



# CAMHI NEWSLETTER

## SPRING 2020

### *Leadership Conferences for Urban Youth*

In partnership with the [Brookline METCO Program](#), the [Child & Adolescent Mental Health Initiative](#) co-hosted two community events for high school-aged students. The first event, the *Women's Leadership Conference*, was held at Fenway Park on December 17, 2019. More than 80 young women took part in psychoeducational workshops that focused on leadership, empowerment and identity. Pictured below is a sample of an art project that the students completed based on the theme: "***I Am a Queen***". (Continued on next page)



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# Leadership Conferences for Urban Youth

The workshops at the Women's Leadership Conference were co-facilitated by William James College (WJC) graduate students Sohenga Depestre (Clinical Psychology Program) and Debbie Herrera (School Psychology Program).

The *Men's Leadership Conference* occurred on March 9, 2020 at Emmanuel College in Boston. Two WJC Clinical Psychology students, Sohenga Depestre and Damon Pryor, facilitated group workshops on stigma and mental health literacy for close to 70 male students.

## *Brookline METCO - Women's Leadership Conference*

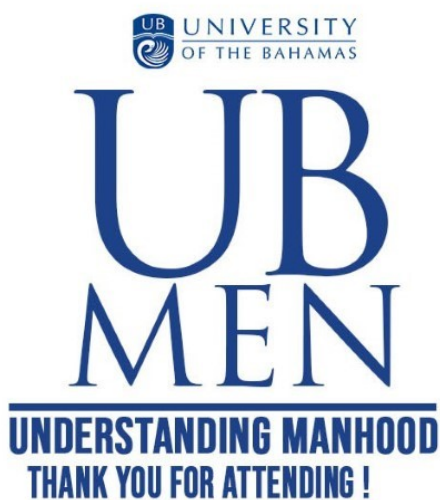


## *Young Men's Leadership Conference*



# UNDERSTANDING MANHOOD CONFERENCE

In January 2020, **Marc Abelard**, Director of the Bachelor's Completion Program and Co-Director of the *Child & Adolescent Mental Health Initiative* (CAMHI), attended the **Understanding Manhood Conference**, which took place at the University of the Bahamas. He led two group workshops on mental health literacy for adolescent boys and young men, and served on a panel where he spoke about the need to address the stigma of mental illness in underserved communities.



BAHAMAS ACADEMY  
R. M. BAILEY SENIOR HIGH  
C. C. SWEETING SENIOR HIGH  
ST. ANNE'S SCHOOL  
GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL

QUEEN'S COLLEGE  
PACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY  
ANATOL RODGERS  
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

THANK YOU NATIONAL SPEAKERS AND PANELIST!

**ASHEENE SMITH      NATHAN L. SWEETING**  
**KEYRONE SMITH      TYRONE BURROWS JR.**  
**DARVIN TOUSSAINT      JAMAAL ROLLE JR.**  
**RENBERT MORTIMER II      LINCOLN DEAL II**  
**DON SARGENT      WELLINGTON HEPBURN**  
**REV. RUEL J. STRACHAN II**

UNIVERSITY OF THE BAHAMAS THANKS

**THE BLACK MAN CAN**

**BRANDON FRAME      ILBERT J SANCHEZ**  
**MALIK CHAMPLAIN      MARCUS BLACKWELL**  
**MARC ABELARD**



# DMH FELLOWS PROGRAM



The Massachusetts Department of Mental Health's (DMH) Fellows Program was created in collaboration with William James College (WJC) to provide professional development and career advancement opportunities for Metro Boston DMH staff.

In the fall of 2019, the following three (3) DMH Fellows were awarded the CAMHI scholarship: Marie Pierre, Oyemwen Ehigie and Luciano Tellez. Their knowledge, backgrounds and educational achievements demonstrate their strong commitment to the fields of human services and behavioral health.

- ♦ **Marie Pierre** attended Roxbury Community College where she earned a certificate in Allied Health with a concentration in Mental Health.
- ♦ **Oyemwen Ehigie** also attended Roxbury Community College. She earned a certificate in Nonprofit Human Services Management from Suffolk University.
- ♦ **Luciano Tellez** attended Middlesex Community College where she received an Associate's degree.



The CAMHI/WJC community welcomes and congratulates the inaugural cohort of DMH Fellows!

