

JAIL RESOURCE DAY BIOGRAPHIES

9:30AM PRESENTATIONS

ROOM 1: When Mission Statements Conflict with Reality | Warden Jack Cowley

Jack Cowley retired with 30 years of service from the State of Oklahoma Department of Corrections. Most of his career with the state was as a prison warden where he served in that capacity at three facilities. Upon retirement Jack joined the staff of Prison Fellowship Ministries where he served as National Director of Operations for the InnerChange Freedom Initiative overseeing reentry programs in Texas, Iowa, Kansas, and Minnesota. Through InnerChange Freedom Initiative, a model was established which vastly reduces the rate that incarcerated individuals released from prison re-offend. As the National Director for Prisons & Re-Entry with Alpha USA from 2004 – 2024, Jack's primary function was to link Faith-based and community organizations with correctional facilities to reduce recidivism and thereby increase public safety. His guiding principle regarding incarceration is that it is the responsibility of the system to insure that people leave prison "better" than when they entered. Jack consults nationally and internationally regarding criminal justice issues, including testifying before Congress regarding the 2nd Chance Act. He was previously appointed to an 8-year term by US Attorney General John Ashcroft to the Advisory Board of the National Institute of Corrections. Jack earned his Bachelor of Science from Oklahoma State University in Sociology as well as a Master of Science in Correctional Administration. He completed his course work toward his Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma in Organizational Leadership.

ROOM 2: Employee Resilience | Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.

Errol D. Toulon, Jr. is the Sheriff of Suffolk County, New York on Long Island. He was born and raised in the Bronx in New York City, and his father and brother were both wardens on Rikers Island. As such, Toulon learned about the criminal justice system from a very early age; in 1982 he joined the New York City Department of Correction where he had a 22-year career in uniform serving in various positions in the Emergency Service Unit, Firearms & Tactics Unit and Compliance Unit. He retired as a captain due to health reasons. In 2014, he returned to the Department of Correction as the Deputy Commissioner of Operations overseeing the Intelligence Unit, Training Academy, Applicant Investigations Unit, Emergency Management and Compliance Units. Taking office in January 2018, Sheriff Toulon is the county's first African American person to be elected to a non-judicial countywide office. He received his bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Monroe College, a master's degree in Business Administration and a doctorate in Educational Administration from Dowling College. With more than 40 years in law enforcement, Suffolk County Sheriff Errol D. Toulon, Jr. will share his perspective on the importance of resilience for corrections and law enforcement. A three-time cancer survivor, Sheriff Toulon will discuss his personal journey to highlight how resilience is critical to navigating professional and personal challenges. He will also highlight the full-time wellness unit he established in 2022, which provides around-the-clock support for officers and professional staff.

ROOM 3: Partnerships and Community Success & The Arkansas Opioid Recovery Partnership | Dana Baker; Kirk Lane

Kirk Lane serves as the Director of the Arkansas Opioid Recovery Partnership, an organization formed by the Arkansas Association of Counties and the Arkansas Municipal League to administer opioid abatement funds derived from opioid settlement funding awarded to the cities and counties of Arkansas. Before this, he served as the Arkansas State Drug Director from 2017 to 2022. Director Lane also has 33 years of experience in law enforcement serving with the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office and as the Chief of Police for the City of Benton, Arkansas. He has attended the University of Virginia and University of Arkansas Little Rock. He is a graduate of the Arkansas Law Enforcement Academy, the Drug Enforcement Administration's Drug Commander's Academy, FBI LEEDA, and the FBI National Academy 197th session. Director Lane currently serves on the National Board of Directors for the National Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) and the Executive Board of the Gulf States High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program. He is the recipient of numerous awards in his field including the 2021 Ramstead/ Kennedy Award for his leadership in the field of Recovery.

Dana Baker began working with Restore Hope in 2017 as a District Court Case Manager. Now, she serves as a Senior Community Success Manager for 100 Families across Arkansas. Dana is passionate about meeting families, helping to bring resources to families in need, and walking alongside them.

