

NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**  
Division of Mental Health,  
Developmental Disabilities and  
Substance Use Services

# Side by Side with DMH/DD/SUS

*Improving our system together.*

Kelly Crosbie, MSW, LCSW

Director

NC DHHS Division of Mental Health,  
Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Services

**April 7, 2025**



**SIDE BY SIDE  
WITH DMH/DD/SUS**

Improving our system together.

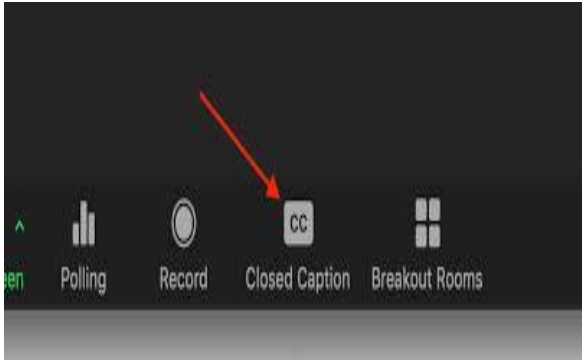


# Housekeeping

- Reminders about the webinar technology:
  - Please make sure you are using a computer or smart phone connected to the internet, and the audio function is on, and the volume is turned up.
  - Please make sure your microphone is muted for the duration of the call unless you are speaking or asking questions.
  - Questions can be submitted any time during the presentation using the “Q&A” box located on your control panel.



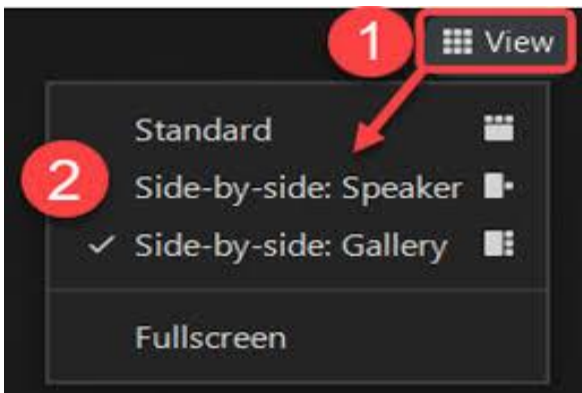
# Housekeeping



- American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters and Closed-Captioning
  - ASL Interpreters and Closed-Captioning options will be available for today's event.
  - For closed-captioning options select the "Closed Caption" feature located on your control panel.

Intérpretes en lengua de signos americana (ASL) y subtítulos:

Habrán intérpretes de ASL y opciones de subtítulos disponibles para el evento de hoy. Para opciones de subtítulos, seleccione la función "Subtítulos" ubicada en su panel de control.



- Adjusting Video Layout and Screen View
  - Select the "View" feature located in the top-right hand corner of your screen.

# Agenda

1. Introductions
2. MH/SU/IDD/TBI System Announcements & Updates
3. Focus: National Autism Acceptance Month Panel Discussion

# Kelly Crosbie, MSW, LCSW, DMH/DD/SUS Director (she/her)



- 30 years in MH/SU/IDD Field
- 13 years in DHHS
- DMHDDDSUS since Dec 2022
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)
- Person with lived experience

# MH/SU/IDD/TBI System Announcements & Updates

# Federal Funding Updates

- We continue assessing the impact of cuts to federal grant funding related to COVID and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). These were supplemental funds.
- Some providers are affected. We are contacting them by phone and email.
- Our standard grant funding remains in place.
- We are working to determine if other funding sources can be used to cover COVID and ARPA-related cuts.

