and how it aligns with our Practice Framework, including occupation-based intervention strategies that connect with the stages of recovery for adults with acute mental illness.

Fairfield

Concurrent 102

A Seat at the Table: Cementing Occupational Therapy's Role as Leaders in School Mental Health and Wellness

Breanna Lynch, MOT, OTR/L, Mason City Schools, Mason, OH; Natalie Centers

This presentation aims to serve as a catalyst for practitioners to recognize their distinct value as educational leaders—with knowledge, evidence, and credentials to inform best practice in mental health care for school-aged children and educational staff at all levels. Attendees will engage in meaningful conversations and interactive activities that explore big picture, systems-level thinking, and walk away

with resources to create a realistic framework for program implementation.

10:15 am–11:15 am

Franklin Room

Concurrent 103

Psychosis, Trauma, & Attachment: Intersections and Implications for Reimagining OT Approaches to Support Meaningful Occupational Participation

Carol Lambdin-Pattavina, OTD, OTR/L, CTP, University of New England, Biddeford, ME; Elizabeth Lannigan, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH; Christine Linkie, PhD, OTR, SIPT, CPRP, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY

Participants will explore intersections of trauma, attachment, and psychosis. Perspectives of trauma-responsive care within client-centered practice will create space to reimagine traditional practice approaches to enhance occupational participation.

Fairfield

Concurrent 104

Clinical Justification for Mental Health Occupational Therapy Services: Potential for Application Across Settings

Charley Cross, MS, OTR/L, Monarch, Albemarle, NC

Contributing Author: Tomeico Faison, OTD, OTR/L
Occupational therapy practitioners can justify services with persons under 21 years old with a mental health diagnosis. Based on real life cases, this session will present clinical reasoning for application in response to the mental health crisis.

11:30 am–12:30 pm

Franklin Room

Concurrent 105

Integrating Occupational Therapy Practice Into a Community-Based Mobile Crisis Team

Avery Schneider, OTD, OTR/L, QMHP; Amanda Pisani, MOT, OTR/L, QMHP, both of Trilogy Behavioral Healthcare, Chicago, IL

Contributing Authors: Jamie Angell; Julie Cuba
We will explore mental health crisis responders' perspectives of how occupational therapists could be integrated into a community-based mobile crisis team. We will offer a case study to illustrate the creation of a crisis plan through an occupation-based lens.

Fairfield

Concurrent 106

A Unique Crisis: Occupational Therapy Programming for Children and Adolescents Experiencing Extended Hospitalization on an Acute Mental Health Unit

Meredith O'Hara, OTR/L; Kelli Chen, MS, OTR/L, both of Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD

Attendees will understand how extended hospitalizations impact occupational therapy treatment on a child and adolescent mental health unit. A diverse collection of case studies will be explored.

1:45 pm–2:45 pm

Franklin Room

Concurrent 107

Effectiveness of Interventions to Improve Occupational Performance for People With Psychosocial Impairments Following Traumatic Brain Injury

Steven Wheeler, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA; Amanda Acord-Vira, both of West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

Contributing Authors: Diana R. Davis, PhD, OTR/L; Gracie James; Brionna Lehman; Jamie Basch, OTR/L

This presentation will summarize the body of evidence supporting the role of occupational therapy in providing psychosocial, behavioral, and emotional interventions for people with traumatic brain injury. Interventions that support community participation will be discussed.

Fairfield

Concurrent 108

The Role of Occupational Therapy in an Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Mental Health Clinic: A Hospital-Based Program Example

Madison Sternberg, OTR/L; Kristopher West; Kellie Pauley, SLP, all of Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio

Contributing Authors: Megan McKim, MOT, OTR/L; Rob Griffiths, MOT, OTR/L; Samantha MocarSKI, CCC-SLP; Lauren Justice

This presentation will explore the role of OT in an early childhood mental health clinic serving youth with adverse childhood experiences and comorbid developmental delays. OT's distinct value and the clinic's interdisciplinary model will be shared.