10:30AM PRESENTATIONS

ROOM 1: Jail Leadership & Jail Chaplain Programs | Chief Shannon Herklotz & Chaplain Wesley McDuffie

Chief Shannon Herklotz commands one of the best-run county jails in the country. The Tarrant County Jail has met or exceeded standards and passed inspections for over 30 years, as noted in the recent Department of Justice/National Institute of Corrections report. Chief Herklotz leads the dedicated team of detention professionals and further strengthens the outstanding collaboration with medical partners at John Peter Smith Hospital and mental health partners, My Health, My Resources (MHMR). Before joining TCSO, Chief Herklotz was the Chief Deputy over the Detention Bureau at the Dallas County Sheriff's Office in Dallas as well as the Chief of Detentions at the Harris County Sheriff's Office in Houston. He also served as Deputy Director of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards in Austin. "Shannon brings more than three decades of detention experience to TCSO, and we are lucky to have him," said Sheriff Bill Waybourn. Chief Herklotz began his career as a correctional officer in 1990 with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. He is a life-time member of the Texas Jail Association and has been awarded the Hall of Fame honor and was awarded the TJA President's Award in 2019. He's also a graduate of Sam Houston State University in Huntsville as well as the National Jail Leadership Command Academy.

Wesley McDuffie is currently employed as the Chaplain for Tarrant County Sheriff's Office. Previously, he worked as the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement

CR Investigator for Texas DPS and retired from the UPS after 27 years. He is the Chaplain for the Dalworthington Gardens DPS and the DEA Dallas Field Division. Chaplain McDuffie leads a squad of 300 volunteers at the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office, assisting with delivering and tracking security training, PREA training, annual TB testing and is the Commander of the TCSO Honor Guard. In 2018, Chaplain McDuffie organized Tarrant County Sheriff's Office's first-ever Inmate Christmas Caroling event. The public gathered outside the jail in downtown Fort Worth and listened to the choir of inmates sing Christmas songs from within the jail. In addition to getting inmates to work together for an unorthodox mission in the jail, he recruited officers to volunteer to help teach the men's and women's inmate choir and serve as conductors. It showed the officers the positive impact they can have on inmates' lives during their incarceration. He previously served as the president of the International Conference of Police Chaplains and is currently a member of the National Association of Police Organizations, International Conference of Police Chaplains, Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas, and the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association. He is an ICPC Master Chaplain and attended the Southern Bible Institute and Amberton University in Dallas, Texas. He has an Honorary Doctrine from Mt. Olive Bible Institute located in Brooklyn, New York. Chaplain McDuffie volunteered in New York City following 9/11, New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina, and Texas during Hurricane Rita. He received volunteer awards from President George Bush and President Barack Obama. In 2023, he was named the American Jail Association Civilian Employee of the Year.

ROOM 2: Criminal Justice Roundtable | Sherry Skaggs, PhD; Bailey Fairbanks, PhD; Randy Higgins; Chief Deputy Chad Wooley; Sheriff Tim Ryals; Marty Montgomery

Dr. Sherry Skaggs is an Associate Professor of Criminology at the University of Central Arkansas, and she also serves as the Public Information Officer for Faulkner County Sheriff's Office, Faulkner County Administrative Offices, Mayflower Police Department, and the City of Guy Police Department. As a faculty member, she teaches courses in the Criminal Justice System, and her primary research area is policing. Her most recent publications have been on police recruitment and retention, police-community relations, police interaction with juveniles, and service-learning, experiential learning, and interprofessional education in criminal justice. When not teaching or researching, she is hosting service projects with local police agencies. Sherry has served as Arkansas Association of Sociology, Anthropology, & Criminology (AASAC) President (2016-2017), Vice President (2015-2016), and Secretary (2022-present), and she is the Arkansas State Ambassador (2023-Present) for the National Law Enforcement Community-Engagement Network (LECEN). She remains active in the Professionalizing Law Enforcement Community Engagement Training Conference, Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Arkansas, American Society of Criminology, and Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.

Dr. Bailey Fairbanks is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Government, Public Service, and International Studies at the University of Central Arkansas. Her research interests are centered on the impact that diversity and identity, broadly defined, have on governmental decision-making. Her recent publications have appeared in PS: Politics & Political Science, Social Science Quarterly, and New Political Science. She has worked on numerous service-learning, experiential learning, and interprofessional education courses in collaboration

with correctional facilities in both Arkansas and Georgia.