# DMH/DD/SUS Partners with Hazel Health

## Providing Virtual Mental Health Services for K-12 Students in North Carolina

- Students across North Carolina will soon have access to high-quality, virtual mental health care through [Hazel Health](#) supported by an investment from [DMH/DD/SUS](#) and [UnitedHealthcare](#)
- Part of a broader effort announced last year to provide virtual school-centered mental health care for up to one million students across select states nationwide
- Nearly 400,000 students, almost 30% of North Carolina's K-12 student population will have access to Hazel Health's mental health services



For all Students



Care from diverse, bilingual providers



Convenient for Families

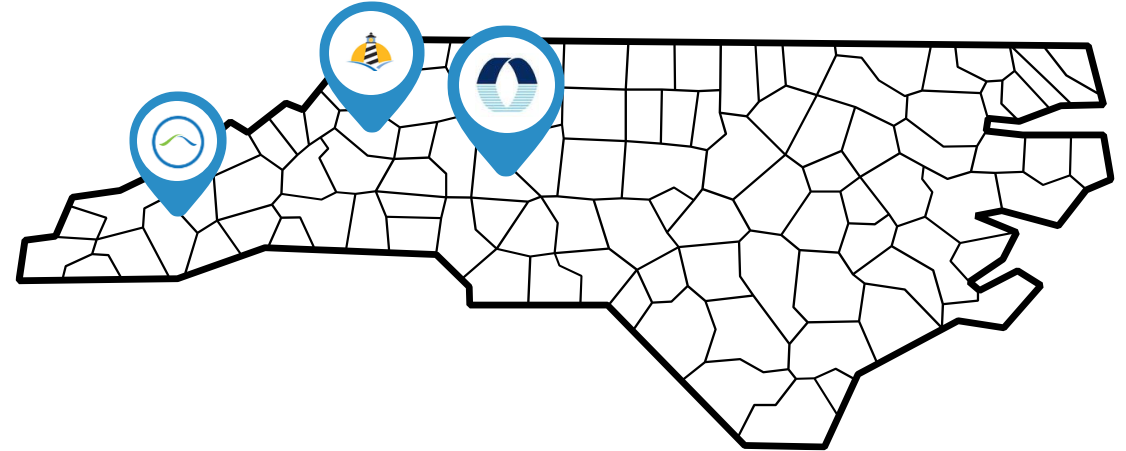


# New Behavioral Health Urgent Care Centers (BHUCs)



## Caldwell County BHUC

Tuesday, February 25, 2025



## Haywood County BHUC

Tuesday, March 4, 2025



## Rowan County BHUC

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

# Toolkit: 1915(i) Resources

The 1915(i) resources page was updated with materials to share information with people who may be eligible for services, as well as caregivers.

The toolkit is available in **English** and **Spanish**. It includes:

- **1915(i) CLS Flyer**: How to get help with life skills and daily activities
- **1915(i) Overview Flyer**: How to get support at home or in your community
- **Social Content**: Social media posts on 1915(i) services that you can share on your social and digital channels.
- **1915(i) Web Pages**: What to know about 1915(i) services, example of available supports and how to get help understanding your options.
- **And more!**

## Bilingual Toolkit Materials Available for Download:

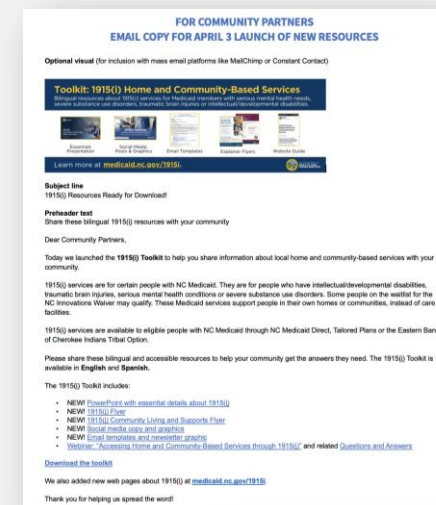
### Essentials Presentation on available services



