

Walter Kisthardt



Dr. Walter Kisthardt is nationally and internationally recognized as a dynamic, informative, inspirational, and entertaining speaker, trainer, and educator. He has been a major contributor to the development, evaluation, and dissemination of Strengths-Based, Person-Centered Community Care. He has provided consultation within a wide range of settings, both in-patient and outpatient, in 42 states, in England and New Zealand. Participants have consistently reported feeling affirmed, challenged, renewed, and rekindled in their passion and personal commitment to assisting others. Dr. Kisthardt models creativity and innovation by incorporating original music from his CD, "On Your Case" and poetry from his book "You Validate My Visions: Poetic Reflections on Helping, Healing, Caring, and Loving" to illustrate points in a manner that speaks to the very soul of the helping enterprise. Dr. Kisthardt has conducted seminars for administrators and providers in Hospice, Developmental Services, Mental Health, Head Start, TANF, Homelessness, Substance Abuse, Corrections, Education, Children and Family Programs and Vocational Rehabilitation.

Dr. Kisthardt is the Chair/Director and Associate Professor at the newly accredited BSW Program at Park University. He holds a BA in Sociology and Social Work from Elizabethtown College, Pa.; an MSW is from the University of Hawaii and a Ph.D. in Social Work from the University of Kansas. Dr. Kisthardt also has a wide range of direct practice experience, including both in-patient and outpatient therapy and supervision of case management. Dr. Kisthardt has provided training and technical assistance with Mental Health therapists and case managers, Substance Abuse counselors and Corrections workers in 42 states, England and New Zealand. He has provided training in New York, New Jersey, Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Maryland, Delaware, and Florida.

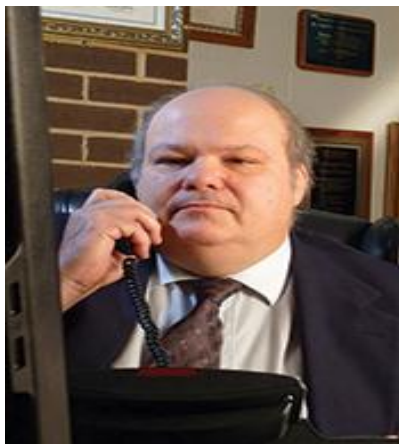
Jody Silver

Jody Silver has worked as a leading New York City-based mental health advocate for over 30 years, speaking up for change, integration and the overall better health of consumers. Jody is currently the Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs for The New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene and has held this position for 7 years. Under Jody's leadership, the voices of consumers are being heard in NYC, and major initiatives around cultural competency, health integration and economic self-sufficiency are being addressed. The Office of Consumer Affairs works with the needs of three disability areas: mental health, developmental disabilities and chemical dependency. Previously, she served as the Director of Advocacy and Public Policy for Community Access. Ms. Silver has served on numerous boards and committees and has received important awards, including most recently, the Federations of Organizations' 2009 Journey of Hope Community Mental Health Inspiration Award.

Lynn Kovich

Lynn A. Kovich, M.Ed., is the Assistant Commissioner for the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) in the Department of Human Services. The Division is the single state authority for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorders with a budget that exceeds \$900 million, employs over 5,000 and serves about 250,000 New Jersey residents. The Division is responsible for the coordination, administration, management and supervision of the institutional and community public mental health system, and is also responsible for regulating, monitoring, planning and funding substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery support services. DMHAS operates five psychiatric hospitals, one of which is a forensic center. And, it monitors inpatient services provided by public hospitals and psychiatric units in local general hospitals with which the Division contracts. In addition, the Division contracts with approximately 280 private non-profit agencies for community mental health and addictions services. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Kovich was the Director of Human Services in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania and previous to that, the Vice President of Alternatives, Inc. in Raritan, New Jersey – a non-profit service agency that serves individuals with developmental disabilities, individuals with mental illness and individuals/families experiencing homelessness. Ms. Kovich holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Allentown College of St. Francis DeSales and a Masters Degree in Educational Administration from Lehigh University.

Kenneth Gill



Kenneth J. Gill, Ph.D., CPRP, is founding Chairperson and Professor in the Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Counseling Professions, offers post-secondary certificates, undergraduate degrees (A.S./B.S.), graduate degrees (M.S./PhD.), among the first in the nation in psychiatric rehabilitation. In addition, it houses the Integrated Employment Institute and Statewide Illness Management and Recovery Project. His current research interests including addressing medical co-morbidities among persons with serious mental illness and supported education. He is past president of the Certification Commission on Psychiatric Rehabilitation. Dr. Gill is co-author of the textbook *Psychiatric Rehabilitation* (Elsevier, 1999; 2007), which provides a comprehensive overview of community based services for people with severe mental illness. He has served as co-editor in chief of the *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal* and is an Associate Editor of the *American Journal of Psychiatric Rehabilitation*. He has been recipient of the John Beard and Mort Gati awards Award for career achievements in psychiatric rehabilitation.

