THE SIXTH ANNUAL
CIBHS EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES SYMPOSIUM

“EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES: IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE REAL WORLD”

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

APRIL 21–22, 2016
DOUBLETREE BY HILTON SACRAMENTO
2001 POINT WEST WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA 95815
THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016

REGISTRATION

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

OPENING REMARKS

Percy Howard III, LCSW, Chief Program Officer, California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS)

KEYNOTE:

Dean L. Fixen, PhD, Senior Scientist, National Implementation Research Network

The gap between aspirations and accomplishments is growing as pressures increase to use “evidence-based programs” and achieve higher standards. Rapid expansion in implementation practice and science provides a mission driven approach to improving outcomes on purpose. Purposefully closing the aspiration gap is the task of our generation.

BREAK

SESSION ONE

WORKING THROUGH DIFFICULTIES AND CHALLENGES AS AN FFT SUPERVISOR

Kellie Armey

This workshop is specifically designed for current FFT supervisors. The workshop will outline how to assess strengths, difficulties and challenges of team members and the team. Supervisor’s will learn how to intervene in a manner that allows for the development of clinical adherence and competence.

SKILLSTREAMING THE ADOLESCENT ELEMENTARY AND PRE-SCHOOL STUDENT

Mark Amendola, LCSW, BCD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.
Robert Oliver, EdD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.

This workshop will review implementation intentions for Skillstreaming for varying developmental ages.

THE USE OF THE UCLA PTSD REACTION INDEX IN THE DELIVERY OF TF-CBT

Jennifer Wilgocki, MS, LCSW, Child & Family Therapist, Midwest Center for Psychotherapy and Sex Therapy

The use of a trauma-specific, standardized, interview-based assessment instrument is an essential tool for anyone working with children and adolescents with behavioral and emotional difficulties. This session will be an overview of the UCLA PTSD Reaction Index (DSM-5 version) and also an overview of other dimensions of trauma-specific assessment. Additionally, information will be presented about how interpreting the UCLA Index leads directly to individualizing the components of TF-CBT and beginning the process of gradual exposure to trauma memories.
BEYOND BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS: ADDRESSING YOUTH AND PARENT MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IN FFT

Julie Elmenhurst

This workshop is specifically designed for current FFT therapists. FFT has been shown to be effective in improving a range of mental health problems for both youth and parents. Oftentimes, however, mental health, trauma, and substance use make therapists feel overwhelmed and leads to their questioning whether FFT is a good fit. This presentation provides detailed information about how to match FFT to address risks associated with mental health problems. Specific attention will be given to strategies for dealing with trauma, developmental issues/disabilities and mood disorders.

EVIDENCE BASED TREATMENT: WHY COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY

FACILITATOR: Angela Riddle
Troy Thompson
Leslie Sokol, PhD,

Hundreds of randomly controlled trials have shown the efficacy of the cognitive behavioral therapy model across a diverse array of psychological, medical, and life problems. In this workshop, participants will gain an understanding of evidence-based, cognitive behavioral therapy.

FEEDBACK INFORMED TREATMENT – GENDER HEALTH CENTER

Alex Filippelli, BSW, Program Manager, Gender Health Center
David Nylund, PhD, LCSW, Clinical Director, Gender Health Center

Available evidence indicates that the effectiveness of psychotherapy has not improved despite 100 years of theorizing and research. FIT, a simple, valid, and reliable alternative is designed to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of treatment. FIT uses actual ongoing feedback to empirically tailor services to the individual client needs and characteristics.

IMPLEMENTATION QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Dean L. Fixen, PhD, Senior Scientist, National Implementation Research Network

Questions posed by the participants will be used to illustrate the use of the Active Implementation Frameworks for resolving issues related to changing practice, organization functioning, and system supports. The goal is to improve the outcomes of human services and the benefits to people.
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM  **SESSION ONE, CONTINUED**

**DATA DRIVEN DECISION MAKING – EBHS**

*Rikke Addis, MA, Associate, California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions*  
*Steve Weatherbee, Founder and Owner, eCenter Research, Inc.*

CIBHS, in collaboration with eCenter Research, Inc., has developed a web-based data collection platform by the name eBHS (electronic Behavioral Health Solutions). This workshop will have examples of how eBHS has transformed how CIBHS supports evaluation for evidence-based practices such as FFT.

