2019 OREGON IPS SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION CONFERENCE

THEME: “LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!”
DAY ONE: MAIN STAGE PRESENTATIONS

SANDY LANGFITT-REESE: “Updates from the IPS Employment Center”

Hear from a representative from the IPS Employment center regarding updates on the state of IPS services across the country and upcoming areas of research for the model.

Sandy Langfitt-Reese, B.S.
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Sandy Langfitt-Reese is a trainer and consultant for The IPS Employment Center at Rockville Institute, Westat. Since 2008, Sandy has been dedicated to providing training and technical assistance to states and mental health organizations that promote recovery through implementation of Evidence-based Supported Employment (IPS) for individuals with mental health conditions. As a trainer; her work involves numerous presentations and on-site technical assistance for IPS programs, state-wide conferences and the multiple states and countries involved in the Johnson & Johnson-Dartmouth Community Mental Health Learning Community. She has also worked as a statewide IPS trainer for the Oregon Supported Employment Center for Excellence and worked in community mental health for over 25 years.

SUSAN MCGURK: “Cognitive Enhancement for Successful Employment”

This presentation will present an overview of cognition in individuals with serious and persistent mental illness, specifically with a focus on schizophrenia. Discussion of current research in this area and the current best practices for helping people with barriers to cognition.

Susan McGurk, PhD
Professor; Senior Researcher
Boston University Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation
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Susan R. McGurk, PhD, is a Professor in the Departments of Occupational Therapy (primary appointment) and Psychological and Brain Sciences, and the Director of Cognitive Remediation Initiatives at the Center of Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University. McGurk is a neuropsychologist whose multi-faceted research program addresses methods and mechanisms in cognitive remediation, the role of cognitive impairments in employment, academic pursuits, and independent living in persons with serious psychiatric illnesses, and in
other conditions affecting cognition and community functioning. McGurk and colleagues have developed the “Thinking Skills for Work” Program, a multi-component cognitive remediation program combining restorative task practice of cognitive skills and the teaching of self-management strategies designed to optimize cognitive and work functioning in persons receiving vocational rehabilitation services. Susan R. McGurk, PhD, is a Professor in the Departments of Occupational Therapy (primary appointment) and Psychological and Brain Sciences, and the Director of Cognitive Remediation Initiatives at the Center of Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University. McGurk is a neuropsychologist whose multi-faceted research program addresses methods and mechanisms in cognitive remediation, the role of cognitive impairments in employment, academic pursuits, and independent living in persons with serious psychiatric illnesses, and in other conditions affecting cognition and community functioning. McGurk and colleagues have developed the “Thinking Skills for Work” Program, a multi-component cognitive remediation program combining restorative task practice of cognitive skills and the teaching of self-management strategies designed to optimize cognitive and work functioning in persons receiving vocational rehabilitation services.

More information can be found at http://cpr.bu.edu/about/directory/susan-mcgurk.

UPDATES FROM THE OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY

**Michael Oyster**, LPC, CADCIII
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Michael has been working with IPS Supported Employment services for OHA in addition to his oversight of the statewide ACT programs. He has been in the counseling field since 1988 in a dual role of therapist and clinical supervisor / manager, working in both substance use and mental health treatment environments. He has worked in residential and outpatient services, Coordinated Care Organizations, non-profit as well as county and state agencies. He has facilitated clinical supervision and encouraging clinician self-care, managed programs and promoted solid clinical practice, authorized treatment at all levels and encouraged consumer involvement in system development. His specialties include: Integration of physical and behavioral health, mental health and substance use counseling, quantitative and qualitative approaches, Motivational Interviewing, and SBIRT.

**ROBIN DONOVAN: “Know Your Why: Authentic Communication from the Inside Out”**

The words we use with ourselves and with others are powerful. How can we embrace our power through how we communicate with ourselves and others? Real-life examples show how one person’s communication can change a life, and offer participants a glimpse into authentic communication, whether spoken, thought or acted out, as a pathway to wellness and authenticity. Explore ways of using communication to live out our personal missions and increase wellness across all aspects of their lives. Explore ways that tiny changes to our interactions can have a ripple effect.

**Robin Donovan**
Consultant
Strategy Robin
Robin Donovan (she/her) is the health-obsessed founder of Strategy Robin, a values-driven consultancy for strategic planning and communications. She was among FOLIO’s Top Women in Media in 2019 for her strategic turnarounds of media brands and has helped clients from meditation centers to mental health workers rethink work and wellness. Learn more at strategyrobin.com.