Randy Higgins serves as the Faulkner County Administrator. Mr. Higgins retired from Johnson Controls, Inc., in 2021 as a Regional Business Operations Manager after 35 years in the fire protection systems industry. He also served on the Faulkner County Quorum Court for 12 years and was the chair of the Courts & Public Safety Committee and a member of the Budget & Finance Committee. He is the past president of the Arkansas Association of Quorum Courts and was a member of the executive board of the Association of Arkansas Counties. He has served on the board of directors for the STOP DV Specialty Courts Program and was a reserve law enforcement officer and Reserve Commander with over 30 years of experience at the Faulkner County Sheriff's Office and Greenbrier Police Department.

Sheriff Tim Ryals has been a resident of Faulkner County for over 30 years and has worked in law enforcement for over 35 years. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army where he served in the 503rd Aviation Battalion Combat. Following his service in the military, he moved into a career in law enforcement as a reserve deputy for the Saline County Sheriff's Department. From this volunteer position, he was hired on full-time and promoted quickly through the ranks - as jailer, patrol deputy, supervisor, dive team member, and narcotics investigator - and worked on a number of high-profile cases. After six years of service with Saline County, Tim was hired by the Arkansas State Police. Throughout his career there, he served in a variety of capacities including member of the Narcotics Section in the Criminal Investigation Division; pilot for the Aircraft Division; Trooper for the Highway Patrol Division Troops A and J that consisted of Pulaski, Faulkner, Lonoke, and Saline counties; member of the Drug Interdiction team; handler in the K-9 unit; and member of the SWAT team. His most prominent role was providing executive protection for then Governor Mike Huckabee. Sheriff Ryals is a graduate of the NACo (National Association of Counties) High Performance Leadership Academy and the Agape School of World Evangelism. He has served on the board of the Arkansas Sheriff's Association as Executive Secretary, Legislative Chair, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Secretary/Treasurer.

Chief Deputy Wooley was born and raised in Faulkner County. He started with Faulkner County Sheriff's Office in January 2006 as a Reserve Deputy. In January 2007, he was hired full time and promoted up through the ranks of patrol to Corporal and then Sergeant. In 2011, he was promoted to the Major Crime Unit investigating homicides, property crimes, crimes against persons, and worked in the narcotics division for a short period of time. He promoted up to Sergeant over investigations until 2015 when he was promoted to Patrol Lieutenant under Sheriff Matt Rice. In 2017, he transferred back to the Criminal Investigations as Lieutenant under Sheriff Tim Ryals commanding the Criminal Investigation Division. In 2018, he transferred back as Patrol Lieutenant commanding the Patrol Division, managing the vehicle fleet and inventory, and commanding the Street Crimes Unit. Chief Wooley joined the Special Response Team in 2013 as a founding member and later commanded the team until retiring from it in 2021.

Marty Montgomery served as the Faulker County Sheriff from 1997 to 2006. He has a M.S. in Community and Economic Development from the University of Central Arkansas, and he has a B.A. in Criminal Justice and Psychology from University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He is a graduate of the FBI National

Academy, 200th Session. Under his leadership with Faulkner County Sheriff's Office, Unit 2 of the Faulkner County Detention Center was designed.

ROOM 3: **Spread Knowledge-Not STIs: How Boston Mt. Can Help You (30 Mins) and It Wasn't in the Training Manual: Managing Career Curveballs (60 Mins)**
Melissa Kaesar; Diana Knapp

Diana Knapp's career in criminal justice spans more than three decades including work with adult and juvenile offenders in secure settings and in the community across state, federal and municipal levels. She began her career with the Missouri Department of Corrections as a Probation and Parole Officer in Kansas City. She would go on to become the assistant superintendent in a men's prison in Mid-Missouri and later managed a grant funded mental health program for municipal inmates in the metro KC area. In 2014, she became the Director of the juvenile residential and detention centers for the Jackson County Family Court. In 2017, she returned to the Jackson County Detention Center as the Deputy Director of Operations and was appointed Director in 2018. She has an undergraduate degree from Pittsburg State University in History and Secondary Education and a graduate degree from Columbia College in Criminal Justice Administration. Diana is a Certified Jail Manager, a Certified Corrections Executive, and serves on the Board of Directors for the American Jail Association.

