

# Kennedy Krieger Institute

## Fostering Meaningful Inclusion and Belonging at Work and in Life Spaces: Why it Matters and How to Prioritize it.



**Dr. Mirian Ofonedu, Ph.D., LCSW-C**, is the director of training at the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities and an Associate Professor at the University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB) Graduate School and the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, Department of Mental Health. She is a recipient of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) Multicultural Council Award for Leadership in Diversity and the Kennedy Krieger Institute Social Justice Award. [Click](#) to read presenter's bio.

**Kristine Nellenbach, MS**, Program coordinator, Resource Finder at Kennedy Krieger Institute. Prior to her current role, she was an Elementary School teacher and Library Media Specialist for many years and served as an eCoach and Volunteer Coordinator.

**Date: Thursday, April 4, 2024**

**Time: 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. EST**

**Where: Live Interactive Webinar**

Registered participants will receive an e-mail with instructions on how to join the workshop.

**Objectives:** Participants will be able to:

1. Describe ways to prioritize the cultivation of meaningful inclusion and belonging for people with disabilities and others.
2. List 2-4 examples of ways to address barriers and factors that hinder meaningful inclusion.
3. Discuss strategies for effective implementation of meaningful inclusion at individual, community, and organizational levels.

*To address the inequalities faced by people with disabilities and their families, the concept of social inclusion must go beyond narrow understandings and promotion of increased presence of marginalized groups but rather on the need for them to occupy and play valued social roles within society and community life. This session will provide opportunity for participants to learn what meaningful inclusion and belonging means, why it matters, factors that hinder or facilitate it, and effective strategies for fostering meaningful inclusion at individual community and organizational levels. Participants will have the opportunity to work in small groups to apply the strategies and develop their own action plan for increasing meaningful inclusion and belonging in various spaces.*

**Instructional Level: Intermediate**

**Who Should Attend?** Psychologists, Social workers, Counselors, Educators, Parents and caregivers, Nurses, Clinical and medical staff, Direct support professionals and other community service providers, Speech-language pathologists, Physical and occupational therapists, Community members, Students/trainees.

**To Register, [Click](#) or Call 443-923-4114**

### 3.0 Continuing Education Hours

Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities at Kennedy Krieger Institute is authorized by the Board of Social Work Examiners in Maryland to sponsor social work continuing education programs, and maintains full responsibility for this program. Kennedy Krieger Institute is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Kennedy Krieger Institute maintains responsibility for this program and its content. 3.0 Continuing Education Credits (Category 1) will be granted to social workers and licensed psychologists. A Certificate of Attendance will be made available for all other disciplines. No conflicts have been identified (this includes commercial support and research grants/funding). The registration fees include: \$60 registration fee will be charged for professionals, \$20 registration for parents/caregivers/individuals with disabilities, and \$15 for students/trainees not seeking CE credit workshop registrations.

For more information on our Annual Learning Series or to request accommodation or assistance for individuals with disabilities, please contact us by phone at 443-923-4114, email [Training.MCDD@KennedyKrieger.org](mailto:Training.MCDD@KennedyKrieger.org), or visit [KennedyKrieger.org/MCDDTraining](http://KennedyKrieger.org/MCDDTraining). Requests should be made as soon as possible but at least seven days prior to the scheduled meeting.



Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities  
at Kennedy Krieger Institute

*Building Partnerships. Changing Lives.*