3:00 pm–4:00 pm

Franklin Room

Concurrent 109

Mental Health Occupational Therapy Consultations on Medical Units: Demonstrating our Distinct Value on the Interprofessional Team

Bobby Walsh, DBH, OTR/L, BCMH; Kelli Chen, MS, OTR/L, both of Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD

Occupational therapists are well suited to address mental health in all settings. Case examples of consultations in medical units that foster participation in occupations for individuals with mental health challenges will be discussed.

Fairfield

Concurrent 110

OT in Juvenile Justice: A Need for Regulation Before Cognition

Lorraine Muntwyler, MOT, OTR/L, ABC Therapists, Inc., Columbus, OH; Victoria Baker, OTD, OTR/L, Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH

Contributing Author: Brandy Corlis

In alignment with AOTA's commitment to occupational justice, and with the current national state of emergency in children's mental health, this session will examine client factors, common areas between criminogenic needs and occupational needs, and treatment approaches for juvenile clients within the justice system with the goal to reduce occupational deprivation and equity for all in the promotion of mental health and occupational justice.

Poster Session

4:15 pm–5:15 pm

Union AB

Poster 101

Cultivating Community Among College Students Navigating Grief: An Opportunity for Occupational Therapy

Amy Kashiwa, OTD, OTR/L, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA

Grieving can impact college student occupational performance and negatively affect physical and mental health. Applying a grief-informed model, participants will explore best practices for supporting grieving students through occupational engagement.

Poster 102

An Inter-Professional Trauma-Informed Care Program for Underrepresented Communities: Creation, Design, and Outcomes

Patricia Precin, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Columbia University, New York, NY; Phyllis Simon, OTD, OTR/L, FNAP, Columbia University, New York, NY

Contributing Authors: Sara Asprilla; Timothy Kenney; Jennifer Puac; Kevin Carroll; Jasmine Tomlinson; Hei Ming Yeung; Laura Kelly

Creation, design, and outcomes of a grant funded inter-professional trauma informed care program for underrepresented communities will be presented to direct others in how to incorporate these principles into their practice.

Poster 103

Providing Occupational Therapy Services to Children With Comorbid Mental Health Needs and Complex Behaviors

Lindsay Davis, Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH

Contributing Author: Emily Riepenhoff, OTR/L
This presentation will explore OT's role in

2022 AOTA Specialty Conference: Mental Health

the treatment of youth exhibiting complex behaviors during a behavioral health crisis. Methods for session structure, plan of care development, safety measures, and caregiver engagement will be discussed.

Poster 104

Music Therapy and Occupational Therapy Collaborations: Multimodal Interventions in Trauma-Informed Care

Nikki Beatrice, OTR/L; Channing Shippen, MA MT-BC, both of Tufts Medical Center, Boston, MA
In this poster, we will highlight the allied partnership between occupational therapists and music therapists working in mental health care. This poster will examine the way we can benefit from shared goal work, utilizing integrative and multi-modal approaches including art and music, trauma-informed care, and sharing information to better inform practice with allied professions.

Poster 105

The Mental Health of Latinx Cancer Survivors and Their Family Caregivers Living in Long-Term Survivorship: Opportunities for Occupational Therapy

Ricardo Ramirez, OTD, OTR/L, Rush University, Chicago, IL

Contributing Author: Susan Magasi

Latinx cancer survivors and their family caregivers are at risk for mental health inequities. Occupational therapy practitioners can address person factors, capitalize on the strong social environment, and use occupation to improve mental health.

Poster 106

Addressing Autism Within Interprofessional Education Collaborative Spaces: Occupational Therapists Collaborating in Early Intervention Settings

Crystal Gaddy, OTD, Pfeiffer University, Greenville, NC; Carrie Foster; Emalie Jackson; Sierra Smith; Ashton Thompson; Kassie Williams; Amani Windsor, all of Pfeiffer University, Albemarle, North Carolina

This presentation will highlight the importance of interprofessional work between OTs and educators in increasing occupational balance that positively affects the social, communication, and behavioral aspects of students with ASD during their early educational careers.