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM  **LUNCH** (included with registration)

1:00 PM – 2:15 PM  **SESSION TWO**

**LEADERSHIP STYLES**  
*Kellie Armey*

This workshop is specifically designed for current FFT supervisors. This workshop will teach FFT supervisors to become leaders that promote the ongoing development of their FFT team.

**THE PREPARED ADULT UTILIZING AGGRESSION REPLACEMENT TRAINING®**  
*Mark Amendola, BCD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.*  
*Robert Oliver, EdD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.*

This workshop will review the components of the Prepared Adult. Implementation concerns will be addressed for utilization of an adult population. Videos will be reviewed showing actual sessions of each component.

**CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND TF-CBT**  
*Jennifer Wilgocki, MS, LCSW, Child & Family Therapist, Midwest Center for Psychotherapy and Sex Therapy*

This session will focus on the specific applications of the TF-CBT model for children who have been sexually abused. It will include information about components delivery, caregiver sessions, intrafamilial sexual abuse considerations, and commercially sexually exploited youth.
WHAT TO DO WHEN CLIENTS DON’T WANT TO TALK, TALK TOO MUCH, AND OTHER FORMS OF RESISTANCE

Julie Elmenhurst

This workshop is specifically designed for current FFT therapists. Every FFT therapist has come across various forms of resistance and challenges in the room with families. This workshop will include dozens of examples of matching to various forms of resistance, environmental distractions, logistical complications, clients not talking, and clients talking too much.

CBT: TEACHING AND MEASURING COMPETENCY

FACILITATOR: Angela Riddle

Troy Thompson, Executive Director, The Academy of Cognitive Therapy
Leslie Sokol, PhD, Director of Education & Chair of Credentialing Committee, The Academy of Cognitive Therapy

This workshop will discuss the CTRS and how it can be used in both training and assessment of competence. Training CBT competence is a critical component of dissemination. Various CBT training models and implementation will be discussed.

HOW TO KNIT A SWEATER WITHOUT A PATTERN - IMPLEMENTATION, YOUTH ENGAGEMENT, AND TIPS FOR TIP”

Joseph Solomita, LCSW, Managing Director Stars Training Academy Stars Behavioral Health Group

Implementation of evidenced based practices (ESPs) should follow research-based steps. However in reality, implementation of ESPs rarely goes according to plan. In Humboldt County, the Transition to Independence Process (TIP) Model, was implemented by intrepid County staff. This workshop covers strategies Humboldt personnel used to navigate successful TIP implementation.
MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING AND DIALECTICAL BEHAVIORAL THERAPY: EXPLORING THE CONNECTIONS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR EFFECTIVE CHANGE

**Kristin L. Dempsey, MS, MFT, LPCC**, Senior Associate, California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions

This presentation will review the common effective features of both Motivational Interviewing and Dialectical behavioral therapy and how the approach/theory can be integrated to best address challenging clinical presentations such as personality and substance use disorders. Current research addressing the integration of the models will be discussed as well, and case examples will be provided for illustration of how to use MI and DBT together in treatment.

EVALUATING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS TREATMENT

**Darren Urada, PhD**, Associate Research Psychologist, UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs

This session will provide an overview of performance and outcome measures commonly used in the evaluation of SUD treatment programs and systems, discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each, and will include a discussion of whether and how SUD and mental health evaluations might converge shared measures.

2:15 PM – 2:30 PM BREAK

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM REAL WORLD IMPLEMENTATION: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS AT THE COUNTY LEVEL

PLENARY

**Lillian Bando**

**Cindy Guz, Deputy Director**, Imperial County Behavioral Health, Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist

**Amanda Pyper, MPA, MFT**, Behavioral Health Manager, Oxnard Adult Region, Ventura County

This year’s plenary panel will outline the challenges with implementing Evidence Based Practices throughout a county system. We will then discuss various solutions that have been effectively used for implementation challenges such as: Training cost, adequate referrals, appropriate documentation, and accountability, among others.
TEAM DEVELOPMENT
Kellie Armey
This workshop is specifically designed for current FFT supervisors. Information on the stages of team development will be presented with ideas on how to supervise at each stage of the development process.