Melissa Kaeser is the Special Programs Coordinator for Boston Mountain Rural Health Centers, where she manages BMRHC's HIV patients. Destigmatizing HIV within her rural service communities continues to be her passion. She is willing to go anywhere to discuss STI prevention with a smile on her face in the hopes it will open doors & help prevent further spread. Spread Knowledge- Not STIs.

1:00 PM PRESENTATIONS

ROOM 1: **Traumatic Brain Injury & The Criminal Justice System | Danny Bercher, PhD, NRP, CBIS; Brandi Dawson, MS; Dianne Campbell, LCSW, CBIS; Sheila Beck, MSPT, CBIST**

Dr. Daniel "Danny" Bercher serves as the Program Director for the UAMS IDHI Brain Injury Program. Overseeing all budgets, personnel and grant activities. He also serves as an associate professor in the Department of Emergency Medical Services in the UAMS College of Health-Related Professions. Danny was certified as an EMT in 1979 and as a paramedic in 1985. He is a former Region 3 board member for AEMTA, former president for the Arkansas EMT Instructor Coordinators' Society, former AEMTA Conference Co-Chairman for EMS 1997 and EMS 1998. He has served on the Arkansas EMS Training Committee since 1999 as a member, chairman, and secretary.

Brandi Dawson serves as the Health Educator for the UAMS Brain Injury Program. Brandi is charged with the development of educational materials and modules for training purposes. She is the OBISSS Administrator for Arkansas and provides training for the AHEAD program. In addition, Brandi helps to facilitate brain injury survivor support groups, maintains the UAMS Brain Injury

Program's social media presence and works tirelessly for community outreach and advocacy.

Dianne Campbell is a social worker in Little Rock, Arkansas, where she has lived and worked since graduating from the UALR School of Social Work. Dianne was born and raised in Little Rock and lived in Boulder, Colorado while completing her undergraduate degree. Dianne has worked mainly in medical settings (hospitals, dialysis units, outpatient medical clinics – general medicine and cystic fibrosis) with a few stints in mental health settings (LRCMH and ASH). She always enjoys being part of a multidisciplinary team and finds that teams bring the best to patients and families. Dianne is the lead contact for the UAMS Brain Injury Program adult justice initiative.

Sheila Beck works as the Clinical Operations Coordinator with the UAMS Brain Injury Program in Arkansas. Graduating from the University of Central Arkansas Physical Therapy Program over 30 years ago, she gained experience in neurorehabilitation and pediatric physical therapy, Sheila has led multidisciplinary teams, developed statewide advocacy efforts, and mentored future therapists as a Certified Clinical Instructor. She's a Certified Brain Injury Specialist Trainer and has presented to healthcare professionals and students across Arkansas. Sheila is the primary contact for the UAMS Brain Injury Program on their juvenile justice initiative.

ROOM 2: American Jail Association, National Issues, AI & Technology | Commander Shawn Laughlin

Shawn Laughlin is the Commander of the Broomfield Detention Center, a 224-bed City/County Detention Facility. He serves on the American Jail Association's Board of Directors as the immediate past President. He has presented at AJA & NCCHC and has worked in corrections for 30 years in all areas of Corrections. He is a recognized expert in both state and federal courts regarding correctional operations. Additionally, he has been an instructor for the County Sheriffs of Colorado for 14 years in all aspects of jail operations and serves as an SME for curriculum development. He is the past Secretary of the Colorado Jail Association. Shawn holds an Executive Certificate in PhD studies from Liberty University and an M.A. degree in Criminal Justice Administration from the University of Colorado, and has been a Certified Jail Manager since 2005. He is a graduate of the National Jail Leadership Command Academy #3. His innovative programs and partnerships have been recognized by the State of Colorado and the DOJ as models for other facilities.

