

**STAY THE COURSE,  
TOGETHER**

**2025 BREAKING  
BARRIERS  
INTEGRATED CARE  
SYMPOSIUM**

**Sunday, October 26 -  
Tuesday, October 28, 2025  
Hyatt Regency  
Sacramento, California**

# Welcome!

I am honored to welcome you to this year's Breaking Barriers Integrated Care Symposium where we will be Staying the Course, Together! At this time of uncertainty and rapid change, one thing is clear: our commitment to California's children, youth, and future has never been more important. What was once a visionary idea for an integrated, whole child ecosystem has now become a necessity. We must unite.

This year's Symposium is all about leaning into that urgency. You'll hear from peers, policymakers, and the youth leaders of today and tomorrow as we explore how to better integrate systems, reimagine collaboration, and turn today's challenges into tomorrow's opportunities. We will leave with an improved understanding of how to actually realize "no wrong door" for children and youth, creating a world where all of our futures are brighter because youth can better get what they need when they need it. Our collective legacy is our collective goal.

You are part of a powerful community of the willing, of the trailblazers who can see the possibilities and make them a reality. You are the children, youth, parents, advocates, lawmakers, teachers, social workers, juvenile justice warriors, mental health professionals, leaders, and more who believe that doing things better, faster, and stronger can be achieved, if we do it together.

So as you spend the next days with us, look around. You are part of a movement. You are part of a new world where unity and community drive us, and where together we tackle anything that comes our way. Say Hello. Reach Out. Talk and Listen. These are your people. So let's get to it!

Elizabeth Estes  
Founder and Executive Director, Breaking Barriers California

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## Quick Reference Links

### SPEAKERS



[bit.ly/2025-BBSpeakers](https://bit.ly/2025-BBSpeakers)

### AGENDA



[bit.ly/2025-BBagenda](https://bit.ly/2025-BBagenda)

### ABSTRACTS



[bit.ly/2025-BBAbstracts](https://bit.ly/2025-BBAbstracts)

# Thank you to our 2025 Sponsors



Commission for  
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School of Law



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## 2025 Scholarship Sponsors

Shailen Dawkins - Youth Creating Change

# Day One

Sunday, October 26th

10:30-11:30 **CHECK-IN and Light Lunch**

11:30-12:00 **Welcome and Overview**

- **Elizabeth Estes**, Founder and Executive Director, Breaking Barriers California, Clinical Professor of Public Policy, McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific
- Native Sisters Circle - California Native Leadership Council Representative **Alina Sanchez, Alyssa Sanchez, and Angelina Hinojosa**
- **Nakeya Bell**, Executive Director, SistaBees
- SistaBees FAB Youth Leads: **A'Nya Curtis, Charmaine Little, and Erioni Hunter**
- SistaBees SQUAD: **Brezlyn Abney, Jordyn Bell-Slaton, Gaby Flores, Candice Silsby, and Danielle Silsby**

12:00-12:45 **FEATURED SPEAKER: Healing and Thriving in Tumultuous Time**

**Roberto Rivera**, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, CADRE LLC

12:45-1:30 **Nothing About Us Without Us: Amplifying Youth Voice in Behavioral Health**

Youth Panelists:

- **Jenaya Daniels**, SistaBees Youth
- **Queen Green**, SistaBees Youth Mentor
- **Jenalyn Phahn**, SistaBees Youth Mentor

Panel Host: **Ameshia Arthur**, LCSW, Mental Health Expert and Author

1:30-2:00 **NETWORKING BREAK**

2:00-2:45 **Policy Panel: Realizing a More Whole Child Ecosystem Through Policy**

Panelists:

- **Trina Frazier**, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Fresno County Office of Education
- **Debbie Look**, Principal Consultant, California State Assembly Committee on Education
- **Navdeep Purewal**, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, STAC-CCSPP, Sacramento County Office of Education
- **Marni Sandoval**, County Behavioral Health Director, Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health

Moderator: **Elizabeth Estes**, Founder and Executive Director, Breaking Barriers California, Clinical Professor of Public Policy, McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific

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# Day One, cont.