ANGER CONTROL TRAINING – IMPLEMENTATION AND MODIFICATIONS
Mark Amendola, LCSW, BCD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.
Robert Oliver, EdD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.
This workshop will review protocol modifications made to the Anger Control Training Module of Aggression Replacement Training®.

THE BALANCING ACT BETWEEN FIDELITY AND FLEXIBILITY IN TF-CBT
Jennifer Wilgocki, MS, LCSW, Child & Family Therapist, Midwest Center for Psychotherapy and Sex Therapy
In any evidence-based practice fidelity must be balanced with flexibility. In the delivery of TF-CBT this is particularly important. This session will explore how to measure fidelity with a specific fidelity adherence scale while also flexibly accommodating to the idiosyncracies of specific cases. There will be time for consultation, so participants should feel free to bring case-specific TF-CBT questions.

FUNCTIONAL FAMILY THERAPY CHILD WELFARE
Julie Elmenhurst
This workshop is intended for clinicians who are interested in learning more about providing family services in a child welfare context. This workshop will present the framework on the adaptation, Functional Family Therapy-Child Welfare model (FFTCW). It will include an outline of the many risk factors FFTCW addresses including trauma, domestic violence, parental mental health, abuse, neglect, and parenting skills deficit, and working developmental issues/disabilities. This workshop will include examples of doing FFT with children of all ages.

INTERPERSONAL THERAPY INSTITUTE
Scott Stuart, MD, Professor of Psychiatry and Psychology, University of Iowa, Interpersonal Psychotherapy Institute
Interpersonal Psychotherapy (IPT) is an Evidence-Based Psychotherapy for adults, adolescents, and children age 9 and older. IPT is efficacious for affective disorders, anxiety disorders, eating disorders, and PTSD. Dr. Stuart will review the IPT model and the approved training program for community-based therapists implemented by the IPT Institute within the LAC-DMH system and elsewhere in California.
COMMUNITY DEFINED PRACTICE EMOTIONAL EMANCIPATION CIRCLES

Kristee Haggins
Theopia Jackson

SCREENING OF THE RAISING OF AMERICA: EARLY CHILDHOOD AND THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION-DNA IS NOT DESTINY

Monica Adrian*, Behavior Support Specialist, Merced County Office of Education: Caring Kids Program

This is your opportunity to watch *The Raising of America: Early Childhood and the Future of Our Nation-DNA Is Not Destiny*. How do early experiences get under the skin, altering which genes get switched on and which stay off? Following with a discussion about the implications for your work.

EVALUATION MEASURES

Rikke Addis, MA, Associate, California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions

This workshop includes a review of common clinical measures used in behavioral health and in CIBHS evaluation initiatives. CIBHS criteria for selecting assessment tools will be reviewed. In addition, the workshop will include a discussion of how to interpret data in aggregate CIBHS reports for practices such as FFT.

5:15 pm

CLOSING

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM NETWORKING RECEPTION – PREVIEW OF ‘REAL BOY’ DOCUMENTARY, SHALEECE HAAS, MUSIC BY JOE STEVENS

REAL BOY is the coming-of-age story of Bennett Wallace, a transgender teenager on a journey to find his voice—as a musician, a friend, a son, and a man. As he navigates the ups and downs of young adulthood, he works to gain the love and support of his mother, who has deep misgivings about her child’s transition. Along the way, Bennett forges a powerful friendship with his idol, Joe Stevens, a celebrated transgender musician with his own demons to fight.

REAL BOY is supported by ITVS, Cal Humanities, Film Independent, IFP, Berkeley Film Foundation, and Pacific Pioneer Fund, among others. The film is currently in post-production and is expected to be released in early 2016.
FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2016

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM  REGISTRATION

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM  CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:45 AM – 10:15 AM  KEYNOTE:
Stanley J. Huey Jr., PhD, University of Southern California Associate Professor

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM  BREAK

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM  SESSION FOUR

SUPERVISION FOCUSED ON THE BEHAVIOR CHANGE PHASE

Kellie Armey

This workshop is specifically designed for current FFT supervisors. This workshop will focus on working with supervisors to provide phase based supervision within the behavior change phase. Specific focus will be given to development of family skill, therapist planning and follow through.

