

Katharine R. Dobbins



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Wellspring, Inc., Louisville, KY

Chief Executive Officer, October 2009 – Present

Responsible for guiding the organization toward the fulfillment of its mission to promote mental health recovery and support individuals in building healthy & hopeful lives through behavioral health, housing, and employment services.

During tenure as CEO, tripled the budget of the organization, more than tripled the number of clients served, expanded volume and types of services offered, increased agency owned and/or leased supportive housing units 400% (100 to 500), and doubled the number of employees with a focus on adding clinical and programmatic staff eligible to provide Medicaid State Plan services critically needed by our clients. Have also written or co-written multiple grant proposals to expand services and strengthen our partnerships within the homeless and behavioral health communities. Significantly steered the organization toward a stronger focus on permanent supportive housing for homeless adults with serious mental illness utilizing a Housing First approach. Developed three specialty programs for high need homeless clients needing intensive supports (Assertive Community Treatment Team, PIC- for homeless adults with co-occurring mental illness and substance use d/o (a SAMHSA grant in partnership with Kent School of Social Work) and WISH (Wellspring Supportive Housing) which provides 7-day a week support to individuals in their own homes.

Successfully led the organization through CARF Accreditation process, first receiving accreditation in 2013 for our crisis stabilization units. In 2017, we

expanded our accredited programs to include behavioral health, case management, and community housing in addition to crisis stabilization. Facilitated the implementation of agency's first electronic health system and brought billing functions in-house.

Successfully obtained licensing in the state of Kentucky as a Behavioral Health Organization (BHSO) in 2016 and licensed both of our crisis stabilization units in 2015. These categories of licensing were created in 2014 in response to Kentucky's decision to expand Medicaid eligibility as part of the Affordable Care Act and became a requirement for billing KY Medicaid services.

Leads the organization in establishing and maintaining a mission focused, collaborative and inclusive culture which is a continuous work in process. 2022-completed a 6-month program for "Non-Profit Leaders Advancing Racial Equity", sponsored by CNPE

Reports to the Wellspring Board of Directors and is responsible for the day-to-day operations and implementation of the strategic plan.

Supervises the Management Team which consists of the CFO, Development Director, Director of Programs, Chief of Compliance & Technology, and the Housing Director.

Associate Director & Director of Programs, September 1982- October 2009

- Developed all Wellspring programs ranging from Crisis Stabilization Units to supportive housing programs
- Responsible for oversight, design & implementation of clinical programs
- Responsible for broad QI analysis and interpretation of program effectiveness, including identification of program outcome tools
- Served as lead in educating program staff about evidence-based practices and outcomes-based programming
- Hired and supervised clinical staff and other key program staff
- Provided LCSW supervision to Wellspring and affiliated agencies' social work staff

- Developed staff training curriculum
- Served as key staff to program committee of Board of Directors
- Served as a key staff in agency strategic planning process with the Board
- Coordinated graduate student practicums
- Served on community-wide committees, such as: Systems Strategy Committee, Statewide CSU Providers, HB843 (Mental Health Planning Bill) Regional Council; Phoenix Healthcare for the Homeless SAMHSA Oversight Committee; Passport Health Plan's Passport Advantage Committee.
- Served as Wellspring's representative to the local HUD Continuum of Care
- Prepared/collaborated on all HUD grants and annual progress reports
- Oversaw Wellspring's clinical on-call rotation
- Responsible for Medicaid and Medicare budget and clinician productivity
- Presenter for the Mental Health Institute (multiple years), Kentucky Psychological Association Conference, Kentucky State Housing Conference: Removing Barriers, University of Louisville Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Focus Louisville, and others.

Therapist

1985-1996 Private Practice

Louisville, KY

Psychotherapist with individuals, families, and groups

Education

University of Louisville Kent School of Social Work

Master of Science in Social Work

Honors: All-University Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Lynchburg, Virginia

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia

Semester in residence

Research Assistant to Scott Hengeler, PhD, Psychology, University of Virginia

Professional Accreditations and Recognition

Received Louisville Business First's Healthcare Hero Award for Management, 2019

Co-author of article "Cost-Savings Associated with Reductions in Public Housing Service Utilization with Provision of Supported Housing in Midsized City in the United States", Psychiatric Quarterly, November 2020

Co-author of article "The Case for Case Management in Schizophrenia" (El-Mallakh, Rhodes, Dobbins), published in Professional Case management Journal, Vol.24/No.5, August 2019

Co-Author of study & subsequent article "SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SAVES MONEY AND IMPROVES HEALTH OUTCOMES", published in Medical News, KY., 2016

Kent School of Social Work Lifetime Achievement Award for Practicum Supervision 2015

Spirit of Social Work Award, 2016. Spalding School of Social Work

Chair of the Council of Agency Executives, 2015-2016

Lifetime Achievement Award Practicum Supervisor, 2013. Kent School of Social Work

Frank M. Gaines Professional Award- Kentucky Mental Health Association, 2000. Presented annually "to honor an active or retired professional with a record of significant contribution made to the promotion of mental health, prevention of mental illness, and the improvement in diagnosis and treatment of people with mental illness".

Co-author, with Kathleen Sciacca, "Dual Diagnosis Residence Yields Remarkable Results", 2000, Published in Mental Health Weekly and Substance Abuse Weekly

Trailblazer in Evidence Based Practices Award 2002- Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Kentucky 1986

Volunteer/Community Service

Louisville Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board- Appointed by the Mayor for a three year term, beginning in 2019

Kentuckiana Human Services Collaborative- Steering Committee Member 2020 - Present

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

Board Member, Louisville Chapter - 2000 to 2014

Kentucky Mental Health Coalition – Past Board Member, Current Member

Passport Health Plan Behavioral Health Advisory Board, 2014- Current Member

Louisville Health Advisory Board and member of the Behavioral Health Subcommittee, 2016-Current Member

Council of Agency Executives Steering Committee, 2010- 2020

Board Member, Metro United Way 2014-2016