

Learn about Foundational Community Supports program staff

Summary

Foundational Community Supports (FCS) has been instrumental in ensuring that individuals in recovery have access to permanent employment and stable housing. For the month of November, we are taking a moment to honor the staff who make these programs a success.

Melodie Pazolt

Melodie Pazolt started with DBHR as the supportive housing/ supported employment program administrator in October of 2011. Melodie held roles as the recovery support services supervisor, office chief of federal programs, section manager for recovery support services, and the acting deputy director of DBHR for nine months.

Melodie is proud of building a team of exceptional employees who will take recovery support services far into the future. Melodie leaves state service this month. In her new role, Melodie will work for a national training and technical assistance organization that helps other states to set up services supporting individuals in recovery.

Matt Christie

Matt started working at the Health Care Authority in July 2019 as the FCS Program Manager and transitioned to his current role as the Program Administrator in June 2020. He provides oversight of the FCS third party administrator and coordinates work with various stakeholders around program implementation, policies, and sustainability.

Prior to joining state service, Matt's background included work in higher education, data management, and communications. Matt is thrilled to work on such an impactful and innovative program and finds comfort knowing FCS can change people's lives in a positive way. When he's not working, Matt enjoys spending time with his wife and 1-year old son, cooking, playing soccer, as well as making and listening to music.


Lisa Gosiaco

Lisa began working for the Health Care Authority Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery in January 2020 and assumed the role of FCS Program Manager in February 2021. Her main duties are to Coordinate FCS program operations, including the client enrollment process, issue resolution, and report development.

Lisa also provides project management support and coordination for FCS, including working with partner agencies and contractors. What she enjoys most about this work is supporting such an innovative program that powerfully impacts the lives of so many Washingtonians. Overseeing the mobile device distribution has been particularly rewarding as it has enabled Lisa to foster connections between FCS providers and the ACHs. She has enjoyed making connections herself. Lisa has over 17 years' experience in non-profit social services, focusing on youth and adults experiencing homelessness, survivors of domestic and sexual violence, and support for adults with developmental disabilities. In her free time, Lisa enjoys time with her grown kids and their families, kayaking, and tackling home and yard projects.

Scott Tankersley

Scott is the Foundational Community Supports (FCS) Housing Subsidy Program Manager. Scott started October 1 and is working diligently to implement the FCS housing subsidy program. Scott's passion is ensuring people have access to safe, permanent, affordable housing in communities of their choice.



Before relocating to Washington in 2018, Scott held positions where he helped administer affordable housing and homeless services across Illinois state and New York City. Upon moving to Seattle, Scott served as an FCS Housing Case Manager and Resource Coordinator with Full Life Care, a nonprofit provider in King County. Scott is also a recent masters-level graduate of UW's School of Social Work with a concentration in administration and policy practice and is a current part-time graduate student at UW's Evans School of Public Policy & Governance. When he isn't working or attending school, he is most likely dancing on roller skates.

Kimberly Castle

Kimberly is a Supportive Housing Program Manager for Western Washington. Kimberly's role is to provide consultation to agencies under contract with or considering a contract with Amerigroup for FCS Supportive Housing services and to coordinate adherence to agencies quality, effectiveness of service delivery and expansion of availability to a statewide Service.

Kimberly serves as point of contact for Third Party Administrator (TPA), community stakeholders, BHOs, provider agencies and interested parties on Foundational Community Supported. Consults, supports, and coordinates adherence to the Supportive Housing- PSH Evidenced-Based Practice, provide technical assistance agencies interested in or providing FCS Supportive Housing services. This position also serves as a consultant to increase the provision of the Supportive Housing- PSH evidence-based services offered in Washington State as well as Develop and manage agency contracts. She is a Certified Peer Counselor and has been working in Supportive Housing for 10 years, 7 of those being in direct service, until she started her current position at DBHR in March of 2018. Kimberly writes, "My favorite part of the job is working with agencies to teach the principles of Supportive Housing and helping them really improve the quality of service to ensure the amazing outcomes for their participant This is how we get to make dreams come true! By honoring choice in all things, we do, we are empowering people to live their lives the way they want and need to in order to move forward in their recovery, it just doesn't get better then that!"


Dawn Miller

Dawn was hired in March of 2018 as a Supported Employment Program Manager for Eastern Washington. Dawn provides technical assistance to agencies and spreads the word about FCS supported employment at conferences. Another key responsibility is as a lead fidelity reviewer for agencies that host an Individual Placement and Support (IPS) supported employment fidelity review.

Dawn also monitors various contracts and assists with planning and facilitating multiple supported employment webinars each month. IPS is the evidence-based practice of supported employment and is utilized by FCS SE agencies per contract with Amerigroup. Prior to joining HCA, Dawn worked for 21 years in a behavioral health agency providing and supervising supported employment services. Dawn writes, "It is interesting to me that once upon a time, I had high anxiety when speaking to groups. Having said that, the thing I like most about my job at this time is public speaking! I enjoy the interaction with the attendees at presentations and appreciate that I am able to spread the word about IPS supported employment and employment as an important part of recovery. It feels like the culmination of 35 years of providing supported employment. When I had a caseload, I had a positive impact on the lives of individuals, one life at a time. Now I get to help agencies to make the same impact with hundreds of individuals. I love my job and my teammates! We are a passionate and dedicated group focused on social determinants of health and improving the quality of life of Washingtonians."

Darren Paschke

Darren is a Supported Employment Program Manager for Western Washington. This position allows him to train, support, and mentor agencies to provide IPS Supported Employment, and in the process, extend the message of honoring the whole individual and all their potential.



Darren specializes on the implementation of the Individual Placement of Support (IPS) model of Supported Employment. Over the last twenty-six years, he has provided the behavioral health community with advocacy to promote education, recovery, and resiliency opportunities, and operationalized programs to reduce the impact of poverty on individuals with severe mental illness. Darren's work has also included presentations on the issues of fighting stigma and finding solutions with the Thomas C. Wales Foundation; delivered presentations on employment at the Washington State Behavioral Health Conference, and King County's Recovery and Resiliency: Steppingstone to Wellness Conference. He has also been an active member in the International IPS Learning Community and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation/Mental Health Cross System state trainings.

Farewell

We say farewell to Amanda Polley. Amanda started in the FCS Supportive Housing Program Manager position for the Eastern Washington in March 2018, but was part of its inception on January 1, 2018 in direct service providing SH services in Chelan/Douglas counties. Luckily, Amanda didn't travel far and is still at HCA/DBHR but has recently transitioned into the role of Peer Support Program Administrator. We appreciate all Amanda has done to support FCS SH in Eastern WA for over three years.

Please see the job announcement for the [Behavioral Health Permanent Supportive Housing \(PSH\) Program Manager East](#) position.