



American  
Occupational Therapy  
Association



AOTA Specialty Conference:

# Mental Health

## Program Guide

# Mark Your Calendars for 2024–2025 AOTA Events!

**AOTA educational and career development events help you  
boost your practice and career.**

## **2024 AOTA Education Summit**

Charlotte, NC  
November 8–9, 2024  
(Pre-conference sessions on November 7)

## **AOTA INSPIRE | 2025 Annual Conference & Expo**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
April 3–5, 2025  
(Pre-conference sessions April 2)

## **AOTA Specialty Conference:**

### **Children & Youth**

Seattle, Washington  
December 13–14, 2024  
(Pre-conference sessions December 12)





## October 24, 2024

9:00 am–5:00 pm

Mallard

### Workshop 1

#### Youth Mental Health First Aid

Christine Urish, PhD, MSOT, OTR/L, FAOTA, BCMH, Drake University, Des Moines, IA

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches how to help an adolescent (age 12–18) who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis. Topics include anxiety, depression, substance use, disruptive behavior, and eating disorder.

2:00 pm–5:00 pm

Conference Dining Room

### Workshop 2

#### Moving Out, Moving Forward: Transitioning Clients With Comorbidities From Institutions, and Fostering Occupational Participation in the Community

Emily Chun, OTD, OTR/L, QMHP; Jamie Angell, OTR/L; Andrea Carlson, OTD, OTR/L; Julie Cuba, all of Trilogy Inc., Chicago, IL

We will explore occupational therapy's role in supporting clients with co-existing mental and physical health conditions to safely transition from institutions and promote occupational participation in the community.

## Special Event

5:30 pm–6:15 pm

Mallard

#### AOTA Town Hall

Come and have a dialogue with AOTA President Alyson D. Stover, MOT, JD, OTR/L, BCP. AOTA wants to hear from you.

## October 25, 2024

## Keynote

8:00 am–8:45 am

Grand Ballroom

#### Ridding The World of Mental Health Occupational Therapy Ignorance: A Review of Using Mentorship for Occupational Therapy Program Development Where Occupational Therapy has not Existed Before

Jane Musgrave, MS, OTR/L, Just Good Sense: Occupational Therapy Consultation and Training, Taunton, MA; Margaret Flynn, OTD, OTR/L, McLean Hospital SE, Middleboro, MA

This session will review an occupational therapy model for establishing occupational therapy services in a mental health facility that offered minimal occupational therapy. Outcomes include occupational therapy becoming a valued part of the treatment team, as well as increased occupational therapy staffing, yet acknowledges the challenges to maintain culture change.

## Concurrent Sessions

9:00 am–10:00 am

Grand Ballroom

### Concurrent 101

#### Not Just a Balancing Act: Supporting Well-being in Occupational Therapy Students

Evguenia Popova, PhD, OTR/L; Bridget Hahn, OTR/L; Olivia Lachowicz, all of Rush University, Chicago, IL; Brigid Bendig

Burnout in occupational therapy may emerge during graduate student experience, highlighting the importance of organizational and psychological support for students' well-being. We will explore mindfulness approaches for supporting students' well-being.

Salt Creek Room

### Concurrent 102

#### The Impact of Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events on Mental Health, and the Relevance to Occupational Therapy

Audi Santos, OTD, OTR/L, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

Climate change and extreme weather events (CCEW) impact mental health and disproportionately affect marginalized groups. This session will explore the impacts of CCEW on mental health and strategies to support well-being within occupational therapy practice.

10:15 am–11:15 am

Grand Ballroom

### Concurrent 103

#### Empowering Patients in Psychiatric Care: Navigating the Path of Patient-Centered Interventions Towards Resilience and Equitable Access

Elnaz Alimi, OTD, OTR/L, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL; Faith Brown  
Contributing Author: Danielle Haubrich

This session will underscore the integration of patient cultural identities into care plans and decision-making, fostering resilience and ensuring equitable mental health service access for psychiatric inpatients.

Salt Creek Room

**Concurrent 104**

**Collaborative Models of Care for Mental Health Needs in Correctional Populations: A Case Study for Occupational Therapy**

Keagan Carpenter, COT, University of North Texas, Medical Center, Ft. Worth, TX  
 This presentation will explore collaborative models for mental health in prisons, emphasizing the unique role of occupational therapy practitioners. They promote recovery through meaningful activities, working alongside other professionals and correctional staff.