THE PREPARED ADULT UTILIZING AGGRESSION REPLACEMENT TRAINING®

Mark Amendola, LCSW, BCD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.

Robert Oliver, EdD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.

This workshop will review the components of the prepared adult.

Implementation concerns will be addressed for utilization of an adult population. Videos will be reviewed showing actual sessions of each component.

A TRAUMA-FOCUSED COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY CASE CONCEPTUALIZATION: FROM ASSESSMENT TO TERMINATION

Alison Hendricks, LCSW, National TF-CBT Trainer, Hendricks Consulting, San Diego

This workshop will focus on applying TF-CBT to a case example involving complex trauma. Treatment considerations and challenges will be discussed related to the assessment process, each of the PRACTICE components, and termination. This workshop will be interactive, as participants will be invited to think about how they would apply TF-CBT and its components for the case provided. Cultural and developmental issues will be discussed, and specific resources and interventions will be explained.
INNOVATIONS IN FFT WITH GANG-INVOLVED YOUTH

Julie Elmenhurst

This workshop is specifically designed for current FFT therapists. This workshop will teach FFT therapists to talk honestly and directly about the risks of gang affiliation, without increasing blame or family conflict. Strategies for reframing and helping family members to shift their perceptions of gang affiliation will be presented. Therapists will also learn specific ideas about reducing family risk factors to address gang-affiliation.

CBTP – FELTON INSTITUTE/CIBHS AND BEST CENTER

Percy Howard III, LCSW, Chief Program Officer, California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS)

Harry Sivec

Vicki Montesano

Lon Herman

Melissa Moore

Nicole Milan

Felton Institute Research and Training and CIBHS as well as the Best Practices in Schizophrenia Treatment (BeST) Center Department of Psychiatry of Northeast Ohio Medical University Are pioneers in implementing Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Psychosis in the United States. Both Partnerships will present the history, background, challenges and successes of their respective experiences implementing CBTp in a “real world implementation” context.

TREATMENT FOSTER CARE OREGON (TFCO)

Rohanna Buchanan

TFC Consultants, Inc. specializes in providing complete implementation services for TFCO sites. In order to realize positive treatment outcomes similar to those attained in the evaluation studies, implementation efforts focus on promoting program fidelity. To facilitate adherence to the treatment model, TFC Consultants, Inc., works with communities to identify issues that are likely to affect their ability to successfully implement the TFCO model.
MORAL RECONATION THERAPY (MRT)

Ken Robinson

Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) is the premiere cognitive-behavioral program for substance abuse treatment and for criminal justice offenders. Developed in 1985 by Gregory Little, EdD, and Kenneth Robinson, Ed.D., more than 120 published reports have documented that MRT-treated offenders show significantly lower recidivism for periods as long as 20 years after treatment.

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS: RESEARCH AND REAL WORLD TREATMENT

Lori Ford

This workshop will highlight research for the treatment of Substance Use Disorders as well as resources for training in Evidence Based Practices for adolescent and adult populations. Sample treatment protocol and a quick case example will be provided.

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM LUNCH (Included with registration)

1:00 PM – 2:15 PM SESSION FIVE

SUPERVISION FOCUSED ON THE GENERALIZATION PHASE

Kellie Armey

This workshop is specifically designed for current FFT supervisors. This workshop will focus on assisting supervisors to clearly articulate the importance of the Generalization Phase during supervision, to clearly support therapist with plan development and follow through with families in this phase.

MORAL REASONING AND INCLUSION OF CHARACTER EDUCATION

Mark Amendola, LCSW, BCD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.
Robert Oliver, EdD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.