Sunday, October 26th

2:45-3:30

## Integrated Policymaking for California's Youth: Keeping the Whole Child Central from the Start

**Tanya Lieberman**, Chief Consultant, California State Assembly Committee on Education  
**Jason Willis**, Clinical Professor of Public Policy, Director of Transformational Change Partnership, McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific  
**Kristin Wright**, Executive Director of Inclusive Practices and Systems, Sacramento County Office of Education

3:30-3:45

## NETWORKING BREAK

3:45-4:45

## Youth Breakout Session: Youth at the Center: Next Steps in Youth Advocacy (in Regency D, E, and F on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)

- **Nakeya Bell**, Executive Director, SistaBees
- **Roberto Rivera**, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, CADRE LLC

-- OR --

## Breakout Session: Local Actions to Influence County and State Policy (in Main Session Room)

- **Susan Brutschy**, President, Applied Survey Research
- **Elizabeth Estes**, Founder and Executive Director, Breaking Barriers California
- **Elizabeth Martinez Mower, MA**, Project Director, Applied Survey Research
- **Kristin Wright**, Executive Director of Inclusive Practices and Systems, Sacramento County Office of Education

4:45-5:00

## Wrap-up

5:00-5:45

## Youth Workshop: Storyboarding 101: How to Use Storyboarding As a Tool For Change in the Main Session Room

**Shailen Dawkins**, Program Coordinator, Youth Creating Change

-- AND --

5:00-6:30

## Breaking the Barriers Networking Time & Happy Hour in the Capitol View Room (15<sup>th</sup> Floor)

# Day Two

Monday, October 27th

7:30-8:00

**CHECK-IN and Breakfast**

8:00-8:15

**Welcome and Shared Leadership Overview**

**Richard Knecht**, Managing Partner, Integrated Human Services Group

8:15-8:30

**Youth Perspective on Shared Leadership for a Whole Child Ecosystem: Invisibility Turned Into Visibility**

**Saran Tugsjargal**, International Advocate

8:30-9:30

**Shared Leadership Panel: Realizing Integrated Care in California from the Top Down**

Panelists:

- **Christine Bagley**, Manager, Safety Net, Office of Statewide Clinical Services, California Department of Social Services
- **Autumn Boylan**, Deputy Director, Office of Strategic Partnerships, California Department of Health Care Services
- **Brenda Grealish**, Executive Director, California Commission for Behavioral Health
- **Katherine Lucero**, Director, California Office of Youth and Community Restoration
- **Sara Rogers**, System of Care Branch Chief, California Department of Social Services
- **Sohil Sud**, Director, Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI)
- **Michael Wimberly**, Education Programs Consultant, California Department of Education

Moderator: **Richard Knecht**, Managing Partner, Integrated Human Services Group

9:30-10:15

**Shared Leadership in Action: Transforming Together**

Panelists:

- **Trina Frazier**, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Fresno County Office of Education
- **Dr. Stephanie Houston**, Assistant Superintendent of the Innovation and Engagement, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools
- **Haley McCrary**, Senior Managing Consultant, Mathematica
- **Rick McManus**, Principal Researcher, Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) Evaluation Director
- **Sohil Sud**, Director, Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI)

Moderator: **Michael Lombardo**, Education and Health & Human Services Advisor, MCL Collaboration

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# Day Two, cont.

Monday, October 27th

- 10:15-11:00** **Shared Leadership Learning Sessions** (room assignments in map at back of agenda)
- **YOUTH-LED SESSION: Youth Are At the Table, Now What?** - Youth Leaders
  - **Developing University/Community Partnerships for Training and Continuing Education of Wellness Coaches in Rural Communities** - Cal Poly Humboldt Social Work Department
  - **From Lived Experience to Leadership: Reimagining Readiness Through the Youth Facilitation Training** - California Alliance of Children and Family Services, Catalyst Center
  - **Stronger Together: Uniting Health and Education Agencies to Support Student Behavioral Health** - California Department of Public Health and California Department of Education
  - **Street Data, Storytelling, and Community Schools in Action** - Santa Clara County Office of Education
  - **Collaboration That Counts: Reimagining Multi-Agency Partnerships for Equity and Access in Mental Health** - Yolo County Office of Education and Health & Human Services Agency

**11:00-11:30** **Lunch Pick-up and NETWORKING BREAK**

- 11:30-12:30** **Dedicated County Work Time** (in any space available on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)  
– OR –  
**Youth-led Shared Leadership Activity and Discussion: Breaking Barriers - The Escape Room Experience** in *Golden State Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)*  
**Mariah Dixon**, Youth Fellow, Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative  
**Angelique Nelson**  
**Khoa-Nathan Ngo**, Youth Fellow, Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative  
**Saran Tugsjargal**, International Advocate

**12:30-1:15** **FEATURED SPEAKER: Transforming the World Through Small Steps**  
**Dr. Jei Africa**, Director of Behavioral Health and Recovery Services in San Mateo County

**1:15-1:30** **Youth Perspective on Shared Goals for a Whole Child Ecosystem**  
**PRO Youth & Families**

**1:30-1:45** **Shared Goals Overview**  
**Shelton Yip**, Trustee, Yolo County Office of Education; Advisor, Breaking Barriers California

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# Day Two, cont.

