

FRIDAY SESSIONS & PRESENTERS

1:00PM: HEARTFELT LAUGHTER

Lisa P.,

Certified Laughter Yoga Teacher, Well-being Laughter Specialist, Play Facilitator Extraordinaire, Fellow Traveler

Lisa P. is an adult child and a recovering alcoholic with 11 years of sobriety. When Lisa found Laughter Yoga, she knew she had found her true calling, her passion, her voice. Training with Dr. Kataria, Laughter Yoga's founder, Lisa went on to become a Certified Laughter Yoga Teacher. The impact Laughter Yoga has had on Lisa's life has been deep and profound, greatly changing and improving her physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being. Lisa has been featured on WPTV local news, *The Palm Beach Post*, and has presented at the last five All American Laughter Conferences. People experience Lisa as an energetic, engaging, enthusiastic and inspiring leader and teacher.

1:00PM: PANEL – POWER HEALING THROUGH THE DIFFERENT FOCUSES OF AA / AL-ANON / ACA

Gail R., PhD – Moderator

Gail R. has been an active and participating member of AA for more than 30 years (11/26/86), was active in Al-Anon for ten years, and added ACA participation in August of 2011. She continues to sponsor in both AA and ACA. A retired business owner and college professor, she has been a group facilitator in several area alcohol and drug rehabs since 2000. She was the ACA keynote speaker at the 2015 Way of Life Conference and was recently interviewed by Russ Morley on 'Addiction Today.'

Ben L. – Panel Member

Ben is a long time resident of Jupiter, Florida. His sobriety date is 01/08/2007. His home group is the Sunday morning men "Tired of the Beating Meeting," where he serves as treasurer. He is sponsored and is blessed to sponsor other men in recovery. Ben was introduced to Al-Anon in November of 2008. He immediately joined the "Sunday Nite Surrender Group," and has held various service positions. He has a sponsor and sponsors others on their journey to serenity.

Kathleen K. – Panel Member

Kathleen (a/k/a KK) is a native Floridian and an identical twin who was born and raised in Palm Beach County. She grew up on Singer Island and still believes strongly in bare feet and flip flops. Her sobriety date is July 1st, 1988 and her home group is the "We'll Pat You on the Back" women's meeting. Her Al-Anon home group is "Just for Today," which offers a beginner's meeting immediately followed by a regular open discussion meeting . . . that floats her boat! She is also a member of ACA and Life Anonymous (which focuses on Emotional Sobriety). She is grateful to be involved in another Way of Life Conference and loves the active and vibrant Recovery Community in Palm Beach County.

Jim A. – Panel Member

1:00PM: TWO PURSUITS: SPIRITUALITY & RECOVERY

Dr. John D.,

DHSc, MCAP, CMHP|Chief Clinical Officer

Origins Behavioral Healthcare®

With his multi-faceted experience and leadership in the substance use disorder treatment field, John brings the remarkable skill set of pastor, counselor, clinical manager, teacher and respected expert. In his role as Chief Clinical Officer, John provides supervisory and clinical oversight to all of Origins Behavioral HealthCare's programs. John continually builds upon his academic expertise through research and nationwide speaking engagements on addiction, spirituality and related topics.

John's academic training includes a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, a Master of Arts in Conflict Management, a Master of Science in Management, a Doctor of Health Science, and postgraduate studies in psychology, philosophy and religion. John is a Master Certified Addictions Professional and a Certified Mental Health Professional in the State of Florida. He is an Internationally Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor and a Substance Abuse Professional meeting all Federal DOT qualifications. John is a musician, writer and a private pilot, and he enjoys spending time with his family.

FRIDAY SESSIONS & PRESENTERS

1:00PM: 12 STEP BIG BOOK WORKSHOP – SESSION 1

Chris H. – Moderator

Born and raised in Rockford, Illinois, Chris was first introduced to the 12 Steps during his first treatment episode at 13 years old. After several more false starts, and an ever increasing list of problems and consequences, he ceased fighting and accepted the proposals suggested to him in Alcoholics Anonymous. His career began in sober living, and then transitioned into a number of different positions at various residential treatment facilities. He has had many roles over the past years, which have educated him on all the various aspects of recovery. From group lectures, to an admissions coordinator working with clients and their families at their most vulnerable time, and most recently as an assistant director and case manager, he truly understands what recovery requires, and is committed to helping people achieve it.

