



# 11th Annual Addiction Leadership Conference

April 1-2, 2025  
Sacramento Hilton Arden West

## Conference Agenda

[addictionleadershipconference.com](http://addictionleadershipconference.com)



Hosted By

**Kristina Padilla (they/them)**

MA, LAADC, ICAADC, CGS  
Vice President of Education  
and Strategic Development

CCAPP's ALC is held each spring in Sacramento, California. Level up your competency in legislative advocacy, addiction leadership, and clinical skills. Join us and learn why it's imperative that you get involved!

INFO

[edu@ccapp.us](mailto:edu@ccapp.us)

916-221-7800

# Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Time	Topic/Event	Room
7:30–8:30 AM	Twelve-Step Meeting	TBA
8:00–9:00 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast	Exhibit Area
9:00–9:15 AM	Welcome and Housekeeping – Kristina Padilla, M.A., Vice President of Education and Strategic Development, CCAPP	Ballroom
9:15–9:45 AM	<i>2025 Legislative Outlook</i> - Louie Brown, Attorney at Law, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP	Ballroom
9:45–10:00 AM	BREAK	Exhibit Area
10:00–10:30 AM	<i>Behavioral Workforce Initiatives</i> - Hovik Khosrovian, Senior Policy Advisor, Health Workforce Development, California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)	Ballroom
10:30–11:00 AM	<i>Legislative Training &amp; Update</i> - Sherry Daley, Vice President of Governmental Affairs and Corporate Communications, CCAPP	Ballroom
11:00 AM–12:00 PM	LUNCH (Provided) <i>Prop 36 Implementation</i> - Tara Gamboa-Eastman, MPP, Director of Government Affairs, Steinberg Institute	Ballroom
12:00–12:30 PM	Hop on Busses to the Capitol	Hilton Parking Lot
12:30–1:30 PM	Arrive at the Capitol	1315 10th Street
1:00–2:00 PM	Distribute Packets	1021 O Street
2:00–2:30 PM	Attend Committee Hearings	1021 O Street
2:30–3:00 PM	Visit Capitol Museum (Coffee On Your Own)	1315 10th Street
3:00–4:00 PM	<i>Transition Time Buses from Capitol - BUS LEAVES 3:30 PM SHARP</i>	1315 10th Street
4:00–4:30 PM	<i>Update on California Parity Implementation</i> - Amanda Levy, Deputy Director, Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC)	Ballroom
4:30–5:00 PM	<i>Capitol Debrief</i> - Sherry Daley, Vice President of Governmental Affairs and Corporate Communications, CCAPP	Ballroom
5:00–6:00 PM	DINNER ON YOUR OWN	
6:00–9:00 PM	<i>Ethics Presentation &amp; Update</i> - Evan Amarni, CCAPP Board Member and Ethics Chair & Brandon Fernandez, CCAPP Board Member and Ethics Committee Member	Ballroom

# Wednesday, April 2, 2025

Time	Topic/Event	Room
8:00–9:00 AM	Twelve-Step Meeting	TBA
8:00–9:00 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast	Exhibit Area
9:00–9:15 AM	Welcome and Housekeeping - Kristina Padilla, M.A., Vice President of Education and Strategic Development, CCAPP	Ballroom
9:15–10:45 AM	<i>Keynote Presentation: Policy Trends and Opportunities</i> - Dr. Le Ondra Clark-Harvey, Ph.D., CEO, California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies (CBHA)	Ballroom
10:45–11:15 AM	BREAK	Exhibit Area

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Time	Topic/Event	Room
11:15–11:45 AM	<i>Is Forced Treatment Making a Comeback?</i> - Pattie Vargas, California State Organizer, Peer Parent Coach, National Ambassador, Author, Partnerships to End Addiction, RAP, Shatterproof	Ballroom
11:45 AM–12:15 PM	<i>Alignment for Progress Movement: 90-90-90</i> - Lauren Finke, MPP, Senior Director of Policy, The Kennedy Forum	Ballroom
12:15–1:15 PM	LUNCH (Provided)	Ballroom
1:15–2:15 PM	<i>Shifting Tides: The Continued Evolution of the “Fourth Wave” of America’s Overdose Crisis</i> Dr. Eric Dawson, PharmD, Vice President of Clinical Affairs, Millenium Health	Ballroom
2:15–2:45 PM	Special Guest Presentation - Senator Dave Cortese, Member of the California State Senate	Ballroom
2:45–5:00 PM	<i>Don’t Make A MESS Out of the Substance Use Talk!</i> - Dr. Ronald Mah, M.A., Ph.D., Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, Consultant, Trainer, & Author	Ballroom

## In Loving Memory of Nia Casselman-Reyes

Nia Casselman-Reyes, February 12, 1970 – March 2, 2025



It is with heavy hearts that we share the passing of our dear friend, colleague, and mentor, Nia Casselman-Reyes. A devoted advocate for recovery and an unwavering force in the field of substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, she touched countless lives through her compassion, wisdom, and dedication.

For over a decade, Nia served as an instructor for CCAPP, for the Pasadena and Metro areas, shaping the next generation of counselors with her knowledge, patience, and deep commitment to ethical practice. Teaching was not just her profession; it was her passion. She inspired her students to bring the best version of themselves to the profession, emphasizing integrity, self-awareness, and the courage to grow. As the previous Women's Program Manager at Impact Drug and Alcohol Treatment Center in Pasadena, Nia was a guiding force for countless women in recovery, ensuring they had the tools, support, and encouragement to rebuild their lives. Her early work as a

Counselor and Parenting Teacher reflected her deep belief in the power of healing families, helping parents navigate recovery while fostering stronger, healthier relationships. A true pioneer in the field, Nia's impact reached across multiple agencies, where she stood as a fierce advocate for those affected by substance use disorder.

Colleagues remember her as a mentor who always made time for others, a teacher who filled every lesson with warmth and humor, and a counselor whose belief in transformation never wavered. But beyond her professional contributions, Nia was a source of spiritual wisdom and encouragement. She often reminded us that, in every moment, “God is in control,” and urged us to “always use discernment.” We are profoundly grateful for her friendship, her mentorship, and the unwavering guidance she so generously shared.

Nia's legacy lives on not only in the lessons she taught but in the lives she helped restore. She leaves behind a community that is stronger because of her, and though she is no longer with us, her light will continue to shine in the hearts of all who knew her.

Rest in Peace, Nia

With gratitude and remembrance,

The CCAPP Community

**12th Annual**

# California Addiction Conference

**October 22–26, 2025  
Newport Beach, CA**

📍 Hyatt Regency

CCAPP's largest conference, the CAC, is held each fall in Southern California. Join us for sensational speakers, breakout workshops, social networking, our famous Halloween party and costume contest, and more!

🖱️ [ccappconferences.com](http://ccappconferences.com)

✉️ [Admin@ccapp.us](mailto:Admin@ccapp.us)

**Join us for your Annual Membership Meeting and Luncheon:**

**- October 25, 2025**

All CCAPP members are invited to the meeting at no cost. Lunch is included for full conference registrants only. However, you can purchase a lunch if you are not registered for the conference.



# Save the **Date!**

## October 22–26, 2025 Newport Beach, CA



### Three Conferences in One:

**California Addiction Conference (CAC)**

**National Recovery Capital Conference (NRCC)**

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Conference (DEIC)**

**CCAPP**  
California Consortium of  
Addiction Programs and  
Professionals

**NBHAP**  
NATIONAL BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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