

April 2024

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska PUBLIC POLICY
CENTER



POLICYTALK

The Latest in Public Policy
Center News and Events

Featured News

Violence Risk Assessment Workshop



VIOLENCE RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

Dr. Mario Scalora and **Dr. Denise Bulling** led in-person and virtual trainings on violence risk assessment for over 100 clinicians across both sessions. This workshop enhances and promotes statewide clinical expertise in violence risk and threat assessment in Nebraska. Practitioners address risk assessment and management issues in their clinical activity. **Learn More** about behavioral threat assessment and management.

Risk Management Project Earns Excellence Award

Congratulations to our partners at **Nebraska Extension** and the **University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center for Agricultural Profitability** on receiving the 2024 Outstanding Project Award for the North Central Region at the Extension Risk Management Education conference in Salt Lake City! The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center is proud to be part of this project helping agricultural producers in Nebraska. [Read more.](#)

PPC Staff Share Lessons from School Emergency Preparedness Tabletop Exercises



Research Manager, Kurt Mantonya, and Research Specialist, Aiden Quinn, presented "School Tabletop Exercises in Action: Helping Schools Support Emergency Operations Planning Through Applied Innovation" at the Society for Applied Anthropology annual meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Their talk was part of a panel focused on Disaster Production and Adaptation and focuses on helping schools be more prepared during different emergency

scenarios.

Faculty Highlight

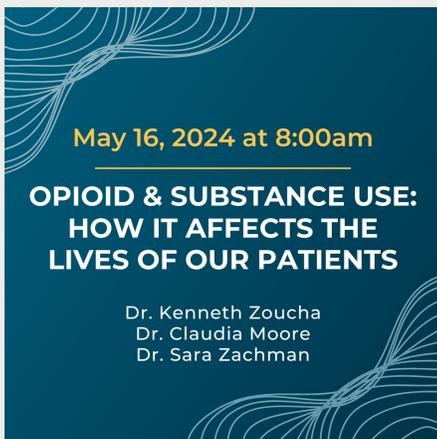


Susan Sheridan elected to National Academy of Education

Susan Sheridan is the founding director of the Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and Schools (University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL)) and a faculty fellow of the PPC. Susan became the first ever UNL faculty member to be elected to the National Academy of Education. Her work includes supporting families and children who are marginalized due to economic, developmental, educational, or geographic factors, as well as those who represent cultural or demographic diversity.

[Read More at NE Today](#)

Events



Opioid & Substance Use: How It Affects the Lives of Our Patients

Drs. Kenneth Zoucha, Claudia Moore, & Sara Zachman

Virtual: Via Zoom

May 16, 2024 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

This free training will focus on epidemiology, neurobiology, effective screening and assessment, and evidence-based treatment for opioid and substance use. [Learn More.](#)

Register Today



Tips & Tricks for Working with Children and Youth in Mental Health Practice

Dr. Cate Jones-Hazledine & Jennifer Jackson

Virtual: Via Zoom May 3, Jul. 26, & Aug. 23* 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

*(select one date to attend)

This free virtual training will provide Nebraska-licensed mental health professionals an overview workshop to increase interest in providing services to children and youth. [Learn More.](#)

Register Today



Tribal Standards of Care: History, Culture, & Healing when Working with Native, Indigenous, & Tribal Populations

Grace Johnson, MS, LIMHP, LADC & Elizabeth Lovejoy Brown, MSW

Virtual: Via Zoom

May 28, 2024 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

[Register](#)

This free training will cover the complex and multi-layered topic of Tribal Standards of Care, behavioral health interventions, and how culture can be used as prevention and treatment. [Learn More.](#)

Center News

Senior Research Director Elected President of Great Plains ATAP Chapter



Senior Research Director, Denise Bulling, was elected President of the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (ATAP), Great Plains Chapter in March 2024. ATAP is a non-profit organization focused on providing an educational and professional environment to exchange thoughts and strategies to address threat concerns.

Faculty Fellow Promoted to Professor



Dr. James Bovaird, a PPC faculty fellow, has been promoted to professor of Educational Psychology in the College of Education and Human Sciences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Dr. Bovaird teaches graduate courses in structural education modeling and in educational psychology. Dr. Bovaird is director of the Nebraska Evaluation and Research Center at UNL.

Student Presents Research to Nebraska Lawmakers



Meklit Aga, a senior studying psychology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, co-presented a psychology project on "Sense of Belonging and its Relationship with Student Success" to state senators at the Governor's Mansion earlier this month. Meklit is one of the PPC's former Undergraduate Research Assistants and an alumna of our policy scholars program. [Read More.](#)

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