

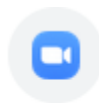
Mindful of Mental Health

Friday, October 15, 2021

Virtual Via Zoom



ASAGA's Annual Conference this year will be offered 100% virtually this year via Zoom



Zoom

We hope to be back together in 2022

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2021
AGENDA

Zoom Check in from 8:00 am to 8:30am Show off your Favorite HAT!

Keynote Note Speaker – Dr. Debra Pinals 8:45am to 10:15 am

Perspectives on Guardianships for Persons with Mental Illness

Guardianships involve individuals with a wide-ranging number of conditions that impact their decision-making ability. Persons with mental illness represent a potentially vulnerable group of individuals for whom decision-making is challenged and who may need guardianship. When supporting and advocating for individuals with mental health issues, it is important for guardians to realize that symptoms may fluctuate in severity, that family members may have worked hard to encourage adherence to treatment and thus guardians may be challenged by some of that history. In addition, guardians may be needed to help navigate with treatment teams across a range of community based and hospital settings where individuals may present with complex issues and needs. Laws specific to persons with mental illness can differ from those with intellectual disabilities, for example. Psychiatric hospitalization decisions are different from decisions about taking psychiatric medications. This presentation will review some of the nuances related to supporting individuals with mental illness who need guardianship and advocacy.

Breaking the Barriers Part I – Eleanor Lanier 10:30 to 12:15 pm

This two-part session is designed to be highly interactive. Participants will share perspectives on barriers to tailored orders under the current system, learn about options and best practices used in other jurisdictions, and discuss ways to improve the guardianship system to meet the needs of stakeholders more effectively.

Part 1 of this two- part session will focus on developing a shared language for limiting or tailoring guardianship orders. Participants will be asked to share their experiences and challenges. This session will include a discussion of barriers under the current system that make tailoring orders a challenge and will include how to assess the most pressing needs, and how to identify whether a limited order might be appropriate in a particular case.

12:15 to 12:45pm Lunch Break 12:45 to 1:00 Bingo 1:00 to 1:15 ASAGA Annual meeting

Breaking the Barriers Part II – Eleanor Lanier 1:15pm to 2:45pm

In Part 2, we will use scenarios drawn from case files to discuss and identify options for tailoring orders and explore ways to overcome barriers identified in Part 1. In this session, participants will develop a realistic action plan for facilitating the use of tailored orders, as well as other potential improvements to the current system that might better meet needs and honor autonomy and self-determination to the maximum extent possible.

Alaska’s Section 1115, Gennifer Moreau-Johnson 3:00pm to 4:30pm

Join Gennifer in this session regarding Alaska’s Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver for Behavioral Health Reform update. What it is, how we got here, and where we are



Debra A. Pinals, M.D.

Debra A. Pinals, M.D. is the Director of the Program in Psychiatry, Law, and Ethics at the University of Michigan and the Medical Director for Behavioral Health and Forensic Programs at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Pinals is Past President of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law. She has authored many peer-reviewed and other publications regarding law and psychiatry. She currently chairs the Medical Directors Division of the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors. In addition, she has been the lead author on the four policy papers for that organization, including “The Vital Role of Specialized Approaches: Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in the Mental Health System.” She has developed programs and services that offer peer support and specialized case management for justice involved adults and youth with co-occurring mental health and substance use conditions and has treated and consulted on individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in outpatient and state hospital settings. Most recently she served as a lead subject matter expert related to competence to stand trial systems issues for the SAMHSA Gains Center and Senior Consultant to Policy Research Associates.



Eleanor Lanier

Ellie Lanier is an Emerita Clinical Professor at the University of Georgia Law School. She retired last year after serving as Associate Dean for Clinics and Experiential Learning Programs at the University of Georgia School of Law, teaching Elder Law and running the Mediation Practicum. She has published numerous articles on elder law and guardianship topics and has years of experience working on adult guardianship issues. She is a graduate of from Emory University School of Law, the University of Georgia (M.A.) and Vassar College (B.A.).



Gennifer Moreau-Johnson

Gennifer Moreau-Johnson has twenty years of experience in social services, health care policy, and advocacy in Alaska. Specializing in benefits and service delivery systems for vulnerable populations receiving Medicaid and/or disability benefits. Extensive work with service delivery providers across the state, tribal, and state agencies, and long-term working relationships with key stakeholders in health care, waiver services, behavioral health, advocacy, and court appointed services since 2001. After working with a non-profit service provider from 2007 to 2013, returned to state government and focused on interdivisional and cross-departmental initiatives, collaborative work efforts, and innovative federal initiatives, including the expansion of Medicaid, and now coordinating the implementation of the 1115 waiver and behavioral health reform.



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

With great thanks to our conference partners, ASAGA has scholarship spots to award this year!

Under our Conference tab on the website, look for ASAGA 2021 Conference for the online application. Family guardians and conservators will have priority but there are no other criteria for application.

We encourage any professionals working with guardians, conservators and especially those at risk or subject to a court order (respondents) to apply if funding is needed.

A LITTLE *CHANGE* THIS YEAR

Given Covid-19 and two of our presenters being out of state and requesting to present virtually, ASAGA has opted to remain virtual this year. Instead of doing two solid days of a virtual conference, we are offering a one day conference with bonus webinars in October. These webinars will be free and open to the - all with the Mindful of Mental Health theme. Join us on October 6th for Being Mindful of Caregiver Mental Health, October 13th for Mental Health Rights on Commitments and Medication and October 27th for Restoration of Rights and Mental Health – all webinars from 12 to 1:30pm. CLE's and certificates will be provided unless noted.

DRESS CODE

For any of you who attended last year's change from in-person to virtual, I attempted to spice up our Zoom together time with an array of funny hats. Now, its your turn! Put your camera on during check in and let us see your favorite hat! We'll put together a poll for voting and the winner will get a very cool prize. FAMILY FRIENDLY PLEASE!

Registration Information

Registration **Monday, August 2nd, 2021 to October 13th, 2021 at 5pm**

Registration	Regular	\$40.00
	Late (AFTER 10/8)	\$50.00

Registration will end on **10/13/21** and the links to the Zoom Meeting will be sent by 3:00pm on 10/14/21.

Refunds are allowable until 10/8/21 minus the Eventbrite fee

Payment is by Eventbrite (credit card) or Check. Check payments must be received by 10/8/21



Due to the continuation of Covid-19 pandemic, for the safety of all, ASAGA will be holding this year's conference 100% virtually via Zoom. ASAGA is not able to provide technical assistance on the day of the conference but will provide a test sign in at **12:00 pm on Friday, October 8th** prior to the conference links being sent out. You can also see a Zoom tutorial about joining meetings or using controls at the link below. Zoom is an easy platform – you can even participate using your smartphone by downloading the free Zoom app.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-video-tutorials>

CONFERENCE PARTNERS

ASAGA is honored to have our partners! We thank them for their support and commitment!

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