

Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force March 14th Meeting

About Our Speakers

Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Community and Crisis Services

Jennifer Wittwer is the Director of the Community Access to Recovery Services department at Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Services. She has been in this role for the last 14 years, during which time she has been committed to supporting and developing community-based co-occurring, integrated behavioral health services for adults living with mental illness, substance use disorders, or both. Jennifer has a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Kenneth Cole, Psy.D. is the Director of Outpatient Treatment for Milwaukee County. Dr. Cole is a licensed psychologist and prior to joining the County he practiced at Columbia St. Mary's and Ascension working with youth and adults. In addition to direct service, his programmatic experience includes leadership roles ranging from residential facilities for young women and transitional living homes, to outpatient mental health clinics in Southern California and Milwaukee.

Lauren Hubbard, RN - Director of Community Crisis Services

Lauren Hubbard has served the community as an employee of Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Services for over 10 years. As the Director of Community Crisis Services for the past 4 years, Lauren has worked to expand the mobile crisis response throughout the community and integrate services to ensure quality care is accessible to all residents in crisis across the lifespan. Previously, Lauren served as a Registered Nurse and Nurse Manager in the Psychiatric Crisis Service (PCS).

Wisconsin's State Budget: What's in the Budget and How You Can Make a Difference

Gynger Steele M.A., EdS, began serving as the Administrator of the Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) at the Wisconsin Department of Health Services beginning January 2023. Prior to this, Gynger served as one of two Assistant Administrators within DCTS, having administrative responsibility for five of seven DCTS facilities (Winnebago and Mendota Mental Health Institutes and Northern, Central, and Southern Wisconsin Centers). In her new role, Gynger provides leadership and support to all seven DCTS facilities, as well as to the Client Rights Office, Bureau of Community Forensic Services, Bureau of Prevention Treatment and

Recovery, Office of Budget and Performance Management, and the Office of Electronic Health Records.

Holly Audley, M.A., is the Assistant Administrator of the Division of Care and Treatment Services at the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. Holly provides administrative leadership to both facility-based and community-based mental health and substance use services supported by the division. In this role, she works to more fully integrate services for people with behavioral health concerns across both civil and forensic systems with goals of increasing access and improving the quality of these services.

Phyllis Greenberger has been a strong advocate for change, fairness, and justice for children and youth with disabilities since she began at [Disability Rights Wisconsin](#) over 30 years ago. She is a tireless and intrepid champion for children. A number of the battles she has been involved in have literally gone on for decades. She has helped families fight for the education that their kids have a right to as well as the community services they need to succeed at life. Sometimes the odds have been daunting but Phyllis never, ever, gives up on a child or an issue, even when others have walked away, or the child may have given up on themselves.

Barbara Beckert is Director of External Advocacy for Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW), the federally mandated Protection and Advocacy system for Wisconsin.

She coordinates DRW's public policy work and is involved with systems advocacy on a range of issues including Medicaid, mental health, children's services, justice reform, long term care, transportation, and voting. Barbara staffs the Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force, and co-chairs the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health Legislative Policy Committee. She leads DRW's Voting Access activities to protect the voting rights of people with disabilities, and co-leads the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition, in partnership with the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (BPDD).