



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 use disorder services.

Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force 2022 Karen Avery Forum

In partnership with Milwaukee Turners Vel Phillips Forum

Empowering Families: Peer and Community Mental Health Support for Child Welfare Involved Parents and Families

*Listening to the voices of lived experience at the intersection of
race, gender, mental health and child welfare*

-Awards Presentation-

November 15, 2022

- 1. Welcome and opening remarks**, Emilio DeTorre, Executive Director Milwaukee Turners
 - Review webinar logistics; ASL interpreters are available
 - Forum materials including speaker bios are posted [here](#)
 - To receive the CEH or participation certificate, you must remain for the entire forum and complete the forum evaluation.
- 2.** The forum will be moderated by **Martina Gollin-Graves**, MSW, APSW - President and CEO of Mental Health America of Wisconsin (MHA)

Opening Session: Lifting up the Voice of Lived Experience: Peer Support and Empowerment (2:05 – 3 PM)

Rise is an organization that supports and works with impacted parents to shift conditions that harm families and build new collective care networks of peer support. Rise Magazine has been a leader nationally in supporting parents and families with peer support and with an emphasis on listening to the voices and the needs of parents with lived experience. Speakers from Rise will share their philosophy of peer support and empowerment.

Jeanette Vega Brown: Co-Executive Director for Leadership and Policy, RISE

Shakira Paige- Parent Peer Trainer

Facilitated Q & A - *please put your questions in the chat*

Panel Discussion: A Strength Based Approach: Involving the Court and Parents in Family Preservation (3:00 -4 PM)

More and more judges who preside over child welfare matters are engaging with justice involved individuals in a more collaborative, therapeutic and problem-solving way. It is often career defining for the judge and can be transformative for the individuals. It starts out as an understanding of human suffering and is always fueled by sheer perseverance and hope. Milwaukee's Drug Treatment Specialty Court at Children's Court has demonstrated the power of a holistic and collaborative approach, for parents whose addiction and mental health challenges may otherwise have led to permanent family separation. Meet a judge and two dynamic women who will tell their stories of perseverance and hope.

Chief Judge Mary Triggiano, Milwaukee County

Robyn Ellis, Recovery Community Coordinator, Meta House

Jonisha Neita, Parent Partner, Wellpoint

Facilitated Q & A - *please put your questions in the chat*

3. Mental Health Task Force 2022 Awards Presentation,

Mary Neubauer and Christine Apple, MHTF Co-chairs (4 – 4:25)

- Recognition of Mental Health Task Force Supporting Members
Membership information is posted [here](#).
- Presentation of 2022 Awards
 - **2022 Karen Avery Award:** Barbara Beckert, Director of External Advocacy, Disability Rights Wisconsin
 - **2022 Marie C. Perry Rising Leader Award:** Katie Holtz, Local Attorney Manager, State Public Defenders Office
 - **2022 Outstanding Achievement Award:** Patricia Obletz, community activist

4. Closing Remarks and Evaluation (4:25 – 4:30)

- Continue the conversation! The Mental Health Task Force will host additional speakers on this topic and explore opportunities to advance positive change.
- Stay tuned for information about our January 10th meeting which will highlight strength based practices at some local agencies.

To receive the CEH or participation certificate, you must complete the forum evaluation and the follow up survey – watch for the link in the follow up email.

- Completion of Forum Evaluation – link to be provided in the chat
- Be sure to complete second short survey to request Certificate, if desired.

Forum logistics

- Put questions in the chat as you think of them. We will answer as many as we can
- ASL Interpreters are available. Let us know if you have difficulty accessing the interpreter.
- Live captioning is also available.
- Forum materials and resources are posted on the Mental Health Task Force website at: <https://www.milwaukeeemhtf.org/2022/11/02/milwaukee-mental-health-task-force-2022-karen-avery-forum/>

Continuing Education

Certified Parent Peer Specialists and Certified Peer Specialists may receive 2.5 Continuing Education Hours for attending the entire training and submitting a completed evaluation.

All participants can request a Certificate of Participation for 2.5 hours by attending the entire training and submitting a completed evaluation.

About Our Sponsors

Today's forum is hosted by the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force in partnership with Milwaukee Turners. It is the first of several forums on this topic.

- To find out more about the Milwaukee Turners, visit www.milwaukeeturners.org.
- To find out more about the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force, visit www.milwaukeeemhtf.org/. To be added to our email list, contact barbarab@drwi.org.