2:30PM: INTRODUCTION TO ALATEEN

Ken H.

Ken H. was born in Elberton, GA as the first child of two only children and was also the first grandchild for both families. Alcoholism ran through his paternal family. In June, 2007 a family member's drinking and rage lead him to Al-Anon. He joined a home group four days later, and still attends this meeting every Thursday. After several years of Adult focused Al-Anon, he became interested in exploring his teen age years and became aware of the deep impact of his experience as a teenager trying to be an adult in an alcoholic home. As he connected to those memories, an opportunity to do service in Alateen became available. He was certified as an Alateen sponsor and served there for over four years. Doing service in that capacity benefited him as an adult and at the same time he was able to offer experience, strength, and hope to the teens that attended his meeting. He wanted them to know that others have been where they are now and there is hope.

Ken is grateful for his relationship to his Recovery Family.

2:30PM: PANEL – SPONSORSHIP – THE IMPORTANCE AND GIFTS

Sharon F. – Panel Moderator

Chris H. – Panel Member

Born and raised in Rockford, Illinois, Chris was first introduced to the 12 Steps during his first treatment episode at 13 years old. After several more false starts, and an ever increasing list of problems and consequences, he ceased fighting and accepted the proposals suggested to him in Alcoholics Anonymous. His career began in sober living, and then transitioned into a number of different positions at various residential treatment facilities. He has had many roles over the past years, which have educated him on all the various aspects of recovery. From group lectures, to an admissions coordinator working with clients and their families at their most vulnerable time, and most recently as an assistant director and case manager, he truly understands what recovery requires, and is committed to helping people achieve it.

Susie H. – Panel Member

Susie H. is a grateful member of Al-anon. Her journey began in 2002 when she became aware that she had been affected by the disease of addiction. She is from Philadelphia, lived in Boston for 40 years before moving to West Palm Beach. Her home group is "Just for Today" on Wednesday nights at the Log Cabin, where she serves as the literature chairperson. She owes her emotional sobriety to Al-Anon and is very dedicated to living her life by the 12 Steps. She believes it is truly a Design for Living. She sits on the Institutions Committee and is committed to helping other family members by speaking at Treatment Centers. Although she is dedicated to helping all family members impacted by the disease, her passion runs deep relative to the opiate/heroin epidemic as her son is in recovery.

Rick C. – Panel Member

Rick C. is a grateful and active member of AA since 1985 and ACA since 2002. His home group is Monday Night River Bottom in Tequesta, Florida, where he is sponsored and joyfully serves or has served as a greeter, coffee maker, Intergroup rep, treasurer, DCM and sponsor. Rick C. was the featured speaker at Palm Beach County's 50th Annual Gratitude Dinner and has spoken and attended AA meetings around the world. He looks forward to meeting you.

FRIDAY SESSIONS & PRESENTERS

2:30PM: WELCOMING PRAYER: OPENING THE MIND AND HEART TO GOD

Mary D.

Mary has been involved in the 12 Step way of life since 1991. She is a long-time student of Fr. Thomas Keating. In the early 1990s, she lived at Chrysalis House, a contemplative live-in community experiment blessed by Fr. Thomas. Her housemates included Mary Mrozowski, the creator and spiritual mother of the Welcoming Prayer practice and David Frenette. Mary is originally from Erie, PA and now lives in the Miami area with her husband Juan Llarena. She is a member of the Contemplative Outreach Gift Committee and Welcoming Prayer Service team. She is a former Chairperson of the Contemplative Outreach governing board and National Faculty. After a career in banking and social work, she now devotes her time to giving retreats and workshops on behalf of Contemplative Outreach.

4:00PM: FINANCIAL 4TH STEP

Mary Jane Z.

"While practicing these principles in all my affairs I was fortunate enough to stumble onto taking responsibility for my finances. Since the 12 Step programs promise freedom why not financial freedom? I was not prepared for what I found, and for me it's been an expansive and enjoyable ride. I started out in a home affected by the disease of alcoholism with a load of dysfunction that accompanies it. The good news is that I found Al-Anon and a way to a better life. 'There is NO unhappiness too great to be lessened.' NO unhappiness! Unhappy with money and finances? There's a Step for that!

