



2026 Pathways to Prevention Symposium Program Overview

The **Pathways to Prevention Symposium** brings together internationally recognized thought leaders, researchers, practitioners, educators, clinicians, and community leaders to explore innovative approaches to prevention, healing, and resilience. Grounded in the Neurosequential Model and brain-based, relationship-focused practice, the Symposium offers attendees opportunities to learn from leading experts while connecting with peers from across sectors and disciplines.

Preconference – Monday, October 26

Rhythms of the Natural World: Clues for the Healing Process

Join us for an exclusive half-day preconference session featuring **Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D.** Dr. Perry will lead an engaging and thought-provoking exploration of brain development, trauma, and resilience—offering insights that inform practice across health, education, and community settings.

Day 1 – Tuesday, October 27

Foundations for Prevention, Healing & Resilience

Day 1 explores the Symposium's core themes of prevention, healing, resilience, and brain-based, relationship-focused practice. Alongside keynote presentations from Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D., and Marc Brackett, Ph.D., attendees will engage with talks on trauma healing, child NMT patterns, neuro-metabolic resilience, and therapeutic spaces; participate in drumming and a land-based Indigenous circle; and explore poster presentations highlighting emerging and community-based practices.



Keynote Presentations

Speaker	Presentation
Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D.	
Marc Brackett, Ph.D.	Dealing with Feeling: The Power of Emotion Regulation to Transform Lives

Ted Talks

Speaker(s)	Presentation
Erica Van Parys	When One Map Changes the Whole System: Child NMT Patterns, Integrated Treatment, and a Father's Neuroplastic Healing Journey
Roza Moradi	Prevention as the Clinical Keystone: An Integrative Framework for Personalized Neuro-Metabolic Resilience
Furkhan Dandia	From Survival to Surrender: A Neurospiritual Approach to Trauma Healing
Vaden Somers	How the Bio-Intensive Farm Grows Rich Therapeutic Spaces

Experiential Learning

Speaker	Activity
Leah Hofer	Rhythm2Resilience: Drumming for Social and Emotional Well-Being
Casey Eagle Speaker	Land Based Indigenous Circle

Poster Presentations

Speaker	Poster Presentation
Kristin Chiappone & Molly Ticknor	Where Healing Happens: The Next Evolution of NMT in Homes and Communities. Translating the Neurosequential Model into intensive, trauma-informed care that stabilizes youth & strengthens families in their natural environments
Matthew Claps	From Systems to Healing: Using Quality Services Reviews (QSRs) to advance Trauma-Informed Care Across Systems
Jordan Katz, Laine Whitaker	From Reaction to Understanding: Building School Systems Through Curiosity, Care, Connection, and Collaboration
Julie Mah	Meeting children where they are: Children deserve to be loved, accepted, and validated for exactly who they are
Chelan McCallion	Being Awestruck: Supporting Regulation and Connection in Everyday Moments



Amanda McMillan	Community-Led Care: Empowering Families Through Peer Support
Erin O'Reilly & Arlene Oostenbrink	Evidence in Action: Mastering the Continuum of Care through the Teaching Family Model
April Prescott	oskawâsis wâhkôhtamowin - Culture-first Preschool Programming at Aboriginal Head Start
Gabrielle Remole	P.A.U.S.E. and the Art of Slowing Down
Laine Whitaker	From Reaction to Understanding: Building School Systems Through Curiosity, Care, Connection, and Collaboration
Shannon Cox	ELAvate - English Language Arts that builds Voice, Agency, & Thought Expression

Day 2 – Wednesday, October 28

From Knowledge to Practice

Day 2 moves from knowledge to practice, with Stuart Ablon, Ph.D.'s keynote on making trauma-informed care actionable through Collaborative Problem Solving. Breakout and short-form sessions explore prevention, education, sport, caregiving, systems change, child welfare, early childhood mental health, leadership, and clinical practice. Attendees can also participate in experiential learning, including art therapy, Indigenous meditation, and a drum circle.

