



## Tree of Healing Conference 2023

### Speaker Biographies

#### **Tana Russell**

Tana Russell, SUDP, NCTTP, WSCGC-II, joined Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling as Assistant Director in September 2019. She has over 10 years substance use counseling experience with specialties in tobacco and gambling treatment. She is host of the *ECPG LIVE!* social media live-streaming series on problem gambling and co-host of the *Connections: Healthy Gambling and Gaming* podcast. Tana has a passion for learning and training and enjoys presenting on topics related to gambling, gaming, tobacco, addictions, treatment, and recovery. She has written and/or collaborated on curriculum for a number of problem gambling and gaming trainings and treatment sessions. She was previously an SUD Counselor/Outreach Specialist and created a tobacco cessation education course and a co-occurring Gambling and Substance Use Disorder (GSUD) Relapse Prevention Treatment program, designed specifically to include both alcohol/drug and gambling recovery terminology. She has worked with adults and adolescents, in the criminal justice, health care and OTP/MAT (Opioid Therapy Program/Medication Assisted Treatment) settings.

#### **Lorenzo Jim**

Lorenzo R. Jim, LADAC (Dine'/Navajo) is a professional trainer, group facilitator, & positive community collaborator. With over 17 years of experience as a Licensed Alcohol/Drug Abuse Counselor and certified Hataalii/Traditional Counselor with the Dine' (Navajo) Hataalii Association, Mr. Jim continues to support the collaborative effort in providing a sensible & culturally responsive approach to treatment, wellness, good health, & leadership into modern systems of care & services. This balanced perspective has helped bridged care & programming opportunities by blending valuable implicit traditional knowledge and skills for a stronger, reliable, & effective person-centered care outcome. He currently serves as CEO at the Center for InterCultural Care, LLC including as a Culturally Relevant Services Provider at New Mexico's Children, Youth, & Families Department (CYFD), Juvenile Justice Services (JJS), Cultural Care Provider at United American Indian Involvement in Los Angeles, CA, board of director at Working Classroom, Inc., and serves as a commission member with the City of Albuquerque's Commission on American Indian & Alaska Native Affairs.

#### **Linda Bart**

T'il'xest. Linda is a member of the Spokane (Father) Tribe, raised on the Colville (Mother) Reservation in Nespelem, Washington. She has been a Mental Health Counselor for the past 25+ years and a Vibrational Sound Practitioner for the past 5 years. She has had the privilege of providing VST services in individual homes, group, business, and conference settings. Vibrational Sound Therapy is a relaxation modality utilizing Himalayan singing bowls as an on or



off body relaxation technique. An off-body technique utilizes bowls and other sound instruments and is commonly referred to as a sound bath.

### **Theda New Breast**

Theda is a founding board member and master trainer/facilitator for the Native Wellness Institute (NWI). She is one of the pioneers in the Native training field and an original committee member for the Men's and Women's Wellness gatherings. Theda has been a leading authority on Indigenous cultural resilience throughout North America and abroad and has worked with over 500 tribes, villages, Rancherias, pueblos and urban Native centers in 34 years on proactive healing from historical trauma, post traumatic growth, mental health healing, and sobriety/recovery/adult child of alcoholic (ACOA). She is the co-founder and co-writer of the GONA (Gathering of Native Americans) curriculum, one of the ten effective practices and models in communities of color. Theda has facilitated hundreds of trainings and strategic planning sessions throughout North America. She lives on the Blackfeet Reservation in Northern Montana and is a Khan-nat-tso-miitah (Crazy Dog) Society member, herbalist, Sun dancer, pipe carrier, and lives as Niitsitapi, like all her ancestors for thousands of years. In 2013, The Red Nations Film Festival Honored Theda with a Humanitarian Award for her lifetime of healing work with tribes and with a Red Nations statuette for her documentary short called, "Why the Women in My Family Don't Drink Whiskey." The Blackfeet Tribal Council has recognized her leadership skills and appointed her unanimously to The Board of Trustees for Blackfeet Community College for years 2014-2017.

### **Carol LaRue**

Carol LaRue is a licensed occupational therapist, international speaker and trainer, integrative wellness coach and author of the book, The Art of Self-Health, Creating Total Well-Being from the Inside Out. She is founder of LifeCentrics LLC, delivering consultation, training, and coaching to organizations and individuals building resilience through mindful living.

Her training and practice in the field of holistic health and wellness spans over 30 years and includes experience in providing various forms of mindfulness exercises and movement, stress management education and training, wellness coaching and training, and facilitating group retreats and workshops. Her specialty programs, 'StressCare Mastery' and 'Self-Care for Healthcare' bring mindfulness and self-care practices into groups and organizations through training staff and leadership.