4:00PM: MINDFULNESS MEDITATION

Gus C., –

Gus C., M.D. practiced Neurology and Sleep Medicine in Northern Palm Beach County for 30 years. He has been practicing mindfulness since 1998 and teaching mindfulness programs since 2009, being certified to teach by the University of Massachusetts Center for Mindfulness & the University of Miami's Neuroscience Lab. He currently teaches at a variety of facilities throughout South Florida, including the University of Miami School of Medicine & Osher Center for Integrative Medicine, Florida International College of Medicine, Mindful Kids Miami, Palm Beach Fire Rescue, The Sari Center for Integrative Cancer Care, to name a few. He has taught mindfulness at Hanley Center and A New Day Treatment Center, and since 2011, has been facilitating a bi-monthly mindfulness group at a local prison.

Gus lectures widely, writes a bimonthly Mindfulness newsletter, and serves as adviser to Palm Healthcare's "Train the Brain Initiative" and the MBSR program at Jupiter Medical Center. He has been in recovery for substance use disorder and in AA since June 2004. Since 2016, he has been attending Refuge Recovery, a mindfulness based program for recovery from all addictions (chairs the Jupiter Refuge Recovery meeting).

4:00PM: 12 STEP BIG BOOK WORKSHOP – SESSION 2

Chris H. – Moderator

Born and raised in Rockford, Illinois, Chris was first introduced to the 12 Steps during his first treatment episode at 13 years old. After several more false starts, and an ever increasing list of problems and consequences, he ceased fighting and accepted the proposals suggested to him in Alcoholics Anonymous. His career began in sober living, and then transitioned into a number of different positions at various residential treatment facilities. He has had many roles over the past years, which have educated him on all the various aspects of recovery. From group lectures, to an admissions coordinator working with clients and their families at their most vulnerable time, and most recently as an assistant director and case manager, he truly understands what recovery requires, and is committed to helping people achieve it.

FRIDAY SESSIONS & PRESENTERS

5:30PM: HOPE FOR PARENTS OF ALCOHOLICS AND ADDICTS

Carolyn Y. -

Carolyn Y. is a devoted and grateful Al-Anon member living in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. Her introduction to the program came over 20 years ago when she married into a family deeply committed to recovery. She regularly attends a variety of meetings throughout the area, and especially enjoys visiting other meetings while on vacation or traveling for business. Carolyn tries to "carry this message to others and to practice these principles in all her affairs" as she navigates her own personal journey of recovery.

5:30PM: STAYING SOBER

Baldwin S. -

5:30PM: SPECIAL SESSION: "How to Help the One You Love: A New Way to Intervene"

Brad L. -

Brad L. is the founder of Breathe Life Healing Centers, and an American interventionist, educator and author. "How to Help" details the theory and practice of a system of psychosocial intervention he designed and named "Breakfree Intervention," which trains, and then utilizes the "voices that matter" - the friends and family of the identified loved one - as an ongoing support group or "circle of change." He has asserted that substance abusers with strong familial and social support systems are five times as likely to succeed in their goal of sobriety as persons lacking support. He calls this supportive system a "firewall." He also speaks and works on issues of eating disorders, food and obesity with individuals and organizations. He is also the author of a self-help book on the diet-obsessed public's "need to feed" and compulsive eating in the face of the obesity epidemic.

5:30PM: THE BIOLOGY OF ADDICTION

Dr. Helen G. -

7:00PM: ACA KEYNOTE SPEAKER GIGI G.

Gigi G. -

Gigi is a grateful member of ACA [Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families] since February, 2012. Her hometown is Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Gigi's home group is My Life Is Changing and the Way of Life is her first time as a conference speaker. Gigi is grateful for recovery and the long journey it has taken her to get to this place.

THE AA KEYNOTE SPEAKER, LEO H., WILL PRESENT AT THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ACA KEYNOTE SPEAKER.

8:30PM: AA KEYNOTE SPEAKER LEO H.

Leo H. -

Leo H. has 45 years of sobriety, with a sobriety date on February 29, 1973. His home group is the "No Frills" group in Bellmore N.Y. Leo sponsors three AAs with over 40 years in the program. His favorite slogan is "What part of no more drinking don't you understand?" At his third meeting in New York City in 1964, Leo met Bill W. He remembers Bill telling him "Rarely have we seen a person get sober who continues to drink."

Leo has spoken in every state in the Union except for Hawaii and Alaska. He spoke at the 1995 AA International Convention in San Diego on "humor in sobriety."

