

INTAR 2007

May 5 - 9

Gabriola Island, B.C.

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES & CONTACT INFORMATION

Laurie Ahern

Associate Director
Mental Disability Rights International
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Currently Associate Director of Mental Disability Rights International, an international human rights organization which focuses on the protection of human rights for people labeled with a psychiatric diagnosis or an intellectual disability. Conducts workshops, gives talks, and organizes conferences for consumers/survivors, families and mental health providers to promote recovery. Served as co-director of the National Empowerment Center and former vice president of NARPA.

Michael Bambrick

c/o Pat.Bracken@mailp.hse.ie

Ron Bassman

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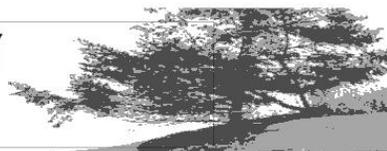
In 1969, at the age of 25, I was admitted to a psychiatric hospital for the second time in three years. The first diagnosis, schizophrenia, paranoid type was followed by a second hospitalization and the diagnosis schizophrenia, chronic type. My treatments included electro- shock, insulin comas and massive doses of medication. After I recovered from my "treatments" and began addressing the identity issues that had triggered my excursion into "madness," I entered graduate school, earned my doctorate and have worked as a licensed psychologist in a state hospital, in private practice, been a consultant to numerous schools and state agencies and have been the executive director of a 7-county comprehensive mental health center. I worked as a clinician and an advocate and was able to hide my psychiatric history for more than twenty years.

More than 10 years ago I chose to identify myself as a psychiatric survivor in order to draw from all of my experience and be fully genuine in my relationships and work. Currently I work as a psychotherapist with Behavioral Health Specialists (BHS), a private psychotherapy group. I also teach Community Mental Health in the graduate school at Sage Colleges. Prior to joining BHS, I worked for 9 years at the New York State Office of Mental Health Bureau of Recipient Affairs doing self-help project development, education and technical assistance. I am a former two-term president of the National Association for Rights Protection and Advocacy and continue to serve on the Board of Directors. I have been an elected member for five years on the American Psychological Association's Expert Taskforce

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Ron Bassman, cont.

on Serious Mental Illness. In 2005 APA awarded me a citation for my work on serious mental illness. With other ex-patients and allies, I was a co-founder of the International Network for Treatment Alternatives for Recovery (INTAR), which held its first meeting of alternative practitioners and psychiatric survivors in 2004.

Pat Bracken

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Bernice Cherney

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Patrick Coll

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A psychiatrist originally from Ireland, he has lived and worked in Canada for 25 years. He has taken a critical position towards his professions dominant “biological” paradigm in mental health treatment. He is currently medical director of the Day Treatment Service at Rockyview General Hospital in Calgary , Alberta which promotes self mastery of mental health issues rather than external solutions. He is a founding member of the clinic for Mind-Body Medicine in the Calgary Health Region which promotes healing without using psychotropic or analgesic drugs. He is consultant to the Dialectical Behavior Therapy team in the same region whose unofficial motto is “replacing pills with skills.” He has a private practice focused on helping people manage their mental health issues with similar principles.

Anne Marie DiGiacomo

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Dianne Engel-Dragon

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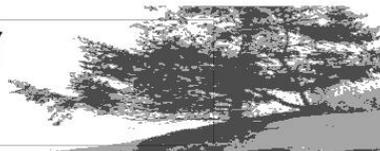
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Brian Eaton

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Brian Eaton is a community worker who has been involved with Second Opinion Society (SOS) in Whitehorse, Yukon as a board member, volunteer or staff person for the past ten years. He is active in community life in Whitehorse, where he has lived for the past twenty-five years since moving from Ottawa. He is the SOS representative to the board of the National Network for Mental Health, as well as a member of its outgrowth, the Canadian Coalition of Alternative Mental Health Resources. His interests include gardening, film, media studies, municipal politics, travel and languages. He is currently preparing to study teaching English as a foreign language, and would ideally like to teach in Europe.

