National Association of Peer Supporters, Optum Supervision Learning Collaborative Webinar #4 - February 1, 2021

Supervision Across the Spectrum: Supervising Peer Workers in Different Workplaces and Headspaces

In this webinar, Dr. Joanne Forbes will share more of the findings from her research, What We Have Learned from the Experiences of Peer Support Workers (PSW) Supervised by Non-Peer Supervisors with recommendations from this research on important areas of advocacy for supervisors. Keris Myrick will review the range and types of different workplace settings where peer support services are being provided, different approaches to service delivery in these settings and the importance of supervisors as advocates in changing structural barriers and limitations to recovery-oriented services. And Ivanna Bond will give an example of how peer networking groups and peer associations, such as N.A.P.S., can provide education and advocacy for organizations toward the development of peer services that align with peer values.

Presenters: Joanne Forbes, Ivanna Bond, Keris Myrick
Moderator: Jonathan P. Edwards
Breakout Facilitators: Keris Myrick, Joanne Forbes, Ivanna Bond, Rita Cronise, Gita Enders

Dr. Joanne Forbes

Joanne Forbes PhD, CPRP, completed her doctoral work at Rutgers University's Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation. She has years of experience in the field of mental health as an advocate, educator, administrator, and supporter of peers. Her research into peer supervision is in publication and is considered a seminal work in the field. She is a frequent presenter at conferences and is the author of the book, Madness: Heroes Returning from the Front Lines. In the 1980's she started a peer run Customer Service Department in a large metropolitan psychiatric hospital which evolved into Baltic Street AEH, Inc., one of the largest national peer-run agencies. She is a national trainer and expert not only in peer services but also
transforming mental health systems to a recovery orientation. She has been widely recognized by state and national organizations as a visionary and advocate for those diagnosed with mental illness.

Ivanna Bond, Chair NYC PWC

Ivanna Bond is a mental health advocate and survivor with over 25 years’ in nonprofit business management experience. She is a graduate of the Howie the Harp peer training program at Community Access and is currently Assistant Program Director, Community Access, Crisis Respite Center. In the context of her Howie the Harp training she worked at the ACT Institute at the Center for Practice Innovation at the NY State Psychiatric Institute/Columbia University, on a Scope of Practice Guideline for Peers on ACT Teams in NY State. Bond is also Chairperson of the NYC Peer Workforce Coalition, a professional association for peer workers (peer specialists and peer advocates).

Keris Jan Myrick, MBA, MS

Keris Jän Myrick, MBA, MS, is a Director at the Jed Foundation and Co-Director of The Mental Health Strategic Impact Initiative (S2i) which aims to advance the transformation of mental health by catalyzing cross-sectional reforms, strengthening collaborations, and bridging gaps. Ms. Myrick previously held positions as the Chief, Peer and Allied Health Professions for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, the Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs for the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) of the United States Health and Human Services’ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), President and CEO of Project Return Peer Support Network, a Los Angeles-based, peer-run nonprofit and the Board President of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Ms. Myrick is a leading mental health advocate and executive, known for her innovative and inclusive approach to mental health reform and the public disclosure of her personal story. Ms. Myrick has over 15 years of experience in mental health services innovations, transformation, and peer workforce
development. An early adopter, self-identified “geek” and interest in leveraging technology to aid in mental health recovery and wellbeing, Ms. Myrick serves on the American Psychiatric Association’s App Advisor Panel and recently received her certificate in Geek Culture Competency.

Ms. Myrick’s personal story was featured in the New York Times series: Lives Restored, which told the personal narratives of several professionals living with mental health issues. Ms. Myrick is an in-demand national trainer and keynote speaker, and authored several peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters. She is known for her collaborative style and innovative “whole person” approach to mental health care.

Ms. Myrick has a Master of Science degree in organizational psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology of Alliant International University. Her Master of Business Administration degree is from Case Western University’s Weatherhead School of Management.