NEWS & UPDATES

GLOBAL LAW ENFORCEMENT & PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION INC.

GLEPHA NEURODISABILITY SIG

Welcome to our December newsletter! At our next meeting on the 06th of December 2024. We will have a presentation from Dr. Arthur Mcluhan, a Senior Research Associate at MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto. A sociologist of culture and interaction, his research focuses on the patterns of interaction that shape involvement, identity, and inequity. The presentation will focus on a qualitative study exploring the challenges of community supervision conditions among people with a history of traumatic brain injury.

LEPH2024 | PRETORIA SOUTH AFRICA 1-4 DEC

African Regional Conference on Law Enforcement and Public Health

The first African Regional Conference on Law Enforcement and Public Health is fast approaching. Amongst the confirmed speakers is the former president of the Republic of South Africa, Mr. Kgalema Motlanthe, who is also a member of Global Commission on Drug Policy.
For more details and registration information, please visit **LEPH2024 Conference Website**.

Candidates are announced for the GLEPHA board of directors election!

GLOBAL LAW ENFORCEMENT & PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION INC.

The list of Nominees are presented in the categories of "president, Secretary/Treasurer and Ordinary Member". To know more about the nominees please visit the GLEPHA website:
https://glepha.com/news/

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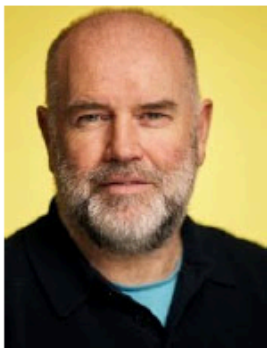**AND PUBLIC HEALTH**
WEBINAR
22 November 2024

WEBINAR

The School of Health Systems and Public Health wishes to invite you to the Public Health webinar:
Title : Taking a Public Health Approach to Crime Prevention
Date : 22 November 2024
Time :12h30 – 13h30
LINK : https://eu.bbcollab.com/guest/120fc9bbdb534df3a9507c905a6ad8be

Prof Stan Gilmour from the University of Keele

Stan Gilmour is a Professor of Practice at the University of Keele, a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Exeter, an Assessor for the University of Cambridge MSt. In Applied Criminology and Police Management, a Senior Associate Fellow with the Police Foundation (UK), and a subject matter expert with the Scopium social sciences think tank. He leads on Evidence and Evaluation for the UK Police and Health Working Group, with a similar role for the Hope Collective social action programme. He is a Fellow of the Global Law Enforcement and Public Health Association and a Fellow of the Royal Society for Arts. Following a 30-year career in the police, Stan founded Oxon Advisory - a strategic consultancy, research, and training enterprise. He now works nationally and internationally as an adviser, consultant, coach, and mentor to NGO's, transnational security organisations, and governments. This includes advising the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office on violence prevention policy, a contract with the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC), where he led on the development of multiagency data collaboration, within the Office of the Chief Scientific Adviser, working with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) where he is a Consultant in Transnational Threats, and as an advisor to the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime on Gender and Human Rights, and Neurodisability and Organised Crime.

SIG MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

LISA WHITTINGHAM

Where are you currently working, and what is your role?

Assistant Professor in the Department of Applied Disability Studies at Brock University, St. Catharines (Niagara Region), ON, Canada.

What project are you working on at the moment?

I am learning how to be a professor and publishing the results of my dissertation, which examined the registry-based programs (e.g., Vulnerable Person Registries) maintained by police services in Ontario, Canada. I am also continuing my postdoctoral work that explores the characteristics and antecedent events of persons labelled with intellectual/developmental disabilities brought to the emergency department by police.

What motivates your work in Neurodisability/Law Enforcement?

Before returning to do my PhD, I was a behaviour therapist working with persons labelled with intellectual/developmental disabilities, many of whom were justice-involved. I saw firsthand how social and systemic barriers contributed to their justice involvement and the challenges that justice professionals (i.e., police, lawyers) faced during encounters with persons labelled with intellectual/developmental disabilities. This encouraged me to return to academia for my PhD to do research highlighting the systemic barriers contributing to the justice involvement of persons labelled with intellectual/developmental disabilities and find different ways to help just professionals navigate encounters with them.

What research or work would you like to see in future?

As someone interested in disability and law, I would love to see more research in this area. I would particularly love to see more inclusive research, work that identifies and addresses the social and systemic circumstances contributing to justice involvement and tools that can help law professionals and first responders during encounters with persons with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

Tell us about your hobbies

I am an avid reader (and have loved the return to reading fiction upon completing my PhD) and a dedicated hot yogi. I also love to travel, particularly people-watching and experiencing what residents love about their region.

SIG RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

‘Street' Policing and Autism
Perceptions and Preconceptions of Police Officers When Interacting with Autistic Suspects in the Community

Shirley Reveley and Iain Dickey

Abstract

This chapter offers a critical consideration of how police officers' perceptions of autistic individuals encountered within a community policing context could be affected by the officers' level of awareness and understanding about autism. The first contact for a suspect within the criminal justice system is usually in the community at the time of arrest. As the reported prevalence rate of autism in the community increases, police officers on the beat are increasingly likely to become involved with autistic individuals. Police officers' perceptions and the level of awareness and understanding of autism they bring to their work has a significant impact on the quality of their interactions with those autistic individuals suspected of committing a crime and impact the outcome. There is a limited amount of research on how differences in perceptual frameworks influence the interactions between officers and autistic suspects. Furthermore, frontline officers in England and Wales currently receive limited training on autism, and it is questionable whether this training covers concepts such as perception or empathy. This chapter will propose that autism training for officers on the beat needs to include awareness of perceptual differences and empathetic communication to close what is an identified gap in theory and practice. The chapter reviews police officers' interaction with autistic adults in the ‘street' context, followed by a discussion of the adequacy of autism training for police officers. The concept of empathy in the training of police officers will be explored, as well as discussion of how Milton's ‘double empathy problem' can help to overcome the empathy divide. The chapter concludes by proposing ‘encounter groups' as a useful means of developing a mutual understanding of autism between police officers and the autistic community.

YOU CAN READ THE PAPER HERE:

HTTPS://WWW.TAYLORFRANCIS.COM/CHAPTERS/EDIT/10.4324/97810032
48774-2/STREET-POLICING-AUTISM-SHIRLEY-REVELEY-IAIN-DICKIE