# CAMHI's MENTORING PROGRAM

To enhance the academic performance and ensure the successful transition of students who are enrolled in WJC's Bachelor's Completion Program, we provide peer mentoring support to all CAMHI scholarship awardees. The mentoring program is designed specifically to offer professional role modeling, social-emotional support, career guidance and advice that can foster students' entry into the graduate school pipeline.

Throughout the academic year, mentors and mentees maintain ongoing communication and, during their time on campus, are given an opportunity to connect with one another. During the first weekend-in-residence program that was held at William James College in January 2020, Gabrielle Palmer, CAMHI's



Mentorship Coordinator, led a workshop to assist mentors in understanding their roles and responsibilities, clarify expectations, and discuss effective strategies to promote mentor-mentee relationships. Ms. Palmer will continue to serve as the intermediary between the mentors and their mentees as well as coordinate all aspects of the mentoring program, in collaboration with the CAMHI staff.



Ms. **Gabrielle Palmer** works as a full-time K-12 School Psychologist at South Shore Charter Public School in Norwell, MA. A strong advocate for equitable and culturally responsive education, she does per diem work as a Diversity Consultant with various organizations and school districts. She is currently serving as the Mentorship Coordinator at William James College. Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, playing with her guinea pigs, and reading a good book.

# The Behavioral Health Service Corps (BHSC)



**A paid year of service for recent college graduates to explore behavioral health careers.**

- ♦ Gain hands-on experience and earn while you learn
- ♦ Get credit toward your master's degree
- ♦ Grow your network and make a difference

## A Year in the Life of the Behavioral Health Service Corps

1. Begin with a 2-week orientation at William James College.
2. Receive an employment placement and salary with a partnering agency in a Bachelor's level position and serve in inpatient units, home-based services, residential treatment and recovery centers, among others.
3. Earn nine graduate credits through the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Master's program at William James College. Partnering agencies will allow four hours of release time for coursework and professional development.
4. Receive clinical supervisory support and mentoring throughout the year-long experience.

For more information, visit [www.williamjames.edu/bhsc](http://www.williamjames.edu/bhsc)

## Bachelor's Completion Program

The Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Human Services is a bachelor's completion program at William James College.

- Individuals with 60 credits or an Associate's degree from an accredited college or university can apply to study for their Bachelor's degree on a two-year full-time or a three-year part-time basis.
- The degree program is a blended model with a combination of online and on-campus courses.

For more information, visit [www.williamjames.edu/bsphs](http://www.williamjames.edu/bsphs)





WILLIAM JAMES  
COLLEGE

Boston Children's Collaboration  
for Community Health



## *Summer Institute on Behavioral Health*

Are you interested in a mental health career?

Do you have a passion for working with children, adolescents and families in communities of color?

Join our Summer Institute to learn new skills and explore career opportunities in behavioral health!

**\$500  
stipend**



### Dates:

Monday through Friday

July 13-17, 2020

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

### Location:

Roxbury Community College

1234 Columbus Ave.

Roxbury, MA 02120

Participants will also receive a  
Certificate of Completion.

For more information, email  
[CAMHI@williamjames.edu](mailto:CAMHI@williamjames.edu)

**[Click here to apply now!](#)**



**Child & Adolescent Mental Health Initiative (CAMHI)**  
[www.williamjames.edu/CAMHI](http://www.williamjames.edu/CAMHI)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## *COMMUNITY FORUM*

**Join us for a Day of Wellness, Workshops on Mental Health,  
and Fun Activities for Kids, Teens, Caregivers and Families**

Arts & Crafts, Music, Drumming, Yoga and More...!  
Free & Open to All

**Fall 2020  
(Date: TBD)**

Ray & Joan Kroc Center  
650 Dudley Street  
Dorchester, MA

**[Click here to register!](#)**



## *Children's Mental Health Matters Conference*

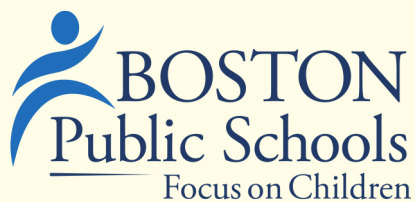
*Best Practices in Trauma-Informed Behavioral  
Health Care & Workforce Development to Improve Outcomes for  
Children, Adolescents, and Families in Underserved Communities*

**[Click here to register.](#)**

**Saturday, October 17, 2020**

**William James College  
1 Wells Avenue  
Newton, MA 02459**

# CAMHI's PARTNER AGENCIES



**THE BLACK MAN CAN**



## Contact Us

Website:  
[www.williamjames.edu/CAMHI](http://www.williamjames.edu/CAMHI)

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