

# Milwaukee County Executive Candidate Forum

**Tuesday, January 14, 2020**  
**IndependenceFirst**

*Sponsored by*

*Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition      Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force*  
*co-sponsor MIRACLE Network*

<b>Welcome</b>	Marci Boucher, President/CEO IndependenceFirst
<b>Opening Remarks</b>	Mary Neubauer, Co-chair Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force
<b>Facilitated questions, asked by panel</b>	Facilitated by Barbara Beckert, Disability Rights Wisconsin/ Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition.
<b>Panel Members</b>	Phillip Corona, IndependenceFirst Shirley Drake, Wisconsin Community Services Martina Gollin Graves, Mental Health American of Wisconsin Patricia Oblatz, Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force Wendy Weckler, Hope House
<b>Closing Statements</b>	Candidates will have one minute each for a closing statement.
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Pastor Walter Lanier, MIRACLE Network
<b>Voter Registration &amp; Resources</b>	Volunteers from League of Women Voters of Milwaukee County Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition

## **Thank you to the participating candidates:**

State Representative David Crowley

Glendale Mayor Bryan Kennedy

State Senator Chris Larson

Milwaukee County Board Chairman Theo Lipscomb

Jim Sullivan, Director, Milwaukee County Child Support Services

***Thank you to IndependenceFirst for hosting the forum.***

**Remember to vote in the Spring Primary February 18!**

*Check your voter registration, view your ballot, request an absentee ballot at:*

**MyVote.wi.gov**

## Speakers

**Marci Boucher** is the President/CEO of Independence**First**, Metro Milwaukee's **FIRST** resource when people have questions regarding access and disability. Independence**First** offers over 20 Programs & Services for people with disabilities of all kinds, in all age groups and provide programs on disability awareness and access to the general community.

**Mary Neubauer** is the Co-chair of the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force, and represents the Task Force on the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board. She is the Public Policy and Advocacy Coordinator for Mental Health America of Wisconsin and a Certified Peer Specialist.

**Barbara Beckert** serves as Coordinator of the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force, and as Coordinator of the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition, a project of Disability Rights Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities. She is the DRW Milwaukee Office Director, and Director of External Advocacy for Southeastern.

**Walter Lanier** is the pastor of Progressive Baptist Church of Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Director of Student Advising and Multicultural Services at MATC. He leads the MIRACLE Network which is a partnership led by Progressive Baptist Church that brings together churches and other organizations in an effort to promote mental wellness among Milwaukee's African American faith community. Pastor Lanier is a member of the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board.

## Panel Members

**Phillip Corona** has been with Independence**First** for 17 years and is currently the Resource Center Coordinator. Phillip is also a Certified Peer Specialist Trainer and a Certified Peer Specialist with Our Space Inc.

**Shirley Drake**, CPS, is the Supervisor the Milwaukee County Office of Consumer Affairs, and is on the staff of Wisconsin Community Services. She is a Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) and State Trainer for the CPS Curriculum. Shirley is also a member of the Project Team at Milwaukee County BHD in planning the relocation of mental health services to the community, and a member of the MHTF Steering Committee

**Martina Gollin-Graves** is President/CEO of Mental Health America of WI. She is a past chair of the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force and a member of the Milwaukee Latino Health Coalition Mental Health Action Team. MHA coordinates the Milwaukee Coalition for Children's Mental Health (CCMH).

**Patricia Obletz** is a community activist and artist who has been a leader in advocating for mental health awareness and reforms in criminal justice system. She is a member of the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force Steering Committee, and is active in Milwaukee Turners work to rethink justice and incarceration.

**Wendy Weckler** is the Executive Director of Hope House of Milwaukee, Inc.; the mission of Hope House is to to end homelessness and create healthy communities. She chairs the Shelter and Transitional Housing Task Force.