This workshop will review the addition of Character Education traits to the Moral Reasoning component of Aggression Replacement Training®.
POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER AND AVOIDANCE IN TRAUMA-FOCUSED COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY

Alison Hendricks, LCSW, National TF-CBT Trainer, Hendricks Consulting, San Diego

This session will focus on understanding avoidance as a common post-traumatic stress reaction. Challenges related to avoidance during assessment and when implementing TF-CBT will also be explored. Strategies and interventions for overcoming avoidance among children, adolescents, and caregivers will be described.

LOCKING IN CHANGE: MAKING THE MOST OF GENERALIZATION

Julie Elmenhurst

This workshop is specifically designed for current FFT therapists. Many therapists struggle with keeping families engaged and motivated throughout the generalization phase. This workshop will focus on ideas for helping therapists to use the phase goals as an anchor for doing relapse prevention in a way that is helpful for beneficial for families, and reducing the risk for drop-out during this crucial phase of the treatment process.

COMMUNITY OPTIONS FOR FAMILY AND YOUTH

May-Ci Xiong, ASW
Kindle Wallace, LMFT

REFRAMING WORKPLACE MENTAL HEALTH: WHAT EVERY LEADER MUST KNOW

Donna Hardaker, Director, Mental Health America of California - Wellness Works

In the behavioral health sector, we benefit from opening up dialogue to consider that taking care of employee mental health is integral to delivering good care. This presentation builds awareness that employers who successfully manage behavioral health issues among employees can alleviate performance problems, avoid litigation, create a more inclusive work environment, and enhance organizational effectiveness.
SESSION FIVE, CONTINUED

1:00 PM – 2:15 PM

BRIEF PARENT ENHANCEMENT STRATEGIES (BPES)

Dan Thorne, LMFT, Director, Harbor View Community Services Center

Brief Parent Enhancement Strategies (BPES) is a new and emerging practice which helps parents of children with mental health challenges reduce stress. Its background, theory, and approaches will be discussed. Interventions will be presented for use with their clients. Community training opportunities will also be discussed.

THINK KIDS: COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING

J. Stuart Ablon, PhD, Director, Think:Kids at MGH

Dr. Stuart Ablon will present an overview of a research-informed approach to understanding and helping youth with challenging behaviors called Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS). The CPS model provides a common philosophy, language, and process that can be used and has demonstrated effectiveness across settings and in systems of care throughout North America. Participants will learn the basics of the approach and how it represents a significant departure from conventional wisdom and motivational approaches to managing challenging behaviors.

2:15 PM – 2:30 PM

BREAK

SESSION SIX

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

FUNCTIONAL FAMILY PROBATION SERVICES: A RELATIONAL STRATEGY IN A PROBATION CONTEXT

Julie Elmenhurst

This workshop is specifically designed for probation workers and therapists who work with juvenile justice involved youth and their families. This workshop will focus on Functional Family Probation Services (FFP), a novel approach for working with youth in the justice system. This presentation draws on work conducted by probation workers over the past decade and includes ideas for engaging and motivating youth, linking and monitoring youth involvement with multiple systems, and generalizing change.
MODEL ADHERENCE FOR FIDELITY ADMINISTRATION
Mark Amendola, LCSW, BCD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.
Robert Oliver, EdD, Educational & Treatment Alternatives, Inc.

This workshop is specifically for agency trainers and will review new and updated tools for fidelity implementation. This hands-on presentation will also review ongoing sustainability and maintenance for organization to have been implementing the Model over time.

TRAUMA-FOCUSED BEHAVIORAL THERAPY SUPERVISION: FIDELITY VS. FLEXIBILITY, PARALLEL PROCESSES, COWS, AND THERAPIST AVOIDANCE
Alison Hendricks, LCSW, National TF-CBT Trainer, Hendricks Consulting, San Diego

This workshop will explore common issues and challenges in TF-CBT supervision and is intended for Supervisors. Strategies and resources for helping therapists balance fidelity with flexibility will be suggested. Examples will be provided to explain how supervisors can use parallel processes to support therapists in implementing TF-CBT. In particular, issues related to crises of the week and therapist avoidance will be discussed. Supervisors will learn strategies for helping therapists address COWs and overcome avoidance.

SUPERVISION UTILIZING FFT’S TYPE REPORT
Kelly Armey

This workshop is specifically designed for current FFT supervisors. This workshop will focus on assisting supervisors with understanding the TYPE report and its use in supervision for therapists and the team.

