



Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation



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William Anthony

Professor Emeritus, Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of William A. Anthony, founder of the BU Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Sargent College. Bill passed away on July 15, 2020 surrounded by his loving family. He was 77.

Bill was a professor at Sargent College in 1979 when he and his close colleagues established the Center where he served as Executive Director until his retirement in 2011. Over his 40-year

career as a psychologist, he was a major force behind the emergence of recovery as a vision for people with psychiatric conditions. Bill was often referred to as the “Father of Psychiatric Rehabilitation” for his lifetime of advocating, teaching, training, and conducting research for people who live with mental health conditions. Bill began his career as a psychologist at Walter Reed Army Hospital where he was outraged that veterans with PTSD and other mental health conditions were not receiving the same care as veterans with physical wounds. Bill’s inspirational leadership guided the field through paradigm shifts to ensure the possibility that individuals with psychiatric conditions could regain valued roles in the community. At the time of the Center’s initial funding, this concept was radical: Bill had to convince the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research that individuals with psychiatric conditions could benefit from rehabilitative services and supports. Toward the end of his career, he wrote eloquently about what his multiple sclerosis had taught him about the rehabilitation of individuals with psychiatric conditions; that writing was published in a leading journal.

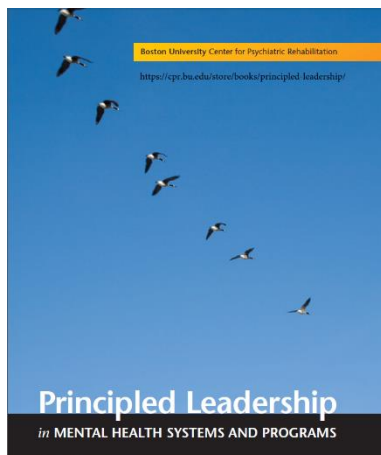
In 1988, Bill received the Distinguished Services Award from the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill in recognition of “his efforts that challenge outdated ideas which limit the potential of mentally ill people. The innovative programs created through Bill’s leadership offer hope and opportunity.” Bill appeared on ABC’s “Nightline” with Ted Koppel, a noted journalist and television broadcaster, who described the Center’s services as: “a small beacon of sanity in dealing with the problems of those whose sanity has crumbled.” In 1992, Bill received the Distinguished Service Award from the President of the United States for his efforts “in promoting the dignity, equality, independence and employment of people with disabilities.”

Bill was a full professor at Sargent College and taught for many years – first in the Department of Rehabilitation Counseling and later in the Department of Occupational Therapy. He influenced many graduate students including Gayle Berg (Sargent ’74) who was inspired to create the Gayle Berg Endowed Research Fund because of Bill’s leadership. In a recent email to colleagues, Gayle referred to Bill as her beloved professor, an extraordinary teacher and visionary, and most importantly, a consummate human being. Since its inception in the early 1980s, the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation’s Services Division has provided learning opportunities for many Sargent students like Gayle, a tradition that continues today. During his

tenure, Bill authored more than 100 peer-reviewed articles, 16 textbooks, and several dozen book chapters; and served as co-editor of the *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal* until his retirement.

Bill's legacy in the field of psychiatric rehabilitation and recovery is immeasurable. He led with his heart and advocated for the notion that people with psychiatric conditions are people first: they have the same rights as others to a healthy, productive, and full life in communities of their choice. He articulated the value of personhood and embedded it into the service programs we implement, the research questions we study, and the practices and systems we seek to change so that we can support the recovery of individuals who live with psychiatric conditions. Bill courageously challenged the mental health and rehabilitation fields to invest in recovery and transform their people, programs, and systems to improve the lives of individuals with mental health challenges.

We at Sargent College and the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation are grateful for his work and mourn his passing.



In honor of William A. Anthony, we are offering an eCopy of *Principled Leadership in Mental Health Systems and Programs* available at zero cost as an electronic download. The book, co-authored with Kevin Ann Huckshorn, can be found at <https://cpr.bu.edu/store/principled-leadership-in-mental-health-systems-and-programs/>.

Recommended for educators, directors, managers, or anyone interested in becoming a leader or improving his/her leadership skills. Valuable resource for staff development, classroom use, and leadership training.