**BREAKOUT SESSION ONE**

**Orion Ballroom**

**COGNITIVE SELF-MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR THE WORKPLACE**

Gain a deeper understanding of the tools and strategies for working with individuals who experience cognitive barriers. This session will expand on the keynote presentation with a greater focus on specific tools. Develop compensatory strategies for individuals with identified cognitive barriers that can be used in everyday practice.

**Susan McGurk, PhD**
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**Andromeda Ballroom**

**CORPORATE JOB DEVELOPMENT AND WORKFORCE SECTOR STRATEGIES**

Learn about the work that Vocational Rehabilitation does to foster relationships with large corporations across the state and participate in discussions about the best way to job develop at large national or multinational corporations. Participants will be able to 1) understand the differences between job developing at locally owned businesses versus large corporations 2) identify strategies that can be used to increase success at working with large corporations 3) understand VR’s role in developing relationships with these businesses.

**Sheri Boyd**
Workforce Coordinator
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Sheri Boyd has been working with VR as a workforce coordinator since Spring of 2019. Prior to working with that Sheri was an employment specialist at Linn County in Oregon. Sheri joined the Supported Employment Team at Linn County in July 2014. Prior to Linn County, Sheri provided employment services as a job
developer/job coach and was the Director of Employment Development for a nonprofit organization in Idaho. Sheri has over 15 years of service and training in the employment field and is passionate about assisting others in their desire for work. Sheri’s past education includes business, psychology and sign language interpreting. Sheri provides employment and educational services to individuals served by the ACT team. She is actively involved in the collaboration of care with her fellow team members and prides herself on her ability to break down barriers and present creative solutions.

**Stardust Lounge**

COUNTERTRANSFERENCE AND TREATMENT INTERFERING BEHAVIOR IN PROFESSIONALS

Understanding the difference between clinically productive empathetic identification with a client’s emotional state and sympathetic co-ownership of the person’s dysregulation and emotional distress state is critical to the professional in becoming a catalyst for growth and change as opposed to a barrier to treatment. In this discussion, we will examine the hallmark indicators of countertransference and its often subtle derailing of the treatment process with our clients, as well as how to monitor self through mindfulness and how to supervise providers to an end that develops awareness of this phenomena and how it can be detrimental to both the client change process as well as their own emotional well-being. In this session participants will be able to 1) understand the difference between Transference and Countertransference and the therapeutically productive use of both 2) understand the potential for unaddressed countertransference to introduce change and growth interfering dynamics into the treatment encounter 3) explore hallmark indicators of countertransference as it occurs and what to do with that awareness in both the individual provider and the supervision process.

**Lance F. Dickison, MS, LPC**
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Lance has been a provider of services, professional educator and clinical trainer for 40 years. He is a LPC licensed in two states, a Nationally Certified Counselor, a Nationally Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor and a Nationally Approved Clinical Supervisor. He has a Master’s of Science degree in Counseling Psychology conferred through Northeastern Oklahoma State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. His areas of formal training include EMDR, Clinical Hypnosis, REBT/CBT, Motivational Interviewing and Brief-Solution Focused therapy, with particular areas of specialization in Clinical Supervision, Diagnostics and Assessment, Behavior Modification, Existential, Gestalt and Bowen Family Systems approaches. In addition, he is certified through the Oregon Addictions and Mental Health Division as a Certified Senior Mental Health Examiner and has worked extensively in the field of trauma treatment and forensic assessment.

**Cosmos I**

SHOW ME THE MONEY!

We will be discussing the SSA Ticket to Work program, and how the Ticket to Work partnership with Vocational Rehabilitation could help increase IPS funding. Participants will be able to: 1) Learn basic knowledge of the Ticket to Work Program & how it affects clients. 2) Learn about the Ticket to Work contract with Vocational Rehabilitation. 3) Learn the responsibilities of the MH agency and VR with regards to the contract. 4) Learn how to participate in the program.
Eugenia Cox
Ticket to Work Program Coordinator
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Eugenia is the Ticket to Work Program Coordinator with the State of Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation. Eugenia oversees the Ticket to Work and SSA Cost Reimbursement programs for Oregon VR. Eugenia is responsible for training staff, community partner and other states agencies with regards to Ticket to Work and how it works in the State of Oregon. Eugenia also assists and provides training for other state VR agencies with their SSA programs. Eugenia is an active participant with the National Employment Network Association and its Legislative Policy committee. She has a strong commitment to improve the Ticket to Work program for both ENs and State VR agencies. Eugenia has been with Oregon VR since 2003 and in her current position since 2006. Eugenia’s education background is in Management and Human Services and she has been working with both public and private employers for the last 26 years.

