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## **Friday Early Morning Concurrent Sessions (1.5 hours)**

### **F01 - Promoting Knowledge Translation of Evidence-based Approaches for Sensory-Inclusive Home Evaluations for Children with Sensory Processing Challenges**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 101A

**Presenter(s):** Evguenia Popova, MSOT, PhD; Elizabeth Ayers, OTD

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Developmental Disabilities

**Target Audience:** Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This short course provides evidence-based recommendations and a practical roadmap for conducting comprehensive, occupation-focused home evaluations that prioritize family collaboration, sensory-informed design, and meaningful occupational outcomes.

### **F02 - Investigating Best Practices in Diagnostic Reasoning and Differential Diagnosis: Implications for Occupational Therapy and Direct Access**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 101B

**Presenter(s):** Frank Czuba, DrOT, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** General; Administration & Management

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** The Illinois OT Practice Act secured direct access for OT. Direct access empowers OT practitioners to advance their services. But it demands strong diagnostic skills to ensure client safety. Unlike other professions, OTs lack standardized training and tools for differential diagnosis. This interactive workshop will explore current evidence and strategies to: equip OTPs for best practice, support payment, and enhance care quality via a presentation and small group case study problem-solving.

### **F03 - Assistive Technology for Curriculum Access in the K-12 School Setting**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 101C

**Presenter(s):** Mary Lee, COTA/L; ABDA; Assistive Technology Specialist Certificate

**Content Areas:** Assistive Technology; Pediatrics - includes: Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** Whether you are a seasoned practitioner, student, or a new grad, come learn about assistive technology tools that can be used by OT Practitioners supporting students with a variety of physical and academic needs in the school environment. We will look at software, commercial products, and 3D printed items that support access to curriculum. We will also review case studies, common terminology, legal guidance, and barriers that may arise in implementation.

#### **F04 - Perspectives on Chronic Pain From a Diagnosed Occupational Therapy Practitioner**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** Auditorium

**Presenter(s):** Lauren Stone Kelly, OTD, OTR/L; Natasha Araneta, OTS-II; Alondra Monjaraz, OTS-II; Emerson Mussey, OTS-II; Jennifer Pulven, OTS-II; Enya Wilkins, OTS-II

**Content Areas:** Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic; General

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** OTPs have an impactful role to play in the treatment and management of chronic pain. However, pain, especially complex chronic pain, remains misunderstood by many healthcare practitioners resulting in inadequate treatment and management of pain related to chronic illness. This course will review current evidence and practice in the treatment of chronic pain, especially for those with co-morbid chronic illnesses, and highlight the lived experiences of those living with chronic pain.

#### **F05 - Social Justice: The Intersection of Disability Identity and Education**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 105

**Presenter(s):** Carol Michels, EDD, MS, OTR/L; M.ED; Clare Stanhope, MS, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Pediatrics - includes: Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This presentation explores a continuum of disability models, from medical to social, and how using this knowledge may help shape inclusive education and services for all diverse learners. This exploration will facilitate dialogue on how school occupational therapy practitioners can advocate for social justice and expand their practice by reflecting upon, and potentially shifting, their disability perspective.

#### **F06 – Platform Presentations (*includes three related presentations, each 20 minutes followed by a 10-minute Q&A session*)**

##### **F06a - Beyond Early Intervention: A New Era of Family-Centered Pediatric OT**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 111

**Presenter(s):** Kelly Makris, MOT, OTR/L; Lindy Myers, MS, CCC-SLP

**Contributing Author(s):** Jennifer Wirt, MBA, MS, BS

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Home & Community Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** Child-centered, family-engaged care is redefining pediatric OT beyond early intervention. Drawing from national data and clinical practice, this session highlights how in-home therapy delivers meaningful, functional outcomes across ages – embedding therapy into real routines for real change.

**F06b - Nurturing the Dyad: Occupational Therapy's Role in Maternal Mental Health, Infant Development, and Co-Occupation**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 111

**Presenter(s):** Armi Grace Petersen, MS, OTR/L, ASDCS

**Content Areas:** Home & Community Health; Mental Health

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** This presentation highlights occupational therapy's emerging role in maternal health and early infant development. Learn how to address maternal mental health, oral ties, lactation, babywearing, and infant milestones through the OTPF-4 lens, while supporting the mother-baby dyad through co-occupation and community-based care.