ROOM 3: Measuring Impact – Monitoring Process & More in Jails and Departments Angelo Brown, PhD; Evanna Ojeda, MPS, MAT

Dr. Angelo Brown is a criminologist focusing on policy, law, and policing from a comparative perspective. He holds a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice and Criminology from Washington State University. Dr. Brown has experience working with various agencies, including police departments, the Department of Homeland Security, and federal courts. As a research associate for the Division of Governmental Studies and Service, he analyzed state patrol data to inform policy. His scholarly contributions include dozens of conferences, journals, and books, and serving as an editor for Criminal Justice Review, SAGE, Sociological Inquiry, Oxford University Press, and Routledge. He has been featured in dozens of news outlets, including PBS, NPR, U.S. News & World Report, ABC, and Fox News. Dr. Brown has been a member of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, the Association for the Study of Law, Culture,

and the Humanities, and the American Bar Association, and has served on the Police Advisory Board.

Evanna Ojeda specializes in data collection and analysis in process and impact evaluations. A Miami, Florida native, Ojeda holds a Master of Public Service (MPS) and certificate of Program Planning and Evaluation from the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service, and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Relay Graduate School of Education. Ojeda completed her Bachelor's degree at Syracuse University, majoring in Political Science & International Relations with a minor in Mathematics. Prior to moving to Arkansas, Ojeda served as a teacher with Teach for America in New York City, completed two Fulbright ETAs in Spain, and worked as a Special Education Trainer in the Commonwealth of Dominica as a Peace Corps Response Volunteer. An expert in data collection and analysis, she has conducted impact evaluations on prenatal substance use and education policies in Arkansas. Currently, she is a Research Associate at the Clinton School Impact Center using applied research and data analysis to support various community-driven programs and organizations expand their capacity and local impact.

2:00PM PRESENTATIONS

ROOM 1: Jails and Justice Support Center & ICSO; Value of Positive Collaboration & Journey| Marsha Travis, CJM, CCM; Chief Aaron Moody

Marsha Travis began her career with the Davidson County Sheriff's Office in 1988, and currently serves as Director of Standards and Accountability. Her career began in support services and inmate programming before assignment in security operations then assuming the role of facility administrator and, finally, in her current division. Marsha furthered her education through leadership and management courses from the National Institute of Corrections. She has been recognized by the American Jail Association (AJA) as a Certified Jail Manager since 1998. She also holds the American Correctional Association (ACA) designation of Certified Corrections Manager. Marsha has completed a five year term as a Commissioner for AJA's Jail Manager Certification Commission, and she previously served on ACA's Delegate Assembly. She has conducted training sessions for National Institute of Corrections, Justice Clearinghouse, and her agency, and she currently works with the Jails and Justice Support Center to provide agency and operational analysis and coaching. Marsha was the 40th President of AJA, and is the current Parliamentarian. She is a previous recipient of the Correctional Administrator of the Year award, and was elected to the AJA Board of Directors, serving 2011-2022, and 2024-present.

Aaron Moody began his career as a Vital Link EMS dispatcher. A lifelong resident of Independence County, In September 2011, he transitioned to the Independence County Detention Center, working with the sheriff's department. There, he quickly advanced to shift corporal before becoming a court bailiff and transport officer. Moody pursued further education at Black River Technical College, and after graduating, joined the sheriff's department as a patrol deputy. He later enrolled at ASU-Newport to earn his Associate of Science Degree in Criminal Justice, graduating in June 2016. That same year, he completed the Field Training Officer course in Basic Crisis Negotiations. In 2017, Moody graduated from the Certified Fire Investigation School at the Arkansas Fire Academy in Camden. More recently, he has completed several advanced law enforcement courses, including Instructor

Development, Investigative Interviewing, Advanced Interrogation, and the Firearms Instructor course. In 2018, Moody was promoted to Chief Deputy of the Independence County Sheriff's Department. Through this position, Moody's focus was turned to the detention center. In 2024 Moody completed the Jail Administrator's course through CLEST. On two occasions, Moody was filling the role of Jail Administrator, while the position was vacant. Moody currently holds two national certifications: Basic Crisis Negotiations and Certified Fire Investigation. Outside of his professional duties, he enjoys working on the farm and volunteering with the Desha Volunteer Fire Department.