**Cosmos II**

**A CAREER THROUGH REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP!**

Apprenticeship is a terrific route for any job seeker! From recent high school graduates to mid-career adults, Registered Apprenticeship can be a good fit for anyone. Apprenticeship is a terrific way to earn a living wage and pursue higher education at the same time! In this 90-minute session, we will discuss 1) what is the Registered Apprenticeship Model; 2) occupations and Registered Apprenticeship opportunities in Oregon; and 3) available supportive services for Registered Apprentices.

**Jessica Ponaman**
Operations Manager
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Jessica Ponaman was hired in December 2017 as the Operations Manager for the Bureau of Labor and Industries’ Apprenticeship and Training Division, the agency tasked with overseeing the state registered apprenticeship programs. Prior to her current position, Jessica worked in the Bureau of Labor and Industries’ Civil Rights Division. Jessica holds a B.A. in History and a law degree from the University of California at Davis.

**Galaxy Room**

**ENGAGING PEOPLE IN THE EMPLOYMENT PROCESS**

Many individuals seeking help with employment also have barriers that make it difficult for them to engage with providers. Learn about strategies to build rapport with people and how to better engage people who may otherwise not engage. In this session, individuals will 1) understand common barriers to engagement 2) develop strategies to engage with individuals from the first meeting 3) learn how to respectfully re-engage someone who had previously engaged but has dropped out of services.
BREAKOUT SESSION TWO

Orion Ballroom

(NON) FIGHTING WORDS

In this session explore how to master in-the-moment responses for awkward situations, fearsome confrontations and other moments of shock and awe. Participants will 1) learn the tenets of fair communication (all is not fair in love and war--or in the workplace!) 2) explore body language with interactive posture exercises; test “power” poses; learn what your body language is saying (non-strenuous) 3) learn to have tough conversations--and practice in pairs.

Robin Donovan
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Andromeda Ballroom

VR AND IPS

Join for a discussion focusing on the relationship between Vocational Rehabilitation and IPS Supported Employment; the best practices for successful placement and retention; and how to strengthen the relation between Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors and Supported Employment Specialists including support staff, bookkeepers, supervisors, and VR Branch Managers. Participants will discuss how to meet IPS Supported Employment agencies as well as how to meet Supported Employment Specialists where they are at with clients and where clients are at, observe and respect the core principles of IPS Supported Employment while following VR benchmarks, policy and guidelines while being mindful of Fidelity.

Douglas Franklin
VR Branch Manager
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Douglas Franklin has been working for VR in Clackamas County for several years as a branch manager. With a wealth of experience helping to coordinate services between VR and local IPS programs, Douglas has taken on the additional role within VR of being the state liaison for IPS services.

**Stardust Lounge**

**BENEFITS PLANNING 2.0**

Many individuals fear the loss of benefits when they return to work. Benefits planning can help people to overcome this fear and understand the ways that work can be a part of their lives. In this session go beyond basic benefits planning and focus on work incentives and benefits planning that helps people to maximize their earnings without fear.

**Josh Goller**  
Work Incentives Network Coordinator  
Work Incentives Network  
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**Katie Thompson**  
Work Incentives Network Coordinator  
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Josh Goller and Katie Thompson recently accepted positions as state-wide coordinators to help partner agencies in Oregon access services on behalf of the individuals they serve.

**Cosmos I**

**HOW TO NOT BE PERFECT**

Join this group for an irreverent, ally-led presentation with 101-level tips for providing affirming care to people with LGBTQ+ identities. Individuals will increase their understanding of, and comfort with, affirming vocabulary and concepts as well as practice their own identity, apologizing gracefully, and not being perfect.

**Claire Anderson**  
MSW Student, former Employment and Education Specialist  
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Claire worked at Outside In, serving young adults experiencing homelessness, for the last 7 years. During that time, she worked to provide marginalized young people with culturally specific access to education and employment opportunities. In addition to developing Outside In’s IPS Employment program, Claire has also provided Trauma Informed Care trainings to fellow employees and partner agencies. She is now earning her MSW through Portland State.

**Cosmos II**

**SUPPORTED EDUCATION REVIEW AND DISCUSSION**

This session will review the basics of Oregon Integrated Supported Employment/ Education Fidelity Scale and services and the practical, need-to-know information that can be vital for new education specialists.
Participants will be able to: 1) Understand basic concepts of the Oregon Integrated Supported Employment/Education Fidelity Scale. 2) Understand basic services provided by Education Specialists. 3) Understand practical tools that may assist with the first year on the job.

