

ANTI-OPPRESSION SERIES

The Western Massachusetts Recovery Learning Community and the Consortium's Home & Community Connections program have come together to create a 2018 Anti-Oppression Series. The purpose of this series is to bring our community together to explore issues of oppression and help spark the fires needed for change.

SERIES KICK OFF:

Conversations about Systemic Oppression

May 10, 2018

4:30pm to 7:00pm

**© DeCice Hall at the Marian Center,
1365 Northampton St, Holyoke**

In this series opener, we will feature three panelists speaking from first-hand experience of a variety of types of systemic oppression. They will share of their lives and of the wisdom they've gained about how to move difficult conversations and change forward. Community Dialogue will follow their presentations.

Panelists to include:



Rev. Louis Mitchell is a pioneering "intentional man". He is known around the country and abroad as an elder, advocate, teacher, student, minister, parent and friend. He serves as the co-founder and Executive Director of Transfaith™/Interfaith Working Group and as the Associate Minister of South Congregational Church in Springfield. Louis has also been featured in a number of documentaries including *'Still Black: A Portrait of Black Transmen'* (2008, Zeigler & Lora).



Caroline Mazel-Carlton was born in a small Indiana town into a world that often sanctioned violence against women. Although she now identifies as a trauma survivor and voice-hearer, her responses to abuse initially led her to be labeled mentally ill and to spend long periods in restricted settings and group homes. As Director of Training for the RLC, Caroline now travels the world supporting the development of spaces that honor the deeper context of human experiences. She is also a part of the Jewish Renewal movement, re-claiming and re-defining ancient traditions through a feminist lens



Shain M. Neumeier is an autistic activist for disability, youth and queer justice and liberation. They are a solo attorney whose practice focuses on disability and transgender law, including defense against civil commitment and obtaining court-ordered name changes. Shain has written articles and spoken at numerous conferences and colleges about issues of bodily autonomy and freedom from coercive medical treatment. They have received awards from the national Association of University Centers on Disabilities and the Self Advocacy Association of New York State for their advocacy.

Upcoming Anti-Oppression Series Events:

May 24: Screening of *'The Blood is at the Doorstep'* with special guests Maria, Dameion, and Nate Hamilton

July 12: Learning to Interrupt with Kent Alexander

September 13: Joy DeGruy's Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome with Kent Alexander

November 8: Screening of *'13th'*

All events are free and open to the public!

Registration is not required, but is helpful as space is limited:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/AntiOppression18