**F06c - Autism and Air Travel**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 111

**Presenter(s):** Joceline Rodriguez, OTD; Riley Rynders, OTD; Mckenzie Guth, OTD; Divya Sood, OTD, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; General

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** This qualitative research presentation will explore the perspectives of parents with autistic children, as well as airport and airline staff, regarding the support available and the challenges these children face during air travel. The presenters will outline recommendations from both parents and airport and airline personnel aimed at fostering more inclusive airport environments that meet the travel needs of autistic children.

## **Friday Late Morning Concurrent Sessions (1.5 hours)**

### **F07 - A Seat at the Table: Empowering Occupational Therapy Practitioners to Lead in Addressing Challenging Behaviors in Children**

**Time:** 10:15 - 11:45am

**Location:** 101A

**Presenter(s):** Debra Johnson, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Developmental Disabilities

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This course empowers occupational therapy practitioners to take a leading role in addressing challenging behaviors by reframing behavior through a developmental and occupational lens. Participants will explore occupational therapy's unique contributions to behavior teams, learn to advocate for their role, and apply the STEPS for Development clinical reasoning tool to create strengths-based, functional strategies that support regulation, participation, and collaboration across settings.

### **F08 - NBCOT National Certification Exam: Information You Need to Know**

**Time:** 10:15 - 11:45am

**Location:** 101B

**Presenter(s):** Catherine Killian, OTD, MEd., OTR/L

**Content Areas:** General; Academic Education / Fieldwork

**Target Audience:** Student

**Course Description:** Connect with NBCOT and hear about the best approaches to achieve your goal for Occupational Therapy Certification.

### **F09 - AI in Education: Considerations and Strategies for School-Based Occupational Therapy Practitioners**

**Time:** 10:15 - 11:45am

**Location:** 101C

**Presenter(s):** Carol Michels, EDD, MS, OTR/L, M.Ed.; Kasen Boie, MS, OTR/L; Tanya Long-Ducree, MS, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Assistive Technology

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** School-based occupational therapy practitioners possess a unique perspective to reframe AI as an opportunity to support the diverse needs of all learners within an inclusive framework. This session explores AI's impact in education and provides strategies to use AI to support practice with practical strategies.

**F10 - Evidence-Informed Interventions and Strategies for Improving Outcomes in Clients with Functional Neurological Disorder (FND)**

**Time:** 10:15 - 11:45am

**Location:** Auditorium

**Presenter(s):** Stephanie Zuba-Bates, OTD, MS, OTR/L; Missy Dappen, MS, OTR/L, BCPR

**Content Areas:** Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic; Mental Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This short course will explore self-management intervention approaches to improve occupational engagement for individuals with Functional Neurological Disorder (FND). It will present evidence-informed approaches to managing motor, sensory, and cognitive symptoms commonly associated with FND. Participants will engage in interactive discussions and apply evidence-informed approaches to case studies, gaining practical tools they can implement in their own practice.

**F11 - From Therapy to Thriving Communities: How Occupational Therapy Skills Can Build Impactful Models Outside of Clinical Practice**

**Time:** 10:15 - 11:45am

**Location:** 105

**Presenter(s):** Asha Rao, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Administration & Management

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** As burnout increases and the OT profession grapples with how to expand its role in community wellness, we must reimagine the pathways to impact. This session will show how OTPs can lead systems change - not just within healthcare, but across culture, creativity, and community.

**F12 – Platform Presentations (*includes three related presentations, each 20 minutes followed by a 10-minute Q&A session*)**

**F12a - Using Podcasting in OT Education**

**Time:** 10:15 - 11:45am

**Location:** 111

**Presenter(s):** Stacie Young, MHS, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; General

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** Parkland College OTA Program uses podcasting in the Therapeutic Groups and Populations course. Students work in groups and develop a topic, research, plan a podcast and then record the podcast on The Occupation Conversation. Learn how podcasting is used to address population health in this educational setting.

**F12b - NBCOT Cost of Preparation and First-Time Pass Rate: A Pilot Study**

**Time:** 10:15 - 11:45am

**Location:** 111

**Presenter(s):** Sarah Austin, OTL/L, PhD; Brya Fullilove, MOTS

**Contributing Author(s):** Jillian Tyson, MOTS; Jasmine Jennings, MOTS; Siera Moore, MOTS; Carina Razo, MOTS; Jessica Patterson, MOTS

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; General

**Target Audience:** Student, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This nationwide pilot study explores how recent occupational therapy graduates prepare for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). This will include factors that are correlated with how much graduates spend on preparation and first-time pass rates. Researchers will engage session participants in a discussion about recommendations to improve student success based on study results and their experiences with NBCOT preparation.

