Riley’s Wish Lecture Series

Riley’s Wish Foundation was created in 2014 by his mother, Margaret Sisson after the loss of her son, Riley Sisson. Riley struggled with OCD and substance use and tragically lost his battle from an accidental overdose. Riley had just started his Master's Program in Social Work at Kennesaw State University and was a member of the CYAAR. Riley’s Wish partnered with Kennesaw State University 5 years ago and created the Riley’s Wish Lecture Series to help educate and raise awareness about co-occurring diagnoses.

This is a free series, offered via zoom this year, with CEs available!

We will have one presentation each day:
- Tuesday May 18th 2:00pm EST
- Wednesday May 19th 2:00pm EST
- Thursday May 20th 2:00pm EST

Register Here: [https://bit.ly/3rSVrs4](https://bit.ly/3rSVrs4)
Riley Sisson was a good friend of mine, and his legacy continues in many of the spaces I still occupy. I have had the great honor of working with Margaret Sisson for several years to continue Riley’s legacy through the Riley’s Wish Lecture Series. In preparing for the fourth Riley’s Wish Lecture Series, I am frequently reminded of how passionate Riley was about bringing awareness to co-occurring mental health disorders, and how pleased he would be to see this work being continued and these conversations taking place. I am excited about the Center for Young Adult Addiction and Recovery and The Riley’s Wish Foundation coming together to bring the Riley’s Wish Lecture Series online this year to reach a broader audience and to expand the important work being done to address recovery for co-occurring disorders.

See you at the series!

Lindsay Montgomery
I have attended Riley’s Wish lecture series numerous times and what I have found consistently is the high quality of speakers that can address various audiences. The audience has often been therapists, community workers, and various mental health workers. The speakers selected are able to tailor their topics to address and relate to this vast audience. Additionally, I have found that the topics chosen are those that are not often spoke of or are being discussed from a unique perspective. With the many lectures available, I find that having a topic presented in a manner that is both new and innovative increases my knowledge base to better serve the clients I work with.

I personally knew Riley as we both attended KSU and the CRC. I believe this lecture series continues to honor his commitment to the mental health community and to see those who need help obtain it in the most ethically, knowledgeable and best practices manner. Riley wanted to be a change in the way we address mental health and through this lecture series his legacy is doing just that.