ROOM 2: Understanding Reentry, Transitional Housing, and Paroling from County Jail: Different Options for Community Reintegration | Felicia Bentley; Kevin Smith; Courtney Cooper; Jarrod Self

Felicia Bentley serves as the Arkansas Post-Prison Transfer Board Investigator. She is a graduate of the University of Arkansas Pine Bluff and University of Phoenix. She began her career in 2011 as a Correctional Officer at the Varner/Varner SuperMax Unit. She then transitioned out of uniform to an admin position, that same year, in the Records Department at the then-Diagnostic Unit, now Barbara Ester Unit, working with Intake and 309 files. In 2012, she worked in the Records Departments at the ORCU and Tucker Unit, which consisted of calculating Act 626 County Jail time and Boot Camp files. In 2013, she took a promotion at the Maximum Security Unit, now Larry Norris Unit, that offered a vast amount of knowledge for Investigator Bentley. What was initially a floater position turned into a means to take in different aspects of the Division of Corrections, such as Classification, Visitation, Mail Room procedures, and Grievances. In 2016, Investigator Bentley was promoted to the position of Program Specialist and Administrative Review Officer. In this role, she was the Grievance, Mail Room, and Inmate Telephone Supervisor, reviewed all Disciplinary Appeals, and assisted in internal unit investigations. In 2019, wanting to pivot in another direction, Investigator Bentley left the Division of Corrections and joined the Arkansas Post-Prison Transfer Board in an admin position which allowed her to learn both parole services and revocation procedures. Using the knowledge she learned during her career, Investigator Bentley was promoted to Investigator in 2021. Investigator Bentley is married to Trevis (Advanced Engineer for ARDOT) and has one son-nephew Dash and a fur-child Bailey.

Kevin Smith currently serves as the administrator of the Arkansas Post-Prison Transfer Board (formerly the Arkansas Parole Board). He has previously served the Board as a staff member and has worked at the Department of Corrections as a data analyst in the Research and Planning Section and an analyst in the Fiscal Division. Kevin is an active member of the Association of Paroling Authorities International and values the Post-Prison Transfer Board's mission of ensuring public safety while offering offenders opportunities for positive change. Kevin is a native of Lonoke County, Arkansas where he enjoys hunting with his trusty Llewellen Setter, Jack. He currently lives in Ward, Arkansas with his wife of 23 years, Kim, and his three children.

Courtney Cooper serves as an Assistant Area Manager for Reentry Services at Arkansas Community Corrections. Ms. Cooper has previously served as a parole and probation officer and agent. She has worked in Hope Court and various areas of reentry. She is a Law Enforcement Instructor, Field Training Officer, and a member of the Flying Armed Extradition Team. Ms. Cooper holds a Bachelor's Degree in Professional Studies - Criminal Justice from Arkansas Tech University.

Jarrold Self attended public schools in Pine Bluff, AR and graduated from White Hall High in 2003. Jarrod began his career with the Arkansas Department of Correction at the Tucker Unit in 2005. He has held the position of Correctional Officer, Corporal, Field Sergeant, Field Lieutenant, and Field Major (Chief Security Officer). In 2016 he transferred to Arkansas Community Correction to work with the Reentry Team as an Asst. Area Manager where he oversaw policy development, policy compliance, and Resident placement for both Reentry and Transitional Housing Programs. Jarrod was promoted to Area Manager for Reentry Services in June of 2022, he still serves in this position today. As the Area Manager, Jarrod has seen firsthand the reentry barriers, such as identification, employment, transportation, and housing, which offenders face after release from incarceration. Continued efforts made in our communities have assisted in bridging these gaps for returning citizens allowing a more holistic and seamless process toward living the life of a law-abiding citizen. An important component of his work has been developing and cultivating strong partnerships between housing facility vendors, service providers, community partners and stakeholders. He assisted in the implantation and continues as the review authority for the FindGood release process. All housing applications that are denied by the facility/vendor are approved or denied on a case-by-case basis. This process ensures timely response from housing vendors as well as discourages any practice that could be considered discrimination.

ROOM 3: Staff Wellness Programs for Professionals in Corrections and Jails | Bob Bowen

Bob Bowen has nearly three decades in the corrections field. He began his career in 1988 and the rest is history. His work includes two states, six facilities and all levels of security. Bob has developed and piloted numerous successful programs. This includes a comprehensive wellness program serving over 13,000 corrections employees. Bob loves his kids, grandchildren, cats and Harley Davidsons. He enjoys a good adventure and is known to show up in somewhat obscure places just to say, "I've been there." Bob is especially grateful for the mission of DWCO and is happy to serve as a member of the Board of Directors.

