

Title of the panel:

Systems Change and Leadership: Supporting Individuals with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

This hybrid CME/CE inter-professional panel discussion will explore systems change while highlighting leadership's role as a key facilitator.

Date: Friday, May 8, 2026

Time: 11:00 AM–1:00 PM

Hybrid: In person and via ZOOM

In person:

SUNY Downstate PH Building
2nd Floor, Room 2A
450 Clarkson Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11203

Agenda:

11:00 AM–11:15 AM

Welcome & Overview

→ Introduction of the moderator, panelists and the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities (LEND) program

Moderators:

Allen Lewis, PhD, CRC, SUNY Downstate School of Health Professions
Shushawna DeOliveira, DHA, SUNY Downstate School of Health Professions

Panelists:

Alyssa Goodman, PsyD, E & R Psychology
Eleny Romanos-Sirakis, MD, MS, SIUH Northwell
Flor Ramirez, Esq., IDDO Ombudsprogram, Community Service Society of New York
Joshua Berezin, MD, MS, NYS Office of Mental Health
Richard James, LMSW, Kings County Hospital
Sarah Lauducci, MS Ed, NYC Department of Education

Review of learning objectives:

At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Describe some of the system-level challenges that individuals with neurodivergent disabilities encounter in receiving services within the formal service delivery system.
2. Articulate the current challenges and barriers within the system of services for individuals with neurodivergent disabilities that prohibit these individuals from receiving optimum services.
3. Identify and apply various leadership strategies for promoting system-level change to improve services delivered to individuals with neurodivergent disabilities.

11:15 AM–11:45 AM

Leadership Panel

A facilitated discussion with panelists exploring:

→ What do we mean by systems change?

→ What role can leadership play in facilitating or driving systems change?

11:45 AM–12:15 PM

Systems Change in Practice

→ What does systems change look like in the context of ASD and other neurodevelopmental disabilities?

12:15–12:45 PM

Looking Ahead

→ What is on the horizon for systems change and leadership in systems serving individuals with neurodevelopmental disabilities?

12:45–1:00 PM

Open Q&A and Closing Reflections

→ Audience Q&A with panelists and facilitators

→ Key takeaways and closing reflections

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