11:30 am–12:30 pm

Grand Ballroom

**Concurrent 105**

**Demonstrating the Value of Occupational Therapy Services Using Outcome Tracking Within Interdisciplinary Teams**

Jadelyn Wagner, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND; Clarissa Mireau, PhD, OTR/L, TPS, Minnesota Department of Human Services, Willmar, MN

Contributing Author: Sarah Nielsen

Participants will understand how to demonstrate the value of occupational therapy in mental health services through tracking and documenting outcomes.

Salt Creek Room

**Concurrent 106**

**Behind Every Behavior is a Feeling and Behind Every Feeling is a Need: Beyond Skill Development in Adult Mental Health**

Carol Lambdin-Pattavina, OTD, OTR/L, CTP, University of New England, Portland, ME; Melinda Cozzolino, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY; Gina Baker, OTD, OTR/L, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

Contributing Author: Tracy Jalaba, OTD, OTR/L, PEERS® Young Adult Certified Provider

Complex trauma is strongly associated with mental illness. Understanding this association and trauma-related behaviors is central to supporting personal recovery. Addressing underlying needs often supersedes a traditional focus on skill development.

1:45 pm–2:45 pm

Grand Ballroom

**Concurrent 107**

**Outcomes From an Effectiveness Study of Occupational Therapy for Individuals With Co-Occurring Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorder in Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS)**

Clarissa Mireau, PhD, OTR/L, TPS, Minnesota Department of Human Services, Willmar, MN

Contributing Authors: Rebecca Estes, PhD, OTR/L, CAPS, ECHM; Sally Wasmuth

Learn about results from an effectiveness study on occupational therapy services as part of a multidisciplinary treatment team in IRTS for individuals with substance use disorder and serious mental illness, as well as recommendations for practice and implications for future studies.

Salt Creek Room

**Concurrent 108**

**Impact and Awareness of Secondary Traumatic Stress and Burnout in Occupational Therapy Practitioners**

Ashley Lane, OTD; Julie Suto, OTD; Rocio Torres, OTD, all of Midwestern University, Downers Grove, IL; Lane Kadlec  
 Contributing Author: Emily Simpson

Secondary traumatic stress (STS) has varying consequences and has potential to affect health care workers, especially occupational therapy practitioners, due to work demands. This presentation will explore STS's impacts on occupational therapy practitioners and barriers to roles, and suggest self-care strategies for coping.

3:00 pm–4:00 pm

Grand Ballroom

**Concurrent 109**

**“Nothing About Us Without Us”: Designing and Implementing a Community-Based Participatory Action Research Study Alongside a Psychosocial Clubhouse**

Gina Baker, OTD, OTR/L, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS; Christine Urish, PhD, MSOT, OTR/L, FAOTA, BCMH, Drake University, Des Moines, IA; Jessica Schmidtberger; Lexie Chambers, both of University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS

Occupational therapy professionals can benefit from learning how to effectively utilize community-based participatory action research with community stakeholders impacted by serious mental illness to advance health equity initiatives and empower these communities.

## Salt Creek Room

### Concurrent 110

#### **A Pilot Study Examining the Effects of Bean Bag Tapping on Patient Distress and Well-Being: Results and Clinical Application**

Megan Flood, OTR/L, Regions Hospital, St. Paul, MN; Angela Balzarini-Leonhart; Peggy Ninow, OTR/L, Regions Hospital, St Paul, MN

Contributing Author: Karen Moore

This session will present the results of a pilot study that examined the efficacy of bean bag tapping (BBT), a sensory modality. Attendees will subsequently learn BBT, identify benefits and precautions, and discuss use in clinical practice.

4:15 pm–5:15 pm

## Poster Session

### Monarch Room

#### Poster 101

#### **Occupational Therapy as Part of an Interdisciplinary Model of Recovery Housing: A Feasibility Study**

Victoria Wilburn, DHSc, OTR, FAOTA; Leah Van Antwerp, MS, OTD, OTR, both of Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN; Nicki Cochran, MPH, Overdose Lifeline, Indianapolis, IN; Emily Pulos; Justin Phillips; Nikole Young, both of Overdose Lifeline, Indianapolis, IN

Recovery housing for perinatal women and their babies is a critical component of the continuum of care for those with substance use disorder. This poster details the inclusion of occupational therapy in a recovery residence staffing model.

