

Cheryl Gagne

Cheryl Gagne is a Senior Associate at the Center for Social Innovation. She is the Director of Praxis, a training and consultation project that assists addiction treatment programs to meet the needs of people with substance use disorders. The project is funded by the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) at the Department of Public Health in Massachusetts. She also contributes to BRSS TACS. Dr. Gagne's areas of interests and expertise are workforce training and development (including peers), transforming behavioral health programs and systems to promote recovery, using evidence-based practices in recovery-oriented programs, and evaluating recovery-oriented services. She has a passion for increasing the involvement of people with lived experience of recovery in the development, delivery, and evaluation of behavioral health services. For over two decades, Dr. Gagne was a Research and Training Associate at the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University, where she conducted research into the process of recovery from mental illness and evaluated recovery-oriented services, programs, and systems. Dr. Gagne has conducted research and training in supported employment for people with psychiatric disabilities. She has trained and consulted widely in psychiatric rehabilitation, including supported education, employment, and housing. She developed and delivered workforce development programs and consulted with behavioral health programs to enhance their capacity to deliver rehabilitation and recovery-oriented programs. She was also the Associate Director of the Recovery Education Center, an innovative education and support program for people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders where she was involved in program and staff development. She developed training courses and supervision strategies for peer providers. Dr. Gagne also taught courses in psychiatric rehabilitation and supported employment at Boston University. She is a person in recovery from mental illness and addiction and an advocate for others who are in recovery and are striving for their rights to participate in valued roles in communities of their choice.