Community engagement is a two-way process that involves meaningful interactions. Individual and community trauma can get in the way of such partnership and reciprocity if programs, organizations and institutions don't realize the widespread impact of trauma, recognize trauma signs and symptoms, respond with policies and practices that are trauma-informed, and seek to actively resist re-traumatization of communities. We will explore how a trauma-informed approach to community engagement addresses these issues, takes into account community trauma, and builds upon and fosters community strengths and resilience. Local and national efforts will be highlighted.

The target audience is students, faculty and community practitioners, although ALL are welcome.
Presenters:

Dr. Aileen Fink recently joined the Delaware Department of Correction as the Director of Behavioral Health in the Bureau of Correction Healthcare Services. In this role, she is responsible for the oversight of behavioral health services provided to individuals served in the correctional facilities across Delaware. Previously, Dr. Fink served as the Director for Trauma Informed Care at the Delaware Children’s Department where she was responsible for chairing the Department-wide Trauma Informed Steering Committee, providing consultation on trauma informed care throughout the Department, and providing trauma informed care training both within the Children’s Department as well as to external partners. She has experience implementing trauma-specific treatment interventions with youth, adults and families, managing a trauma-focused grant, and supervising clinicians providing trauma-specific treatment. In addition to her work at the Department of Correction, Dr. Fink maintains a private clinical practice, is an Adjunct Faculty in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at the University of Delaware and serves as a reviewer for Clinical Practice in Pediatric Psychology and the Office of Justice Programs Online Database.

Dr. Fink completed her doctorate in Clinical Psychology at Hahnemann University (now Drexel University) in Philadelphia, PA and completed a pediatric psychology internship at the A.I. DuPont Children’s Hospital. She has worked with children, adolescents and adults in a variety of clinical settings and has held Clinical Director and Program Director positions in outpatient, intensive outpatient and residential mental health treatment programs.

Noël Sincere Duckworth, DVS, coordinates University of Delaware’s Partnership for Healthy Communities, a cross-college Community Engagement initiative located in the College of Health Sciences that helps promote and sustain campus-community partnerships for thriving, healthy communities. In this role, Noël also serves as Project Manager for the State of Delaware’s State Health Improvement Plan. Prior to joining UD, Noël was the Statewide Healthy Neighborhoods Manager for the DE Center for Health Innovation, helping build local-level coalitions to ensure that each community was at the heart of community-based healthcare transformation efforts and poised to guide locally-tailored strategies that could impact their neighborhoods. For 13 years, Noël also served as the Director of Training and Prevention for the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence, where she led trauma-informed initiatives and grants and directed Delaware’s CDC-funded program for building practice-based evidence for violence prevention across the social ecology. This program was listed on the “Top 20 Practice Innovations in Violence and Injury Prevention” since the founding of the CDC’s National Center for Violence and Injury Prevention and Control in 1992 (Journal of Safety Research, 2012).

Dr. Fink and Ms. Duckworth both serve on the Steering Group for Trauma Matters Delaware, a statewide community of people working to advance trauma-informed initiatives in Delaware, including trauma-informed approaches in any and all settings where people are served. The current Trauma Matters Delaware network include trauma survivors and service recipients, community organizations, providers, policy makers, educators and advocates. Participants represent a variety of state human service systems including behavioral health, child/family, health and medical, K-12 education, higher education, corrections, law enforcement and courts, community service and advocacy organizations, etc. To get connected, email TraumaMattersDelaware@gmail.com.