Eric Friedland-Kays

Windhorse Associates
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I am working at Windhorse Associates, a community-based, whole-person, recovery-minded, Buddhist-inspired mental health agency in Northampton, MA. At Windhorse, I am the Admissions Manager, and I have been a Senior Clinician for the past 7 years. I received my Master's degree in Intercultural Management from the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont in 1999. I am currently studying as a third-level Psychosynthesis Therapist at the Synthesis Center in Amherst, MA. I have been a Vipassana meditation practitioner for the last 15 years. I lived in Japan for 5 years in the 90s where I studied Aikido and massage. I grew up in Brooklyn, NY.

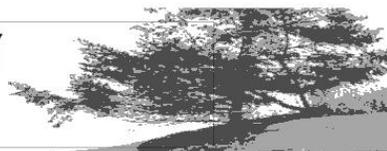
Norma Friedman, Ed.D.

Fort Wayne, Indiana & Northampton, Massachusetts
Professor of Business and Social Sciences
Senior Consultant Trustee Leadership Development
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I work for Indiana Tech in Fort Wayne Indiana. I lead programs in Psychology and Human Services Management. My specialty is strategic planning and administration of non-profit organizations (sometimes referred to NGOs).

I am also a family member.

I have been involved with Windhorse Associates, Northampton Massachusetts for many years as a member of the Board of Directors and as a volunteer.



Liz Glass

New York, USA

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Works for Community Access, a not-for-profit that provides safe, affordable housing and support services for people with psychiatric disabilities moving from shelters and institutions to independent living. Has 12 years experience in city government developing innovative supportive housing alternatives for individuals with psychiatric disabilities and/or histories of homelessness. Developing a Soteria-like residential project in New York with Cal Hedigan.

Jim Gottstein

Anchorage, Alaska, US

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Jim Gottstein engages in a multi-faceted approach in seeking the creation of alternatives to the coercive, psychiatric drugging paradigm of reacting to people labeled with mental illness. As a survivor/lawyer, he feels he is in a special position to utilize the legal system in this process. He co-founded the Law Project for Psychiatric Rights (PsychRights) in 2002 to mount a strategic litigation campaign against forced psychiatric drugging and electroshock in the United States. One of the key legal elements to this campaign is the United States constitutional principle that people are entitled to the least intrusive alternative. This is essentially ignored and Jim is using strategic litigation to try and enforce this right. Thus far, PsychRights has been able to mount litigation only in Alaska where Jim is licensed to practice law, but with his recent Alaska Supreme Court successes and the recent hiring of its first Executive Director, Bruce Whittington, PsychRights is working on mounting efforts in other states.

The availability of non-coercive, non-drug alternatives is a key element and Jim founded two NGOs in Alaska to pursue this. Soteria-Alaska is envisioned as a true Soteria type of program and has garnered significant support from key policy makers. It is hoped Soteria-Alaska will become a reality within the next couple of years. CHOICES, Inc., is envisioned as essentially an alternative community mental health center operating under the principles laid out in Chapter 9 of Loren Mosher and Lorenzo Burti's fabulous book, *Community Mental Health: A Practical Guide*.

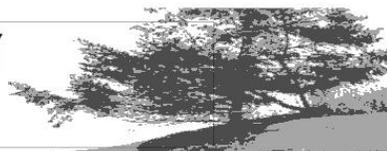
Jim is also on the board of directors of the International Center for the Study of Psychiatry and Psychology (ICSPP), the organization founded by Dr. Peter Breggin, as well as currently serving as president of the National Association of Rights Protection and Advocacy (NARPA), which is composed mostly of psychiatric survivors and mental health lawyers.

Jim recently received national attention when he subpoenaed what have become known as the Zyprexa Papers from an expert in the massive products liability case over Zyprexa causing diabetes and other metabolic diseases, and gave them to the New York Times, which ran five straight days of coverage, including a call for an investigation by the US Congress. Even though he believes he followed proper procedures, the judge in the case disagreed, and as of this writing Jim is being threatened with criminal and civil contempt proceedings and disciplinary action against his license to practice law for bringing these documents of great public importance to light.

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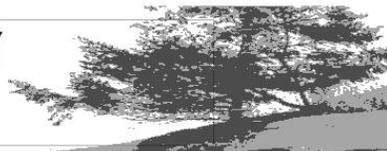
Co-founder of the Freedom Center, a support, advocacy, and activist group run by and for people labeled with severe mental illnesses. Recently joined the staff collective of the Icarus Project, a national mutual aid support network of people diagnosed with bipolar disorder and related madness who challenge the idea of mental illness as disease. Was one of the founders of a new community radio station <http://www.valleyfreeradio.org/>.