Keynote Presentation

Speaker	Presentation
Stuart Ablon, Ph.D.	But What Do I Do? Making Trauma-Informed Care Actionable using Collaborative Problem Solving

Breakout Sessions

Speaker	Presentation	Track
Melissa Merrick, Ph.D.	Prioritizing Prevention: Centering Families	NMT-EC



Megan Bartlett	Team Brain: Applying the Neurosequential Model to Coaching	NM Sport
Michelle Maikoetter, MA, NCC, LPC-S	The Evolution of the Neurosequential Model in Caregiving®	NMC
Annette Jackson, Ph.D.	Applying a Theory of Change and NMT to Help Children Who Have Experienced Neglect Thrive	NMT
Joshua Stewart & Vickie Thompson-Sandy	A Parallel Process Changes Everything: Transforming Care Through Regulation, Relationship, and System Integration	Organization / Systems
Myra Sack	Moving with Loss: A Movement-Based, Community-Centered Model for Grief as Prevention	
Julia Bantimba	Using the Power of Occupational Therapy and NMT Principles to Support Early Childhood Mental Health	NMT
Halley Gruber & Katie Lohmiller, Ph.D.	NME Implementation Connection & Collaboration	NME
Michael Remole, MA, LCPC, NCC, I/ECHMHC	Too Close to Heal: How Animal-Assisted Therapy Navigates the Intimacy Barrier in Relational Trauma	
Andrew Farmer	Somatic and Sensory Interventions	NMT
Angelique Jenney, Ph.D., David Lindenbach, Ph.D., & Krista West	Homemaking in Out of Home Care: Youth Insights for Trauma-Informed Design	Organization/Systems
Eric Perrault, EdD.	Implementing NME: Strategies for Practitioners from Practitioners	NME
John Rattray & Joel Pippus	Your Brain on Sport: Comics, Neuroscience, and Lessons from Sport: Insights from Why So Sad? and Push to Heal	NM Sport
Emily Wang, Ph.D. & Denise Manderson, MC	An Interactive Walk Through Time with the Neurosequential Model Implementation	Organization/Systems
Amanda Zelechowski, Ph.D., J.D.	Disseminating the Neurosequential Model Throughout a Region: The Northwest Indiana Experiment	Organization/Systems

Ted Talks

Speaker(s)	Presentation
Greg Godard & Lisa Lindsey	From Relationships to Results: Embedding PCEs in System-Level Practice
Terri Pelton & Kim Spicer	From Insight to System Change: Advancing Prevention through Youth Voice and System Accountability
Tosha Duncan & Miranda Pilipchuk	Operationalizing the Neurosequential Model Through Trauma and Violence-Informed Case Management Tools: The ACWS Healing, Understanding, and Growth Guide
Rozyn Kwong & Sarah Matthews	Trauma-Informed Prevention Across MTSS: CharacterStrong's School-Based Approach to Accessible Care



Allison Douglas	Using NM Concept to Support Community Agencies and the Adoption Community
Dave Melnick	Reflective Practice 3.0: Creating a Culture of Curiosity in High-Stress Human Systems
Experiential Learning	
Speaker	Activity
Nicole Chalifour	Outside the Lines: Neurosequential Art Therapy in Confined Stabilization Programs for Young People Facing Considerable Risk Factors
Susan Bare Shin Bone	Indigenous Meditation: purpose and connection
Roger Duncan	Drum Circle

Day 3 – Thursday, October 29

Creating Lasting Impact

The final day focuses on lasting impact, implementation, and practical application across communities, schools, caregiving systems, sport, and clinical settings. Attendees will hear from Myles Himmelreich, choose from breakout sessions on grief and community response, Indigenous worldviews, trauma-informed design, caregiver engagement, moral development, and advancing Neurosequential Model practice, and take part in an arts-based experiential learning session.

Keynote Presentation	
Speaker	Presentation
Myles Himmelreich	The Reason
Breakout Sessions	