#### Poster 102

#### **Implications of Gender and Ethnicity on Stress and Coping in Post-Secondary Education Settings**

Eddie Chu, OTD, OTR/L, Stanbridge University, Irvine, CA; Erika M Garza; Dominique Johnson; Shirin Hosseinkhah; Tyler Thomas

This poster investigates gender and ethnic differences in coping styles related to academic stress among college students, advocating for inclusive inclusive practices and promoting mental health within educational institutions.

#### Poster 103

#### **Provision of a Symptom Management Resource for Young-onset Parkinson's Disease to Promote Mental Health and Well-being**

Emily Peters; Becky Bernhardt; Kristi Lamonica, PhD, all of Russell Sage College, Troy, New York

Contributing Authors: Debra Collette, OTD, OTR/L; Dayna Maniccia

A symptom management resource using occupation-based strategies has been developed and evaluated for individuals with young-onset Parkinson's disease, in order to optimize mental well-being, health promotion, and positive mental health outcomes.

#### Poster 105

#### **Have we Forgotten About Rest? The Need to Understand and Promote the Occupation of Rest in College Students Amid the Growing Mental Health Crisis**

Caitlin Smith, OTD, OTR/L, CLT-UE, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL

With the growing need for mental well-being promotion in college students to combat the rising rates of mental health issues, occupational therapy practitioners need to better understand and promote rest as a crucial component of well-being in this population.

#### Poster 107

#### **The Experience of Occupational Therapists who Worked With Unhoused Women During COVID-19**

Patricia Precin, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Columbia University, New York, NY

Contributing Authors: Razan Hamed, PhD, OTR/L; Cori Lynn Campbell; Sophea Clarke; Simone D'Antuono; Joseina De Leon; Nisha Iyer; Yeon Kim; Nicole Pennella; Ayelet Singer

This poster describes a qualitative study of occupational therapy practitioners' experiences, roles, and intervention approaches while working with unhoused women during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Poster 108

#### **Using the Hearing Distressing Voices Simulation to Increase Occupational Therapy Students' Empathy and Understanding of Psychosis**

Danielle Losonci, MS, OTR/L, Touro University, New York, NY

Use of the Hearing Distressing Voices Simulation in mental health coursework incorporates an innovative, experiential learning method and recovery-oriented approach to addressing student preconceptions and understanding of psychosis.

#### Poster 109

#### **Meeting Unmet Needs Through a Student-Run Community Health Fair**

Deborah Zeitlin, OTD, OTR/L, Lincoln Memorial University, Knoxville, TN

Contributing Author: Elizabeth Schmidt, PhD, OTR/L

Health disparities exist in Appalachia. A program was developed to create a student-run community wellness fair for underserved individuals. This poster reflects the steps to program development and evaluation to support community wellness.



### Poster 110

#### Measuring the Implementation and Sustainability of Occupational Therapy in the Community Behavioral Health Setting

Danielle Amero, OTD, OTR/L, CHT, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Boston, MA; Alexa Trolley-Hanson, MS, OTR/L, Boston University, Boston, MA

Contributing Author: Douglas Simmons, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Learn about an innovative collaboration between OT schools, community agencies, and a state association to implement a pilot program embedding an occupational therapist in two community behavioral health settings with funding for 1 year.

### Poster 111

#### Perinatal Mental Health and the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Directions for Occupational Therapists and the Interdisciplinary Team

Maddy Nave, OTD, OTR/L; Jennifer Kang Lim, MOT, OTR/L, both of North Central College, Naperville, IL

This study examines perinatal mental health conditions through the lens of the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework and explores occupational therapists' roles and opportunities on the maternal mental health interdisciplinary team.

### Poster 112

#### Enhancing Grief Sensitivity: What Occupational Therapy Practitioners Need to Know

Amy Kashiwa, OTD, OTR/L, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA

Grieving impacts occupational performance and may affect physical and mental health. Applying a grief-informed model, participants will explore best practices for supporting clients across the lifespan and the benefits of occupational engagement.