Cal Hedigan
New York, USA
acalh@cairn.org

Has worked in various mental health settings in New York City since 1989. Currently works for “Community Access”, an organisation assisting people with psychiatric diagnoses make the transition to independent living. Currently involved in developing a Soteria-like residential project in New York.

Voyce Hendrix, M.S.W.
voycehendrix@hotmail.com

A pioneer in practical alternatives to psychiatry, Hendrix has a four-decade career in working with those who suffer and experience alternative states of reality. He was director of Soteria House, the groundbreaking San Diego residential facility started by Dr. Loren Mosher in the 1960s. Hendrix has experience in state institutions, private hospitals, and community-support programs, and now practices in Wisconsin.



Gail A. Hornstein

Massachusetts, USA

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Gail A. Hornstein is Professor of Psychology at Mount Holyoke College (South Hadley, Massachusetts, USA). She is the author of many articles in professional journals as well as the recent book, *To Redeem One Person is to Redeem the World: The Life of Frieda Fromm-Reichmann* (Free Press, 2000; paperback, Other Press, 2005), the story of the maverick psychiatrist who pioneered the use of psychotherapy in treating schizophrenia. Hornstein has compiled a *Bibliography of First-Person Narratives of Madness in English* (now in its 3rd edition) which lists more than 600 titles, and is currently at work on a new book showing how the ideas of the psychiatric survivor movement can radically reconceive fundamental assumptions about madness and mental life.

Bertam P. Karon, Ph.D.

Professor of Psychology

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Bertam P. Karon, Ph.D., is a Professor of Clinical Psychology at Michigan State University. Dr. Karon received his A.B. from Harvard, and Ph.D. from Princeton. He is a former President of the Division of Psychoanalysis of the American Psychological Association, and has over 150 publications, the most important of which is the book (with G.R. VandenBos) *Psychotherapy Schizophrenia: The Treatment of Choice*. He was selected by the Washington School of Psychiatry as the 2001 Fromm-Reichmann memorial lecturer, and by the US chapter of the International Society for the Psychological Treatment of Schizophrenia and Other Psychoses as their 2002 Award for profound contributions to our psychoanalytic understanding and humane treatment of patients with severe mental illness.

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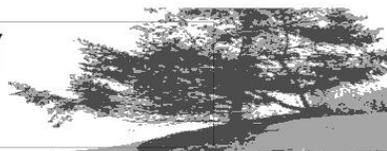
<http://www.peter-lehmann.de/>

1980 co-founder of a selfhelp-group of (ex-)users and survivors of psychiatry and advising in psychiatric drugs and withdrawal until 1989. 1989 co-founder of the Organisation for the Protection from Psychiatric Violence (running the Runaway-House Berlin). Since 1990 board-member of PSYCHEX

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Peter Lehmann, cont.

(Switzerland) and co-editor of the Journal of Critical Psychology, Counselling and Psychotherapy (United Kingdom). 1991 co-founder of the European Network of (ex-)Users and Survivors of Psychiatry (ENUSP). From 1994 to 2000 board-member of the German organisation of (ex-)Users and Survivors of Psychiatry (BPE), now webmaster.

From 1996 until September 1999 member of the Executive Committee of Mental Health Europe (European section of the World Federation for Mental Health). From January 1997 to February 1999 Chair of ENUSP; since 2004 board-member for the region of North-East Europe (Estonia, Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Russia) and Secretary of the ENUSP board. From 2002 to 2004 ENUSP Interim Secretary. Member of MindFreedom International and its designated representative to the United Nations, since 2002. 2002 co-founder, board-member and training course leader of "Für alle Fälle e.V." ("In Any Case," Berlin). Since 2004 member of INTAR (International Network of Treatment Alternatives for Recovery) , since 2005 of Patients Rights Advocacy Waikato Inc. (New Zealand) and the National Association for Rights Protection and Advocacy (USA). Representing MindFreedom, ENUSP and BPE in the Organizing Committee of the conference on Coercive Treatment in Psychiatry: A Comprehensive Review, run by the World Psychiatric Association in June 2007 in Dresden.

