

# Building Resilience and Preventing Substance Use: Schools and the Opioid Epidemic in the Age of COVID-19



[www.OpioidResponseNetwork.org](http://www.OpioidResponseNetwork.org)

**Date:** Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 | **Time:** 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm ET

[Register here](#)

## About the Workshop:

At this challenging time of COVID-19 and a heightened awareness of racial injustice, youth need greater attention to social-emotional learning to build the resilience needed to avoid risky behaviors and achieve educational gains. With increases in anxiety and depression and the isolation and disconnection related to the pandemic, many youth are having difficulty learning and maintaining a sense of well-being. There is some evidence that youth substance use is increasing, and with the disturbing rise in opioid-related deaths, schools and other youth-serving programs need to find flexible and effective ways to support resilience and substance use prevention. Presenters will discuss strategies that their schools and programs are using to meet these needs. They will offer specific suggestions for responding to different cultural and racial groups including African-American and Hispanic/LatinX students as well as students who live in rural and urban environments. Participants will learn from professionals about how they are adapting to meet the current needs of schools and youth. Participants will be able to ask questions and comment.

## Educational Objectives:

1. Describe the effects of the pandemic on the risk of youth opioid and other substance use.
2. Discuss strategies to address protective and risk factors through remote and hybrid learning.
3. Increase knowledge of cultural considerations for remote and hybrid learning.

**Audience:** Educators, Counselors and Prevention Specialists

*Registration link above. Contact Rachel Witmer at [rrwitmer@umkc.edu](mailto:rrwitmer@umkc.edu) with questions.*

## Presenters:

**Shelley Mann-Lev, MPH, ORN** Prevention Consultant: Shelley Mann-Lev provides consultation on a youth substance use prevention and resiliency. She recently developed the *ORN Guide for Middle Schools on the Opioid Epidemic in the Age of COVID-19*. She is currently is the Co-President of the New Mexico Public Health Association and serves on the Board of Directors of La Family Medical Center.

**Mandy Paradise, MEd,** Program Supervisor—Prevention/Intervention Program, Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction: Mandy Paradise is the Intervention Program Supervisor for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). Mandy has a Master's degree in Education and over 10 years of direct service experience providing prevention/intervention programming to adolescents in school-based settings.

**Cedric Hall, EdS,** Principal, Eagle Academy for Young Men of Southeast Queens: Cedric Hall is the principal of Eagle Academy for Young Men in Queens, New York. He has worked with youth in Philadelphia, Newark, Maryland and New York City. His educational work also includes consultation for multiple community-based organizations and after-school programs. He is currently concluding his doctoral studies at Seton Hall University and an alumnus of the New Leaders for New Schools program.

**Michelle Baroni, CPS,** Prevention Clubhouse Director (Club Mixtura), CETPA: Michelle Baroni is the Prevention Clubhouse Director (Club Mixtura) for CETPA, Inc. a mental health clinic located in Norcross, GA. In 2012 Michelle received her Prevention Specialist Certification and TEFL certification from Oglethorpe University, and in 2013 became Director of her own program. Since 2006 she has served over 2,500 youth and hopes to continue with this mission worldwide.

**Accreditation:** *Certified and Master Certified Health Education Specialists (CHES & MCHES)* Sponsored by the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Nursing and Health Studies, a designated provider of continuing education contact hours (CECH) in health education by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. This webinar: Implementing Evidence Evidence-Based Prevention Curricula: Schools and the Opioid Epidemic in the Age of COVID-19 is designated for Certified Health Education Specialists (CHES) to receive up to 1.5 total Category I continuing education contact hours.