



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 our 2017 Forum

Building Bridges Towards Authentic Inclusion

Structural Racism & Implicit Bias, Microaggressions: meaning and next steps

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

IndependenceFirst, 540 S. 1st St.

12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. Registration, refreshments & networking

12:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Program & presentation of the 4th Annual Karen Avery Award to Shel Gross

Register online at www.milwaukeeemhtf.org/2017forum

Speakers



Martha Barry, PhD

Racial Justice Director
YWCA Southeast Wisconsin



Jamaal E. Smith, MPA

Racial Justice Community Engagement Manager,
YWCA Southeast Wisconsin



Patricia Taylor McManus, PhD, RN, GCNPM

Co-Founder & President,
Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin

Forum Objectives:

- To engage the Mental Health Task Force in a meaningful process of dialogue that will aid in creating an inclusive work team to address issues of race and racism.
- To provide frameworks and a common language that supports effective dialogue and solutions regarding issues of implicit bias/structural oppression.
- To understand core concepts associated with implicit bias, microaggressions, and structural oppression.
- To examine how implicit bias/structural oppression affects the various issues, members and communities the taskforce seeks to serve.
- To understand the impact of historical trauma.

Desired outcomes include:

- Achieving meaningful engagement and reflection in regards to issues of race and racism
- Increasing the capacity for mutual understanding about implicit bias, structural oppression, and historical trauma

Presentation of the 4th Annual Karen Avery Award to Shel Gross (2:30 p.m.)



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.

THANK YOU TO OUR FORUM SPONSORS (list in formation): Whole Health Clinical Group, Mental Health America of Wisconsin, Tarot Tree Knowledge Tree, Milwaukee County Housing Division, Disability Rights Wisconsin, United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County

To request disability related accommodations, send your request by Aug. 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.

Speaker Biographies

Martha Barry, PhD is the Racial Justice Director for YWCA Southeast Wisconsin. Her work includes providing community education on eliminating racism through the six-part series Unlearning Racism: Tools for Action. Over 700 individuals from nonprofits, businesses, faith groups and government agencies have attended the course over the past eight years. Dr. Barry has adapted the series for a variety of organizations including: Wheaton Franciscan (now Ascension), Medical College of Wisconsin, Northwestern Mutual, Center for Self Sufficiency, Waukesha Women's Center, Community Advocates, UW Extension, Milwaukee Health Department, Neighborhood Leadership Initiative, TRIUMPH UW-Madison Medical Students, Municipal Court staff, and Milwaukee Public Schools. Dr. Barry also presents on implicit bias, Microaggressions and white privilege in addition to overseeing Everytown Wisconsin, a social justice leadership program for teen girls ages 14-18. She is dedicated to building knowledge and capacity in individuals, organizations and communities to create racial equity.

Jamaal E. Smith, MPA is a proud native of Milwaukee, WI, was recently hired as the Racial Justice Community Engagement Manager for YWCA Southeast Wisconsin, an organization whose mission is to fight against racial and gender discrimination. Jamaal was raised in what has been deemed the worse zip code in America, 53206. Jamaal's strength, resiliency, and support shown by his family and community helped groom him into an advocate for supporting equitable opportunities for all. Jamaal, a teacher at a local high school has witness the issues of educational injustices for students of color; Jamaal decided it was time to become a voice that spoke for them and put these issues into action. Jamaal is the Education chair of the NAACP – Milwaukee Branch under the leadership of President Fred Royal. He has worked with organizations and collaborations with Urban Underground, MTEA, Schools and Communities United, Youth Justice Milwaukee, Journey 4 Justice in Chicago and Metropolitan Milwaukee Alliance for Black School Educators. Jamaal's dedication has afforded him to push for more teachers of color, culturally responsive instruction, and an increase in school community engagement.

Patricia Taylor McManus, PhD, RN, GCNMP is Co-Founder and President of the Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin (BHCW), Clinical Assistant Professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Department of Pediatrics, and is on the Community Advisory Board for MATC School of Nursing. Dr. McManus has a diploma, BSN, and MS in Nursing. Her strong commitment to health advocacy and the improvement of urban health, lead her to obtain a doctorate in Urban Studies, with a special emphasis on health care systems in 1993. Dr. McManus has co-authored articles on the impact of health disparities in African American communities, HIV/AIDS, and infant mortality. For ten years she worked with parents who have children in out of home placement. She is currently on the National Board of the National Black Nurses Association. As President of the BHCW, Dr. McManus is actively involved in health care and human services issues at the local, state and national levels. She has consulted both locally and nationally on health issues related to cultural competence and systems change.

Karen Avery Award



Shel Gross, MPA has been the Director of Public Policy for Mental Health America of Wisconsin since April 2000. He has been a valued leader in advancing the expansion of community based mental health services that support recovery and independence. Among his many contributions, Shel was a member and Chair of the Legislative & Policy Committee of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health, a board member of the Wisconsin Prevention Network and a former co-chair of the Survival Coalition of Wisconsin Disability Organizations. Shel and Karen Avery were founding Board Members of the Grassroots Empowerment Project (GEP). As a trainer, speaker, and mentor, Shel has helped to elevate the voices of many Wisconsin peers in public policy advocacy.

Attention Certified Peer Specialists – If you attend the forum, you will receive 3.0 Continuing Education Hours (CEHs) in the category of Cultural Humility. To receive the CEH credit, send an email to Elise.Cassidente@drwi.org stating that you will attend the 9/12/17 Forum and want to receive CEH credit. Include your name as you want it listed on the certificate.