



## OCEACT Annual Statewide Conference 2016 Presenter Bios

We are excited to have the following presenters at this year's conference:

### **Eric Granholm, Ph.D.**

University of California

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Eric Granholm, Ph.D., is Professor of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego, and Acting Chief of Psychology and Co-Director of the Recovery and Rehabilitation Services Division of the Mental Health Care Line at the Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System. He received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at UCLA where he conducted research on neuropsychology, social skills training and family therapy for schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. Since joining the faculty at UCSD in 1993, Dr. Granholm has been an active basic and clinical researcher in the areas of social skills training, cognitive behavioral therapy, mobile interventions and cognitive neuropsychology in people with schizophrenia. He developed Cognitive Behavioral Social Skills Training (CBSST) for schizophrenia and has conducted several NIMH- and VA-funded clinical trials of CBSST, which is listed on the SAMSHA National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices. He has over 120 publications and has been principal investigator on 15 federal grants.



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### **Ellis Amdur, NCC**

Edgework

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Edgework founder Ellis Amdur received his B.A. in psychology from Yale University in 1974, and his M.A. in psychology from Seattle University in 1990. He is both a National Certified Counselor and a State Certified Child Mental Health Specialist. He has worked in the field of crisis intervention since 1988.

Ellis has authored eleven profession-specific books, some written with subject-matter-expert co-authors concerning tactical communication with seriously mentally ill individuals and verbal de-escalation of aggression. Target audiences for these books are those working in various law enforcement and emergency services capacities, those in social services and hospitals as well as families. All these books are available at Edgework Books.

Amdur has studied classic Japanese combat arts for forty-seven years, spending thirteen of these years studying in Japan. He is a recognized expert in classical and modern Japanese martial traditions, and has authored three iconoclastic books on this subject. Information about his work in this area can be accessed at [KogenBudo](http://KogenBudo.com).

He has developed a range of training and consultation services, as well as a unique style of assessment and psychotherapy. These are based on a combination of phenomenological psychology and the underlying philosophical premises of classical Japanese martial traditions. Ellis's professional philosophy can best be summed up in this idea: the development of an individual's integrity and dignity is the paramount virtue. This can only occur when people live courageously, regardless of the circumstances, and take responsibility for their roles in making the changes they desire.



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### **Stacy L. Smith, M.ED, LPC, NCC**

University of North Carolina

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Stacy L. Smith, M.ED, LPC, NCC has over 25 years' experience in North Carolina Mental Health services, in both adult and children's services. She regularly uses Motivational Interviewing in her personal and professional lives. She is also a Meyers-Briggs facilitator and is a Consultant with the ACT TA Center at the UNC Center for Excellence in Community Mental Health and Co-Coordinator of the ACT Coalition. She spent her youth doing amateur stand-up comedy, but don't laugh, it only encourages her.



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### **Fumiyo Nishimoto**

Peer Bridgers Program Coordinator  
Oregon State Hospital  
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Fumiyo Nishimoto studies and teaches narrative therapy, social justice, trauma and its effects, and collective care. She developed Cultivating a New Life in 2009, a peer-support education curriculum incorporating holistic wellness, social justice, trauma-informed practice, and narrative approaches, offering collaborative therapeutic supervision to peer-support specialists while addressing principles of social justice, an ethic of resistance, and the practice of collective care. Through Cultivating a New Life LLC, she provides training, seminars, and technical support for both community mental health and peer-delivered services.

Nishimoto's recent work has focused on narrative work and advocacy for people who have been marginalized within the mental health treatment and recovery community, including people who have experienced specific cultural trauma due to their ethnic heritage or their membership in the LGBTQ community. She has also been working with the veterans' community providing veteran-specific peer-support specialist training focusing on Military Sexual Trauma (MST) from a narrative approach, partnering with Veterans in Recovery, Returning Veterans Project, and the Veteran's Administration. Nishimoto's practice emerged from her experience as a trauma survivor and as a recipient of mental health services, which gives her the unique position of identifying as a peer while working as a professional, both as Peer Bridgers Coordinator at Oregon State Hospital and in the broader community. She has worked as a counselor at Washington County Center for Victims' Services, a facilitator at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, a mental health therapist at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center, and an instructor in the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program at Portland State University as well as the Substance Abuse Prevention Program at University of Oregon.



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### **Tom Elliott, AAS**

Peer Case Manager

Options for Southern Oregon

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Tom struggled with bipolar and depressive disorder for many years. He found recovery in 2003 and knew he wanted to help others, but didn't know how or in what capacity. He attended college in 2006 and graduated with an AAS in human services in 2009. In 2014, he started as one of the first peer support specialists at Options for Southern Oregon. He was the second peer support specialist at Options working in housing. At the end of 2014, he began working in the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) program and teaching the Illness Management & Recovery (IMR) curriculum in groups. He was one of the first facilitators of IMR in Grants Pass, and he has successfully completed three groups. He continues to love working in ACT and has been using his peer perspective as a Peer Case Manager.

