



Remedy and Reparation for Institutionalization

Organizers: Center for the Human Rights of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry, in cooperation with Transforming Communities for Inclusion and Validity Foundation.

Date and day: Tuesday, June 14, 2022

Time: 10- 11:15 am (Eastern time US and Canada)

The side event on this critical topic was organized at COSP 15 in the context of the draft UN guidelines for de-institutionalization, including in emergencies, which were launched on May 20, 2022, for public consultations. To read and know more about what the guidelines say regarding remedy and reparations, you can access the guidelines here: [Draft Guidelines on Deinstitutionalization, including in emergencies \(paras. 113-121\)](#).

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/calls-for-input/2022/call-submissions-draft-guidelines-deinstitutionalization-including-emergencies>

To build advocacy around de-institutionalization, abolition of force in psychiatry and allied care practices, Tina Minkowitz is conducting research on 'reparations'. Please contribute to it by filling out the questionnaire here:

<https://www.reimaginingcrisissupport.org/reparations>

A note on reparations (ethic of saying 'sorry' for harms caused):

Institutionalization in all forms is multiple violations of the rights of persons with disabilities enshrined in the CRPD. Historically, persons with disabilities and intersectional identities have been incarcerated and forcefully locked up in psychiatric hospitals and residential/closed-door settings under the guise of their 'best interests' and 'care'. These institutions have been breeding grounds for innumerable gross abuse and violations of human rights of persons with disabilities, subjecting them to forced medications, violence, and forced treatments, leading to lifetime implications.

Although we have been advocating and demanding this for long, it is time for the State Parties to identify and acknowledge the harms done to us, apologize for decades of torture at the hands of 'authorities' and offer reparations including satisfaction, including cessation of violations, guarantees of non-repetition, restitution, rehabilitation, and compensation.

Reparation is both an obligation of states under international law and more generally a way to think about a society-wide transformation to undo the



harms at their root and move forward together. This panel, which includes survivors of institutionalization, will discuss key questions to raise awareness and promote further conversations, especially among survivors and people currently living in institutions or at high risk of institutionalization.

The recording of the session can be seen here:

English: <https://youtu.be/UOSp7I9z0Nk>

Español: <https://youtu.be/X-l4AEvS6L0>

中文: <https://youtu.be/dTWzI5YLCSA>

Français: <https://youtu.be/9o8Q-kFIIe0>