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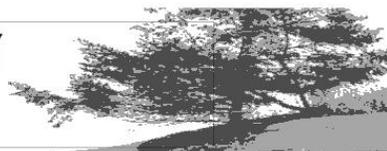
mailto:sarahp@wellink.org.nz

Has worked in the community mental health sector since 1992. An experienced advocate, administrator, manager, and most recently employed as peer development specialist for Wellink Trust recovery focused mental health services. Involved with a number of advisory groups, reference groups and committees including currently working on an expert committee tasked with reviewing New Zealand's National Mental Health Sector Standards.

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Nick Putman

London, UK

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Currently undertaking a psychotherapy training with the Philadelphia Association. Has worked for two years in a Richmond Fellowship therapeutic community and lived for one year in a Philadelphia Association community. Now employed as a resident therapist at the Arbours Crisis Centre in London. Is actively involved in trying to set up a Soteria-like house in the UK with the Soteria Network UK.

Leon Redler, M.D.

c/o Diorama Arts,

34 Osnaburgh St.

London, NW1 3ND, UK

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Redler, a London based colleague of the late Drs. R.D. Laing and Loren Mosher, co-founded alternative places of asylum for people in severe “mental” distress and continues to re-search and address the roots of suffering through the developing practice of Just Listening, ethical-deconstructive therapy, and other practices.

Gisela Sartori

Gabriola Island, BC, Canada

kookatsoon@shaw.ca

Sartori is the founder and former coordinator of the Second Opinion Society (SOS), a grassroots community organization offering non-medical alternatives to psychiatry, including a drop-in and resource centre. She is now in private practice in Nanaimo, working with people looking for alternatives to drug treatment.

Judy Schreiber, OTR/L, LCSW

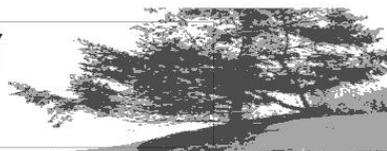
Soteria Associates

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Worked at the National Institute of Mental Health Schizophrenia Unit for 28 years. Worked as a home psychotherapist with people who were unable/unwilling to leave their homes. Currently a vocational counselor to veterans who have either retired from the military or returned from the war. Interested in setting up a group for watching films that tackle mental health issues. Loren Mosher’s widow. Working on trademarking the use of term “Soteria” and dedicated to maintaining the integrity of Soteria projects, as well as standardizing research on Soteria projects.



Peter Stastny

New York, USA

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Conducted research on the effects of long-term institutionalization, family influence, peer support, self-help, empowerment and advance directives. A consultant and founding member of several user-run organizations, providing advocacy and expert testimony in many cases dealing with psychiatric malpractice and forced treatment. Served on the Board of Windhorse Associates and the National Associations of Rights, Protection and Advocacy and is Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York.

Chris Stevenson

School of Health and Social Care, University of Teesside

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Worked as a Community Psychiatric Nurse and a facilitator of Community Mental Health Teams, specialising in working with families. Has an established research programme in psychological recovery and suicidology, and helped in the development of the Tidal Model of psychiatric and mental health nursing (Phil Barker, 2000). Now Professor of Mental Health Nursing at Dublin City University.

Ann Thompson

Mental Health Recovery Educator, Family Outreach & Response Program

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A “survivor/provider” trained in critical social work, who is exploring the application of recovery principles in programs/organizations supporting consumer/survivors and family members. A trained Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) and peer support facilitator. Has worked with Karyn Baker to adapt the WRAP framework to a family setting. Together they have integrated mental health recovery principles within a family psychoeducation series. Currently pursuing a research project that hopefully will explore mental health recovery and its applications within the aging population.

Elisa White

c/o info@windhorseassociates.org

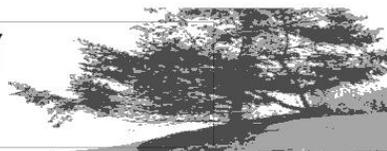
James Walsh

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Bruce Whittington

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Bruce Whittington is the Executive Director of PsychRights, and has a long history of grassroots activism and human rights promotion, both in government and as a consultant. Bruce was a founder and director of the Second Opinion Society, a small but influential Canadian psychiatric survivor advocacy organization recognized internationally as a leader in promoting psychiatric rights. Trained in Criminology at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Bruce also served as the Yukon Territory's Human Rights Officer, and as a consultant in human rights promotion and policy development for governments and educational institutions.

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