### **Leticia Sainz, LPC**

Program Manager of Crisis Services

Multnomah County

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Leticia M. Sainz, LPC has been doing clinical work for over 10 years. Her current role, as the Program Manager of Crisis Services for Multnomah County, is exciting as she believes that crisis and prevention work has the opportunity to positively impact the most vulnerable members of our community. Previously, she was with the Multnomah County EASA team for almost 7 years - first as the screener, then the team lead, and finally the supervisor. Her work with the self-titled EASA ninjas was a favorite clinical endeavor because she's passionate about assisting young people and their families with challenges related to psychosis as well as reducing stigma associated with the diagnosis of schizophrenia. Leticia is dedicated to improving diversity and equity in the field of mental health in order to best serve our communities.



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### **Wendy Chavez, MPA**

Adult Policy & Program Development  
Health Systems Division  
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Wendy Chavez coordinates several adult mental health programs for the Oregon Health Authority including ACT, Supported Employment, Mobile Crisis, and Crisis Intervention Team Program Development. Wendy has worked in public program for over a decade. She has an MPA from the University of Colorado, Graduate School of Public Affairs and a BA from the University of New Mexico in Journalism.

### **Mitch Elovitz, LPC**

Medicaid Services Manager  
Health Systems Division  
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Mitch Elovitz provides technical assistance and quality assurance for adults on Oregon Health Plan or Medicaid, specifically in regards to mental health and substance use disorders. Mitch is a Licensed Professional Counselor in Oregon and has been working in the mental health and substance abuse field for over 20 years with both children and adults. He has an MA in Counseling Psychology from Pacific University and a BS in Business Marketing from Long Island University. Mitch enjoys spending time with his family and friends, walking his dogs, and watching sports in his free time. He also enjoys volunteer work.



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### **Kate Hill, BS**

Director

Portland Hearing Voices

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Kate is the director of Portland Hearing Voices and Vice President of Hearing Voices USA. She is also a consultant, hypnotherapist, educator, international speaker, writer and artist. She believes that freedom of expression and experience are key elements of happy/healthy living.

Over the past eight years, Kate has worked with hundreds of people both one-on-one and in groups in an effort to bridge the gap in our understanding of each other and of ourselves. She is studying the Social Sciences at Portland State University and process oriented psychology at the Process Work Institute in Portland, Oregon.

Kate's focuses include neuropsychology, eco psychology, voices and visions, and sexual health. Her hope is to facilitate communities that promote education and awareness, freedom of expression, financial independence and healthy relationships. She is committed to the idea of preventative psychological health, particularly within marginalized communities.



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### **Terry McCall Ellis, LCSW**

Clinical Director

NARA NW

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Terry McCall Ellis is a psychotherapist and behavioral analyst. She is a licensed clinical social worker, in Oregon and California. She is Chiricahua Apache and is currently the Clinical Director of Children and Family Services and of Totem Services at NARA. NARA houses two culturally specific Assertive Community Treatment Teams. She provides extensive consultation to treatment centers for children, adolescents and families, related to mental health issues and the development of treatment programs for co-occurring disorders. She has been the Director of several treatment programs for persons with serious and persistent mental illness. Terry has been on the faculty of eight colleges and universities. She is the author of Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) for the State of California. Terry has extensive experience related to neurodevelopmental disorders and special needs children and adults. Ms. Ellis is currently working on many projects related to trauma, such as historical and multi-generational trauma, chronic stress and post-traumatic disorders. She is doing research and intervention related to the development of post-traumatic growth in children and families.

### **Myldred Silvia**

Peer Support Specialist

NARA Totem

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Myldred Silvia is the Peer Support for a culturally specific ACT team for NARA Northwest. Myldred is passionate about her job and a people person who truly cares about her clients. Myldred understands her position because of her lived experience with mental illness both through her own experience and through family members. Watching family members dealing with their mental health issues without always being able to describe what is going on helped Myldred know that this is important work that can help so many.



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### **Sheila Davis, BS**

Culture Case Manager

NARA Totem

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Sheila Davis is Yup'ik Eskimo from Bethel, Alaska. Sheila has worked for NARA for the past 4 years; first as a Mental Health Case Manager at Totem Lodge, and then Resources Coordinator, and currently as a Culture Case Manager on the ACT team. Sheila has a bachelor's degree in Psychology and has spent some professional years in several endeavors including networking and volunteer coordination, small business ownership and management.

### **Tim Johnson**

Benton County ACT

Tim Johnson is 58, going on 59 years old. His diagnosis is paranoid schizophrenia. He has lived in Corvallis 23 years. He has lived independently for 22 years, has held a job for 20 years, and has been with ACT for 2 years.



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### **Jeff Krolick**

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