

Speakers for the 13th Annual *I CARE* Prevention Summit

Speaker: Brian Dinkins, Ed.D.



Topic/Title: “Leading with Heart: Emotional Intelligence, Healing, and Hope” *Building the emotional resilience of those serving those in need.* - **3.0 CE Hours**

Brief Bio: Dr. Brian Dinkins is the author and creator of Emotionally Inclusive Practices, a rising professional development trainer, keynote and motivational speaker, and founder of the Center for Empowering Education, where he serves as CEO. Brian is the director of educational leadership at Butler University, where he prepares future school administrators in the Experiential Program for Preparing School Leaders (EPPSP) in Indianapolis, IN.

Raised by a single mother in the inner city of Indianapolis, he performed poorly in high school, graduating with a 1.9 GPA. But—with the support of Indianapolis Public School teachers, coaches, and mentors—he went on to earn a B.A. from Purdue University, two master’s degrees, an Ed.S., and a doctorate in educational leadership. His dissertation research focuses on the "Emotional Intelligence of Teachers, Impact on the Discipline Outcomes of African American Male Students in Urban Schools." Brian has served as a turnaround principal in four high-poverty schools, including traditional, charter, and private schools, and has committed his work to serving children and families in need.

Summary: In the wake of trauma, loss, and rising mental health challenges, this keynote/session invites prevention specialists, social workers, school counselors, and mental health advocates to

pause and reconnect with the heart behind their calling. Whether responding to crises, supporting youth through substance misuse, or managing the emotional toll of this work, participants will be guided through a powerful experience centered on healing, reflection, and reconnection. This isn't just professional development, it's soul restoration.

Through the *Emotionally Inclusive Practices™* framework, Dr. Brian Dinkins brings a spirit-led, emotionally intelligent lens to leadership and support services. Participants will explore practical tools for self-awareness, emotional regulation, and relational trust, while making deep connections between substance use, trauma, and the emotional needs of students and families. The afternoon will blend dynamic keynote storytelling, reflective activities, and bucket-filling strategies that equip participants to return to their work with renewed clarity, hope, and purpose.

Speaker: Sharmini Johnson, NBCT, M.Ed.



Topic/Title: TBRI Overview – **1.0 CE Hour**

Brief Bio: Sharmini Johnson, NBCT, M.Ed., is the TBRI Program Director at Grace Mid-city, a non-profit dedicated to cultivating flourishing in the communities of Baton Rouge. She is a National Board-Certified Teacher with a master's in education and the owner of The Spanish Class, a small business focused on teaching Spanish. A bilingual, multicultural mother of three, she brings over twenty years of teaching experience to her work. Her journey with TBRI began while fostering a teenager from her church—an experience that deeply shaped her commitment to trauma-informed care and inspired her to pursue TBRI Practitioner Training in the fall of 2025.

Summary: This session offers a practical introduction to Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), a trauma-informed approach that helps children from hard places heal and thrive. Participants will learn the core principles of Connecting, Empowering, and Correcting, and walk away with tools to build trust, promote safety, and respond to challenging behaviors through connection.

Speaker: William Roger “Beau” Clark, Jr., M.D.



Topic/Title: The Role of the Coroner: death, mental health, and sexual assault-**1.0 CE Hour**

Brief Bio: Dr. William “Beau” Clark is a native of Baton Rouge. He graduated from Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans and completed his residency in Emergency Medicine in Baton Rouge. He is board certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine. Dr. Clark has been the East Baton Rouge Parish Coroner-2012. Dr. Clark has served as Medical Director for the East Baton Rouge Sheriff’s Office SWAT Team, Louisiana State Police SWAT Team, Louisiana House of Representatives, and the Louisiana Department of Health Bureau of EMS. Dr. Clark has been certified as a Diplomate of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators. Dr. Clark is an Ironman and continues training for other endurance events.

Summary: This session is explaining the three (3) jurisdictions of the coroner; death, mental health and sexual assault.

Speaker: Pete Jory, LPP, LPC



Topic/Title: THC and Mental Health-1.0 CE Hour

Brief Bio: Pete is married to Gina Jory, and they have 2 children, Savannah and Luke. Pete obtained his master's in professional counseling degree from Liberty University in 2015 and his master's in divinity degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 2001. He currently works as **I Care** Specialist in the East Baton Rouge Parish School System (EBRPSS) where he has served for 5 years. Prior to becoming an **I Care** Specialist, Pete worked as a biology teacher for the EBRPSS, and as a Licensed Professional Counselor for St James Behavioral Health Hospital in Gonzales, LA. Pete's main motivation for serving others is rooted in his faith in Christ and the example of Christ to selflessly serve others.

Summary: This presentation will look at the connection between cannabis and mental illness. Participants will learn how the use of THC affects the onset and exacerbation of mental disorders.



***I CARE** has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 5454. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. **I CARE** is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.*

CEs are pending approval from NASW