### **F12c - Intraprofessional Education in Occupational Therapy: Promoting Collaboration Between OT and OTA Programs to Enhance the Student Experience and Workforce Readiness**

**Time:** 10:15 - 11:45am

**Location:** 111

**Presenter(s):** Theresa Christopher, OTD, OTR/L, CAPS; Courtney Merriss Prange, MOT, OTR/L, CPT, CEAS, OTA Program Director; Grace Flanagan, OTS; Fallon Miller, OTS

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; General

**Target Audience:** Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** Intraprofessional education for OT and OTA students is important for student skill development (Dennehy, 2018; Carson, Crawford & Hanner, 2018). This short course provides an overview of a partnership between OT and OTA programs in Illinois aimed at enhancing interactive intraprofessional collaborative experiences within OT and OTA curriculum. Insights into curriculum development, implementation, and future plans for OT and OTA collaborative education will be emphasized.

## **Friday Awards Ceremony & Keynote Presentation (1.5 hours)**

### **Keynote - The Future of OT: Human-Centered Care in an AI-Driven World**

**Time:** 1:00pm – 2:45pm

**Location:** 101A-C

**Presenter:** Pooja A. Patel, DrOT, OTR/L, BCG, CDP, CFPS

**Session Description:** Occupational therapy stands at a watershed moment. Artificial intelligence and data-rich ecosystems can amplify our distinct occupational lens—if we approach them with purpose and heart. This keynote reframes AI not as a sci-fi gadget but as a tool for amplifying client dignity, clinician creativity, and societal impact. Through compelling stories, future-casting visuals, and interactive reflection, attendees will:

1. See the macro forces redefining health, work, and participation over the next decade.
2. Hear uplifting case vignettes of AI-augmented practice that preserved the therapeutic relationship rather than replaced it.
3. Explore an ethical, equity-first framework that keeps OT values at the center of tech adoption.
4. Craft a personal commitment to champion innovation—no coding background required.

Participants will leave energized and ready to move from curiosity to confident, values-driven action.



## **Friday Afternoon Concurrent Sessions (1.0 hours)**

### **F13 – F18 - Conversations that Matter: Igniting Action**

**Time:** 3:00pm – 4:00pm

**Location:** TBA

**Course Description:**

Friday's session explores the strengths, challenges, and future visions for occupational therapy. Practitioners and students will be invited into guided discussions on advocacy and collaboration, working together to generate action steps that advance occupational therapy education, research, and practice. Participants will also have the chance to build connections across roles, settings, and career stages. The session concludes with a collective report-out, creating a shared Vision Board to capture ideas for strengthening the profession and setting the stage for Saturday's continued work. All are welcome to join — participation in Saturday's session is not required.

**Topics covered will include:**

- Academic Education
- Administration & Management
- Adult Rehabilitation (Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic & Upper Extremity)
- Assistive Technology
- Gerontology & Community Health (Home & Community, Aging)
- Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (JEDI)
- Mental Health
- Pediatrics & Developmental Disabilities (Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration & Processing)

## **Friday Afternoon Poster Session (1.5 hours)**

**Time:** 4:00pm – 5:30pm

**Location:** 161 A/B

**Description:** See "Poster Listings" document

## **Saturday Early Morning Concurrent Sessions (1.5 hours)**

### **S01 - Harnessing Artificial Intelligence to Enhance Student Competencies in Community-Based Program Development**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 101A

**Presenter(s):** Evguenia Popova, MSOT, PhD; Stephanie Keefe, OTS; Kendall Kobe, OTS; Sonja Schrader, OTS; Yukie Xiong, OTS

**Contributing Author(s):** Madilyn McLain, OTS

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; General

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** AI can provide valuable opportunities to enhance student learning. This session offers practical strategies for integrating AI into occupational therapy education, effectively balancing efficiency with critical reasoning and ethical considerations.

### **S02 - Family Voices Matter: Occupational Therapy's Role in Promoting Family Engagement and Caregiver Navigation in Early Intervention**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 101B

**Presenter(s):** Kelly Giuliano, OTD, OTR/L; Janaki Patel, OTD, OTR/L; Lauren Little, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

**Contributing Author(s):** Susan Magasi, PhD; Ashley Stoffel, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA, FNAP

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Developmental Disabilities

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This presentation will focus on the experiences of families navigating the entrance process of the Illinois Early Intervention (EI) program, highlighting key barriers and facilitators to accessing services. Drawing on mixed methods research study results including a focus group and survey data, we will discuss how occupational therapy practitioners, and the EI community can better enhance family engagement, support caregiver-led navigation, and improve equity in early intervention access.