Poster 107

Not Just a Balancing Act: Harmonizing Professional Quality of Life in Occupational Therapy

Evguenia Popova, PhD, OTR/L; Abigail Carmona, both of Rush University, Chicago, IL; Olivia Lachowicz; Jasmine Leonard; Chloe Maciolek

Contributing Author: Bridget Hahn, OTD, OTR/L

We examined well-being, stress, and self-care as contributors to professional identity and quality of life in occupational therapy practitioners. We also evaluated opportunities to advocate for wellness initiatives on individual and organizational levels.

Poster 108

Mental Health and Community Colleges: An Occupational Therapy Assistant Faculty's Call to Action

Cathy Zanowski, OT/L, Rowan Cabarrus Community College, Salisbury, NC

"RCCC Thrives" (Resiliency, Community, Caring, Culture) was created by the OTA department faculty to support the mental health needs of our college students. It is an effective multi-modal approach that is a blueprint for this emerging practice area.

Poster 109

Why Occupational Therapists Need to Know About The Cradle-To-Prison Pipeline: Intersections Along The Developmental Continuum

Ellen Rainville, OTD, OT, FAOTA, MCPHS University, Worcester, MA; Robert Kinscherff, PhD, JD, Center for Law, Brain, and Behavior, Boston, MA; Lisa Jaegers, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO

The impact of U.S. judicial and criminal justice systems on individuals, families, and communities will be discussed. Opportunities for occupational therapists to provide meaningful prevention and intervention services along the lifespan will be identified.

Poster 110

What's the "OTea"? Practitioner and Student Perspectives on Professional Resilience and Well-Being in Occupational Therapy

Abigail Carmona, Rush University, Chicago, IL; Olivia Lachowicz; Jasmine Leonard; Chloe Maciolek; Bridget Hahn, OTD, OTR/L; Evguenia Popova, PhD, OTR/L, both of Rush University, Chicago, IL

We explored occupational therapy (OT) practitioners' and students' perspectives on professional resilience and well-being. We will present research findings on opportunities to promote physical, mental, and interpersonal well-being in the profession.

Poster 111

Understanding the Mental Health of Occupational Therapy Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Alisha Sharma, OTD, MS, OTR/L, Salus University, Elkins Park, PA

Contributing Author: Andrea Tyszka, OTD, OTR/L, SIPT

This poster highlights a study examining the mental health of entry-level OT and OTA students during the pandemic. It includes data regarding rates of stress, anxiety, and depression, and themes related to mental health supports in academic settings.

Poster 112

Pediatric Behavioral Health Following Psychological Trauma

Patricia Precin, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Columbia University, New York, NY

Contributing Authors: Lizzette Bonfante Gonzalez; Rosaria Callara; Morissa Camiolo; Kelly Donnellan; Carla Duval; Miranda Kalish;

Jamie Lief; Mallory Moore; Sabrina Zhang

Occupational therapy's role in pediatric behavioral health following psychological trauma; and resources for children who have experienced trauma from natural disasters, COVID-19, refugee camps, immigration, and seeking asylum, will be presented.

Poster 113

Decreasing the Readmission Rate in Inpatient Mental Health: What is the Evidence and How Does it Relate to Occupational Therapy Practice?

Emily Petersen, OTD, OTR/L, Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA

This poster provides clinicians with current evidence on effective interventions that reduce the likelihood of readmission for psychiatric hospitalization, and implications for occupational therapy practitioners to utilize in acute mental health.

Poster 114

Experience of Social Participation for Families Raising a Young Child With Autism Spectrum Disorder: Implications for Family Mental Health

Nicole Halliwell, DSc, ORT/L, Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ

Contributing Authors: Julie Smith; Amy Coggeshall Laurent, PhD, OTR/L; Jessica Tsotsoros, PhD, OTR/L; Katelyn Harris, OTR; Elizabeth DeGrace, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Results of a recent qualitative research study illuminate the experience of social participation for families raising a young child with autism, inviting practitioners to reflect on the impact of the experience on family mental health and well-being.

Poster 115

A Qualitative Exploration of the Successful Integration of Complementary Health Approaches Into Occupational Therapy Practice

Patricia Precin, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Columbia University, New York, NY

Contributing Authors: Madlyn Cooper; Sharon Gutman, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA; Samah Islam; Sara Lin; Daphna Mayer; Taylor Meyers; Niki Patel; Elise Roberto; Gabrielle Rolph; Francheska Tanglao; Pamela Traflet

Occupational therapists' personal experience using complementary health approaches and integrative health will be reported to direct others in how to incorporate these effective modalities (e.g., reiki, tai chi, meditation) into their practice.

