



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 2019 Karen Avery Forum
Pathways to Employment: Opportunities, Rights and Resources

Tuesday November 12, 2019

2 – 5:30 PM

IndependenceFirst, 540 S. 1st

Employment can be an important part of recovery. The forum seeks to increase awareness of work opportunities and support services for people who live with a mental illness and / or a substance use disorder.

Save the Date: Registration Information Coming Soon

OPENING SPEAKER: *Work as Recovery*

Dani Rischal, MSW - Executive Director, Chrysalis <https://workwithchrysalis.org/>

Dani Rischal has been working in the community mental health field for nearly 15 years. She is the Executive Director of Chrysalis, a non-profit that promotes mental health recovery by supporting work opportunities that encourage hope, healing, and wellness. In 2016, Dani and her team started Chrysalis Pops, a local, organic, frozen fruit pop social enterprise, that provides meaningful paid work experiences to individuals with mental health challenges. Before returning to Madison, she spent four years in Washington, DC providing housing services to people experiencing homelessness and mental illness.

Employment and Benefits Counseling

Lauren Grudzinski, Benefits Specialist, WIPA project IndependenceFirst

Employment may impact eligibility for public benefits. Benefits counselors who have special expertise in employment concerns can help people with disabilities understand benefits and the effect that working will have on continued eligibility and reach their employment goals. We will hear from one of Wisconsin's experts

Community Voices

Shirley Drake, CPS, Supervisor - Office of Consumer Affairs will facilitate a panel of community members who will share their employment journey and lessons learned.

Employment Rights

Monica Murphy, Managing Attorney School and Civil Rights, Disability Rights Wisconsin Attorney Monica Murphy will address employment rights such as accommodations, disability related legal protections such as Wisconsin's Fair Employment Law and the American with Disabilities Act, disclosure, and criminal background concerns.

Presentation of the Karen Avery Award & Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force Emerging Leader Award

Network reception with Chrysalis Pops

- For information about sponsorship opportunities, or other questions, contact Barbara Beckert at barbara.beckert@drwi.org or 414-773-4646