

## Keynote Address and Launching of the 2020-2021 Nassau BOCES Mental Health Consortium

July 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM -11:30 AM

### Understanding the Science of Addiction in the Adolescent Brain

&

### Students Self-Medicating During a Crisis

**Dr. Stephen Dewey**

*Director of Research Education  
Seafield Center*

**&**

**David Hymowitz**

*Coordinator of the Behavioral Health Awareness Training & Education Program for the Nassau County  
Department of Human Services*



**Stephen L. Dewey** received his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa. He completed his postdoctoral fellowship in the Neurology Department at Stony Brook University. In 1986, Dr. Dewey was recruited to the Chemistry Department at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). During his 23-year tenure at BNL, Dr. Dewey conducted pre-clinical and clinical research on the effects of addictive drugs on the human brain. These studies led to the development of an effective pharmacologic treatment for addiction – currently in clinical trials worldwide. In 1992, Dr. Dewey joined the faculty of the Psychiatry Department in the School of Medicine at New York University. In 2009, Dr. Dewey moved his team to the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research at Northwell Health and joined the faculty of the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. In 2014, Dr. Dewey accepted an appointment as the Director of Research Education at Seafield Center, the largest in-patient treatment facility on Long Island. In 2020, he became the Director of Research Education and Training at the New York Center for Living. Dr. Dewey has published more than 250 peer-reviewed scientific research articles, book chapters, and abstracts.

In 1994, Dr. Dewey initiated an outreach program designed to educate people about the science of addiction. Based on his research findings, this program has expanded to school districts throughout Long Island, the tri-state area and across the US. His informative message has reached hundreds of thousands of school-age children, parents, teachers, administrators, and counselors. “Dr. Dewey’s message is science-based, objective, and delivered with a sense of urgency, compassion and caring that commands attention.” stated former LICADD Executive Director, Dr. Jeffrey Reynolds. Recently, Dr. Dewey accepted an appointment to the Suffolk County Board of Health where he hopes to continue his education efforts in the fight against drug abuse.

Dr. Dewey’s research has been featured on 20/20, Dateline, Good Morning America, ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX, CNN, FOX News, News 12 Long Island, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and Newsday.

Dr. Dewey is the recipient of many honors and awards. These include the Department of Energy’s Distinguished Research and Development award and its ER100 award, The Brookhaven Award for Distinguished Effort in Community Service, Man of the Year in Science, Man of the Year in Education, the Officer John Jantzen Memorial Award for Prevention, Caron’s Community Service award and its Research award....twice! In addition, Dr. Dewey recently received LICADD’s Community Champion award.



**David Hymowitz** is a licensed social worker with 30 years of experience working in the human services field. He has held positions as an educator, program developer, clinician and support group leader for youth, adults and families, as well as, administrative and executive roles.

Currently he is the Coordinator of the Behavioral Health Awareness -Training & Education Program for the Nassau County Department of Human Services where he oversees trainings for both professional staff and community members. He is a certified trainer for Youth Mental Health First Aid and Narcan and has developed numerous workshops focusing on mental health, chemical dependency and suicide prevention.

David has spent the last year as a community member to the Nassau County Superintendent's Subcommittee on Mental Health and Chemical Dependency and has recently been asked to join their long-term planning committee. During that time period he has collaborated with numerous Nassau County School Districts to develop and implement programs to meet the NYS SEL mandates, including staff, parents and student trainings, as well as, the development of behavioral health team protocols and working towards meeting the needs of changing school communities and cultures.

He is a certified master trainer for FEMA's Crisis Counseling Program and for the past 20 years he has served as an adjunct professor at both Hofstra University's Health Professions and Family Studies Department and SUNY at Stony Brook's School of Social Welfare.

## **Registration is open to ALL for the July 8<sup>th</sup> session**

*Register on MLP by July 6<sup>th</sup> 2020 to receive Zoom invitation to the session.*



The Nassau BOCES Mental Health Consortium is a collective of school districts convened to address the prevalent issues surrounding mental health and wellness in the school community. The consortium is designed to offer practical skills and in-depth knowledge that will assist member districts in the implementation of plans and goals to address current or future NYSED regulations or recommendations surrounding mental health education and social emotional learning. The consortium meets monthly and offers targeted workshops on a regular basis. Workshops are designed to allow consortium members and workshop participants to turn-key the information from our sessions to their home districts.

**For more information about the Nassau BOCES mental health consortium please contact**

Audre Midura [amidura@nasboces.org](mailto:amidura@nasboces.org) or Dr. Mitch Goodkin [mgoodkin@nasboces.org](mailto:mgoodkin@nasboces.org)

*In order to comply with social-distancing guidelines, **all 2020-2021 Mental Health Consortium meetings will be done virtually, until further notice.***

**To be added to the Nassau BOCES Mental Health Consortium Listserve please fill out this form.**