Poster 116

The Role of Occupational Therapy—Evaluation of the Needs of Adolescents in Intensive Emergency Residential Homes

Caroline Phillips, Western New England University, Springfield, MA; Emily Walker, Emily Rasid, Shrewsbury, MA

Contributing Author: Minna Levine, OTR/L, PhD
A novel EHR report was developed that

characterizes the trauma history, and sensory and behavioral challenges, of adolescents in intensive emergency residences. This report analyzed intake and OT evaluations, and informed the delivery of services.

Poster 117

The Exploration of the Effects of COVID-19 in Community-Dwelling Older Adults: A Phenomenological Study

Jessica Maxwell, OTD, OTR/L, ACUE, CEAS, University of the Incarnate Word, San Antonio, TX

Contributing Authors: Katelyn Holstun; Demi Peck; Brendan Sanchez; Elise Schuyten

The purpose of this qualitative phenomenological study was to explore the perceptions of community-dwelling older adults' mental, physical, and emotional functioning before COVID-19, during COVID-19, and after vaccine availability. Several themes were found from individual experiences in all three categories. This topic will advance practice by highlighting and offering baseline insight into the effects of COVID-19 on the mental, physical, and emotional health of older community dwellers.

Poster 118

Assessing Negative Symptoms in Adults at Clinical High Risk for Psychosis Using the Motivation and Pleasure Scale—Self-Report

Lauren Nowak, OTD, OTR, Tufts University, Medford, MA

The aim of this presentation is to understand correlations that exist between scores on a motivation and pleasure assessment addressing various occupations, and scores on clinical measures used to assess negative symptoms in those at clinical high risk for psychosis. This poster will also emphasize the need to address occupational performance in early psychosis detection and treatment, thereby advocating for an increased OT presence in this unique area of mental health practice.

Poster 119

State of Occupational Therapy in U.S. Early Intervention in Psychosis Programming: Results of a National Survey

Halley Read, OTR/L, Pacific University, Forest Grove, OR; Nuriya Neumann; Sarah Zagorac

We conducted a comprehensive national survey of occupational therapy within early intervention psychosis (EIP) programs to: 1) understand the roles and contributions of OT to EIP teams, and 2) identify barriers and supports to the implementation of OT services within these programs. Results indicate that although comprehensive OT services are being provided, funding is a barrier to integrating OT. Reducing barriers to the inclusion of OT in EIP programs is warranted.

Poster 120

Expanding Mental Health OT Services for Adolescents In a Rural Health Care Setting

Ceridwyn Creswell, MA OTR/L, Providence, Anchorage, AK

Mental health OT services for teens have been limited to the adolescent inpatient psychiatric unit (Discovery Unit). Despite this, there are two other settings where adolescents receive mental health services: A sub-acute location that provides outpatient treatment with an average duration of 2 to 3 weeks, and a residential treatment center. This poster goes over the increase in services currently being offered and the barriers to change that are being overcome.

Poster 121

Investigating the Causes of Stress and Coping Methods Used in Graduate Students in Health Care Programs

Lynne Clarke, OTD, OTR/L, Rockhurst University, Kansas City, MO; Cori Bear; Caleigh Hayes; Kelly House; Jennifer Frazee; Hannah Peterson, Rockhurst University, Kansas City, MO

Stress and anxiety in college-age students is on the rise. Recognizing the valuable occupational role of being a student, researchers surveyed graduate students enrolled in health care programs on their perceived causes of stress, and coping mechanisms used on common stressors. The authors will discuss current literature, study methods, findings, limitations and implications for practice. Empowering graduate students to learn, practice, and model healthy coping occupations is discussed.