Monday, October 27th

1:45-2:00

## NETWORKING BREAK

2:00-3:00

### Shared Goals Panel: Advancing Equity and Transforming Systems in Solano County

**Susan Brutschy**, President, Applied Survey Research

**Lisette Estrella-Henderson**, First 5 Solano Commissioner and Former Solano County Office of Education Superintendent

**Denise Winters**, Deputy Director, First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

3:00-3:15

## Wrap-up

3:15-4:00

### Shared Goals Learning Sessions (room assignments in map at back of agenda)

- **YOUTH-LED SESSION: Stand Up For Change** - Judith Marquez
- **DEEP DIVE: Advancing Equity and Transforming Systems in Solano County** - Applied Survey Research
- **For Youth, By Youth: Lessons Learned** - allcove Beach Cities
- **Keeping Kids Close: Ecosystem Pathways to Reducing Out-of-State Placements** - California Alliance of Children and Family Services
- **New Integrated Ecosystem of Care Toolkit** - CCEE and Transforming Together
- **Strengthening Collaborations: Family-School-Community Partnerships that Sustain the Work and Our Wellbeing** - BHSSA Statewide Technical Assistance Coordinator
- **Please Don't Give Up on Us: Creating Cross-Sector Connections to Improve Outcomes for Youth Who are Court Involved** - The Social Changery

4:00-5:30

### Dedicated County Work Time

- OR -

**Youth-led Shared Goals Activity and Discuss** in *Golden State Room (2nd Floor)*

**PRO Youth & Families**

5:30-6:30

### Building Connections Networking Time & Happy Hour

in the Capitol View Room (15<sup>th</sup> Floor)

# Day Three

Tuesday, October 28th

6:45-7:45

**OPTIONAL: Rise and Shine Sound Bath** with **Kacey Rodenbush**, Project Lead, Rainbow Connections, Monterey County Behavioral Health (Santa Barbara Room)

7:30-8:00

**CHECK-IN and Breakfast**

8:00-8:15

**A Heart-Centered Mindfulness Moment and Welcome**

**Kacey Rodenbush**, LMFT, Project Lead, Rainbow Connections, Monterey County Behavioral Health

**Lisa Wrightsman**, Managing Director, Street Soccer USA

8:15-8:30

**Youth Perspective on Shared Information for a Whole Child Ecosystem**  
**Student Athlete Truth Corps**

8:30-8:45

**Shared Information Overview**

**Natasha King**, Vice President of Clinical Innovation and Funding Sustainability, Effective School Solutions

8:45-9:45

**Shared Information Panel: From Self-Reporting to Self-Reflection: A New Approach to Student Behavioral Health Screening**

**Dr. Joshua Arnold**, Co-Founder, IMPACTER PATHWAY

**Russell Coronado**, Executive Director, San Diego County Office of Education, South County SELPA

**Dr. Francisco Escobedo**, Member, California State Board of Education

**Jennifer Gorospe Tull**, Special Education Coordinator, San Diego County Office Of Education South County SELPA

9:45-10:00

**NETWORKING BREAK**

10:00-10:45

**Shared Information Learning Sessions** (*room assignments in map at back of agenda*)

- **YOUTH-LED SESSION: Empowering Youth Beyond the Game** - Student Athlete Truth Corps
- **DEEP DIVE: From Self-Reporting to Self-Reflection: A New Approach to Student Behavioral Health Screening** - Impacter Pathway, San Diego Office of Education, South County SELPA
- **Harnessing Change Opportunities in State Reform Efforts: Stories from Counties and the Transformational Change Partnership** - McGeorge School of Law
- **Visibility Through the Ashes: Centering Youth and Community in Disaster Recovery** - National Center for Youth Law
- **Leveraging a County Ecosystem to Sustainably Support a School-Based Mobile Crisis Program** - Solano County Office of Education
- **Staying the Course Together: Integrating Health, Education, and Digital Innovation to Support Student Mental Health and Education** - Soluna by Kooth

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# Day Three, cont.

