



the schwartz center
FOR COMPASSIONATE HEALTHCARE

**FIRST
RESPONDERS
FIRST**

**THE SCHWARTZ CENTER'S COMPASSION IN ACTION SERIES CONTINUES
WITH A FREE WEBINAR FEATURING LEADING MENTAL HEALTH EXPERTS,
ADVOCATES, AND MODERATOR CHRIS HAYES OF MSNBC**

*When Healthcare "Heroes" Need Help: Destigmatizing Mental Illness in the Healthcare Workforce
Presented on January 26, in Partnership with #FirstRespondersFirst*

The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare, in partnership with #FirstRespondersFirst, will host a timely webinar: **"When Healthcare 'Heroes' Need Help: Destigmatizing Mental Illness in the Healthcare Workforce"** on January 26, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. EST. The panel of experts will be moderated by MSNBC's Chris Hayes and will feature Corey and Jennifer Feist of the [Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes' Foundation](#); Jeremy Segall, Chief Wellness Officer of [NYC Health + Hospitals](#); Dean Michelle Williams of [Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health](#); and [Schwartz Center](#) Chief Medical Officer Dr. Beth Lown.

Even before the COVID-19 outbreak, healthcare workers experienced record rates of burnout and stress; during the pandemic, these frontline workers have risked their physical and emotional health and safety in order to care for increasing numbers of critically ill patients. As a result, caregivers across the country often feel demoralized, disillusioned, and despondent.

"I fear a second pandemic, a mental health crisis that may have dire consequences, including medical professionals leaving the sector due to overwhelming pressure," said Dr. Lown. "The ongoing stress of the pandemic is adding to the already alarming rates of burnout, depression and suicide among clinicians."

With broad distribution of a vaccine on the horizon, those working in healthcare leadership are considering the steps needed to best serve and support the healthcare workforce.

The newest Schwartz Center Compassion in Action webinar will explore ways in which the pandemic has exacerbated an existing mental health crisis among healthcare providers, and steps that can be taken prevent, assess, and address the significant mental and behavioral health consequences of caregiving.

“This webinar will examine the steps healthcare leaders can – and must – take to rethink our healthcare system in ways that will support the mental health and well-being of the healthcare workforce,” said Schwartz Center CEO Matt Herndon. “At the Schwartz Center, we focus on the needs of caregivers who day-in and day-out put patient care first.”

This event is offered in partnership with [#FirstRespondersFirst](#). While the event is free, RSVPs are required. To register please visit: theschwartzcenter.org/programs/compassion-in-action-webinars.

About the Compassion in Action Webinars

The Compassion in Action Webinar Series offers healthcare workers, leaders and managers a unique opportunity to learn about topics related to compassionate, collaborative care from leading practitioners and researchers in this field.

This webinar is funded by #FirstRespondersFirst, and initiative of Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Thrive Global, and the CAA Foundation. The annual Compassion in Action Webinar series is made possible through a generous donation in memory of Julian and Eunice Cohen. The series is free of charge to all members of the public.

About the Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare

The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare envisions a world where all who seek and provide healthcare experience compassion.

We have hundreds of members in the U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand, including hospitals, long-term care facilities and other healthcare organizations, and more than 200 healthcare organizations conducting our programs in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Through them, we have positively impacted hundreds of thousands of caregivers and patients across nearly every healthcare setting with our programs and resources.

The Schwartz Center’s mission to put compassion at the heart of healthcare holds true no matter how extraordinary or difficult the circumstances.

Since our founding in 1995, healthcare organizations rely on our programs, education and resources to support clinician well-being and mental health, enhance the quality of

care, enable better outcomes, and create a more positive experience for all members of the care team, patients and their families.

For more information, visit theschwartzcenter.org

About #FirstRespondersFirst:

#FirstRespondersFirst, an initiative of Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Thrive Global, and the CAA Foundation, takes a whole human approach to addressing the needs of our frontline workers in order to support their ability to serve on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic. #FirstRespondersFirst's fundraising call to action helps provide essential supplies, protective equipment, accommodations, child care, food, and critical mental health support and resources to this demographically and socially diverse workforce, ranging from minimum-wage hourly workers in home-care settings to social workers, nurses, physicians, and beyond, through its implementing collaborators Americares, Bright Horizons, CORE Response, Direct Relief, Give An Hour, Global Health Corps, Hispanic Federation, IHG Hotels & Resorts, InnerHour, International Rescue Committee, Marriott International, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), National Black Nurses Association, National Domestic Workers Alliance, Omada Health, Osmosis, Pivot, The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare, World Central Kitchen, and You Okay, Doc?. Powered by Thrive Global's behavior change platform, #FirstRespondersFirst also provides access to Harvard Chan School's evidence-based content, specifically tailored to this critical workforce, to help improve the physical and mental well-being of healthcare workers.