



The Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force is the voice of the community on issues related to the quality and responsiveness of mental health and substance abuse disorder services.



Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force Invites You to A Forum on Peer Run Respite & Presentation of the Karen Avery Award

Tuesday, September 13, 2016

IndependenceFirst, 540 S. 1st Street

Doors open at 1 PM

Program & reception: 1:30 - 5:00 PM

Register online at www.milwaukeeemhtf.org/prrp



Featured Speaker: *Laysha Ostrow, PhD, is one of the leading experts on peer run respites. She is the CEO of Live and Learn, a peer-run research and consulting firm. Dr. Ostrow conducts a biennial survey to document peer respite development across the U.S.*

Our panel members will share perspectives on Wisconsin's three peer run respites, as well as a Milwaukee perspective on peer delivered services.

THANK YOU TO OUR FORUM SPONSORS

IndependenceFirst Bell Therapy Whole Health Clinical Group
Disability Rights Wisconsin Mental Health America of Wisconsin Wilberg Community Planning, LLC

THANKS TO OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER SPONSOR: Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division

FORUM PANEL

Wisconsin Peer Run Respite Staff

John Rose, Iris Place Guest Services Coordinator

Furman Avery, Solstice House Assistant Program Manager

Kate Laird, Grassroots Wellness Respite Director

Wisconsin Dept of Health Services

Pat Cork, Administrator, Division of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

Faith Boersma, Peer Run Respite Coordinator, Division of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

Milwaukee County

Michael Lappen, Administrator, Behavioral Health Division

ABOUT KAREN AVERY

Karen Avery was an advocate, mentor, peer, friend and leader in the fight for disability rights. As Associate Director of IndependenceFirst, she was a respected leader in the mental health consumer/survivor movement in Wisconsin and nationally, tirelessly advocating to advance the rights of people with mental illness and ensure a strong consumer voice. She was a founding board member of the Grassroots Empowerment Project and a leader in the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force. Karen spoke about the system and about recovery with such impact and conviction because she lived it. She was generous in sharing the challenges of her experience with mental illness and her recovery journey. After Karen's passing in 2013, the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force established this award to honor her important and enduring legacy.

- To request disability related accommodations, send your request by August 26 to elise.cassidente@drwi.org or call 414-773-4646.
- Environmental/Chemical Sensitivities: For the safety and comfort of those with chemical sensitivities, IndependenceFirst requests that people visiting our agency, refrain from using any perfumed products and not smoke near the building.