SATURDAY SESSIONS & PRESENTERS

7:00AM: COFFEE & OPEN MEETING BY THE POOL

Liz B. –

7:00AM: MORNING MEDITATION

Jeannie T. –

Jeannie T. has a Master's Degree in Mental Health Counseling, a Master's Degree in Behavior Disorders in Education, and National Board Teaching Certification. She has been a member of AA and Al-Anon for 33 years and ACA for 5 years. Through ACA Jeannie has learned that the Inner Child is a part of each person that carries the pain, suffering and trauma from the childhood and teen years, and that connection with the Inner Child is an extraordinary source of wisdom, healing, self-love, creativity and understanding. Jeannie will lead a guided meditation to facilitate participants in beginning their day by mindfully letting go of stress so they can more fully relax and enjoy the day ahead.

8:30AM: ADDICTION AMONG PROFESSIONALS

“Skip” S. counsels and represents lawyers, law firms, and others on issues regarding the ethical and professional responsibility of lawyers, including representing lawyers in professional-disciplinary proceedings and applicants for admission to the bar and testifying as an expert on such matters. As part of his practice, he often represents clients with current or past substance-abuse issues. He has more than 40 years experience in the field. Skip S. currently serves on The Florida Bar Standing Committee on Professionalism. He is a long-time member of the Palm Beach County Bar Association Professionalism Committee, which he has chaired. He has written and lectured extensively on topics pertaining to lawyer ethics and professional responsibility.

8:30AM: HOW CLUTTER BLOCKS RECOVERY

Kathy A.

After years of struggling with trying to get rid of her clutter, Kathy A. became aware that the mounds of “stuff” in her home and her tendency for procrastination were blocking her from creativity and her connection with God. As her years in recovery started to clear out the “clutter” in her mind, she was able to clear out the clutter in her house. She has turned this character defect around into becoming a Professional Organizer and has helped many clutterers realize that the most important things in life aren't things! She has been in recovery for 29 years with 10 years of clutter recovery.

8:30AM: CHAPTER 9 COUPLES IN RECOVERY ANONYMOUS 12 STEP PROGRAM

Israel A. and JoEllen A. –

Israel and Jo have been married for 49 years. Israel is a member of AA and Jo is a member of Al-Anon. Both are active members of Chapter 9 Couples in Recovery since 2010.

Chapter 9 Couples in Recovery Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope as couples that they may solve their common problems and help bring harmony to relationships in recovery from addiction and substance abuse. Couples work this 12 Step program together in order to create a happy and healthy relationship.

SATURDAY SESSIONS & PRESENTERS

8:30AM: HISTORY OF AA: THE OXFORD GROUP, SERMON ON THE MOUNT, JUNG, EBBY

Giff D. and Henry C.

Giff D. was born in June, 1927, and grew up in the beautiful seacoast town of Cohasset, MA, 20 miles south of Boston. He took his first drink at age 14 and experienced his first blackout at age 19. He continued to drink alcoholically until age 37, when he attended his first AA meeting with his alcoholic spouse in 1962. In Atlanta, GA, March 13, 1965 was the day he calls "the day I accepted the truth about myself" and totally surrendered. He went to AA and never drank again. However, he underwent a long struggle with spirituality, and after 10 years of sobriety he found a book on meditation which opened the door to a major change in his attitude toward spirituality. He has experienced an incredible path and has had the good fortune to meet some of the pioneers in the world of recovery. Giff has helped countless members of AA over the years, and Al-Anon too, which brought him great healing when he joined it later in life. He celebrated 53 years of sobriety in AA, and 12 years in Al-Anon this year.

Henry C. –

8:30AM: 12 STEP BIG BOOK WORKSHOP – SESSION 3

Chris H. – Moderator

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10:00AM: DON'T QUIT BEFORE THE MIRACLE HAPPENS!

Holly B. – LCSW, CAP

Holly B. is an innovative therapist specializing in chemical dependency, dual diagnosis, and relationship issues. She also has experience working with adolescents and families. Holly worked for over ten years at Wayside House, a residential treatment center for chemically dependent women. She has had a successful private practice in Jupiter for over 17 years.

Holly has been an active member of Al-Anon for over 10 years. She has also been in 12 Step recovery in AA for thirty-three years. Holly understands alcoholism and drug addiction from different angles within the family.

10:00AM: THE HIGH PRICE OF UNRESOLVED GRIEF

Betty N. -

Betty N. is a skilled grief recovery specialist who did her studies with the Grief Recovery Institute. She has also been active in ACA [Adult Children of Alcoholics] for seven years and is an excellent teacher, counselor and mentor.