Poster 122

Integrating Occupational Therapy in a Community-Based Mental Health Program: A Participatory Occupational Justice Framework & Public Health Approach

Audrey Forbes, MA, OTD, OTR/L, Self Employed, Missoula, MT

This poster highlights occupational therapy's role and unique contributions in community-based mental health through a consultative partnership with Adelante Mujeres, an Oregon non-profit organization serving Latinx women and their families.

Saturday, December 3

Concurrent Sessions

8:00 am–9:00 am

Franklin Room

Concurrent 201

Metacognitive Reflection and Insight Therapy (MERIT) for the Occupational Therapy Practitioner

Sally Wasmuth, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN; Lisa Mahaffey, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Midwestern University, Plainfield, IL

This session outlines an evidence-based approach—Metacognitive Reflection and Insight Therapy (MERIT)—that complements and can enhance occupational therapy mental health practice while prioritizing belonging and equity for all clients.

Fairfield

Concurrent 202

Occupational Therapy's Role in the Continuum of Care for Youth and Adolescents With Eating Disorders

Erin Meinert, OTD, OTR/L; Shelley Casto, MS, OTR/L, BCP, CPST; both of Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH

Contributing Author: Katherine Mount, OTR/L

Eating disorders often present in adolescence and have an impact on occupational engagement. This session will explore the role of OT in treating the occupational needs of youth with eating disorders across the care continuum offered at a large urban hospital.

9:15 am–10:15 am

Franklin Room

Concurrent 203

Reducing Provider Bias Toward People With Substance Use Disorders and Intersecting Minoritized Identities to Promote Occupational Justice

Sally Wasmuth, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN

This session will equip occupational therapy practitioners and/or students to lead an evidence-supported intervention that reduces provider bias toward people with substance use disorders and/or other intersecting minoritized identities.

Fairfield

Concurrent 204

Insights Into the Sensory Processing Needs of Adolescents Living in Out-of-Home Care: Assessment and Advocacy

Melissa Khosla, OTD, OTR, Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN; Rachel Timmons, Marion, IN

This session will highlight lessons learned from a study of the sensory needs of adolescents in out-of-home care and examine opportunities for advocacy, interprofessional education, responsive assessment, and access to OT services.

10:30 am–11:30 am

Franklin Room

Concurrent 205

Beyond the Living Wage: Fostering Empowerment and Community Capital With Valued Work Roles in Incarcerated Individuals With Mental Illness

Catherine Kaminski, MS, OTR/L BCMH; Gillespie Wadsworth, Psy.D., both of United States Public Health Service/Bureau of Prisons, Butner, NC

This presentation will cover the development and implementation of an evidence-based occupational therapist-led multi-disciplinary supported employment program for federal male inmates with serious mental illness prior to release. Aspects of the program include paid employment opportunities of varying skill levels, such as, but not limited to, durable medical equipment repair, custodial work, landscaping, construction, and fabrication of reentry kits for peers releasing to the community.

Fairfield

Concurrent 206

Considerations for Occupational Therapy Practice With LGBTQIA+ Youth With Mental Health Needs: The Importance of Informed and Affirming Care

Megan McKim, MOT, OTR/L; Madeline Davis-Rowley, OTD, OTR/L; Eliza Gunner, MOT, OTR/L, all of Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio

Contributing Author: Brianne Curl, MOT, OTR/L, SCFES, CLC

Aligning with AOTA's commitment to honoring diversity and inclusion in practice, this session will examine methods for providing culturally competent, ethical, and evidence-based OT services to LGBTQIA+ youth, emphasizing the value of affirming care.

Poster Session

11:45 am–12:45 pm

Union AB

Poster 201

Occupational Therapy Innovation: Creating Policies and Procedures for Employees Working With Individuals Post-Incarceration

Mykayla Laurie, St. Catherine University, St. Paul, MN

Contributing Author: Amber Covington, MOT, OTR/L

Occupational therapy provides a unique role in policy and procedures development for staff working with individuals post-incarceration, including providing an occupation-based, trauma-informed lens.

