

Resilience Rising : Behavioral Health Symposium 2026 Agenda

Date & Time: April 10th 9:00 AM – 3:45PM

Audience:

Law Enforcement / First Responders / Judicial • Educators • Healthcare Professionals • Social Services & Community Providers • Community Leaders

Clovis Community College

Registration & Networking

8:30 – 9:00 AM

- Registration

Opening Plenary – Breaking the Cycle of Youth Violence

9:00 – 10:30 AM

Session Title: *Breaking the Cycle: Preventing Youth Violence Through Early Intervention*

Speaker: Jasmine Desiderio

The Violence Intervention Program (VIP), Division of ACS, consists of six specialty teams that work collaboratively with public safety agencies and community partners to prevent and interrupt cycles of violence through holistic, trauma-informed responses that promote early intervention, long-term stabilization, and community safety.

Break

10:30 – 10:40 AM

Breakout Session I -Responding to Trauma: Roles, Responsibilities, and Resilience

10:40 – 11:40 AM

Pathway A: Law Enforcement / First Responders / Judicial

- **Title:** *Trauma on the Front Lines: Crisis Response Through a Trauma-Informed Lens*

- **Speaker:** Kendra McLaughlin

Participants will learn to

1. Recognize trauma responses in crisis situations
2. Apply trauma-informed approaches during response
3. Understand their professional role in trauma-sensitive systems
4. Build personal resilience while working in high-trauma environment

Pathway B: Educators

- **Title:** *Building Resilient Schools: Strengthening Students and Systems*

- **Speaker:** New Mexico National Guard

1. Understand the core components of the resiliency program and how it supports student well-being
2. Identify how resiliency skills can be taught and reinforced in the classroom and school environment
3. Explore strategies for integrating the program into existing school structures and daily practices
4. Recognize the impact of resilience-building on student behavior, emotional regulation, and academic success
5. Determine readiness and next steps for bringing the resiliency program to their school community

Pathway C: Social Services & Community Providers / Healthcare Professionals

- **Title:** *When Violence Hits Home: Impact and Survivor Perspective*

- **Speaker:** Nathaniel Tavarez

Participants will learn to:

1. Understand the short- and long-term impacts of violence on individuals and families
2. Incorporate survivor perspectives into compassionate, effective service delivery
3. Apply trauma-informed approaches when working with individuals affected by violence
4. Identify community resources and support that promote healing and recovery

Lunch & Networking / Resource Tables

11:40 AM – 12:20 PM

- Lunch provided

- Networking and resource tables

Afternoon Plenary / Keynote – Strengthening Community Response

12:30 – 1:30 PM

Session Title: *“Hearing Every Student: How School Pulse Strengthens Early Intervention”*

Speaker: Iuri Melo

Join the founder of School Pulse for an engaging session on how real-time student feedback can transform the way schools support mental health and well-being. This presentation will explore how School Pulse uses simple text-based check-ins to give students a voice, identify emerging needs, and connect them to timely support.

Participants will gain insight into trends in student mental health, the power of early intervention, and practical strategies for implementing student-centered approaches in schools. This session will highlight how schools can create more responsive, supportive environments where every student feels seen, heard, and valued.

Breakout Session II – Supporting the Helpers

1:35 – 2:35 PM

Pathway A: Law Enforcement / First Responders

- **Title:** *Who Cares for the Caregivers? Wellness for First Responders*

- **Speaker:** Seth Baker, Agape

Participants will learn to:

1. Recognize the signs of stress, burnout, and secondary trauma in first responders
2. Explore practical strategies for maintaining mental, emotional, and physical wellness
3. Identify resources and support systems available for first responders
4. Develop personal resilience practices to sustain effectiveness in high-stress roles

Pathway B: Educators

- **Title:** *Trauma-Informed Classrooms: Practical Tools for Educators*

- **Speaker:** Kendra McLaughlin

Participants will learn to:

1. Recognize how trauma may influence student behavior and learning
2. Identify fight, flight, freeze responses in the classroom
3. Apply trauma-informed strategies that promote emotional safety and regulation
4. Use supportive language and relationship-building techniques to respond to challenging behavior
5. Identify strategies that support educator well-being

Pathway C: Social Services & Community Providers / Healthcare Professionals

- **Title:** *Housing as Healing: Transitional Housing as a Behavioral Health Strategy*

- **Speaker:** Justin Nutt

Participants will learn to:

1. Understand how transitional housing supports recovery and stability for individuals with behavioral health needs
 2. Explore the connection between safe housing and improved mental health outcomes
 3. Identify best practices for integrating housing strategies into behavioral health care plans
 4. Learn how to collaborate with community partners to provide holistic support for clients
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Break

2:35 – 2:45 PM

Breakout Session III – Moving From Response to Prevention

2:45 – 3:45 PM

Pathway A: Law Enforcement / First Responders / Judicial

- **Title:** *Interrupting Juvenile Violence: Programs, Practice, and Q&A*

- **Speaker:** Jasmine Desiderio

1. Understand the origins and development of local juvenile violence intervention programs
2. Identify effective strategies for implementing these programs in their communities
3. Learn best practices from real-world experiences and case studies
4. Discuss challenges and solutions in engaging youth and community partners

Pathway B: Educators

- **Title:** *From Data to Action: Using School Pulse to Support Students*

- **Speaker:** Iuri Melo

Participants will learn to:

1. Navigate and interpret the School Pulse dashboard to monitor student well-being
2. Translate data trends into actionable strategies for classroom and school support
3. Identify at-risk students and implement timely interventions
4. Maximize the tools and features of School Pulse to strengthen student support systems

Pathway C: Social Services & Community Providers / Healthcare Professionals

- **Title:** *“What Happens Next Matters: Guiding Patients from Crisis to Care”*

- **Speaker:** Kerra James

Participants will learn to:

1. Understand the hospital’s discharge coordination model at RGH for behavioral health patients
 2. Apply structured approaches to guide patients from crisis to follow-up care
 3. Collaborate effectively across hospital, community, and social service systems
 4. Identify strategies to improve patient outcomes and continuity of care
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Agenda subject to change. Sessions are designed to support practical application, cross-sector collaboration, and sustainability of behavioral health efforts in rural communities.