SATURDAY SESSIONS & PRESENTERS

10:00AM: LEARN, GROW & FORGIVE - NEVER GIVE UP

Dr. Donna M. -

Donna M. has been in private practice in Palm Beach County for over 30 years. As a published author, consultant, educator, psychotherapist, and instructor of *A Course in Miracles*, she has been able to assist those in need of intensive healing due to family of origin, and/or subsequent pain and trauma. Donna specializes in working with individuals who have been unable to break unwanted patterns of behavior. She believes that combined methods of psychoanalysis and spirituality are a powerful method to not only heal the past and find freedom, but to also obtain meaning from all of those life events—the essential requirements for lasting change and a promising future.

11:30AM: ACA TRAITS

Sharon F. –

11:30AM: SPECIAL SESSION: THE MANY FACES OF ADDICTION

Brian C.

An authority on body dysmorphic disorder, male eating disorders and addiction (including steroids), Brian C. is the author of the best-selling book, *Shattered Image: My Triumph Over Body Dysmorphic Disorder*. It chronicles his first-hand experiences living with, and recovering from, 27 years of eating disorders, alcoholism, drug addiction and Body Dysmorphic Disorder (BDD). Brian has appeared on prestigious talk shows such as The Katie Couric Show as well as numerous media outlets around the country. He also writes extensively on these subjects. His columns have appeared on CNN.com, FoxNews.com, *The Huffington Post* and in online and print newspapers around the world.

11:30AM: CENTERING PRAYER AS AN 11TH STEP PRACTICE

Mary D.

Mary D. has been involved in the 12 Step way of life since 1991. She is a long-time student of Fr. Thomas Keating. In the early 1990s, she lived at Chrysalis House, a contemplative live-in community experiment blessed by Fr. Thomas. Her housemates included Mary Mrozowski, the creator and spiritual mother of the Welcoming Prayer practice and David Frenette. Mary is originally from Erie, PA and now lives in the Miami area with her husband Juan Llarena. She is a member of the Contemplative Outreach Gift Committee and Welcoming Prayer Service team. She is a former Chairperson of the Contemplative Outreach governing board and National Faculty. After a career in banking and social work, she now devotes her time to giving retreats and workshops on behalf of Contemplative Outreach.

11:30AM: 12 STEP BIG BOOK WORKSHOP – SESSION 4

Chris H. – Moderator

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SATURDAY SESSIONS & PRESENTERS

1:00PM: AL-ANON & AA KEYNOTE SPEAKERS JACK C. & LESLIE C. – COUPLE IN RECOVERY

Jack C. and Leslie C. – (written and submitted by Jack)

“Leslie hails from Omaha, Nebraska. Barring any late-breaking news, she appears to be the only alcoholic in her entire family. Determined as she was to do that job right, she drank her way through school (of which she remembers nearly nothing), a six-month starter marriage, through several jobs and across several states.

“I was born in Hollywood (no, really) into a family with enough alcoholics to have easily made up for that shortfall among Leslie’s kin. After a hitch in the Marines, I began a career in the movie business that took me (wait for it...) across several states.

“I read recently in a crime novel that investigators refer to the first intersection between two people preceding a violent crime is known as ‘The Crossing’.

“Our ‘Crossing’ occurred in Page, Arizona in 1986. That’s right, there I was. Minding my own business (well maybe not all my own) when I encountered this beautiful alcoholic tornado that changed everything. There was only one thing to do. I just took her home - to live happily ever after.

Insert madness montage here

“AA saved Leslie’s life in July of 1988. My starting Al-Anon in February of 1990 probably saved it yet again. Thus began a brutal time where we hated each other but were too afraid of displeasing our sponsors to actually leave.

“Today however, because of great sponsorship and most interestingly because of the Traditions and Concepts of Service, we are wildly in love. We are each convinced that we married better than the other one.

“If you want to know how that could even be possible, you will just have to stop by and find out.”

2:30PM: ACA: DOES THIS STUFF REALLY WORK?

Joe C.

Joe C. has been in ACA and AA recovery for many years. He believes in “staying in the middle,” stressing the importance of regular meeting attendance, working with others and involvement in home groups. Also vital is practicing mindfulness, meditation, maintaining self-compassion and self-care. Joe grew up and lives in West Palm Beach, has three adult children and loves mountain biking and the fellowship of recovery. Joe has worked as an attorney in South Florida since 1983. He lectures and writes on the Marchman Act and loves helping people get sober using the courts.