### Social Media Posts & Graphics



### Email templates for members and partners to download the toolkit



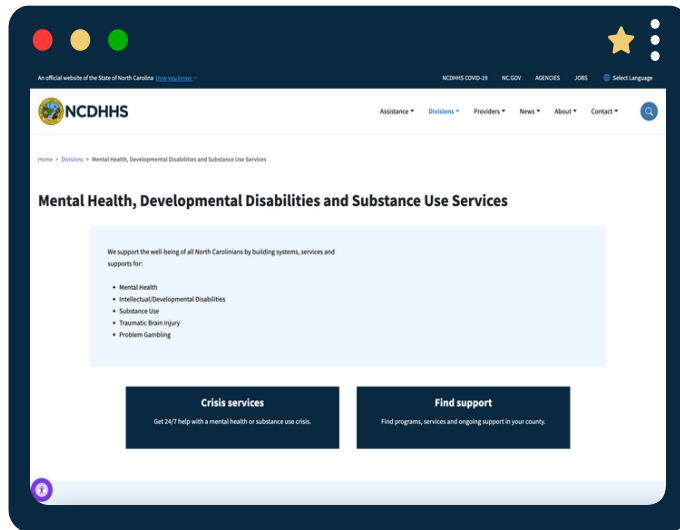
### Flyers to share information about home-based services and supports.



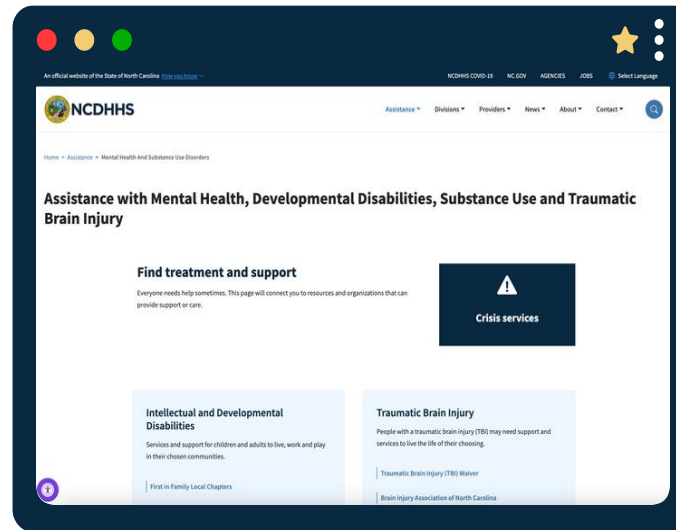
# Additional NEW DMHDDSUS Webpages coming soon!

## 10 New webpages to go live the week of 4/14:

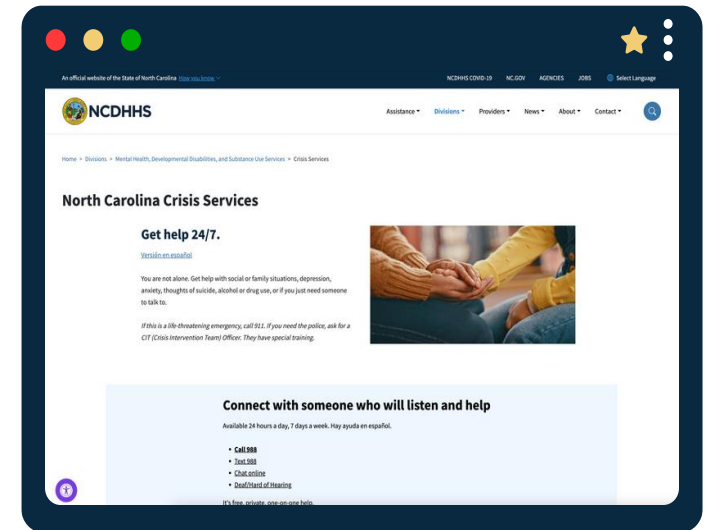
- Strategic plan
- Data and reports
- Providers
- Grant Opportunities
- Service definitions
- And more!



[DMHDDSUS Homepage](#)



[Assistance Page](#)



[Crisis Page](#)

# NC Recovery Courts Conference 2025

## Creating Lasting Change

**April 9-11, 2025 | Benton Convention Center,  
301 W 5th St, Winston-Salem, NC**

This year's conference welcomes statewide recovery court teams and partners and is geared to recovery courts working with individuals involved in the Adult Recovery Courts, Veterans Treatment Courts, DWI/DUI Courts, and Mental Health Courts.

