



Trauma, Hoarding, and Home Safety: Person-Centered, Trauma-Informed Interventions for Older Adults

August 9th, 2018, 1:00pm EST

JFNA Webinar

Leah S. Bergen, Project Manager, established The Jewish Federations of North America's Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care in 2015. From 1999 to 2015, she dedicated herself to the field of refugee resettlement, working as a case worker at Church World Service-Joint Voluntary Agency in Nairobi, Kenya and as an employment advocate at Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area in Silver Spring, MD. She also worked for nearly seven years at HIAS — which aided her Holocaust survivor grandparents — as both a Program Manager and an advocate for refugees and asylum. Before graduating from American University's School of International Service with a degree in International Peace and Conflict Resolution, she processed asylum applications at the Arlington Asylum Office.

Dr. Chia-Ying Chou is a Psychologist licensed in California. She obtained her doctoral degree in Psychology from University College London, with her thesis focused on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Dr. Chou moved to San Francisco in 2014 for her postdoctoral fellowship at University of California, San Francisco. She developed her clinical and research specialty on Hoarding Disorder at UCSF. Dr. Chou's clinical and research interests fall in the intersection between trauma and hoarding. She has worked with over 100 individuals with Hoarding Disorder, applying Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and is currently developing a Compassion Focused Therapy treatment protocol, tailored for individuals suffering from Hoarding Disorder.

Amy E. Neuman is the Program Manager of Holocaust Survivor Services at Jewish Family & Career Services in Atlanta, Georgia. Amy has worked at JF&CS for approximately 12 years, first as a Case Manager in the Caregiver Support Services area and then additionally with Holocaust Survivors. Amy has been the Program Manager for six years. Prior to her career in social services, she was a labor and employment attorney.

Matt Paxton is the founder of Legacy Navigator and former featured extreme cleaner on the hit show *Hoarders*. Paxton started cleaning out houses after his father and grandfather passed away in the same year. The experience allowed him to recognize the immense impact physical items have on a person's life and relationships, and he focused his career on helping others solve difficult living situations caused by excess possessions. In 2016, Matt partnered with Pete Shrock, national grief and crisis thought-leader, and Craig Shealy, former Managing Principal of BlackCreek Group and Co-Founder of Osage Bio Energy, to create Legacy Navigator. Legacy Navigator is a full-service solution for families in transition, providing estate cleanout and

liquidation services, probate navigation, paperwork assistance, and financing. Matt appears regularly as a public speaker, television guest, and radio personality, talking about our emotional attachment to items and how to manage successful downsizing. He lives in Virginia with his family.

Andrew Sever, MS, OTR/L, ECHM, CAPS, CEAC is a licensed occupational therapist who has specialized in healthcare for seniors for over twenty years. As an occupational therapist, Andrew is clinically trained to assess a person's ability to perform everyday activities — despite any physical, cognitive, psychological or emotional limitations they may have. He evaluates the environment in which they live and identifies obstacles that hinder their performance. In 2012, Andrew founded EnABLE Home Solutions LLC to address the growing desire among homeowners to remain at home despite their changing needs and abilities. Andrew's occupational therapy experience gives him unique insight into the individual's physical ability and how they experience their changing ability.