### Poster 113

#### OT-Based Sensory Inclusion on University Campuses to Support Students

Madisen Lamp; Nancy Carson, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, both of Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC

In the last two decades, more individuals with ASD have entered college, but only 39% successfully graduate. Universities must address challenges like sensory inclusion and mental health to improve retention and academic outcomes for ASD students.

### Poster 114

#### Supporting Caregivers of Children With Sensory Sensitivities With Programming As Novel Level I Fieldwork: Creating Community

Nicole Halliwell, DSc, OTR/L, University, West J...  
Contributing Author: ...  
Rac... Michelle Hackenberg;

This poster describes community programming designed and implemented as Level I fieldwork for OTD students to apply psychosocial and sensory processing course content and build community to meet mental health needs.

### Poster 115

#### Pilot Interoception Group in a Pediatric Residential Psychiatry Program

Amanda Acosta, OTR/L; Sara DelBuono, OTR/L, both of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH  
Contributing Authors: Kathleen Bonds, MHSA, MS, OTR/L; Kelly Minarchek; Andrew Lonneman; Chad Duncan

Interoception is the awareness of internal sensations in the body and responding to them appropriately. The aim of this study was to run a pilot group incorporating interoception-based curriculum into occupational therapy practice in a pediatric psychiatric setting.

October 26, 2024

## Concurrent Sessions

8:00 am–9:00 am

Grand Ballroom

### Concurrent 201

#### Healing the Whole Person: Addressing Mental Health Needs of Medical Patients Through Innovative Psychiatric Occupational Therapy Services

Samantha Kaplan, OTR/L, University of Maryland Medical Center, Baltimore, MD; Pooja Bhatnagar; Sarah Hewitt, OTR/L; Pamela Walker, both of University of Maryland Medical Center, Baltimore, MD

This session will cover the innovative, therapeutic approach taken by a Psychiatric Occupational Therapy Consult Liaison service line in order to holistically address mental health needs of individuals admitted to the hospital for medical care.

Salt Creek Room

### Concurrent 202

#### 1-2-3 RESET™: Bridging the Gap for Student Success

Heather Schmidt, MS, OTR/L, Integrative Therapy and 1-2-3 RESET, Golden Valley, MN

Contributing Author: Dawn Paulson, MS, OTR/L

Supporting students' well-being in the classroom is essential for positive engagement in school-based occupations. Learn easy-to-implement, evidence-based strategies from the 1-2-3 RESET™ trauma-sensitive framework to promote student success.



9:15 am–10:15 am

Grand Ballroom

**Concurrent 203**

**Addiction and Recovery: Basic Concepts for the Occupational Therapy Practitioner**

Ryan Thomure, OTD, OTR/L, LCSW, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL; Ray Cendejas, COTA/L; Kate Wolff, OTR/L, QMHP; Cameron Honsa, OTD, OTR/L, QMHP, all of Ascension Housing and Health Alliance, Chicago, IL

This presentation will provide participants with introductory information and basic knowledge of concepts related to addiction and recovery, such as different recovery models and implications for occupational therapy.

Salt Creek Room

**Concurrent 204**

**Occupational Therapy’s Role in School Mental Health: Integrating a Public Health Approach in School-Based Practice**

Sarah Greene, OTD, OTR/L, St. Catherine University, St. Paul, MN

Contributing Author: Miranda Virone, OTD, MS, OTR/L, Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA

Occupational therapy practitioners have the capacity to contribute to school mental health efforts by implementing programming through a multi-tiered framework. These efforts support integration of a public health approach to meet the mental health needs of school communities.

10:30 am–11:30 am

Grand Ballroom

**Concurrent 205**

**Supporting Wellness: Integrating Occupational Therapy and Psychiatric Rehabilitation**

Stephen Nawotniak, MS, OTR/L, NYCPS;

Daniella Labate-Covelli, MSW, CPRP, both of The Alliance for Rights and Recovery, Albany, NY

This session will provide a comprehensive overview of psychiatric rehabilitation and its essential principles, address how to integrate them into a curriculum, and share how to enhance practitioner skills to broaden their impact on the mental health system.