Carol has navigated through several personal losses and health challenges over the years, and "walks her talk" by creating balance, joy and meaning in her own life, while teaching and helping others do the same in their unique lives. Carol brings an honest sense of grounding and "real life practicality" into all of her teaching and coaching. Her passion is in guiding both individuals and organizations in creating resilience to the stresses of life while increasing energy, effectiveness, enjoyment, and ease!

### **Kalispel Cultural Department**

The main goal of the Kalispel Tribe's Culture Department is to teach and share our Kalispel Tribal Heritage, History, and Culture with our Kalispel Tribal Membership, Descendants, and Community.



We teach and learn from our elders and each other by attending and hosting cultural gatherings and classes.

During these times of the current popular social media culture, we reach out through our Facebook group with teachings.

We encourage participation in events through different fun drawings in which people can win cool prizes such as ribbon skirts, shirts, moccasins, free nights and dinners at our casinos, etc. It is our hope to gain the interest of our future generations, to learn and teach our Kalispel history, heritage and traditions. We hope people will keep our culture alive and use it as a means of healing and living healthy lifestyles.

### **Larry Kerby**

Larry Kerby, MBA is a sought-after engaging and entertaining speaker. He has helped tens of thousands of parents and teachers thrive with strong-willed kids. He teaches how to create more joy, peace, and happiness by understanding how to connect with children, effectively set and enforce boundaries.

As a trained independent facilitator of the *Love and Logic* curricula, Larry teaches effective, practical, and proven parenting techniques that parents, teachers, and therapists, can take away and use immediately.

He is the author of the “*Emotional Ownerships*” seminar series which helps parents lower their emotional reactivity. He is raising three amazing kids with his best friend and wife, Kami.

### **Terrance Lafromboise**

Also known as lissiiksaakoomApaapooma (Entering thunders lodge), Terrence is an enrolled member of the Blackfeet Nation. He is a recent graduate from the University of Toronto, the Factor of Inwentash School of Social Work Masters in Indigenous Trauma and Resiliency program. Terrance works as the coordinator for the Zero Suicide Grant Program at the State of Montana Public Health and Human Services, Behavioral Health Disabilities Division. His primary role is the implementation of Zero Suicides, and Safe Care Pathway within Indigenous communities’ systems of care in Montana. Another role includes helping improve and culturally enhance suicide prevention systems state and reservation wide. He has dedicated most of his professional career working on suicide prevention in indigenous communities as a mental health consultant, MSPI Grant Coordinator, youth coach, youth mentor and community advocate and has done grassroots and cultural approaches in Indigenous communities across the United States. Terrance’s work comes as a cultural preservationist to connect, teach, and create space by providing ceremony to those that have never been connected. Rooted in Piikanipaitapiisinii (Blackfeet way of life) the Blackfeet language, his education and experience help create a traditional-new age practice of belonging and healing that could help connect and improve our behavioral health issues in Indian Country.

### **Jennifer Folayan**

Jennifer Folayan, is a business owner and graphic designer that has created events and programs that serve to empower and unite survivors of rape, incest, domestic violence and foster care youth through the healing arts so that we can heal and discover our own empowered voice.

She is of Pueblo, Cherokee, Aztec and Spanish descent. She was a keynote speaker at the South Africa Artizen 2021 Conference: Artists for Social Transformation. She founded a team of



ambassadors to travel from Turtle Island to share our Indigenous teachings and culture across borders. She is an active Peer-to-Peer mentor for groups with NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness.) She is currently residing in Spokane, Washington and serves Harmony Woods with community outreach and marketing and also serves as a Cultural Specialist at the Healing Lodge of Seven Nations. She has also volunteered on the Board of Directors at Baltimore American Indian Center and will be a keynote speaker at the Tree of Healing Conference in Spokane, WA.

Jennifer believes each person has the potential to create a life that is filled with happiness and love. She serves her community through organizing events, graphic design and marketing services, and volunteer work.

### **Gina Cooper**

Gina M. Cooper MSN, RN, BA, NE-BC is the Director of Toxicology at Drugscan, Inc. Prior to working at Drugscan, Gina was in nursing leadership at Community Physician Network in Indianapolis, IN, a network of over 200 physicians in more than 80 clinics where she oversaw opioid stewardship and educated providers on prescribing laws and guidelines for controlled substances. Gina was the head of clinical toxicology at the American Institute of Toxicology with expertise in toxicological interpretation and best practice use of toxicology testing for quality clinical outcomes. She is a practicing Registered Nurse with expertise in pain management and substance use disorders. She earned her bachelor's in biology, her bachelor's in Nursing, holds a Master's in Nursing and is a Board-Certified Nurse Executive.

