



'Critical perspectives on the lived experience of distress and mental health services'

16 AND 17 NOVEMBER 2022

BROOKFIELD HEALTH SCIENCES COMPLEX, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK, IRELAND

**SCHOOL OF APPLIED SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCHOOL OF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK, IRELAND
IN ASSOCIATION WITH CRITICAL VOICES NETWORK IRELAND**

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

In person attendance: Email Harry Gijbels at h.gijbels@ucc.ie and make sure you **give your name and indicate the day(s) you wish to attend (either Wednesday 16 November, Thursday 17 November, or both days)**. Booking will be confirmed by return email. Please bring the booking confirmation slip with you to the conference registration desk on the day(s) you are attending.

Registration for online attendance (Keynotes only): [Here](#)

Conference Programme [Link](#)

CONFERENCE THEME

Lived experience of distress and mental health services is increasingly identified as significant in shaping better understandings and responses to human suffering. Lived experience informs research, activism, service development, and, to a certain extent, policy, and education. However, concerns are also expressed that lived experience is not recognised as expert knowledge. This year's conference provides opportunities to honour the contributions of lived experience to changing knowledge, attitudes, and practices in mental health and to address some of the challenges in recognising the value of lived experience. This conference will consider:

- what do we understand by lived experience?
- what do we know about the contribution of lived experience in mental health matters?
- the diversity of lived experience
- issues of credibility and representation
- whose interests are served by and through lived experience?
- how do we create environments to honour, and nurture lived experience?

CONFIRMED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS (in alphabetical order)

Liz Brosnan, Survivor, Researcher and Activist, past Academia and Health Service Executive, Ireland; **Martha Griffin**, Expert by Experience, Lecturer in Mental Health, Dublin City University, Ireland; **Raza Griffiths**, Survivor Educator, England; **Konstantina (Dina) Poursanidou**, PhD, Service User Researcher, Survivor Researcher Network C.I.C and University of Central Lancashire, UK; **Rai Waddingham**, Survivor, Trainer, Researcher & Practitioner, UK

Conference details regularly updated on <https://cvni.ie/2022-2/>

The Conference organisers are Lydia Sapouna, School of Applied Social Studies and Harry Gijbels (retired), Catherine McAuley School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork, Ireland.