Eileen Joseph



Eileen Joseph is the President and CEO of CareLink Community Support Services. She has been active in the development and implementation of Psychiatric Rehabilitation services for over 30 years. She served as the Chair of USPRA and as a member of the CPRP Commission, Psychiatric Rehabilitation workforce development, executive management leadership, system transformation and Board development are a few of the Eileen's interest and expertise.

Cory Storch



Cory Storch has worked at Bridgeway for 32 years. Serving as executive director of Bridgeway Rehabilitation Services since 1989, he has helped expand Bridgeway from serving 100 people annually at one location with an annual budget of \$600,000, to serving 1,200 people in 12 locations with a budget of \$15 million. Mr. Storch has served on the board of New Jersey Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association and serves on its Public Policy Committee. He previously served as NJPRA's representative on the New Jersey Mental Health Coalition. Mr. Storch is a founding member of the Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey, and currently sits on its executive committee, as well on the Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey's Board of Directors and the New Jersey Association of Mental Health Agencies Public Policy Committee.

Robin Eubanks



Dr. Robin Eubanks is a professional motivational trainer, educator, author, minister, entrepreneur, wife, daughter, friend, and survivor. She has presented workshops and seminars throughout the country for more than fifteen years on a variety of topics such as: motivation, building healthy relationships, stress management, and bouncing back from adversity. Dr. Eubanks is passionate about helping you discover your purpose. Dr. Eubanks has a Bachelor's degree from Dickinson College, a Master's degree from Adelphi University, and a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology at Seton Hall University. She was privileged to receive a Student Research Recognition Award, African American Achievement Award, Excellence in Teaching Award and the University of Excellence Award, service to external community education. Dr. Eubanks is a member of the advisory council of the New Jersey Community Health Worker Institute and serves on the advisory board for the Black Infant Mortality Rate Organization. Dr. Eubanks is very active in her community. She was a Fellow in the Leadership Newark Organization of New Jersey and she has assisted with the

design of a training curriculum for Community Health Workers. Dr Eubanks is also a mentor for the NAACP ACTSO program for high school students in the Essex county area.

Nancy Pinkin



Nancy Pinkin is a "translator" between the world of medicine and the worlds of politics and public policy. As an Associate at MBI/GluckShaw her specialty is the health care arena. She has a strong background in healthcare administration with expertise in matters of ambulatory care and medical practice management. She represents individuals, associations and teaching hospitals before the Legislature and in the departments of state. Nancy is a local officeholder having been elected to the East Brunswick town council where she also serves on the planning board. Nancy holds a Bachelor of Science from Rutgers University; a Masters of Public Administration from NYU in Health Administration and has completed a post graduate fellowship in Health Policy and Research at the University of Medicine and Dentistry in New Jersey.

Nora Barrett



Nora Barrett is an Associate Professor in the UMDNJ Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation. As director of the Undergraduate Degree Programs, she is responsible for overseeing the curriculum and ensuring that it reflects current best practices in the field. Ms. Barrett is a co-author of the textbook, Psychiatric Rehabilitation, now in its second edition, and has also published a number of articles. She is one of the founders of the Consortium of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Educators, a group affiliated with the United States Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (USPRA). She is currently a board member of both NJPRA and USPRA. Ms. Barrett frequently presents at conferences throughout the United States and also provides consultation and training on topics such as curricula development, individualized service planning and ethical practice. Prior to coming to UMDNJ, Ms. Barrett worked in the fields of psychiatric rehabilitation and mental health for more than 10 years as a direct practitioner, supervisor and administrator.

Leslie Stivale



Leslie Stivale is the Executive Director of Triple C Housing (Triple C), a non-profit housing development organization and supportive housing provider. Triple C creates permanent supportive housing opportunities coupled with innovative support services, empowering individuals to live independently with dignity and to fulfill their utmost potential. As Executive Director, Ms. Stivale has expanded Triple C's supportive housing program, leveraging multiple funding sources to develop high quality housing that preserves housing stock and responds to the tremendous need for a range of housing opportunities for persons recovering from severe and persistent mental illness, of very low income, and/or formerly homeless. Ms. Stivale possesses twenty two years of experience in behavioral health and human services, having worked within the private and non-profit sectors in senior and executive management, quality assurance, strategic planning, financial management, and affordable housing development. She holds a master's degree from Montclair State University, a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University, is a certified psychiatric rehabilitation practitioner (CPRP) and accredited residential manager. In 2010, Ms. Stivale was appointed to the Interagency Council to Prevent and End Homelessness by former Governor Corzine.

Kimberley Higgs

Since 2004 Kimberley Higgs has been the Program Director of the Adult Mental Health Services for Volunteers of America in Northern New Jersey. These programs serve over 130 consumers in Middlesex, Union and Passaic Counties in a variety of housing settings that include medically-enhanced supervised housing, shared supportive housing residences, and most recently supportive housing for individuals at risk of homelessness. Ms. Higgs received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Montclair State University in 1991, her master's in social work degree from New York University in 1996, and her CPRP in 2004. She has been working in the field of psychiatric rehabilitation since 1990.