

Seclusion & Restraint Reduction

June 2007 Conference Presenter Biographies

Richard Hansen

NorthSTAR Area Texas Mental Health Consumers
Consumer Advocate
1545 Mockingbird Lane, Suite 3005
Dallas, TX 75214
(214) 819-9911
Fax: (214) 819-9944
richard_hansen@tmhc.org

Mr. Hansen is a consumer advocate with Texas Mental Health Consumers in the Dallas NorthSTAR area. He is a psychiatric survivor who has been hospitalized a dozen times, eleven of which were involuntary. Mr. Hansen provides insight into the long-lasting, traumatizing affects of being both medically and physically restrained and secluded while receiving mental health treatment.

Aaryce Hayes LCSW

Advocacy Inc.
Mental Health Policy Specialist
7800 Shoal Creek Blvd., #171-E
Austin, TX 78757
(512) 454-4816
Fax: (512) 323-0902
ahayes@advocacyinc.org

Ms. Hayes has worked professionally with individuals diagnosed or labeled as having a mental illness since 1974. Her direct casework includes 13 years as a caseworker at a state hospital and two years as a client abuse investigator and rights protection officer of the Central Office of Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. These experiences include working with residents at state hospitals, clients of community mental health and mental retardation centers, and clients of private hospitals. Since 1990, Ms. Hayes has worked as a program specialist for Advocacy, Inc., the protection and advocacy system in Texas, focusing on systemic advocacy in the area of mental health. Ms. Hayes has also benefited from personal experience in advocating for treatment and rights of a sibling and parent with mental illness. She is licensed in Texas as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Ms. Hayes earned a Masters in Social Work at The University of Texas at Austin.

Kevin Ann Huckshorn, RN, MSW

Director, Office of Technical Assistance
Seclusion and Restraint Coordinating Project Director
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors /
National Technical Assistance Center for State Mental Health Planning
66 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 302
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 739-9333 x 140
Fax: (703) 548-9517
kevin.huckshorn@nasmhpd.org

Ms. Huckshorn is the director of the Office of Technical Assistance within the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD). In this role, she and the NTAC staff lead the development, implementation, and monitoring of an annual plan and budget for multiple technical assistance projects and contracts, including the National Technical Assistance Center for State Mental Health Planning (NTAC). A licensed and certified mental health and substance abuse clinician, she has specialized in the areas of behavioral health administration, adult psychiatric clinical specialties, chemical dependency/addictions, and organizational analysis and development. Ms. Huckshorn has 24 years of professional experience working in mental health care systems and substance abuse programs. In her previous position as chief nursing officer and assistant administrator for program services at Atlantic Shores Healthcare, Inc./South Florida State Hospital, she was involved in the first, fully privatized state mental health

institution project in the country. Ms. Huckshorn also has served as an adjunct instructor at Florida State University's School of Nursing and consults on mental health issues at the national, state, and local levels.

Ashley Gallardo

Fostercare Alumni
Austin, TX

ashley_fostercarealumni@yahoo.com

Ms. Gallardo is a former foster youth and a member of Fostercare Alumni in Austin. During the 80th Legislative Session, she testified before several legislative committees on bills that had a potential impact on children in the foster care system. Drawing from her personal experiences while in foster care, Ms. Gallardo provides insight on how best to work with youth without using seclusion or restraint as a first-line intervention.

Valarie Garza

Texas Health Institute
Consumer Coordinator
8501 N. Mopac Expressway Ste 420
Austin, TX 78759
(512) 803-5889

vgarza@texashealthinstitute.org

Ms. Garza is a parent of three boys. Her 21 year old son has Bipolar Disorder and is severely psychotic. He has been involved with Special Education, the Mental Health Authority, Health and Human Services, Juvenile Justice, Child Welfare, and now the Adult Criminal Justice system. For many years now, Ms. Garza has advocated at the local, state and national levels for more successful treatment and support for those suffering from Mental Health challenges. She has been an MHMR representative on the Travis County Children's Partnership Board of Directors, as well as a Care Coordinator/Wraparound Facilitator with a local ISD. Ms. Garza served on the Travis County Federation of Families Board of Directors, the Travis County System of Care Team, and was a core member of the Travis County School Based Mental Health Initiative. She is currently serving on the state TDPRS Parent Collaborative Advisory Group, and TDPRS Advancing Residential Childcare Quality Assurance Workgroup. In addition, Ms. Garza is a Regional CPS representative in the Texas Disproportionality Effort. She has worked on legislative workgroups such as the Seclusion and Restraint Reduction (Senate Bill 325 Workgroup) and the Provider of Last Resort (HB 2292) and is currently a Family Representative on the Texas Mental Health Transformation Workgroup. Ms. Garza has also worked with several school districts in combining the Positive Behavior Supports program with Systems of Care and the Wraparound Process for the success of children. Ms. Garza also worked as both a consultant and trainer for many local and state agencies in working towards Consumer Driven services and supports focused on recovery and resiliency.

Janice LeBel, Ph.D.

Director of Program Management
Massachusetts Department of Mental Health
25 Staniford Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 626-8085
Fax: (617) 626-8058

janice.lebel@dmh.state.ma.us

Dr. LeBel is the director of program management for the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health's (DMH) Child & Adolescent Division. A licensed psychologist, she oversees DMH's 200-bed continuing care service system for children and adolescents ages 5-18. This system of care represents a \$25 million privatized network of programs including inpatient, high intensity, locked residential treatment, and community-based care for children. These services are the Commonwealth's long-term care resources for the most seriously emotionally disturbed/mentally ill children who continue to need care beyond the acute phase of treatment offered in the private sector. Dr. LeBel and her colleagues at DMH launched the *Massachusetts Restraint Reduction Initiative* more than two years ago. The intent of this effort has been to reduce the use of restraint and seclusion with children and adolescents in psychiatric facilities and increase staff knowledge of strength-based models of care. The initiative has successfully reduced the use of restraint in all of Massachusetts' public and private psychiatric facilities.