**Jenna Dale, BS**  
Supported Employment and Supported Education Supervisor  
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Jenna Dale started as an Employment Specialist at Jackson County Mental Health in 2015. She then took on a hybrid role of half Supported Employment and half Supported Education, and eventually transitioned to a full time Supported Education Specialist. She is now the Program Manager for Supported Employment and Supported Education at Options for Southern Oregon’s Jackson County clinics. Jenna holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Human Service from Southern Oregon University, a Master’s degree in Crisis and Trauma Counseling from Liberty University, and is also a Certified Work Incentives Counselor.

**Galaxy Room**

**SERVING PEOPLE WITH IPS AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER**

A look at the ways that co-occurring mental health and substance use issues can impact individuals who are looking to return to work and develop strategies to better serve this population. Participants will be able to 1) understand how mental health and substance use disorders impact each other and the individuals experiencing both 2) learn about the unique barriers for individuals who have co-occurring disorders 3) develop strategies to provide better services to individuals with co-occurring disorders.

**Brook Yetter, MS, CRC**  
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Brook holds a Master’s degree in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling and is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor. Brook has worked in the McMinnville Vocational Rehabilitation office since 2014 where he works as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and recently in Salem with Vocational Rehabilitation Administration as a Project Manager. He has focused the majority of his work on Supported Employment including Employment First and IPS Supported Employment. His primary focus is on IPS Supported Employment with the Abacus program and believes that the best way to help IPS Supported Employment clients is to emphasize flexibility in partnership as well as an understanding of the IPS programs.

**DAY TWO: MAIN STAGE PRESENTATIONS**

**VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PARTNERSHIP**
Hear from the director of Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation regarding highlights of Vocational Rehabilitation’s work in collaboration with IPS Supported Employment with a focus on providing context to the delivery of VR services in the age of WIOA and to provide an inspiring vision of the future of VR and IPS Supported Employment working together.

Keith Ozols
Director
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Keith Ozols is the Director of Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation. Over the past eight years at VR he has served in many different roles overseeing and expanding programs relating to workforce engagement, benefits planning, and multiple transition programs for students with disabilities. In this work, Keith has been driven by the belief that leading an independent and engaged life is a basic human right and that empowering people in work and life is a unique opportunity for VR. Before joining the VR program, Keith was the Executive Director of Incight, a Portland-based nonprofit that provides educational and employment services for people with disabilities. His prior experience counseling English language learners in workforce, college and career readiness has informed his person-first approach to service delivery throughout his career.

ANDY IMPARATO: “Accommodations for Mental Health”

Andy Imparato, a disability rights attorney with bipolar disorder who has had a successful career working in policy, advocacy and non-profit management at the national level in Washington, DC, will share insights on how to work with employers to create work environments where people with long-term mental illness can be out and proud at work and ask for and get the accommodations they need to thrive.

Learn the requirements of the employment provisions in the Americans with Disabilities Act as they apply to workers with mental illness; the benefits of moving beyond compliance with the ADA to a discussion of building inclusive and affirming workplace cultures; the importance of disability identity development in helping youth and adults with long-term disabilities navigate the world of work and community living; and tips for building inclusive workplace cultures from someone with lived experience with mental illness who also has more than 15 years of experience as the CEO of two different national nonprofits where he managed a number of employees with disabilities, including employees with mental illness, autism and ADHD.

Andy Imparato, J.D.
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Imparato is a disability rights attorney and policy professional with more than 25 years’ experience doing disability policy making and advocacy at the national level. For the past 6 years, he has been the executive director of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities, which represents a $600 million dollar network of federally-funded centers and programs that conduct research, training, advocacy and leadership development to improve the quality of life of children and adults with disabilities. Before coming to AUCD, he was disability policy director for the US Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions and
president and CEO of the American Association of People with Disabilities. His perspective is informed by his personal experience with bipolar disorder. He is a graduate of Stanford Law School and Yale College.

**BREAKOUT SESSION THREE**

**Orion Ballroom**

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH**

Gain a deeper understanding of how to ask an employer for accommodations for mental health with a focus on practical advice that can be used in everyday situations. Focus on how to build a welcoming work environment at every place of employment and develop specific strategies for requesting accommodations.

