

Introducing the CMLA Certificate: A Framework for Integrating Lived Experience into Community Health

presented by

Carmen Black, MD

Dr. Black is a psychiatrist, educator, and scholar whose work focuses on improving clinical care, strengthening trust, and addressing the ways historical and social context shape mental health. A native of Augusta, Georgia, and a second-generation graduate of the Medical College of Georgia, she trained in psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania and Medical College of Georgia and currently serves as Vice Chair of Education at the Institute of Living. Her clinical and scholarly work focuses on improving care for underserved populations, reducing bias and discrimination in everyday clinical practice, and promoting safer, more compassionate responses to behavioral health emergencies.

Amber R. Kelly, PhD

Dr. Kelly is a clinician, scholar, and community builder whose work focuses on trauma recovery, community wellbeing, and systems of care. She brings more than two decades of experience in trauma-responsive practice, prison education, community-engaged scholarship, and higher education. Most recently, she serves as Professor of Social Work and Director of Prison Education and Community Engagement at Quinnipiac University, where she developed programs connecting academic learning with the experiences of incarcerated and system-impacted individuals. Her scholarship spans trauma-informed intervention, mindfulness-based practice, reentry support, and community healing.

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<https://hartfordhealthcare.zoom.us/j/96033045508>

Learning Objectives: *As a result of participating in this Live Activity, participants should be able to:*

- 1. Define the credible messenger model and explain how lived experience functions as a form of professional expertise in community health and trauma-informed care settings.*
- 2. Describe the origins of the CMLA Certificate, including the community organizing and collaborative process that shaped its development.*
- 3. Articulate how the CMLA Certificate aligns with trauma-informed, community-centered approaches to healthcare delivery.*
- 4. Apply principles from the credible messenger framework to consider changes in their own practice, team culture, or institutional policies.*

Accreditation: In support of improving patient care, Hartford HealthCare is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Physicians: Hartford HealthCare designates this Live Activity for a maximum of **1.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurses: This activity is designated for a maximum **1.25 ANCC** contact hours.

Psychologists: Continuing Education (CE) credits for psychologists are provided through the co-sponsorship of the American Psychological Association (APA) Office of Continuing Education in Psychology (CEP). The APA CEP Office maintains responsibility for the content of the programs.

Social Workers: As a Jointly Accredited Organization, Hartford HealthCare is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved under this program. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. Hartford HealthCare maintains responsibility for this course. Social workers completing this course receive **1.25 general** continuing education credits.

Other Learners: All other learners will receive a Certificate of Participation for **1.25** hours of education. Consult your professional licensing board regarding the applicability and acceptance of certificates of participation for educational activities certified for **AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™** from organizations accredited by Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education.

Financial Disclosures:

- Carmen Black, MD: Nothing to disclose - 09/02/2025
- Amber R Kelly, PhD: Nothing to disclose - 06/09/2026