Poster 203

The Health Care Team Project: An IPE Approach to Addressing Physical and Psychosocial Aspects of Client Care With Health Sciences Students

Kerri Golden, EdD, OTR/L; Amy Hudkins, DHSc, COTA/L, both of Saint Francis University, Loretto, PA

This presentation will focus on the position and description of interprofessional education as it relates to activities within occupational therapy curricula and supported by AOTA and ACOTE. The presenters will outline a Health Care Team Project that has been successfully conducted with occupational therapy, physical therapy, nursing, and physician assistant students. Case studies were developed collaboratively by the faculty describing clients with both physical and psychosocial needs.

Poster 204

Preparation for Psychosocial OT Practice Using Community Partnership, Simulation, Case-Based Learning, Competencies, and Interprofessional Education

Nicole Halliwell, DSc, ORT/L, Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ; Joseph Napolitano

Contributing Author: Gabrielle Hackenberg

An entry-level occupational therapy program example of the synergy created when using both interprofessional education (IPE) and high-fidelity simulation (HFS) to promote student learning in preparation for psychosocial and mental health OT practice will be shared.

Poster 205

Understanding the Needs of Community-Dwelling Adults Who Rely on Community-Based Mental Health Services

Toni Solaru, MS, OTR/L, QMHP, Columbia University, New York, NY

Contributing Authors: Rochelle Mendonca, PhD, OTR/L; Christine Donovan, OTR

This study explores the lived experiences of

community-based adults with a serious mental illness (SMI). Five community members diagnosed with SMI and five community-based occupational therapists participated in semi-structured interviews and a focus group. Six themes arose from content analysis. The authors conclude that it is imperative for practitioners to understand how these barriers impact participation, and create better ways to understand and center the voices of this population.

Poster 206

Developing Community-Based Mental Health Level Is: Nontraditional Fieldworks That Integrate Partnerships in Educational and Community Settings

Olivia Freeman, MBA, OTR/L; Sarah Chevrefils, MS, OTR/L, both of MCPHS University, Manchester, NH; Andrea Desimone, OTR/L, LMT, CDP, MCPHS University, Boston, MA

Community mental health needs are growing. This poster discusses opportunities for OT practitioners to integrate OT into community mental health using nontraditional Level I mental health fieldwork settings and educational and community partners.

Poster 207

Occupational Therapy is Used to Train Staff to Improve Client Outcomes

Hawo Jama, Hennepin County Sheriff's Office, Minneapolis, MN; Amber Covington, MOT, OTR/L, Denton, TX

Occupational therapy practitioners in corrections experience a stressful work environment. De-escalation training for staff can increase knowledge of prevention and management of behaviors while maintaining the safety and welfare of all, resulting in improved outcomes for those previously incarcerated.

Poster 208

Preliminary Findings and Implications for Interventions: Using Ecological Momentary Assessment in the COVID-19 Era

Victoria Wilburn, DHSc, OTR, FAOTA, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN

Accurately understanding recovery in the context of the daily lived experience would assist in person-centered evaluation and intervention. By using a daily data collection method, ecological momentary assessment (EMA), we assessed barriers to recovery in a more timely manner. Our identified objective was to evaluate how well using EMA as a data collection assessment works in richly understanding the lived experience of adolescents in recovery during the COVID-19 era.

Poster 209

Ecospirituality in Forensic Mental Health

Clark Heard, Southwest Centre for Forensic Mental Health Care, London, UK

Contributing Authors: Jared Scott, MSc.OT; Stephen Yeo, MDiv

Qualitative studies considers community based Ecospirituality group for forensic-affiliated clients supporting independent/autono-

mous nature participation (accounting forensic legal responsibilities). Our analysis discusses generalizability to practice.

Poster 210
Nutrition and Exercise for Wellness and Recovery: A Randomized Controlled Trial of a Manualized Community-Based Intervention

Catana Brown, Midwestern University-Glendale, Glendale, AZ
 Contributing Authors: Judith Cook, PhD; Jessica Jonikas, MA; Pamela Steigman, MA; Jane Burke-Miller, PhD

This poster will explore the process of developing and researching a manualized intervention to promote wellness and weight-loss for people with psychiatric disability. The results of the RCT indicate that NEW-R offers promise as an intervention that can initiate changes in healthy lifestyle behaviors and perceived competence towards making these changes. It may also be effective for weight loss when administered in a supportive setting.