Tuesday, October 28th

10:45-11:00

**Youth Perspective on Shared Finance for a Whole Child Ecosystem**

**allcove Beach Cities Youth Advisory Group Member**

11:00-11:15

**Shared Finance Overview**

**Jason Willis**, Clinical Professor of Public Policy, Director of Transformational Change Partnership, McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific

11:15-12:15

**Shared Finance Panel: Financing Together: Shared Strategies for Integrated Leadership and Ecosystem of Care**

**Natasha King**, Vice President of Clinical Innovation and Funding Sustainability, Effective School Solutions

**Michael Lombardo**, Education and Health & Human Services Advisor, MCL Collaboration

**Chris Stoner-Mertz**, Principal, Stoner Mertz & Co, LLC; CEO Emerita, California Alliance of Children and Family Services

12:15-12:30

**Closing Remarks**

12:30-1:15

**Shared Finance Learning Sessions** (*room assignments in map at back of agenda*)

- **YOUTH-LED SESSION: Youth Impacting California's Economic Investments** - California Coalition for Youth
- **DEEP DIVE: Financing Together: Shared Strategies for Integrated Leadership and Ecosystems of Care** - Natasha King, Michael Lombardo, Chris Stoner-Mertz
- **Expanded Learning partnerships to sustain school-based mental health, MTSS, and Community Schools Strategies** - California AfterSchool Network
- **From Siloes to Shared Care: Building Sacramento County's Integrated Children's Continuum** - Sacramento County Department of Child, Family & Adult Services
- **Embracing the Bureaucracy: Finding new opportunities in Medi-Cal and Title IV** - Stuart Foundation

1:15-

**Lunch Pick-up and NETWORKING BREAK**  
**OPTIONAL Dedicated County Work Time**

# Learning Session Rooms

## First Floor

Not drawn to scale

### Main Session Room

#### Day 2

- Shared Leadership: Street Data, Storytelling, and Community Schools in Action
- Shared Goals: DEEP DIVE: Shared Outcomes for System of Care

#### Day 3

- Shared Information: DEEP DIVE: From Self-Reporting to Self-Reflection: A New Approach to Student Behavioral Health Screening
- Shared Finance: DEEP DIVE: Financing Together: Shared Strategies for Integrated Leadership and Ecosystems of Care

### Regency D

#### Day 2

- Shared Leadership: From Lived Experience to Leadership: Reimagining Readiness Through the Youth Facilitation Training
- Shared Goals: Keeping Kids Close: Ecosystem Pathways to Reducing Out-of-State Placements

#### Day 3

- Shared Information: Visibility Through the Ashes
- Shared Finance: Embracing the Bureaucracy: Finding new opportunities in Medi-Cal and Title IV

### Regency E

#### Day 2

- Shared Leadership: Developing University/Community Partnerships for Training and Continuing Education of Wellness Coaches in Rural Communities
- Shared Goals: Strengthening Collaborations: Family-School-Community Partnerships that Sustain the Work and Our Wellbeing

#### Day 3

- Shared Information: Leveraging a County Ecosystem to Sustainably Support a School-Based Mobile Crisis Program
- Shared Finance: Expanded Learning partnerships to sustain school-based mental health, MTSS, and Community Schools Strategies

### Regency F

#### Day 2

- Shared Leadership: Stronger Together: Uniting Health and Education Agencies to Support Student Behavioral Health
- Shared Goals: Please Don't Give Up on Us: Creating Cross-Sector Connections to Improve Outcomes for Youth Who are Court Involved

#### Day 3

- Shared Information: Staying the Course Together: Integrating Health, Education, and Digital Innovation to Support Student Mental Health and Education
- Shared Finance: From Siloes to Shared Care: Building Sacramento County's Integrated Children's Continuum

Check-in  
Table

Restrooms

# Learning Session Rooms

Second Floor  
Not drawn to scale

## Carmel

### Day 2

- Shared Leadership: Collaboration That Counts: Reimagining Multi-Agency Partnerships for Equity and Access in Mental Health
- Shared Goals: Integrated System of Care Toolkit

### Day 3

- Shared Information: Harnessing Change Opportunities in State Reform Efforts: Stories from Counties and the Transformational Change Partnership

Santa Barbara

## Stairway

Trinity

## Big Sur B

### Day 2

- Shared Goals: For Youth, By Youth: Lessons Learned

## Big Sur A Quiet Room

Ventura

## Tahoe Youth Wellness Room

## Golden State Youth-led Sessions

### Day 2

- Shared Leadership:
  - Youth Are At the Table, Now What?
  - Youth-led Activity
- Shared Goals:
  - Stand Up For Change
  - Youth-led Activity

### Day 3

- Shared Information: Empowering Youth Beyond the Game
- Shared Finance: Youth Impacting California's Economic Investments