**Andy Imparato, J.D.**
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**Andromeda Ballroom**

**ACT AND IPS CROSSWALK**

The essential practice guidelines of the ACT and IPS supported employment models will be presented. Similarities and differences between these models in terms of organization and service delivery will be discussed along with recommendations for how best to provide IPS as a part of the ACT service array. The most recent Oregon Administrative rules governing the incorporation of IPS into ACT will also be highlighted along with employment outcome disparities between ACT teams using good fidelity IPS and those not using IPS.

**Jeff Krolick, MA**
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**Michael Oyster, LPC, CADCIII**
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Jeff Krolick received his M.A. in Counseling Psychology from Lesley University and has worked in the mental health field for 31 years as a direct service provider and administrator. He is a strong advocate for recovery oriented services including Evidence-based Supported Employment and Assertive Community Treatment. He has been an integral part of the adoption and expansion of Supported Employment in Oregon since 1998. Jeff currently serves as Special Projects Director at Options for Southern Oregon where he provides administrative support for the Oregon Supported Employment Center for Excellence and the Center of Excellence for Assertive Community Treatment and sits on the Oregon Workforce Investment Board (OWIB) representing community
As a part of the peer recovery movement in mental health more and more IPS teams are utilizing peers as service providers. Discuss ways to integrate peers onto the IPS team and how to best utilize their skills and unique perspective. Participants will be able to 1) learn about common barriers experienced by peers as a part of the agency workforce 2) develop an understanding of the importance of including individuals with lived experience as a part of the treatment team 3) identify specific ways that peers can supplement IPS services as a part of the team.

Joan Keenen, BS  
IPS Statewide Trainer/Certified WRAP Facilitator  
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Joan Keenen joined the Oregon Supported Employment Center for Excellence (OSECE) team as an IPS Statewide Trainer in October, 2016. She has taken the lead on the Peer Collaborative, partnering with Mental Health Association of Oregon (MHAO) to provide monthly conference call and technical assistance. She has a Bachelor’s degree in Recreation Therapy and is a Certified therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS). Prior to coming to OSECE, Joan worked for 25 years with the County of Fresno, Department of Behavioral Health, most recently as the Clinical Supervisor for the Support Employment and Educational Service (SEES) program. Joan is also an Advanced level Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) facilitator. She is a leader for wellness and recovery and peer support programs.

Sandy Langfitt-Reese, B.S.  
IPS Trainer and Consultant  
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Programs collect myriad data on the participants, employment specialists, and outcomes. Learn better ways to use this data to improve services. Participants will be able to 1) understand the rationale behind collecting and submitting data 2) discuss what data points are the most useful for programs to track 3) analyze how to interpret data and what it can mean for a program 4) develop strategies to use data-based methods to improve program services.
ABLE ACCOUNTS

Discuss the ways that ABLE accounts can be utilized by individuals to achieve their financial goals as they return to work. Participants will be able to 1) gain a better understanding of what ABLE accounts are and how to access them 2) learn about the types of goals that ABLE accounts can support 3) develop strategies to increase the use of ABLE accounts.

Kaellen Hessel, BA
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Kaellen Hessel has worked in communications and public relations since 2012. After working as a causes reporter writing stories related to social services and health-related news she took a position at the Oregon 529 Savings network as a part of their communications team to help more people learn about the resources available to them as a part of their financial wellness.

IPS 101

Individual Placement and Support (IPS) is an evidence-based practice the helps people with recovery via exploration and obtainment of vocational and educational goals. In IPS, employment and education, core social determinants of health, are pursued through an integrated treatment team approach. During this session, participants will explore the IPS evidence base, IPS fidelity principles, the fidelity scale, and common implementation challenges.

Tania Morawiec, M.Ed.
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Tania Morawiec. M.Ed., works as a national Employment First subject matter expert, policy consultant and Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Trainer in Alameda County, California. Prior to these roles she served as Illinois Department of Human Services’ Statewide Employment First Manager, IL EFSLMP Core State and Vision Quest Coordinator and lead IL IPS Trainer. During her tenure as the State of Illinois Employment First Manager she worked across 5 Divisions of the Illinois Department of Human Services (Vocational Rehabilitation, Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, Substance Use Prevention and Recovery, and Family and Community Services) to create synergistic policy advancement in competitive, integrated employment services. She is dedicated to innovative policy development that actualizes effective person-centered planning, self-determination, and meaningful community integration. Tania has worked with amazing teams to help secure an 1115 Demonstration Waiver and SAMHSA Transforming Lives through Supported Employment Grant, which serve to maximize braided funding options and build capacity in promising, and evidence-based
practices. She has served on the Illinois Employment and Economic Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities Taskforce, the Illinois State Use Committee and the Illinois Autism Taskforce.