Poster 211
Treating the Whole Person: Holistic Occupational Therapy With Underserved Cancer Survivors in Acute Care and Inpatient Psychiatry

Ricardo Ramirez, OTD, OTR/L, Rush University, Chicago, IL

Opportunities exist to provide more holistic care to underserved cancer survivors. Holistic occupational therapy can be delivered to survivors in acute care to meet their mental health needs and in inpatient psychiatry to facilitate physical health.

Poster 212
Building the Capacity of School-Based Occupational Therapists to Address School Mental Health

Lauren Thomas, OTD, OTR, Boston Public Schools, Boston, MA

This research reports on outcomes of a 5-month Community of Practice (CoP) designed to increase occupational therapists' capacity to address school mental health using the public health model. Pretest and posttest comparison revealed increased knowledge and perceived ability to apply a public health approach to address mental health. A discussion about implementing school-based mental health supports using the public health model and Every Moment Counts resources through an OT CoP will be included.

Poster 213
Occupational Therapy and LGBTQIA+ Youth: Addressing Mental Health Concerns Beyond Acceptance

Patricia Precin, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Columbia University, New York, NY

This poster will identify factors contributing to compromised mental health in the LGBTQIA+ youth population, the role of an occupational therapist in ameliorating mental health concerns, and strategies to improve mental health and well-being.

Poster 214
Interprofessional Education on Substance Use Disorders: Understanding Student Attitudes & Perceptions of Practice

Amy Mattila, PhD, OTR/L, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA
 Gabriella Santacecilia, Rebecca Lacroix

Health care students of today need to be prepared for a variety of population health issues. An interprofessional substance use disorder awareness program offers an opportunity for students to increase their knowledge and empowers them to work with individuals who have substance use disorder without bias or preconceived perceptions. Educators need to ensure students have the knowledge and disposition to treat all patients equally, regardless of their diagnosis or disability.

Poster 216
Pilot Study of a Virtual Mindfulness Program for Occupational Therapy Practitioners Experiencing Job Burnout

Susan Persia, Widener University, Chester, PA
 Contributing Author: Amy Carroll, OTD, OTR/L

This pilot study evaluated the feasibility of a virtual mindfulness program and informal mindfulness strategies to address burnout in occupational therapy practitioners. Preliminary results are encouraging.

Poster 217
The Benefits of an OT-Supported Education Program: A Case Report of a 20-Year-Old Undergraduate Student with ASD, Tourette's Disorder, and Anxiety

Rebecca Mannel, OTD, MOT, OTR, Stockton University Occupational Therapy Program, Galloway, NJ; Kaitlyn Krejdivski

This case report describes an undergraduate student's participation in an occupational therapy mentoring program. It features MSOT students in their Level I fieldwork and incorporates communication among several university student support programs.

Poster 218
Managing Inappropriate Sexual Behaviors (ISBs) in Pediatric Practice: Reducing the Risk of Harm to OT Practitioners, and the Therapeutic Relationship

Megan McKim, MOT, OTR/L; Jamie Sympson, CTRS, both of Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH

Contributing Author: Lindsey Pauline, MA, CCC-SLP, FACHE

In alignment with AOTA's commitment to professional well-being and Code of Ethics, this poster will explore evidence-based methods for managing inappropriate sexual behaviors (ISBs) in pediatric clinical practice, with a focus on harm reduction and safety.

Poster 219
Assessing Patterns of Daily Occupation to Promote Wellness in Occupational Therapy Doctorate Students

Megan Fix, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC

Contributing Author: Nancy Carson, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

A survey of OTD students at the Medical University of South Carolina found stress interferes with their ability to participate in daily occupations. In response, the authors proposed implementing an occupation-based wellness elective.

Poster 220
Determining the Mental Health Needs at a Student-Run Pro-Bono Therapy Clinic

Margaret Mahoney, Charleston, SC; Katy Smith; Caroline Ward, both of Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC

Contributing Authors: Liz Slaughter, OTD, OTR/L, CDP; Surya Boyd

This study consisted of a mental health needs assessment for patients at a student-run pro-bono clinic at the Medical University of South Carolina to determine the prevalence of psychological symptoms and interest in receiving mental health care. A needs assessment of this nature allows students to identify and apply future therapeutic OT interventions in conjunction with physical rehabilitative services to support the mental health of this population.