### **S03 - Fit-For-Life: An Occupational Therapy-Led Wellness Initiative Supporting ESSA**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 101C

**Presenter(s):** Yvonne Cosentino-Wayda, OTD, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

**Target Audience:** Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This session presents outcomes from Fit-For-Life, an OT-led wellness initiative through LLCC's OTA Program and the Boys & Girls Club. The program improved sensory-motor, executive function, and academic self-assessment scores. Attendees will explore how OT can support school improvement plans and promote health equity in underserved communities through the ESSA Act.

#### **S04 - Restoring Intimacy: The Occupational Therapy Practitioner's Role in Navigating Sexuality Post-Stroke**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** Auditorium

**Presenter(s):** Jennifer Summers, OTD, OT/L, FNAP; Gráinne McDonagh, B.S., OTDS; Jenna Abed, B.A., OTDS; Joey Tepper, B.A., OTDS

**Content Areas:** Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic; Productive Aging

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This presentation explores the often-overlooked role of sexuality for stroke survivors and the barriers health providers face in addressing intimacy. We will emphasize sexuality as a core activity of daily living and highlight how OT and OTA professionals can support sexual well-being through holistic, evidence-based care. Through case examples and established frameworks, participants will learn practical strategies to assess and intervene in sexual health with confidence and empathy.

#### **S05 - Building with the Senses: Where Architecture Meets Occupational Therapy**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 265

**Presenter(s):** Samantha Libman, OTD; Caitlin Smith, OTD, OTR/L, CLT-UE; Francisco Lasta, OTR/L, Assoc. AIA

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; General

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** Join us for an engaging session on using Dunn's Model of Sensory Processing (2010) to inform architectural design and create inclusive public environments. Drawing from real-world collaborations with architects, we'll explore how occupational therapy practitioners can advocate for sensory-friendly features – like quiet zones and adjustable lighting – and why engaging diverse stakeholders is key to creating accessible spaces. Learn strategies to enhance comfort and participation in everyday places.

#### **S13 - Legislative, Reimbursement and Regulatory Updates that Impact Illinois Occupational Therapy: Practice Act and Rules, OT Compact, Advocacy Efforts and You**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 105

**Presenter(s):** Nancy Richman, OTR/L, FAOTA; Brenda Koverman, PhD, MBA, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA; Emma Penn, MS, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** General; Administration & Management

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** Practice at the top of your license! Understand the ramifications of the current Practice Act, definitions, scope of practice, referrals, and CE requirements. Learn about current issues that impact how OTPs provide services. Understand the importance of advocacy and the impact it can have on your career and your clients. Learn how we decide on our efforts and how you can influence policy and drive meaningful change and growth for the profession and for the recipients of OT services.

**S06 – Platform Presentations (includes three related presentations, each 20 minutes followed by a 10-minute Q&A session)**

**S06a - Beyond Survival: Success in Sustained Housing Among Those Who Have Experienced Homelessness**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 266

**Presenter(s):** Rae Peitzmann, OTD

**Contributing Author(s):** Laura VanPuymbrouck, OTD, OTR/L, PhD, FAOTA, Capstone Faculty Mentor; Derek Ma, DNP, Capstone Site Mentor; Hayley Greiner, OTD, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Home & Community Health; Mental Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** With the worsening housing crisis across the USA, homelessness is becoming more and more widespread. This presentation outlines interviews with people who have experienced homelessness in the past as they describe factors that influence their success in staying housed in the long term over the course of three semi-structured interviews. The presentation will focus on factors interviewees identified as well as the potential roles occupational therapy has in supporting this population.

**S06b - Traditional Occupations of Native Americans and Substance Use Recovery**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 266

**Presenter(s):** Joan-Hannah Kaytonah, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** General; Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level

**Course Description:** Native Americans have some of the worst and some of the best statistics when it comes to substance abuse. One avenue for addressing the issue involves the use of traditional occupations, such as drumming, singing, dancing, sweat lodges, beading, sewing, etc. Occupational therapy has a unique opportunity to advance the methods that work. But to do this, the barriers of stereotypes, misinformation, and outright lies must be overcome.