Salt Creek Room

**Concurrent 206**

**The Impact of Mindfulness on Maternal Stress and Harsh Parenting: Strategies to Support Mental Health Outcomes for Young Children**

Heidi Sanders, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

This session will explore associations between mindful parenting, parental stress, and harsh parenting in early childhood. Implications for the use of mindful parenting strategies in early intervention to support child outcomes will be discussed.

11:45 am–12:45 pm

**Poster Session**

Monarch Room

**Poster 201**

**Examining Evidence-Based Occupational Therapy Practice for Mental Health and Neurodevelopmental Conditions Through the Kawa Model**

Crystal Gaddy, OTD, OTR/L, Pfeiffer University, Greenville, NC; Logan McConnell; Tiana Whitehead; Madison Edwards; Kaisha Moore

Interventions containing culturally aware concepts of Kawa are important to the responsive approach of occupation-based intervention in the rehabilitation journey of those who identify with the neurodevelopmental and mental health populations.

**Poster 202**

**Decomartmentalizing our Skillset: Integrative Health Occupational Therapy in Inpatient Practice Settings**

Ricardo Ramirez, OTD, OTR/L; Katherine Prejzner; Laura Vanpuymbrouck, PhD, OTR/L, all of Rush University, Chicago, IL  
Contributing Authors: Elise A’hearn; Claire Saban; Sabrina Saleh

Integrative health occupational therapy (IHOT) enables practitioners to use their full skillset to address physical and mental health. This poster shares inpatient practitioners’ experience with IHOT and corresponding interventions.

**Poster 203**

**you, AFFIRMED: How Occupational Therapy Can Support Trans Mental Health**

Sarah Vines, MS, OTR/L, Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute, Marion, VA

This poster provides education regarding shortcomings in trans health care, the impact of these inequities on the mental well-being of trans individuals, and occupational therapy’s role in addressing these shortcomings.

**Poster 204**

**Building a Community of Wellness: Feasibility and Benefits of a Mindfulness Program for Staff at an Urban Zoo**

Olivia Lachowicz; Evguenia Popova, PhD, OTR/L, both of Rush University, Chicago, IL

Burnout is prevalent in health care, education, and animal care. Occupational therapy practitioners can use mindfulness to address burnout. We present findings from an occupation- and mindfulness-based wellness program for staff at an urban zoo.

### Poster 205

#### **Structural Barriers and Pathways Impacting the Mental Health of Black Caregivers With Autistic Children: Perspectives and Considerations**

Diamond Rashad, OTD, OTR/L, South College, Knoxville, TN

This poster discusses the experiences of Black caregivers facing structural barriers while caring for their autistic children. It explores culturally responsive options to provide better access to overall wellness and coping strategies.

### Poster 206

#### **Development of an Occupational Therapy Prison Reentry Program for People Incarcerated With Cognitive Challenges and Long-Term Sentences**

Paige Gresens, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI; Lisa Jaegers, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO

People incarcerated with cognitive challenges and long-term sentences face many barriers to successful reentry into the community. Occupational therapy is uniquely skilled to address individual strengths and challenges to facilitate reentry.

### Poster 207

#### **Exploring the Occupational Identity of Fathers With Addiction: A Qualitative Study**

Oaklee Rogers, PhD, OTR/L, Northern Arizona University, Phoenix, AZ

Contributing Authors: Rick Davenport; Penelope Moyers; Dana Milss

Hermeneutic phenomenology was used to explore fathers' occupational identity from initial substance use through recovery. Participants' occupational identity fluctuates throughout these temporal stages, and suggested occupational therapy strategies will be reviewed.

### Poster 208

#### **Evaluating an Occupational Therapy Wellness Group Curriculum for Individuals Post-Gender-Affirming Bottom Surgery**

Taylor Newmark; Ricardo Ramirez, OTD, OTR/L, both of Rush University, Chicago, IL

Developing an occupation-focused wellness group curriculum, with an emphasis on self-care, social support, mental and physical health, can support transgender and gender diverse individuals post-gender-affirming bottom surgery.

