



Attend the New Jersey Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma's Media Roundtable to be held virtually October 3, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Keynoter Dr Otto Wahl Will Address How to Portray Mental Illness in a Positive Way in the Media to Support Individuals' Efforts to Achieve Wellness

"The images of psychiatric disorder that are presented to public audiences shape their attitudes and influence their behavior. When those images are unfavorable and inaccurate, as they often are, they contribute to the stigma and discrimination that represent formidable barriers to treatment and recovery."

Otto F. Wahl, PhD, Professor Emeritus at the University of Hartford
Author of *Media Madness: Public Images of Mental Illness*
and *Telling Is Risky Business: Mental Health Consumers Confront Stigma*

After a hiatus of several years, the Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma¹ was reactivated in January 2022. Under the leadership of its new chair, Debra L. Wentz, PhD, President and CEO of the New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies (NJAMHAA) and Executive Director of the New Jersey Mental Health Institute, the Council is undertaking a number of initiatives, with its first official event since it reconvened being a media roundtable, to be held virtually on October 3, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. via Zoom.

"With the proliferation of anxiety, depression, co-occurring and other mental health disorders, never has there been a better and more necessary time for the Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma to reconvene and work to end stigma and discrimination and ensure health equity for all," Dr. Wentz stated.

Keynote Presentation and Panel Discussion Provide Important Insights and Recommendations

During his keynote presentation, *Improving Coverage of Mental Illness in the Media*, Dr. Wahl will share many important observations and guidelines. He will then moderate an insightful panel discussion with representatives from various media outlets and individuals with lived experience, including having mental illnesses and sharing their stories in the media.

Panelists are Valerie Canady, Publishing Editor, *Mental Health Weekly*; Joyce Estey, *WRNJ-AM*; Emily Grossman, MA, CPRP, NYCPS-P, Member, New Jersey Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma and Training Director, Coordinated Behavioral Care, New York; Shauna Moses, Vice President, Public Affairs and Member Services, NJAMHAA; Alejandro Roman, *CNTV News*; Lilo Stainton, Healthcare Writer, *NJ Spotlight News*; and Marie D. Verna, MPAP, President, Dominion Behavioral Health Policy, LLC

Who Should Attend:

Everyone — especially news reporters, editors and producers; providers in all sectors of health care; teachers and administrators for all levels of education; legislators and policymakers; peer providers and other individuals with lived experience.

Please click [here](#) to register to attend this event.

For additional information, please contact Shauna Moses at smoses@njamhaa.org.

¹ Members of the Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma are: Debra L. Wentz, PhD, Chair; Heidi Castrillon; Emily Grossman, MA, CPRP, NYCPS-P; David B. Jacobs, CPA; Rev. Jose C. Lopez; Sam Maddali, RPh; Amy Spagnolo, PhD; Susan Tellone, RN, MSN, CSN; and Dr. Janon Wilson, LPC, ACS, HS-BCP.