



## PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

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## The 2022 PRA Virtual PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

**April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**\*\*\*CRCC Pre-Approved to offer 6.75 credits including some Ethics credits!\*\*\***

| AGENDA          |  |   |
|-----------------|--|---|
| 8:00am-8:15am   | Welcome/Opening Remarks  | Amy Moore, PRA President  |
| 8:15am-9:15am   | <b>Opening Keynote:</b> Ride the Wave with Gab   | Gab Bonesso   |
| 9:15am-10:30am  | <b>Breakout Session #1:</b><br>Session A: Disability Life Planning<br>Session B: Meeting the Vocational Rehabilitation Needs of Individuals with Serious Mental Illness                                      | Session A: Michele Leahy<br>Session B: Dr. Garrett Huck                         |
| 10:30am-10:45am | Break  |   |
| 10:45am-12:00pm | <b>Breakout Session #2:</b><br>Session A: Fundamental Trauma Principals<br>Session B: A Stepwise Approach to Vocational Rehabilitation After TBI   | Session A: Diane Wagenhals<br>Session B: Dr. Sally Kneip & Stefani Echielberger |
| 12:00pm-1:00pm  | Lunch & PRA Awards   | Amy Moore, PRA President  |
| 1:00pm-2:00pm   | <b>4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ralph Pacinelli Policy Forum</b><br>Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Practice Panel  | Hattie McCarter<br>Jamar Thrasher<br>TaLisa Ramos                               |
| 2:00pm-3:15pm   | <b>Breakout Session #3:</b><br>Session A: Evidence Based Mindfulness Interventions for Neurodivergent Individuals<br>Session B: Individuals with Treatment Needs and Involved in the Criminal Justice System | Session A: Dr. Kelly Beck<br>Session B: Dr. Ashley Yinger                       |
| 3:15pm-3:30pm   | Break  |   |
| 3:30pm-4:30pm   | <b>Closing Keynote:</b> Let's Intersect Your Lens!   | Hattie McCarter   |

*Interested in learning more about what PRA has to offer? Check out our web page! Our continuing education and virtual learning series is kicking off its second year. You don't want to miss the opportunity for additional CEUs **AT NO COST** to PRA members! (Available to non-PRA members at a nominal fee)*

<https://www.parehab.org/>

## Keynote Speaker Highlights

### AM Keynote Speaker: “Ride the Wave with Gab”



Comedian Gab Bonesso has walked the line between comedian and political activist her entire career. Bonesso, the only woman named BEST COMEDIAN in Pittsburgh 3X (twice by The Pgh City Paper and once by Pgh Magazine), is best-known for pioneering Pgh’s Alternative Comedy scene. In 2016, Whirl Magazine named Bonesso one of the most “Powerful Women in the World” for her work in comedy both as a standup performer and as a producer. As a comedy producer, Bonesso has always amplified the voices of the oppressed within the comedy community. Her shows are known for being diverse, political and wild! Gab is also an award-winning Children’s Performer. Her band: The Josh and Gab Show has appeared on PBS, CBS and WQED TV. The Josh and Gab Show is a high-energy, ANTI BULLY duo that has performed at the World Cafe, hosted AIRE LIBRE (an International Children’s Festival in Monterey Mexico) and has appeared in many ANTI-BULLY PSA’s that have been shown both on TV and in movie theaters across Pennsylvania. Bonesso, who identifies her comedy as “absurdist”, earned an Experimental Artist Residency at Carnegie Mellon University which was funded by a Grant from the Pgh Foundation.

Gab professionally speaks about her struggles with mental health issues and advocates for both children and adults on the subject. She was recently chosen as one of the “100 Best Speakers on Mental Resilience” alongside other speakers like the Dalai Lama. Whether she’s delivering a Tedx Talk on the anti-bully movement, or being the first comedian signed to MISRA records, Gab Bonesso is determined to use her voice to fight for the oppressed.

### PM Keynote Speaker: “Let’s Intersect Your Lens!”



Hattie McCarter currently serves as the Equity Management Program (EMP) Coordinator for the Bureau of Diversity, Inclusion and Small Business Opportunities (BDISBO). Prior to this new position, Hattie worked for the Department of Labor and Industry: Office of Vocational Rehabilitation as a VR Specialist with an expertise in DEI, Communications and HR for 10 years. Hattie has obtained her masters in Rehabilitation Counseling from Alabama State University in Montgomery, AL, in addition to her certification as a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Professional from Cornell University. She serves on the Commonwealth Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training Committee; Social Media Chair for Diversity, and Inclusion Professionals of Central Pennsylvania (DIPCPA) from 2017-2021; Racial Equity Steering Committee for the Commonwealth; and participates as a Facilitator for the Commonwealth Anti-Racism Book Club. Hattie has over 13+ plus years in working with community leaders, governmental agencies, and non-profit organizations in promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Although Hattie is constantly hard at work and always thinking about her next adventure, she is a facilitator for B.R.A.V.E Conversations, who recently launched her podcast and YouTube Channel titled: Tea With Hattie B that discusses diversity, equity and inclusion concerns in addition to relationships, societal norms and career advice. Also, Hattie is the founder McCarter Equitable and Distinctive Consulting Services (M.E.N.D). M.E.N.D will be a consulting firm that will assist executives and future leaders in becoming “Champions of Change” through conversations that will empower, engage, and educate your organization, communities served and future partners on developing an equitable lens.