A separate conference is being planned for later this year geared specifically to family and youth treatment courts.

**Registration:** [Register here](#)





# 2025 Brain Injury Conference: Thriving Together

**April 13-15, 2025 | Wrightsville Beach, NC**

Join survivors, caregivers, and professionals for a three-day event focused on brain injury awareness, rehabilitation, and community support.

Keynotes will cover TBI care, AI in healthcare, and personal recovery journeys..

**Continuing education credits available!**

**Registration:** [Register here](#)

*For detailed agenda and updates, visit the [conference website](#).*



# 2025 Addiction Medicine Conference

**April 11-12, 2025 | Renaissance Asheville Hotel, Asheville, NC**

This conference offers clinically relevant substance use disorder education for healthcare providers across various settings.

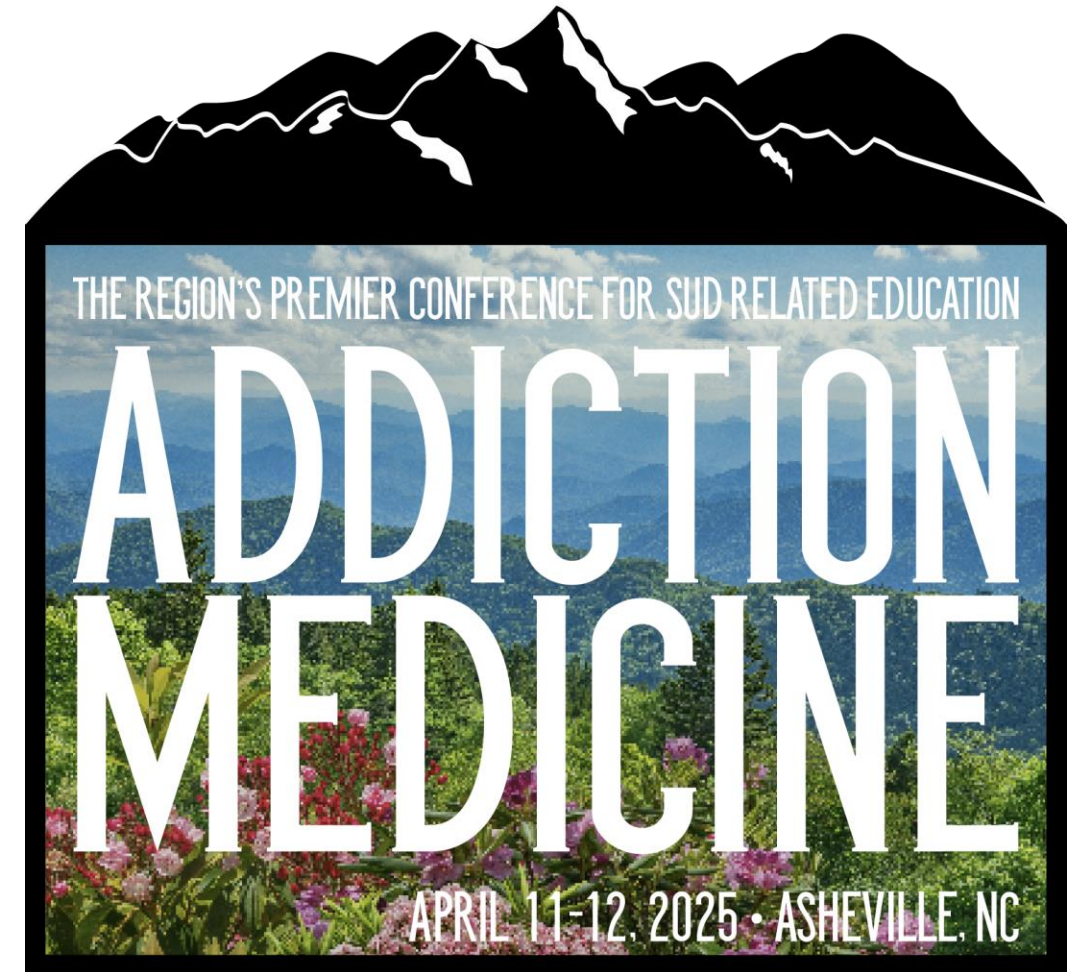
Attendees can expect sessions on the evolving drug landscape, practical neurobiology of addiction, disaster preparedness, and more.

