

Global Health Security Conference
Concept Note- Recommendations for Workshop Topics

Location: Sydney, Australia

Dates: June 18-21, 2024

Format: Two Panel Discussions

SESSION B

Date and Time: Thursday, June 20, 2024- Lunch

Title: *Optimizing Global Health Security Through Mental Health*

Summary:

Global health security efforts aim to support and strengthen resilient public health systems that can prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease threats worldwide. A critical pathway for optimizing outcomes of prevention and response initiatives is addressing the population's mental health and strengthening mental health systems. This panel will share perspectives on ensuring and leveraging population mental health for global health security, including current gaps and opportunities.

Diverse approaches to integrating mental health in global health security efforts will also be explored. One such example is the Carter Center's *Mental Health Digital Data Dashboard*, a tool showcasing the preparedness of the behavioral health system and fostering mobilization of the system when needed during a crisis. The Digital Dashboard intends to encourage data-driven strategic decision-making in Liberia and ultimately strengthen the capacity of the behavioral health system to respond to crises. With a full rollout, the dashboard will establish best practices for behavioral health data integration in alignment with Liberia's Health Management Information System. Other examples include equipping a health workforce to address the mental health and psychosocial needs of the populations they serve, as well as taking care of their own mental health needs as first responders, strengthening policies and protocols for integrated care, and championing mental health in global efforts and dialogue.

Speakers:

- Session Moderator:
 - The Carter Center- Kashef Ijaz
- Introduction to TCC's Mental Health Program
 - The Carter Center- Samhita Kumar
- Mental Health as a GHS need
 - World Health Organization- Mark van Ommeren, Head, Mental Health Unit, WHO
- In-country activities – Uganda
 - Ministry of Health – TBD
- In-Country TCC Activities- Liberia
 - Ministry of Health- TBD