**S06c - A pilot study of a housing management intervention for young people experiencing homelessness**

**Time:** 8:30-10:00am

**Location:** 266

**Presenter(s):** Emily Simpson, PhD, OTR/L; Monika Robinson, DrOT, OTR/L; Amber Reynolds, OTS; Mary Vestal, OTS

**Content Areas:** Home & Community Health; Mental Health

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** A pretest-posttest study was used to evaluate the impact of a six-week housing management intervention on self-efficacy, goal attainment, and life skills for 9 young people experiencing homelessness. Improvements were noted on the Casey Life Skills Measure subscales: Daily Living ( $p=0.138$ ) (Housing/Money Management/Transportation ( $p=.008$ ), Relationship/Communication ( $p=.026$ ), and Looking Forward ( $p=.007$ ). On the Goal Attainment Scale, 37 goals were set and 32 were achieved at the expected level.

## **Saturday Late Morning Concurrent Sessions (1.5 hours)**

### **S07 - A Framework for Exploring Environmental Affordances and Nature-Based Play in Children**

**Time:** 10:15-11:45am

**Location:** 101A

**Presenter(s):** Divya Sood, OTD, OTR/L; Martina Golaszewski, OTS; Cayla Cohen, OTS; Kailey Gasik, OTS; Inshra Ahmed, OTS; Emilian Geczi, PhD

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; General

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** This presentation will outline a framework for occupational therapy practitioners to consult with and collaborate with organizations providing nature-based play opportunities for children. It will enable practitioners to explore the dynamic relationship between environmental affordances and play, offering practical solutions to enhance children's play experiences. Understanding affordances is key to designing spaces that naturally promote a variety of play behaviors.

### **S08 - Creation of a Fully-Integrated Intraprofessional Education Framework**

**Time:** 10:15-11:45am

**Location:** 101B

**Presenter(s):** Abigail Swidergal, MS, COTA/L, CKTP, ROH; Paula Costello, OTD, OTR/L

**Contributing Author(s):** Yvonne Randall; Kristin Haas, OTD, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Academic Education / Fieldwork; Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

**Target Audience:** Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This session presents a framework of intraprofessional education intentionally embedded in two developing OT and OTA programs. Grounded in ACOTE standards, the model fosters collaborative skill development, aligned entry-level competencies, and shared learning within hybrid delivery models. Academic attendees will gain tools to promote OT/OTA collaboration from curriculum design through intended implementation, supporting student comprehension of the two parallel roles in practice.

### **S09 - Empowering Occupation-Based Interventions in the Schools using CO-OP's Goal-Plan-Do-Check**

**Time:** 10:15-11:45am

**Location:** 101C

**Presenter(s):** Lara Barros, OTD

**Content Areas:** Pediatrics - includes Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration; Developmental Disabilities

**Target Audience:** Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** This course is for school-based OTPs who are interested in gaining skills in providing a top-down and occupation-based approach. This course will introduce you to using CO-OP's Goal-Plan-Do-Check (GPDC) to support school-based practice. Use GPDC to support learning and generalization of skills to support school participation through case examples and audience participation.

### **S10 - Exploring Occupational Therapy's Distinct Role in Street Outreach**

**Time:** 10:15-11:45am

**Location:** Auditorium

**Presenter(s):** Alexandra Perry, OTD, OTR/L; Patrycja Budzyk, OTD, OTR/L; Andrea LeFlore, OTD, OTR/L; Rolando Jara, MS, OTR/L; Erica Engel, OTD, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Home & Community Health; Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** People experiencing unsheltered homelessness (PEUH) face extensive barriers to daily living needs and housing transition. This presentation will describe occupational therapy's role within a multidisciplinary street outreach team, engaging clients at encampments, under viaducts, and other places not meant for human habitation to establish connections and increase clients' occupational engagement and well-being while also preparing for transitioning into stable and permanent housing.

### **S11 - Keeping up with the AI: Latest Trends, Ethics, and Use Case Examples**

**Time:** 10:15-11:45am

**Location:** 265

**Presenter(s):** Pooja Patel, DrOT, OTR/L, BCG, CDP, CFPS

**Contributing Author(s):** Sagar Pandya

**Content Areas:** General; Administration & Management

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** The AI landscape is evolving at a rapid-fire rate. It's imperative to keep up with the latest tools, versions of tools, and appropriate use. This session aims to provide an update on the most recent trends in Generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Perplexity, Claude, Microsoft Copilot, Google Gemini), issues on ethics and integrity, and appropriate use case examples.