Scholarships are available for eligible medical, NP, and PA students, residents, or fellows interested in addiction medicine.

**Registration:** [Register here](#)

**Scholarship Information:** [Learn more](#)

*For detailed agenda and updates, visit the [conference website](#).*



# Upcoming SUD Prevention & Treatment Conferences

## 1. APNC 2025 Spring Conference | April 21-23, 2025

- **Time:** 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
- **Focus:** Bringing together addiction professionals to discuss advancements in substance use treatment and recovery.

Registration: [Register here](#)

## 2. North Carolina Prevention Conference | April 24-25, 2025

- **Time:** 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
- **Focus:** Help us develop a new Prevention Strategy for North Carolina!
- **Registration:** [Register here](#)





**April is Autism Acceptance Month!** We value the unique talents, strengths, and perspectives of autistic people/people with autism. We strive to build programs and policies that ensure people with autism feel included, respected, supported, and accepted for who they are!

**NC DMH/DD/SUS:**

[Inclusion Connects](#)

- Promoting access to services for all individuals in need of services, including those on the Innovations Waiver Waitlist

[Inclusion Works](#)

- Offering services and support to help individuals with I/DD find and maintain jobs in the community at competitive wages

[Autism Society](#)

Since 1965, the Autism Society of America has been connecting people to the resources they need through education, advocacy, resources, and community programming.

**Get involved:** Access the [Awareness Month webpage](#) for outreach materials and educational resources.

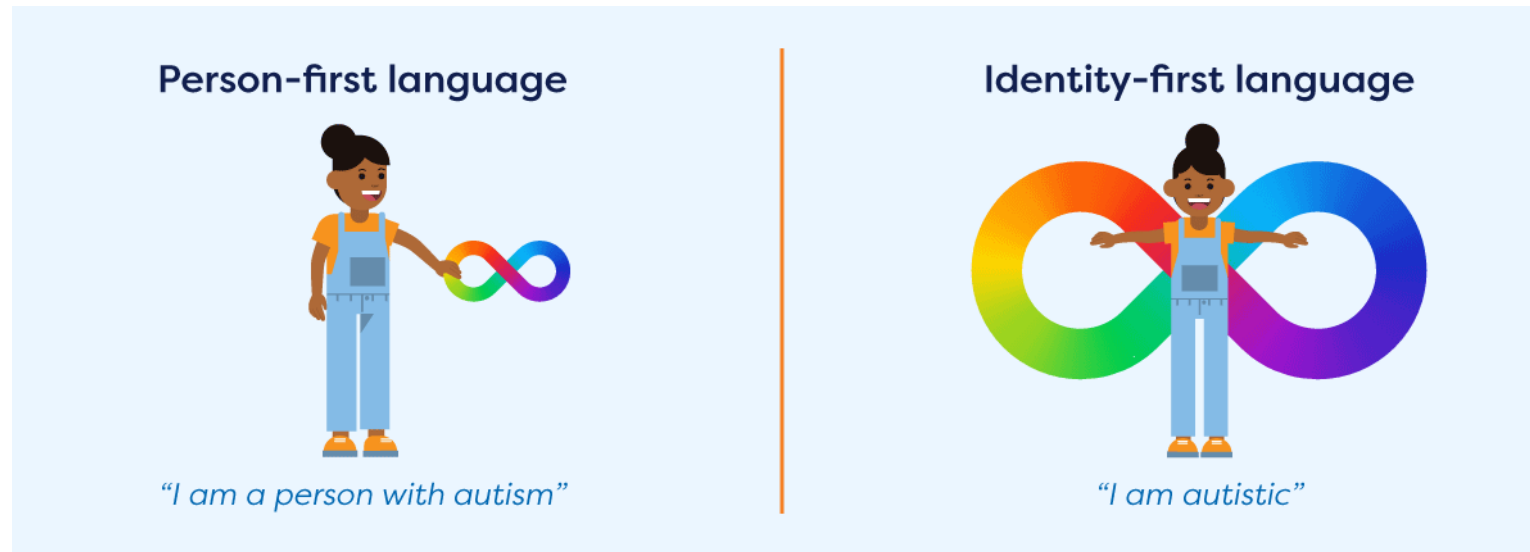
[Autism Society of North Carolina](#)

