



Brian S. Dennis has worked in disability and human services for the past 27 years. His career includes residential care, mental health case management, local housing services; and for the past 12 years in education/training, and employment services through Iowa's implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Mr. Dennis has worked on both the local and state level serving individuals with significant barriers to employment. Mr. Dennis holds a bachelor's degree in psychology, a Master's Degree in Counseling; as well as his CRC (Certified Rehabilitation Counselor) licensure and is a certified SSDI/SSI benefits planner. Mr. Dennis has served on various boards related to the inclusion of individuals who experience Brain Injuries, the state of Iowa's Assistive Technology Council, the statewide Disability Access Committee, and Statewide Workforce Development Board among others. He is also an adjunct professor where he has taught courses related to Diversity, Disability Policy, Family Counseling, Medical Aspects of Disability and Psychiatric Disorders.

In this month's presentation, Mr. Dennis will discuss the factors which disproportionately impact persons of color who experience mental health concerns, the concepts of intersectionality and cultural humility as well as steps to creating more open systems and services around the persons we serve.