



DOWNSTATE
HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

Systems Change and Leadership: Supporting Individuals with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

Friday, May 8, 2026
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

This free hybrid CME/CE panel explores systems change and the power of leadership

Via Zoom (link will be emailed after registration)
In Person: SUNY Downstate PH Building
2nd Floor, Room 2A
450 Clarkson Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11203

Sponsored by



To register, scan the QR code above or use the link below

<https://forms.gle/JuXDBH58y9gGpFfh6>

*This activity has been approved for
AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.*



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
Neelima Nayyar-Gujral, RN, BSN, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University

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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DESIGNATION STATEMENT: SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University designates this live activity for a maximum of 2.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

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Physician Assistants: AAPA accepts category 1 credit from AOACCME, Prescribed credit from AAFP, and AMA category 1 credit for the PRA for organizations accredited by the ACCME.

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ADA STATEMENT

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