Speaker	Presentation	Track
Nelba Marquez- Greene, LMFT, Isaiah Marquez- Greene, Dr. Deanna Marie Giraldi	Community Responses to Grief: Effective, Sustainable and Person-Centered Ways to Show Up When the "5 Stages" Inevitably Fail Victims of Violence	
Kristie Brandt, APRN, NP, CNM, MS, DNP, Ph.D.	Spacecraft	Organization/Systems
Dave Paxton, LISW-S & Emily Sutton	Bringing the 6 Rs to Life: Operationalizing the 6 R's Through Training, Consultation and Program Evaluation	Organization/Systems
Mary Beth Lee, LCSW LSCSW	Fragile Like a Flower: The Bittersweet Symphony of a Lifetime	NMT
Julia Kyplain	Indigenous Worldviews and Trauma-Informed Practice Through a Métis and Cree Lens	NMT-EC
Diane Vines, MA LMFT-S LPC-S RPT-S	Bridging the Gap: Applying the NMT to Verbal Autistic Children	NMT
Jaclyn Ruggiero, M.D.	This Wasn't the Plan: How Early Experience Shapes the Brain and Builds Resilience	NMT-EC
Tina Lomax	Looking Beyond My Behaviour	NMT-EC
Habeebah Grimes	Onwards: Leveraging the Sequence of Engagement to Sustain Capacity for Courageous Practice	
Tori Franklin	TBD	
Robert E. Lieberman, MA LPC, Margaret McGladrey Ph.D., Nancy Craig, Charley Ojeda Downing	The Partnership Pathway: Co-designing for Impact	NMT
Kim Shore	Fixing the Wrong Thing: Why Are We Treating the Athlete Instead of the Environment?	NM Sport
Yamilex Vega	Healing Through Nature, Movement, and Bilateral Processing: Clinical Tools for Child Welfare Professionals	NMT
Jessica Davies MS CAGS, Amanda Deeter LPCC-S, Jeremy Joseph MS, Teresa Patterson	From Insight to Action: A Practical Playbook for Brain-Based Prevention	NME
Nicci Glanville, MSc	From Awareness to Action: Teachers' Pathways to Prevention Using the Neurosequential Model in Education in South Africa	NME
Michael Bautista	Fathering for the Future: Helping Fathers Meet the Needs of Their Children	NMC
Zoë Flippen & Michelle Maikoetter, MA, NCC, LPC-S	The Courage to Get It Wrong: Advancing NMT Through Iteration, Relationship, and Real-World Practice	NMT
Elizabeth Buchholz, MNS	Caregiver Engagement and Implementation Science in Treatment Programs	



Lacy Runner MC, CCC, CFNHM	Understanding Childhood Trauma from an Indigenous Perspective While Promoting Healing and Reconciliation	NME
Martin Simms, CPT, CES, PES	Transmuting Trauma to Triumph: How Athletic Departments Can Accelerate Trauma-Informed Education for Schools & Communities	NM Sport
Sonya Warga	Reconciled Healing Model (A Neurosequentially Informed Model of Care)	
Jayne Singer, Ph.D., IECMH-E, Mindy May, MS	The Brazelton Touchpoints Approach: A Developmental-Relational Preventive Pathway	NMT
Joy Clark R. Psych, Chad Dalley	Understanding Moral Development in Trauma-Impacted Youth: When Familiar Replaces Right	NMT
Stephanie Brown	The Power of How We Show Up	NME
Experiential Learning		
Speaker	Activity	
<i>Shelina Knight M.Ed, Julia Hillier</i>	Beyond Spoken Words: Arts-Based Pathways to Self-Discovery and Expression	



Daily Symposium Schedule

Monday, October 26
1pm: Registration Opens for All Attendees
2pm – 6pm: Preconference (<i>For those Registered</i>)
6:30pm – 8pm: Networking Reception – Open to all Symposium Attendees
Tuesday, October 27: Symposium Day 1
7am-8am: Breakfast & Registration
8:30am-9am: Opening Ceremony
9am-noon: <i>Keynote</i> – Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D.
Noon: Lunch
1pm – 3:30pm: Poster Presentations, Social Activities, Free Time
3:30pm – 6:30pm: <i>Keynote</i> – Marc Brackett, Ph.D.
Wednesday, October 28: Symposium Day 2
7:30am-8:30am: Breakfast & Registration
9am – noon: <i>Keynote</i> – Stuart Ablon, Ph.D.
Noon: Lunch
1:30pm – 3pm: Highlighted & Breakout Presentations
3pm – 7pm: Experiential Learning, Ted Talks, Social Activities, Free Time
7pm – 8:30pm: Highlighted & Breakout Presentations
Thursday, October 29: Symposium Day 3
7:30am-8:30am: Breakfast & Registration
9am – 12:30pm: Highlighted & Breakout Presentations
12:30pm: Lunch
2pm – 3:30pm: Highlighted & Breakout Presentations
3:45pm – 5:30pm: Closing Ceremony, Myles Himmelrich