

SUTER SCIENCE SEMINARS 2022-23

Building-up the Behavioral Health System in a Time of Crisis: Opportunities and Challenges

Rolando L. Santiago, PhD

*Chief, Behavioral Health and Crisis Services
Department of Health and Human Services
Montgomery County, MD*



Wednesday, October 8, 2022

10 a.m. • Science Center, room 106

Many communities across the country face deep behavioral health challenges such as increased suicides, overdose deaths, intimate partner violence, gun violence and more. There is increased national attention to these behavioral health challenges and some promising solutions. In this seminar, the speaker will describe how Montgomery County, Maryland, has been implementing service innovations that require political will, multidisciplinary approaches, multisystem collaboration, and seed funding. The end goal is to achieve a broad spectrum of promotion, prevention, crisis, treatment, and recovery services that are collaborative, sustainable, and equitable so that people across diverse populations can thrive and experience health and wellbeing.

Dr. Rolando L. Santiago is the Chief of Behavioral Health and Crisis Services in the Department of Health and Human Services of Montgomery County, MD. He worked for ten years in evaluation, management, and fundraising positions at federal, state, and local programs for children and adolescents with serious emotional disorders and their families. He's a 1979 alumnus of Eastern Mennonite University. In 1994 he earned his PhD in educational psychology and statistics at the University at Albany, State University of New York. He's an ardent baseball fan, regular runner, and occasionally writes articles and stories about Puerto Rico for publication.



Suter Science Center
1194 Park Rd.
Harrisonburg VA 22802
540-432-4400