The Autism Society of North Carolina improves the lives of individuals with autism, supports their families, and educates communities.

**Get involved:** Access the [Awareness Month Blog](#) for outreach materials and educational resources.



# Person-first & Identify-first Language



- Person-first language is used to avoid language about impairments that dehumanizes or stigmatizes people.
- Identity-first language is used by communities that don't view their disability as an impairment.

# Panel Discussion

## Ray Hemachandra (he/him)

Consultant, Trainer, Speaker & Autism/IDD Advocate, Golden Moon Circles Consulting



- Father of a 24-year-old autistic man
- President of Board of Directors, Liberty Corner Enterprises
- Chair of Family Support Network of WNC Advisory Council for 13 years
- Vaya CFAC member since 2018

## Jade McWilliams (they/them)

Multiply Disabled Activist, Artist & Speaker



- Mentor for autistic/neurodivergent people
- 2022 NC Tide Empowering Hope Award
- 2021 Tzedek Social Justice Fund Impact Award
- Emphasizes intersections of disability, poverty, queerness and abuse

# Panel Discussion

## Courtney Johnson (she/they)

Disability Rights Advocate, Just Keep Stimming: Autism Advocacy & Resources



- Autistic adult and sibling of autistic brothers
- TN Council on Developmental Disabilities
- TN Technology Access Program Advisory Council
- AAC user

## Jackie Pilgrim (she/her)

Advocate & Mentor for Neurodivergent Parents of Children with IDD, Autism's Love: The Pilgrimage



- Durham NC Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities
- Communication Director, National Black Disability Coalition
- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) presenter for IDD/epilepsy
- Board of Directors, NAMI NC

# Panel Discussion

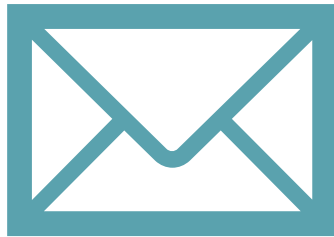
## **Gerald Parrish (he/him)**

Advocate Who Empowers Neurodivergent, Disabled,  
& Racially Minoritized People

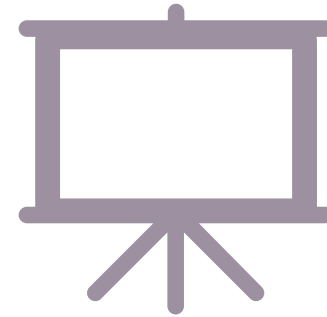


- Lead Facilitator at ALP-NC
- Advisory council member for ASNC and CANDOR
- Board member for B3 Coffee
- Special interests: diversity, inclusion, and the power of music

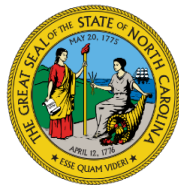
# Q&A



Questions and feedback are welcome at  
[BHIDD.HelpCenter@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:BHIDD.HelpCenter@dhhs.nc.gov).



The recording and presentation slides for this  
webinar will be posted to the [Community  
Engagement & Training](#) webpage.



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by Side Webinars**



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