SOAR’ING TO RECOVERY: INCREASING ACCESS TO INCOME, HOUSING, TREATMENT & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH SSI/SSDI BENEFITS
Abigail Lemon, Project Associate II, SAMHSA SOAR Technical Assistance Center at Policy Research Associates

SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery) is a culturally sensitive, trauma-informed, community-based program designed to increase access to Social Security disability benefits for people who are homeless or at risk. SOAR builds a community infrastructure which supports case managers to better navigate the Social Security disability process. This workshop will introduce the essential elements for implementing a successful SOAR program.
2:30 PM – 3:45 PM  
**SESSION SIX, CONTINUED**

**TRIPLE P**

*Randy Ahn*

**CULTURAL COMPETENCY**

*Zuelika Xicotencatl, LCSW, Clinical Therapist, FFT consultant, San Bernardino*

This workshop will focus on strategies for addressing cultural competency with monolingual Spanish speaking families by addressing the challenges of cultural accommodations to the FFT model without compromising model fidelity.

**DBT – BEHAVIORAL TECH**

*Jeff West*

3:45 PM – 4:00 PM  
**CONCLUSION AND WRAP-UP**
Keynote Speaker Dean Lee Fixsen, PhD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Senior Scientist and Co-Director of the National Implementation Research Network (NIRN) will speak on April 21, 2016. Dr. Fixsen is Co-Director (with Karen Blase) of the National Implementation Research Network; Co-Director (with Karen Blase, Rob Horner, and George Sugai) of the State Implementation and Scaling-up of Evidence-based Practices (SISEP) Center; and Co-Chair (with Bianca Albers, Deborah Ghate, and Jennifer Schroeder) of the Global Implementation Conference.

Keynote Speaker Stanley J Huey Jr, PhD, Associate Professor, University of Southern California will speak on April 22, 2016. Dr. Huey is an expert on the appropriateness of EBP’s for culturally diverse clients. His research is on psychotherapy effects with children and adolescents, culture-responsive treatments for ethnic minorities, and psychotherapy mechanisms that lead to clinical change. He also addresses service system implications based on his studies.

Shaleece Haas, Director/Producer, is a queer documentary filmmaker based in Oakland, CA. She is the co-producer of the 2013 documentary film, The Genius of Marian, which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival and was broadcast on POV in 2014. Her 2010 documentary short, Old People Driving, premiered at the Mill Valley Film Festival and was broadcast on the PBS News Hour as part of the Economist Film Project. In addition to her work as a director/producer, Shaleece is an instructor of video storytelling at the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism, the Berkeley Advanced Media Institute, and the NY Press Association, and serves as the head of submissions for New Day Films. She is a 2015 Film Independent Documentary Lab Fellow, a 2012 Working Films (Reel Aging) fellow and a 2010 Met Life Foundation Journalists in Aging fellow. Prior to starting her work in documentary film, Shaleece worked as an editorial photographer and radio producer and was a founding staff member of the national oral history project, Story Corps. She is a graduate of the documentary film program at UC Berkeley’s Graduate School of Journalism.

North American singer/songwriter, guitar, upright bass, and banjomian, Joe Stevens is a third-generation professional musician in a long line of restless westward moving souls. Joe’s career began in 2006 with the Alt-Americana group Coyote Grace. Between 2006 and 2012 Coyote Grace released five albums and toured with the Indigo Girls, Melissa Ferrick, and Girlyman. Joe’s music rides the edge of the first wave of transgender performers to break through into the public consciousness. The social media explosion combined with shifting public opinion created the conditions that enabled trans and queer artists, a highly marginalized and often isolated subculture, to connect and gain visibility throughout the world. Joe performs and gives workshops on songwriting and queer/trans issues at colleges and universities and is a social justice activist for underdogs of all stripes, committed to honoring their vital contributions to the greater collective evolution. From his roots as an awkward kid with a debilitating stutter, through dark years of alcohol and drug addiction, Joe’s music touches on themes at once specific and ubiquitous, portraying the human condition distilled — where one person’s story is truly everyone’s story.