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## Employment

### **Founder of EXPECT RECOVERY! 2004; incorporated in November, 2007**

- Public Speaking regarding mental health issues: consumer advocacy, leadership skills, expressive therapies, recovery and spirituality
- Support and education for mental health clients receiving public and private psychiatric treatment; support and education classes for family members/caregivers of persons with mental illness
- Mental Health Transformation consulting for Austin State Hospital
- Consult with public health and human service agencies, private providers, treatment centers and advocacy organizations on restraint and seclusion reduction techniques
- Crisis Intervention consulting with state and local law enforcement departments
- Volunteer consulting and speaking to mental health nonprofits, state and local health and human service agencies, stakeholder committees (such as Austin/ Travis County Psychiatric Services Committee)
- State Legislative consulting for local mental health and disability organizations
- Education for Hutson Tillotson College, St. Edwards College and University of Texas School of Social Work, Public Policy and Psychology

### **September, 1999 to October, 2007**

#### **Employed by NAMI Texas (National Alliance on Mental Illness in Texas)**

- Advocate to the Texas Legislature on behalf of mental health consumers throughout the state, 1999 to 2007
- Answer advocacy-related questions regarding mental health issues from mental health consumers, family members, MHMR employees, private providers and state and local agencies, 1999 to 2007
- Plan biennial Advocacy Mental Health Rally on the Capitol steps, 1999 to 2003
- Create, publish and distribute the NAMI Texas *Legislative Messenger*, a newsletter detailing recent state and national Legislation affecting persons with serious and persistent mental illness, 1999 to 2003
- Represent NAMI Texas in state mandated workgroups
  - *Olmstead Promoting Independence, January 2000 to May 2001*
  - *Medicaid Buy-In Mandate, 78<sup>th</sup> Legislature, 2003 to 2005*
  - *Social Security Benefits Interim Workgroup, 2001*
  - *Seclusion and Restraints Interim Workgroup, 2000 to 2004*
  - *Mental Health/Criminal Justice Consensus Group, 2002 to 2004*
  - *Mental Health Parity Workgroup, 1999 to 2003*
- Consumer Representative for DSHS Institutional Review Board (IRB), January 2000 to 2006
- Supervise online groups about pertinent and timely issues, i.e., public hearings, Legislative updates, recent research for mental illness, NAMI affiliate news, 2000 to 2007
- Presentations for the UT School of Social Work, Rehabilitation and Psychology, 2000 to 2006

- Staff Liaison to the NAMI Texas Public Policy Committee, 2001 to 2005
  - Affiliate Volunteer Coordinator, 2001 to 2003
  - NAMI Texas Newsletter Editor, 2003 to 2007
  - NAMI Texas Conference Coordinator, 2004 to 2007
  - NAMI Texas spokesperson to the media, 2003 to 2007
  - Research policies and issues regarding the state and local mental health service delivery system, 2003 to 2006
  - NAMIWalks Coordinator, 2004 and 2005
  - State Crisis Intervention Team Trainer, 2004 to 2007
  - Peer Support Facilitator, 2000 and 2007
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## Other

- ❑ Partners in Policymaking graduate, sponsored by the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities, 1996
- ❑ Media training for effective media strategy and skills to deliver key messages to the public, 1996, 2001, 2003, 2006
- ❑ NAMI Austin Board Member 1999 to 2006
- ❑ PLAN Board Member (Planned Living Assistance Network) 2007 to present
- ❑ Editorial in Austin-American Statesman on my story of recovery, 2003
- ❑ 2003 Appointment by the Governor to the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities to serve 6 year term
- ❑ Award of Special Recognition from NAMI Texas membership presented in September 2003 for my work in support, education and advocacy for persons with serious mental illness
- ❑ Board member of Goodwill of Central Texas, 2004 to present
- ❑ Mental Health Speaker at Conferences in Sherman and Nacogdoches, TX, 2004, 2005, 2007
- ❑ Advocate of the year award from NAMI Austin in 2005
- ❑ Reintegration Award from Eli Lilly Company, 2005
- ❑ NAMI National Convention Speaker, 2006
- ❑ New Milestones Spirit Award, 2006
- ❑ Contributed to Safe Place Manual, 2006
- ❑ Personal story in Schizophrenia Digest Magazine, Summer 2007
- ❑ Article in The Catalyst, Newsletter of the Treatment Advocacy Center, Fall, 2007