### **S12 – Platform Presentations (*includes three related presentations, each 20 minutes followed by a 10-minute Q&A session*)**

#### **S12a - Rehabilitation after Multiple Limb Loss: Bringing the whole team together**

**Time:** 10:15-11:45am

**Location:** 266

**Presenter(s):** Anne Cornell, OTR/L; Shreena Shah, OTD

**Content Areas:** Physical Disabilities - including: Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic; General

**Target Audience:** Entry-level

**Course Description:** The purpose of this presentation is to highlight a team-based approach for a highly complex inpatient case with care aspects centered around brain injury, multiple limb loss, and cortical visual impairment. This case study reflects on the integration of involving multiple providers with varying specialties while prioritizing individualized, occupational-based care to achieve functional outcomes.

#### **S12b - Perceived Barriers of Participation for Dancing with Parkinson's Program at Joffrey Ballet**

**Time:** 10:15-11:45am

**Location:** 266

**Presenter(s):** Courtney Bland, OTD; Lydia Royeen, PhD, OTR/L

**Contributing Author(s):** Linda Swayze, MA

**Content Areas:** General; Productive Aging

**Target Audience:** Student, Entry-level, Intermediate-level, Advanced-level

**Course Description:** A cross-sectional quantitative survey study investigating how barriers related to accessibility, physical environment, cognition, and social participation influence involvement in the Dancing with Parkinson's program at Joffrey Ballet for individuals living with Parkinson's disease (PD).

#### **S12c - Bridging Generations: Enhancing Collaboration and Care in Acute and Inpatient Settings**

**Time:** 10:15-11:45am

**Location:** 266

**Presenter(s):** Faith Brown, OTD, OTR/L; Elnaz Alimi, OTD, OTR/L

**Contributing Author(s):** Danielle Haubrich, MBS, MSN, RN, NE-BC; Kimberly George, MS, OTR/L

**Content Areas:** Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Administration & Management

**Target Audience:** Entry-level, Intermediate-level

**Course Description:** This presentation explores intergenerational collaboration among occupational therapists and recreational therapists in inpatient settings. Strategies for addressing generational conflict, fostering inclusive teamwork, and enhancing patient care outcomes will be discussed, with a focus on justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

### **Saturday Plenary Panel Presentation (1 hour)**

#### **Plenary - More Than a Client: Building Trust and Collaboration in OT Practice**

**Time:** 1:00pm – 2:00pm

**Location:** 101A-C

**Panel Presenters:** Gifty Abraham, OTD, OTR/L; Sarah Schaubroeck; Wyatt Schaubroeck

**Session Description:** This plenary session will highlight the lived experience of a former pediatric OT client and his mother as they reflect on their journey through occupational therapy. They will share key moments that fostered trust, advocacy, and a sense of partnership in care. Their story will offer attendees insight into what meaningful engagement looked like for their family and how the therapeutic relationship with an OTP played a vital role in supporting the child's progress across settings.

Dr. Gifty Abraham will offer the practitioner and educator perspective, emphasizing the intentional use of a strength-based lens and coaching as an interactive style to foster and empower family engagement. Drawing on this experience, she will discuss how these relational approaches helped affirm the family's voice, build confidence, and sustain collaborative care. The session will encourage attendees to reflect on how OTPs can create safe, responsive, and empowering environments that center the lived experiences of the individuals and families they serve.

## **Saturday Afternoon Concurrent Sessions (1.0 hours)**

### **S14 – S19 - Conversations that Matter: Powering Change**

**Time:** 2:15pm – 3:15pm

**Location:** TBA

**Course Description:**

Saturday shifts the focus from vision-setting to action, turning Friday's ideas into concrete next steps. The session will start with reviewing the Vision Board created on Friday, giving new and returning participants a shared starting point. Practitioners and students will be invited to refine advocacy strategies, explore cross-practice connections, and shape clear commitments for advancing occupational therapy education, research, and practice. Together, they will expand the Vision Board into a Vision Roadmap — a living record of shared priorities that ILOTA will continue to build on and share beyond the conference. All are welcome to join — participation in Friday's session is not required.

**Topics covered will include:**

- Academic Education
- Administration & Management
- Adult Rehabilitation (Neurorehabilitation, Orthopedic & Upper Extremity)
- Assistive Technology
- Gerontology & Community Health (Home & Community, Aging)
- Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (JEDI)
- Mental Health
- Pediatrics & Developmental Disabilities (Early Intervention, School-Based Practice, Sensory Integration & Processing)

## **Saturday Afternoon Poster Session (1.5 hours)**

**Time:** 3:15pm – 4:45pm

**Location:** 161 A/B

**Description:** See "Poster Listings" document