Anti-Racist Taskforce



Sally Rogers, the Center’s Executive Director, appointed an Anti-Racist Taskforce at the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation on June 16, 2020, amid rising calls to address the structural and systemic racism within the Center and within the field of psychiatric rehabilitation. The Center has always cared deeply



about and worked to ensure our primary value of personhood is visible and active in our research, training and services in its 41-year history. Therefore, the mission of the Taskforce is to develop a collaborative, intentional, compassionate and transparent path for the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation to become a fully inclusive, equitable, and anti-racist organization. The members of the Taskforce will work to provide action strategies that will assist the Center in becoming an intersectionality-responsive agent to build diversity, equity, inclusion and justice within the Center and for individuals living with mental health conditions. Members of the Taskforce are comprised of Center staff across all Divisions, as well as past and current students from the Services Division. We look forward to updating the larger community when specific policies and actions are identified.

Both the Center and the Taskforce will benefit from the growth and development of the Boston University Center for Antiracism Research founded by Ibram X. Kendi.

<https://www.bu.edu/antiracism-center/>



Newly Awarded Grants

SAMHSA's First National Family Support Technical Assistance Center (NFSTAC)

A coalition led by the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, in partnership with the Center on Addiction, C4 Innovations, SAFE Project, and Boston University has been awarded SAMHSA's first National Family Support Technical Assistance Center (NFSTAC). NFSTAC is committed to providing tiered training and technical assistance (TTA), using a lifespan approach, that focuses on supports for families caring for loved ones who experience serious emotional disturbances, serious mental illness, and substance use disorders. This approach is anchored by the underlying principles that families play a vital role in supporting their loved ones, are the experts regarding their family support needs, and can be productively engaged to play a central role in treatment and recovery services. NFSTAC will deliver comprehensive TTA that advances partnerships between clinical and peer providers and family members of individuals experiencing SED/SMI/SUDs to promote stronger and more sustainable recovery-oriented outcomes. To further support families and providers, NFSTAC will focus on adapting and implementing recovery-oriented services with a targeted emphasis on workforce capacity and competencies, including cross-sector training and certification of family peer specialists. Field-requested and on-demand resources will be available directly to families and to the general public via a multimodal platform that includes virtual training events, mobile apps and social media.

The NFSTAC team is comprised primarily of family members with loved ones of varying ages who experience SED/SMI/SUDs as well as individuals in recovery. This lived experience, combined with collective decades of experience as researchers, practitioners, TTA providers, and leaders in family engagement, will inform every aspect of NFSTAC. The effect of entrusting this agenda to a family-run organization, in collaboration with local, state and national family-centered partners, and strong alignment with professionals who advance the importance of family engagement in their work, will be transformational in the delivery of TTA. It will also emphasize to all stakeholders that lived experience and authentic family voice are cornerstones of the NFSTAC approach.

Boston University, Sargent College of Rehabilitation Sciences, Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation (BU-CPR) & University of Massachusetts Medical School, Implementation Science & Practice Advances Research Center (UMASS-iSPARC) are pleased to announce the Center on Knowledge Translation on Employment Research (CeKTER), funded by National Institute on Disability Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR). The Co-Project Directors are Marianne Farkas (BU-CPR) & Marsha Langer Ellison (UMASS-iSPARC). This grant is funded from September 1 2020 to August 31 2025. The CeKTER's goal is to promote the appropriate use of research-based knowledge and products to improve services, approaches, practices and policies that support improved employment outcomes of people with disabilities.

This cross - disability Knowledge Translation Center, mandated to support NIDILRR employment grantees, will achieve its goal through its commitment to co-production with experts across a variety of fields. The Advisory Council members is comprised of influential thinkers in implementation science and representatives of national associations of people with disabilities. Collaborators include prominent NIDILRR disability employment researchers.

National Coming Out Day – October 11th



This year celebrates the 32nd anniversary of National Coming Out Day (NCOB)! Coming out day was first held on October 11th, 1988 to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people (LGBTQ+).

“Coming out” is one-way people claim full personhood and rights in a society that has often been suspect and unwelcoming. Towards that end, we at CPR want to acknowledge and celebrate LGBTQ+ students, staff, and faculty who contribute so much to our community.



Recent Articles Published by CPR Staff

A list of articles and book chapters written by Center staff, published by May of 2020, has been posted on our website. In addition, publications from previous years are also listed.

<https://cpr.bu.edu/resources/articles-books-etc/>



Save the Date!

The first of four webinars in the “Making Sense of Employment Research” series.

Work-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to Complement Vocational Services for People with Mental Illness: Pilot Study Outcomes Across a 6-Month Posttreatment Follow-Up will be presented by researcher, Marina Kukla, PhD, HSPP on December 7th, 2020 at 12:00pm EST. You won't want to miss this opportunity to learn from the author.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR
PSYCHIATRIC
REHABILITATION

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in living a meaningful life

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