AI/ChatGPT in social work practice and education - what are we to do?

Learning Objective:
1. Define AI and ChatGPT.
2. Identify current ways in which AI and ChatGPT are being used in both social work education and social work practice.
3. Explore ethical considerations in the use of AI and ChatGPT.
4. Discuss future efforts in how to use AI and ChatGPT collaboratively in education and community practice in our area.

Abstract: Artificial Intelligence (AI) is not new, yet it has become a main topic of conversation over the last 6 months, especially as it has become readily accessible to so many individuals. ChatGPT is an AI chatbot that responds to questions and prompts to produce humanlike text, images, videos, etc. Higher education has had to take a crash course in AI and platforms such as ChatGPT in an effort to stay on top of what our students have access to and how these platforms are being utilized in both positive and potentially negative ways. The use of AI is not just for higher education concerns, there are ways in which the use of AI is impacting social work practice in the field. This presentation would include a 10-15-minute presentation where the presenters would define AI and ChatGPT, provide some brief examples, explore ethical considerations, and share current initiatives in the social work field related to the use of AI in practice and education. Following this presentation, the remainder of the time would be spent in a facilitated roundtable discussion. The discussion would center around identifying what is currently happening in our area related to AI, as well as ways in which we can all collaborate on future efforts to ensure ethical use of AI and that students and social work professionals are prepared for the impact AI has on our profession.

Presenters: Jara Dillingham, MSW, University of Southern Indiana and Junghee Han, PHD, University of Southern Indiana

Bio: Jara Dillingham, MSW, LCSW is a Clinical Associate Professor of Social Work at the University of Southern Indiana (USI). She has worked in the field of child welfare, adoption, mental health, and administration for 15 years and continues to be actively involved in the community with various agencies. She has since transitioned to academia, where she has been a member of the USI faculty for 10 years. Her areas of interest include social work skills, child abuse and neglect, technology in social work practice, and online education.

Bio: Junhee Han received her Ph.D. from Fordham University School of Social Services and earned an MSW from Washington University in St. Louis. She has been an assistant professor at USI for four years.