### Poster 209

#### **OT Interventions in Early Intervention in Psychosis Programs: A National Survey Project**

Halley Read, PhD, OTR/L, Western Oregon University, Hillsboro, OR; Keely McCormick

Occupational therapy plays an important role in fostering participation, yet the profession's efficacy in early intervention psychosis (EIP) programs remains poorly understood. This survey research aims to determine the common occupational therapy interventions used EIP programs.

### Poster 210

#### **Examining Caregiver Stress and Stress Management Techniques to Improve Caregivers' Overall Mental Health**

Lakeisha Walker, Navihealth, Jacksonville, FL

As a previous home health OT, I have witnessed many stressed-out caregivers in their homes. The findings from this capstone provide OTs with resources for addressing caregiver stress and its mental health effects.

### Poster 211

#### **Trauma Informed Care and the LGBT Older Adult Population**

Patricia Precin, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Columbia University, New York, NY

Contributing Author: Phyllis Simon, OTD, OTR/L, FNAP

This poster presents signs, symptoms, and resulting behaviors of psychological trauma specific to LGBT older adults and how to apply trauma-informed care principles and treatment to support resilience and health.

### Poster 212

#### **Addressing Mental Health Through Community-Based Surf Therapy Groups**

Shelby Cobb, Charleston, SC; Nancy Carson, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC

Surf therapy combines the therapeutic benefits of the ocean with community support, exercise, and education resulting in improved mental health outcomes. OT plays a role in integrating learned skills into daily life within an interprofessional team.

### Poster 213

#### **Development of a Health Promotion Group for Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Populations**

Kate Schrader, Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN

This poster describes a health promotion occupational therapy group developed for transgender and gender diverse clients in an outpatient public hospital setting.





## Poster 214

### **Demonstrating the Value of Occupational Therapy Within Interdisciplinary Mental Health Teams to Support Collaboration and Enhance Service Delivery**

Jadalyn Wagner, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND; Clarissa Mireau, PhD, OTR/L, TPS, Minnesota Department of Human Services, Willmar, MN

Contributing Author: Sarah Nielsen

This poster shares methods to demonstrate the value of occupational therapy in mental health services.

## Poster 215

### **The Effects of a Structured Sensory Program on Adults With Serious Mental Illness and Sensory Processing Difficulties**

Jennifer Allison, OTD, OTR/L, BCMH, CCAP, FAOTA, Brenau University, Gainesville, GA; Amanda Buono, Gainesville, GA; Mia Van Schalkwyk; Leigh Lehman; Echo Soneson, MS, OTR/L, Elite Therapy, Casper, WY; Mallory Foy; Baylee Oot; Jamie Halgrim

This quantitative study examined the effects of the Sensory Connection Program on the general, interpersonal, and occupational behaviors of adults with serious mental illness, as measured by the Comprehensive Occupational Therapy Evaluation.

## Concurrent Sessions

2:00 pm–3:00 pm

Grand Ballroom

### Concurrent 207

#### **Navigating Crises Within Inpatient Psychiatric Settings: Occupational Therapy's Approach to Enhancing Resilience and Recovery**

Elnaz Alimi, OTD, OTR/L, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL; Faith Brown  
Contributing Author: Danielle Haubrich

This session explores occupational therapy's role in crisis management in psychiatric settings, focusing on stabilizing patients, fostering resilience, and long-term recovery. It aims to enhance occupational therapy practices for better patient outcomes in psychiatric settings.

Salt Creek Room

### Concurrent 208

#### **Affirming Resilience: Occupation-Centered Care to Support LGBTQ+ Youth With Mental Health Needs**

Ricardo Ramirez, OTD, OTR/L, Rush University, Chicago, IL

While resilient, LGBTQ+ youth deserve mental health support to navigate everyday life. This presentation will highlight occupation-centered practices to utilize throughout the occupational therapy process with this population.

3:05 pm–3:50 pm

Grand Ballroom

### Closing

#### **AOTA: Advancing Opportunity for Occupational Therapy in Mental and Behavioral Health**

Kim Karr, OTR/L, RAC-CT, CPHQ; Heather Parsons, MS, OT, American Occupational Therapy Association, Bethesda, MD

Find out about AOTA's advocacy efforts over the past year on improving access and ensuring payment for mental health occupational therapy services and learn where these efforts will focus for the future.



# Thank You!

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## Exhibitors