Poster 221
Paving the Path to Mental Wellness: An Occupational Therapy Practice Guideline to Promote Mental Health in Pediatrics

Christina Johnson, OTD, OTR/L, BOLD Pediatric Therapy Center, Beaverton, OR; Halley Read, OTR/L, Pacific University, Forest Grove, OR

COVID-19 has brought attention to the lack of mental health practice guidelines for children and youth. These practice guidelines serve as a foundation for clinicians to support, maintain, and restore positive mental health in pediatrics.

Poster 222
The Intersection of Maternal Mental Health and Breastfeeding Dyads: An Initial Exploratory Research Study of Occupational Therapist Confidence

Faith Saunders, OTD, OTR, University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences, Dallas, TX; Heather Truog, OTD, OTR/L, University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences, St. Augustine, FL

Contributing Author: Lisa Griggs-Stapleton, PhD, OTR

Evidence is lacking to support the role of OT practice within the domain of perinatal care, despite relevance to the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework. Establishing standards, protocols, and guidelines for care is necessary for this emerging area of practice.

Cancelled by Speaker

2022 AOTA Specialty Conference: Mental Health

Poster 223

Prevention Programs for Mental Health Issues Throughout the Lifespan

Patricia Precin, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Columbia University, New York, NY

Contributing Authors: Sharon Gutman, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA; Cori Barger; Chloë Carames; Sara Haberman; Kaitlin Krieger; Katelyn Lituchy; Priscilla Mariam; Kelsey Osburn; Joanne Rodriguez; Lara Siegal

A scoping review of occupational therapy literature describing prevention programs for mental health issues throughout the lifespan, and their effectiveness, will be presented to identify future directions in support of mental health prevention.

Poster 224

Occupational Therapy and Substance Use Disorders: Exploring Potential Roles Within Current Settings

Jenelle Bleiler, OTR/L, UMPC Susquehanna, Williamsport, PA; Melinda Cozzolino, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY

Contributing Author: Shannon Scott, OTD, OTR/L

Diagnostic criteria for substance use disorders (SUDs) falls within the OT scope of practice; however, fewer than 3% of OTs work with clients with SUDs. We will discuss roles of OT with this population, and the importance of further research and advocacy regarding OT with SUDs.

Concurrent Sessions

2:00 pm–3:00 pm

Franklin Room

Concurrent 207

Introduction to Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) for Occupational Therapy Practitioners

James Hill, OTR/L, Linden Oaks Behavioral Health, Chicago, IL

ACT is an emerging evidence-based therapy well aligned with the values and goals of occupational therapy and an occupation-centered approach. Participants will be introduced to ACT and its application to a variety of practice settings.

Fairfield

Concurrent 208

Examining and Selecting Assessments That are Inclusive of Diverse Service Recipients

Sharon Gutman, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Newark, NJ; Kathleen O'Day, Providence St. Vincent's, Beaverton, OR; Sandra Rogers, PhD, OTR/L, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ

This presentation will help therapists understand the process of identifying assessments that are meaningful and accessible to marginalized populations, and reflect diversity of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic level, disability, and gender identity.

Closing

3:05 pm–3:50 pm

Franklin Room

AOTA: Advancing Opportunity for Occupational Therapy in Mental and Behavioral Health

Heather Parsons, MSOT; Meghan Pudeler, both of the American Occupational Therapy Association, North Bethesda, MD

As federal, state, and local governments develop innovative ways to meet society's mental and behavioral health needs, there are increasing opportunities for occupational therapy practitioners. This session will focus on AOTA's efforts to advance occupational therapy in mental and behavioral health, including the progress that has been made, and opportunities and barriers. We will explore how AOTA is working to support practitioners, and how practitioners can advocate for these opportunities.



Thank You!

AOTA thanks our sponsors and exhibitors for their support of the 2022 Mental Health Specialty Conference.

Their support makes programs that advance knowledge and community among the profession possible.

Sponsored by



Exhibitors