2:30PM: LIFE ANONYMOUS: 12 STEPS FOR EVERYONE

Joshua L. –

2:30PM: FREEDOM FROM SHAME

M.K. O. – MS, MCAP

M.K. has been a grateful member of the local recovering community for thirty years. Her own recovery informs her work as a professional who is dedicated to helping individuals and families affected by chemical dependency. This work began in 1991 when she entered the Chemical Dependency Counselor Training Program at Hazelden in Center City, Minnesota. She specialized in Family Recovery. Her work has since encompassed all phases of addiction and family counseling and includes presentations at conferences, radio interviews, workshop development and membership in various professional organizations. Today M.K. practices as a Life Coach specializing in chemical dependency as well as other family, relationship and individual issues. Her office is in Jupiter Florida.

SATURDAY SESSIONS & PRESENTERS

2:30PM: 12 STEP BIG BOOK WORKSHOP – SESSION 5

Chris H. – Moderator

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4:00PM: FORGIVENESS WORKSHOP

Kalimba L.

Kalimba L. is a grateful member of Al-Anon since 2003 and an even more grateful member of ACA since 2013. Her hometown is Dayton, Ohio—the home of the Wright Brothers—where her brother Greg and mother Ida first led the way into 12 Step recovery. She has been a regular at meetings in Lake Worth, Boynton Beach, Jupiter, Juno, and Palm Beach Gardens and is currently a member of an ACA Yellow Book Study Group at the Log Cabin. She has shared her story and facilitated forgiveness workshops with many fellow travelers.

4:00PM: PANEL: LONG-TIMERS IN THE PROGRAMS SHARING EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH & HOPE

Mike M. – Moderator

Mike M. calls himself a New York refugee who started his recovery journey on May 12, 1967 in the Pelham Group (NY). He arrived in south Florida on July 13, 2012, where he became a member of the “Jupiter Firehouse Group” soon after arrival. He has continued to stay in close contact with the program, has been helped by a number of sponsors, and has tried to be of help to a number of people along the way. For a number of years he owned and operated a limousine service. One of his best customers was Lois Wilson, co-founder of Al-Anon, and wife of Bill W., co-founder of AA. Mike became friends with Lois and was always impressed by her humility. When Lois passed away Mike and his wife Karen were privileged to attend a memorial service held at Bill & Lois Wilson’s home, *Stepping Stones*, in Bedford Hills, NY. He also attended Bill W.’s 34th Anniversary dinner and heard Bill tell his story. Mike is honored to chair the Long-Timers meeting at this year’s Way of Life.

5:30PM: RECOVERY PROGRAMS WEBSITE www.wherehab.com. (Demonstration in Conference Lobby Area)

Hanna M.

Hanna M. is a native Floridian. She was introduced to Alcoholics Anonymous at just two days old, because her mother and father were members. She got sober in 2011 at just 17 years old. She worked in treatment which prompted her to start www.wherehab.com. She now has dedicated her life to helping struggling addicts and alcoholics.

6:15PM: (for those *not* attending the Banquet) the Way of Life Conference is pleased to present the **FILM: PLEASURE UNWOVEN—AN EXPLANATION OF THE BRAIN DISEASE OF ADDICTION**

SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET & KEYNOTE**6:15PM: BANQUET****7:45PM: CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKER MACKENZIE P.****Mackenzie P. –**

Mackenzie P. is an American actress and singer who gained stardom in the 1970's on a long-running television show. Because of her drug and alcohol abuse, she began arriving late and was even incoherent for rehearsals. She voluntarily entered Fair Oaks Hospital in 1980 and, after she completed treatment in 1981, the producers invited her back to the show. However, in 1982, she collapsed on the show's set. She was fired again, this time for good. Experiencing a lifetime troubled by drug abuse, Mackenzie succeeded in getting clean and sober in 2008 and now dedicates her time, through speaking and counseling, to helping others to do the same. She's had a long and impressive filmography of roles in films, television, and stage, and has authored two books: *High on Arrival* (2009), and *Hopeful Healing: Essays on Managing Recovery and Surviving Addiction* (2017).

She currently works at the Breathe Life Healing Center in West Hollywood, California, as a drug rehab counselor.