



Mental Health: A Community in Crisis

What does mental health justice look like in Charlotte?

How can we remove the stigma facing anyone with mental illness?

A year after Keith Lamont Scott’s death and the subsequent community uprising, Charlotte still faces significant gaps in mental health treatment for those in poverty and otherwise living on the margins.

This free forum challenges the stigma facing all mental health patients and tackles the mental health-related causes and consequences associated with the lack of economic opportunity, financial hardship, crime, and violence.

Citizens living with mental illness, health professionals, and community leaders will speak and answer questions, followed by a “resource fair” of nonprofit mental health providers.

WHEN: Sunday, Sept. 24, 5 to 7 p.m.

WHERE: Caldwell Presbyterian Church, 1609 East Fifth Street, Charlotte

HOST: Rev. Dr. John Cleghorn, pastor, Caldwell Presbyterian Church

SPEAKERS: Beth Purdy, a Charlotte mother, shares her story of living with mental illness for 27 years

Brandon Risher, a psychologist at Presbyterian Psychological Services, discusses the mental health aftermath for his family following his grandmother’s murder at Emanuel AME Zion Church in Charleston

PANEL: Moderated by Dr. Ophelia Garmon-Brown, co-chair, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Opportunity Task Force

Dr. Rhett Brown, physician, Novant Health Midtown Family Medicine

Dr. Alisahah Cole, family physician, Carolinas HealthCare System

Dr. Mary Gail Frawley-O’Dea, executive director, Presbyterian Psychological Services

Dr. Erica Herman, Novant Health Psychiatric Associates