

BRIDGING THE GAP

MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

October 9, 2025

@ The Jewish Hospital
4777 E. Galbraith Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45236

GET INVOLVED

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Transforming the health care system to a coordinated, multi-disciplinary, holistic approach can effectively bridge the gap between mental and physical health and save lives.

Integrating Medical and Mental Health across the continuum of care:

- EMS Response
- Mobile Crisis Team
- Psychiatric Emergency Services
- Medical Emergency Room
- Intensive Care Units
- Practitioner Challenges and PTSD

October 9, 2025 | 7:00 am - 5:30 pm



Collaborative Education Council

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2025 Symposium Schedule

Wednesday, October 8, 2025 – Trio Bistro

Time	Session Title	Speaker
5:30 PM-8:30 PM	Opening Reception Self-Care is More than a SPA Day- A Conversation About How to Build a Life That You Don't Need to Escape	Anna Guerdjikova, PhD, LISW, CCRD

Thursday, October 9, 2025 – The Jewish Hospital

Time	Session Title	Speaker
7:00 AM-8:00 AM	Registration, Continental Breakfast	
8:00 AM-9:15 AM	Coping Amid Chaos: A First Responder's Perspective on NYC's Historic Events	Lillian Bonsignore, Chief of EMS Operations (Ret.)
9:15 AM-10:00 AM	Mobile Crisis Team & Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES)	Katie Cannon Diana Uthenwoldt Planck
10:00 AM-10:30 AM	BREAK	
10:30 AM-11:15 AM	HEMS & Mission Mentality	Matt Johnson
11:15 AM-12:00 PM	Trauma and Alcohol	Dr.Amanda Humphries
12:00 PM-12:45 PM	LUNCH	
12:45 PM-1:30 PM	Medical Emergency Room	Dr. Tom Charlton
1:30 PM-2:15 PM	Loneliness Epidemic	Dr. Michael Groat
2:15 PM-2:30 PM	BREAK	
2:30 PM-4:00 PM	"All the Lonely People" Film Screening & Discussion	Clowder Group
4:00 PM-5:00 PM	Bridging the Gap Panel Discussion	Multiple w/Moderator

* Schedule subject to change. Participants will be awarded Continuing Education Credit (CE).

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Keynote speaker:

Lillian Bonsignore, Paramedic, Chief of EMS Operations (Ret.)

Chief Lillian Bonsignore is a recently retired, 31-year veteran of the Fire Department of New York who proudly served as the FDNY Chief of EMS Operations during the COVID-19 Pandemic from 2019-2023. During this time, Lillian was responsible for the operational oversight and leadership of over 4,000 EMS Providers in New York City, responding to 1.5 million emergency service calls per year.

Lillian also has extensive history in EMS training, where she served as FDNY Chief of the EMS Academy, overseeing the EMS Probationary School, leading EMS Officer training and coordinating the EMS certification of more than 13,000 FDNY members.

By her retirement in January 2023, Lillian had made history, leaving the Fire Department of New York City with the titles of:

- The highest-ranking Officer in the EMS command
- The highest-ranking uniformed female in FDNY
- The first female to achieve a 4-star rank in the history of FDNY

All the Lonely People Film Presentation

About the presentation: The Chowder Group presents “All the Lonely People” Filmmakers and local stakeholders will be in attendance. The film follows a handful of people from different walks of life as they overcome social isolation and chronic loneliness- a condition that is affecting millions more of us after COVID. The documentary includes the stories of New York residents Ari Rossen and Tony Westbrook living in an urban area. Another cast member, Mary Hill, an 89-year-old caregiver in Shropshire, England, faces isolation in the rural countryside. The film includes teenager Khiloud Alegab who at one point stayed isolated in her room for weeks at a time. “Those are just a few of the people who I personally identified with as I dealt with my own loneliness.” says, Stu Maddux, the director of the film.

Researchers believe the effects of loneliness on our health are as bad as smoking 15 cigarettes a day. The added stress of feeling alone increases heart disease and even earlier onset of dementia.

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