

## 2026 BHA Forum Agenda

**Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

Anchorage & Fairbanks Room	
7:45-8:30a	Registration Check-In
8:00-8:30a	Behavioral Health Aide Forum Traditional Welcome
8:30-9:45a	<p style="text-align: center;">BHA Models of Success Study: A Conversation About Phase I Findings</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Xiomara Owens, PhD Tonya Horn, PhD Bernice Nisbett, MS, LPC</p>
9:45-11:15p	<p style="text-align: center;">Using Child &amp; Family-Centered Strategies to Help Families Impacted by Substance Misuse</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Donna Henry, BHA Instructor Emily</p>
11:15-1:00p	Lunch (on own)
	Anchorage Room
	Fairbanks Room
1:00-2:00p	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Empowering Behavioral Health Aides: Practical Strategies for Alaska Native Youth Vaping</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Payton Osiensky, BS Crystal Meade, BA Lyric Dotomain, BS, CDC-I</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Therapeutic Presence in a Changing World</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Peter Tallman, LCSW, CDC-1</p> </div> </div>
2:00-2:15pm	BREAK
2:15-3:15p	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Nourishing the Mind: The Role of Food &amp; Plants in Mental Wellness</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shelby Thompson, LCSW, BHA II</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Culturally-Rooted Care: Planting Traditional Knowledge into Documentation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dinetta Morris Alexa Kovac</p> </div> </div>
3:15-3:30p	BREAK
3:30-5:00p	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Integrated Health Care: Improved Patient Outcomes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Adrienne Gregory, BH Administrator Deepti Ardito, MS</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">The Connected Practitioner: Exploring Body-Based Strategies for Professional Wellbeing &amp; Community Health</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Steffi Kim, PhD, Asst. Professor</p> </div> </div>

**Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**

	Anchorage Room	Fairbanks Room
8:00-9:30a	Romancing the Brain: Conflict Resolution in Recovery – A Trauma Sensitive Workshop Cynthia Moreno Tuohy, Dr. HHL, BSW, NCACII, SUDP, SAP	Healing Through Culture & Connection with Trust Based Relational Intervention Hunter Roloff, BHA II
9:30-9:45a	BREAK	BREAK
9:45-11:15a	Village Work: Rooted in Community  Sandra Kleven, LCSW Sharon Whytl, RN Gail Evanoff, BHP Mandy Wood	Finding a Balance Between Modern Requirements and Traditional Ways Amy Modig, Elder Doug Modig, Elder
11:15a-1:00p	Lunch	
1:00-2:30p	Mandalas in Expressive Arts Therapy to Promote Calm  Alice Palen, LPC, REAT	Foundations of Motivational Interviewing  Elizabeth Diviney, LPC-S, CDC II, NCC
2:30-2:45pm	BREAK	BREAK
2:45-4:15p	Be Sensitive, Be Brave for Suicide Prevention  Nikki Knowlton, LCSW, MPH	Tending the Nervous System: Somatic Practices for Trauma-Informed Care  Sarah Histan, MSW, SEP

**Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>**

	<b>Anchorage &amp; Fairbanks Room</b>
8:00-9:30a	Sustaining Health through Traditional Foodways  Marcia Anderson, MS RDN
9:30-11:30a	Exploring Connections: Alaska Native Cultures and Healthcare  Lael Bach
11:30-1:00p	Health Aide Award Ceremony
1:00-1:30p	Integrated Health Aide Forum Photos & CHA/P Group Photo
1:30-3:00p	BHA CHAP Joint CE Session (TBD)
3:00-3:15pm	BREAK
3:15-4:45p	Self-Care for Providers CE  Sarah Angstman

**Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**

	<b>Denali/Kenai/Fairbanks</b>
	Centering Collective Wellness: Identifying and Implementing Wellness Approaches for System and Community Healing  Dr. Anitra Warrior Kyly Baxter
8:00-9:30a	Content
9:30-9:45a	BREAK
9:45-11:15a	Content
11:15a-1:00p	Lunch
1:00-2:30p	Content
2:30-2:45pm	BREAK
2:45-4:15p	Content
4:15-4:30	Closing Reflections

