



Sandy Hook Advisory Committee

April 19, 2013 @ 9:30 AM

LOB, Room 2D

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Cheryl Jacques, MSN, APRN, currently holds titles within the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services as Chief Executive Officer for the Southeastern Mental Health Authority and State-wide Director for Young Adult Services. Ms. Jacques holds her graduate degree from the Yale University School of Nursing and national certification in Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing from the American Nurses Association. She has practiced in the area of child and adolescent psychiatry for the past twenty – five years, both in the private and public sector. She has previously held positions as Director of Psychiatric Services at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, CT and as the Child Service Director at Elmcrest Hospital. She has worked as Associate Faculty, St. Joseph's School of Nursing and Yale School of Nursing. Ms. Jacques has participated in many federally funded studies addressing employment, homelessness, young parents, family intervention and co-occurring treatment. Ms. Jacques' clinical interests center in the area of early childhood attachment and trauma, and the effects of those early traumas on the behavior of young adults. She has attended training with Peter Fonagy, PhD, through the Anna Freud Centre in England in the area of early childhood attachment. In addition, her concerns for Connecticut include issues of homelessness within the young adult population, and the unmet needs of youth with neurodevelopmental disabilities.

Sara Lourie, LCSW, is the Program Director for Interagency Client Planning and Treatment Unit within the Clinical and Community Consultation and Support Team at the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF). Sara has been in the field of community mental health for over 30 years in public and private agencies with a focus on both direct service provision and administrative work in community mental health programs. A major emphasis has been on the development of managed service systems and collaborative provider partnerships.

At DCF, her current role includes the coordination of transition activities between DCF and both the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and the Department of Developmental Disabilities (DDS); many children/youth with behavioral health and other special needs transition to these agencies when they leave the children's behavioral health and child protective service system.

Mary Guerrero, LCSW, was appointed Executive Director of Fellowship Place in New Haven in 2007. At Fellowship Place, Ms. Guerrero has overseen the development of an 18 unit apartment building for adults with psychiatric disabilities and a major renovation of the agency's campus. Fellowship provides a broad range of counseling, rehabilitation, vocational services and supported housing for mentally ill adults. Ms. Guerrero has more than 30 years experience in the human services field, having held direct service and management positions in child welfare, elder services and mental health. From 1990 to 2007, she was the Executive Director of Pathways, Inc., a community mental health agency in Greenwich, CT. At Pathways, Ms. Guerrero led the development of 22 units of federally funded supported housing.

Ms. Guerrero earned a Master of Social Work degree from the University of CT in 1981 and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker In Connecticut.