

SHAPING THE FUTURE

2019 ATSA Conference | Wednesday November 6 | 1:30 PM – 5:00 PM

P-22

Community Partnership Supervision and Treatment Specific to Homeless and Mentally Disordered

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Wasatch Mental Health
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Utah Law Enforcement

This course teaches advanced community partnership-based methods for helping sex offenders who are also homeless and seriously mentally ill or intellectually disabled. We will discuss how and why these offenders fail more often or fail differently from other offenders, and how to help them maintain boundaries and not re-offend. This course teaches why outreach is necessary for this population. It teaches three different forms of outreach, how to do each of them, and why sometimes the best outreach is done by others you partner with. This course teaches how to set up community partnerships for providing best resources to prevent recidivism.

Learning Goals:

- Be aware of specific reasons sex offenders who are also homeless and struggle with severe mental illness or intellectual disability can affect recidivism and re-offending.
- Understand how housing homeless people with serious mental illness is a community-based process, and how to begin identifying and navigating resources in your area.
- Be able to describe three forms of outreach and why they require different skills and resources.
- Understand how the sex offender registry can be a case management tool.
- Understand how to prioritize among sex offender compliance, homelessness needs, and mental health needs.
- Understand how and why to begin setting up a partnership between law enforcement and social workers for homeless and mentally ill sex offenders.

Mitchell Harris, PhD, is a clinical psychologist with years of experience working with homeless people with severe mental illness, and has come to understand some of the special obstacles faced by homeless and mentally ill sex offenders. During his work on the street with homeless people with severe mental illness, he managed state grants for homeless and SPMI services and learned where and how agencies need to coordinate to make progress in this population.

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Tim Keffer is a Social Worker with a Utah Law Enforcement Agency and Case Manager with the Inn Between serving homeless individuals with case management and end of life services. Tim has years of experience in multiple agencies, providing services for individuals experiencing homelessness who have a severe mental illness and are in crisis. He has a specialization in helping homeless SOs register and connect to services. Tim has seen firsthand the costs to individuals of the lack of coordination among agencies and has pioneered several initiatives to link services, agencies, streamline housing for sex offenders, and was recognized Utah state-wide in 2017 for his work with sex offenders, homelessness, intellectual disability, and mental illness. He also received the 2017 Humanitarian Award from the Salt Lake City Police Department.