

# ANNUAL GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

HEALING AND BEYOND: PATHWAYS  
FOR POST-TRAUMATIC GROWTH

# ANNUAL GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

## PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

<b>BREAKFAST &amp; REGISTRATION</b>	<b>8:45 AM – 9:15 AM</b>
<b>OPENING REMARKS</b>	<b>9:15 AM – 9:30 AM</b>
<b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b>	<b>9:30 AM – 10:05 AM</b>
<b>SPECIAL PANEL SESSION</b>	<b>10:10 AM – 11:25 AM</b>
<b>NETWORKING LUNCH</b>	<b>11:30 AM – 12:30 PM</b>
<b>POSTER SESSION</b>	<b>11:30 AM – 12:30 PM</b>
<b>BREAKOUT SESSION I</b>	<b>12:35 PM – 1:15 PM</b>
<b>BREAKOUT SESSION II</b>	<b>1:20 PM – 2:00 PM</b>
<b>BREAKOUT SESSION III</b>	<b>2:05 PM – 2:45 PM</b>
<b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b>	<b>3:00 PM – 3:35 PM</b>
<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b>	<b>3:40 PM – 4:00 PM</b>

# PROGRAM

## **BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION**

**8:45AM - 9:15AM**

## **OPENING REMARKS**

**9:15AM - 9:30 AM**

**Main Hall**

**Asim Shah, M.D.**

*Executive Vice Chair, BCM*

*Department of Psychiatry*

**Sophia Banu, M.D. & Mollie Gordon, M.D.**

*Co-Directors for BCM Psychiatry's Global  
Mental Health Division*

## **AM KEYNOTE**

**9:30 AM - 10:05 AM**

**Main Hall**

**Investing in Humanity: Bridging Capital and  
Compassion to Combat Genocide**

**John Montgomery**

*Bridgeway Foundation*

## **SPECIAL PANEL SESSION**

**10:10 AM - 11:25 AM**

**Main Hall**

**Accidental Sisters: Collaborative  
Storytelling, Collective Farming, & a New  
American Dream**

**Kimberly Meyer, PhD**

**Esperance Chibalonza**

**Meredith Kohut**

**Ndjabuka Francine Murhebwa**

## **NETWORKING LUNCH**

**11:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**Main Hall**

## **POSTER SESSIONS**

**11:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**Poster Session Area**

# KEYNOTE

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

PSYCHIATRY &  
BEHAVIORAL  
SCIENCES



## John Montgomery

Kigali Genocide Memorial

John is the founder and board member of the Bridgeway Foundation, through which he carries out some of his most important life goals. These include giving back to the community, investing in future generations and building on the efforts of others for reconciliation, human rights and the fight against genocide.

# PROGRAM

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS I

12:35 PM - 1:15 PM

### Main Hall/Mental Health Track

The Role of Spirituality and Resilience as Stepping Stones for Post-Traumatic Growth

**Cynthia Conner, LCSW**

### Medical Track

Migration, Climate Change and Health

**Hani Serag, M.D., MPH, Sarah**

**Siddiqui, M.D., MPH & Arlene**

**Macdonald, PhD**

### Legal Track

Trauma-Informed Immigration Legal Services

**Chiqui Sanchez & Liz Hoefler**

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS II

1:20 PM - 2:00 PM

### Main Hall/Mental Health Track

Cognitive Processing Therapy for Middle Eastern Victims of Trauma

**Dina Abdelrahman, LCSW**

### Medical Track

Healthcare Access and Mental Health

Status among Immigrants and Refugees in Texas

**Judith Guittierez, M.D.**

### Legal Track

Promoting Belonging through Holistic Immigrant Services

**Monica Alzate, PhD, Marissa**

**Barrera, Elizabeth Hasse**

# SPECIAL PANEL



## ACCIDENTAL SISTERS: COLLABORATIVE STORYTELLING, COLLECTIVE FARMING, & A NEW AMERICAN DREAM

In this panel, **Dr. Kimberly Meyer** discusses the process of writing her book, *Accidental Sisters: Refugee Women Struggling Together for a New American Dream*, and the post-traumatic growth it documents, culminating in the farm that she and **Esperance Chibalonza**, one of the women in it, helped found and now help collectively manage—Shamba Ya Amani / The Farm of Peace, a project of FAM Houston. She will be joined by Chibalonza, as well as by award-winning photographer, **Meridith Kohut**, who took the cover photo for the book as well as portraits of each of the women in it; and by **Ndjabuka Francine Murhebwa**, who helps run FAM Houston's Pamoja Program. At the center of both the work of the book and the farm is a sisterhood, which offers a new vision for a more healing way forward for our country.

# PROGRAM

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS III

12:35 PM - 1:15 PM

Main Hall/Mental Health Track

Trauma in Latinx Immigrant Youth & Families: Prevalence & Consequences

**Amanda Venta, PhD**

Medical Track

Deleterious Health Effects of Immigration Detention and Solitary Confinement

**J. Wesley Boyd, M.D., PhD**

Legal Track

Vignettes on 'Victims' of Mass Atrocity: What Transitional Justice Mechanisms Offer (and what they do not)

**Ben Fleming, PhD**

## PM KEYNOTE

3:00 PM - 3:35 PM

Main Hall

From Adversity to Ninja Warrior: A Journey of Survival, Strength, and the Power of Play

**Sam Sann**

*American Ninja Warrior*

## CLOSING REMARKS

3:40 PM - 4:00 PM

Main Hall

# KEYNOTE

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

PSYCHIATRY &  
BEHAVIORAL  
SCIENCES



## Sam Sann

American Ninja Warrior

Sam Sann is a Cambodian refugee and genocide survivor. After relocating to Houston, he went on to compete on ten seasons of "American Ninja Warrior," inspiring many with his performances. Sam recently opened Apex Ninja Warriors, a gym dedicated to nurturing young athletes, emphasizing growth and the joy of play, turning his past challenges into a source of empowerment for others.



# PEOPLE OF THE CONFERENCE



**SOPHIA BANU, MD**  
CHAIR



**MOLLIE GORDON, MD**  
CHAIR



**KOMAL NATHANI, MD**  
MAIN ORGANIZER



**DANIA ALBABA, MD**  
MAIN ORGANIZER



**MAKRAM HAIDAR, MD**  
MAIN ORGANIZER

**MC: BEKIR ARTUKOGLU, M.D.**  
**PLANNING COMMITTEE: HAANI TAI, ISABEL DRAPER, KARISSA CHESKY, NIKITA  
GIDH, RAPHA ONYEKA, SAMIA DAGHESTANI,  
LAUREN CERDA, ADITH RAM**