3:00PM PRESENTATIONS

ROOM 1: Peer Support Teams & Programs: In Jails and More | Ottelia Basart

Ottelia Basart is a Nationally Certified Advanced Peer Recovery Specialist serving with the Faulkner County Sheriff's Office as a member of the Overdose Response Team. She actively contributes to the Heber Springs Health Coalition and the Faulkner County Health Coalition, working collaboratively to address substance use, promote recovery, and strengthen community health. As Director of The Women of Refuge Delivered, a 501(c)(3) women's ministry based in Heber Springs, Arkansas, Ottelia leads with compassion and purpose—drawing from her own lived experience to bring hope to others. Having overcome 23 years of addiction, she is committed to walking alongside those in recovery, proving that transformation is possible. Beyond her professional roles, Ottelia cherishes her most meaningful title—Yaya—to her two beautiful grandchildren. She enjoys spending time outdoors, especially on the water, and is dedicated to discovering and living her healthiest, happiest life.

ROOM 2: Workforce Development & Training Partners: Empowering Staff, Residents, & Beyond | Staci Floyd-Reed; Bridget Sanders M.Ed; Jack Hill, MPA, NRP

Staci Floyd-Reed is a member of the Arkansas Career Development Center's (ACDC)

Administrative Team, affiliated with the Arkansas Rehabilitation Center (ARS). One of her responsibilities is to inform the public about: What does ACDC/ARS provide? For whom are these services available? In what location do you apply? Their mission is to prepare Arkansans with disabilities to work and lead productive and independent lives.

Bridget Sanders is an accomplished educator with over 20 years of experience spanning both secondary and post-secondary education. She currently serves as a General Education Instructor and Social Sciences Project Program Specialist with the TRIO Student Support Services Department at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Dedicated to advancing educational equity and access, Bridget is deeply committed to student success and academic achievement, particularly among underrepresented populations. She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in Rural and Diverse Educational Leadership at Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia, Arkansas, where she continues to develop her expertise in serving diverse educational communities.

Jack Hill has served as University of Arkansas-East Arkansas Community College's Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs since April of 2023. He formerly served as UA-EACC's Dean of Vocational, Occupational, and Technical Education and EMS Program Director. Mr. Hill has also been associated with Southeast Arkansas Community College, Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas, and Arkansas State University at Beebe in Searcy and served in various roles at those institutions. He earned a Master of Public Administration degree, a Bachelor of Criminal Justice degree, and associates degrees in law enforcement and business management. He also holds a certification as a nationally registered paramedic NRP and is currently pursuing a doctorate degree in Educational Leadership. Throughout his career, he has worked in various roles within the local, state, and federal levels of government.

ROOM 3: Leaders Share Information: Current Grant Programs | Doris Smith; Bliss Boever; Paulette Chappelle

Doris Smith: Doris Smith is a Senior Executive Administrator of the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration, Office of Intergovernmental Services. She is a Certified Public Accountant and Certified Government Financial Manager. Ms. Smith has over 20 years of service with the State of Arkansas, all dedicated to one agency – The Office of Intergovernmental Services. Her work with the agency has accomplished the successful administration of over \$550 million in federal funds, the implementation of the State's first grants management system specifically for victim services grants and the restructuring of the intergovernmental review procedures of the State Clearinghouse. Ms. Smith serves on the Arkansas Interoperable Communications Executive Committee (AICEC) and the Arkansas Alcohol and Drug Abuse Coordinating Council (AADACC) on behalf of DFA Secretary, Jim Hudson.

Bliss Boever serves as Grants Coordinator for the Arkansas Department of Public Safety, managing grants across all divisions, including the statewide Public Safety Equipment Grant. With over 17 years in public service, she has secured millions in federal funding and works closely with state and federal partners to advance public safety initiatives across Arkansas.

Paulette Chappelle joined the U.S. Attorney's Office in July 2008 and in 2013, became the Law Enforcement Coordinator Specialist. In November 2023, Ms.

Chappelle became the Public Information Officer. The daughter of a retired U.S. Air Force veteran, Ms. Chappelle is also a veteran having served in the U.S. Army. A Nebraska native, Ms. Chappelle holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) with a concentration in Organizational Management.