**PETER C. ASHENDEN**

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| Objective | | |
| Provide senior leadership role to develop, implement, and direct health service programs that promote self-care, recovery, and wellness for improved population health outcomes. | | |
| Professional Accomplishments | | |
| National Vice President of Consumer and Family Affairs OptumHealth-Division United Healthcare- [4/2010- present]  * Cultivate all Recovery and Resiliency Programs integrating the Mental and Physical Health aspects of wellness to support Public Sector new business RFP’s and operations planning. * Develop and oversee all Recovery and Resiliency Programs and trainings for multiple platforms including “Seeking Safety,” Wellness Recovery Action Plan,” and established a National Peer Support Program for Optum, which integrates both onsite and electronic trainings to Care Advocacy Staff , Field Care Advocates and onboarding of new Peer Recovery Support positions. * Certified Trainer in Mental Health First Aid with exemplary evaluations by participants for the last four years. * Worked with the Sales Growth Team to promote new State contracts for Medicaid covered services. * Developed programs with peers offering intense services to reduce costly in patient hospitalization and unnecessary ER usage while assisting to develop recovery resources. * Assure Consumer and Family Affairs department compliance with fiscal requirements, program improvements, performance outcomes as related to all national standards and guidelines; NCQA. | | |
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| Executive Leadership; President and CEODepression and Bipolar Alliance – Chicago, IL [9/2008 – 4/2010]  * Oversaw the nation’s largest consumer run behavioral health organization, executed within a five million dollar budget. * Established a National Peer Specialist Training Program, the provision of over 1000 support groups and oversight of 40 state chapters. * Advanced the development and oversaw the Scientific Advisory Board for the organization * Developed relationships and funding from grant and industry sources for the development of programs and peer services. | | |
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| Executive Leadership; Executive Vice PresidentDepression and Bipolar Alliance – Chicago, IL [7/2007 – 9/2008]  * Implemented the vision and mission of peer related services of the organization. * Administered the Consumer Technical Assistance Center which was a SAMSHSA funded initiatives. * Supervised 3 members of the leadership team who had the job responsibility to oversee programs and peer services for the agency. * Integrated service dog training and promoted the use of service dogs for individuals who required supportive assistance coping with their mental and physical health issues. | | |
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| Executive DirectorMental Health Empowerment Project, Inc. – Albany, NY [7/1995 – 7/2007]  * Directed statewide mental health peer operated organization serving individuals with mental health issues to become empowered to take responsibility, find their voice, and make important recovery based life choices while attending regular support programs. * Implemented policy and financial requirements of the budget of one million dollars per year which was allocated from contracts with the State of New York Office of Mental Health, SAMSHA and several additional grants to offer peer support services in conjunction with the MHEP Board of Directors. * Developed peer networks throughout New York State to increase services and communication with consumer operated organizations as part of the requirements of a SAMHSA/CMHS grant. * Initially held position of Deputy Director of Operations from 7/95 - 10/96. | | |
| Employment History | | |
| **4/94 – 7/95** | **Coordinator of Human Services** | **PEOPLe. Inc. Dutchess County, NY** |
| **5/93 – 4/94** | **Coordinator Vocational Placements** | **ARC/DC** |
| **7/84 – 8/93** | **Property Development and Construction Manager** | **Hov-Ash, Inc.** |
| **2/72 – 9/80** | **Program Coordinator and Trainer for individuals with Developmental Disabilities** | **Wassaic Development Center** |
| Education | | |
| 1984 | B.S. in Business Management | SUNY, New Paltz |
| |  | | --- | | **Certifications**  **Wellness Recovery Action Plan, Certified Trainer - Mary Ellen Copeland**  **Mental Health First Aid Trainer**  **Self-Directed Rehabilitation Trainer**  **Seeking Safety Trainer (Peer facilitated model)** | |  | | | |

**Publications**

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| Daniels, A. S., Bergeson, S., Fricks, L., Ashenden, P., Powell, I. (2012) Pillars of peer support: advancing the role of peer support services in promoting recovery. The Journal of Mental Health Training, Education and Practice. Vol 7 NO. 2 60 – 69.  Alexander, MJ, Haugland G, Ashenden P, Knight E, Brown I. (2009) Coping with thoughts of suicide: techniques used by consumers of mental health services. Psychiatric Services. Sep;60(9):1214-21. doi: 10.1176/appi.ps.60.9.1214.  Ashcraft, L, Anthony WA, Knight E, Ashenden P. (2009) Insisting on the truth: empower staff to feel safe and share their recovery stories. Behavioral Healthcare Jan;29(1):11-2, 14, 16. |

**Invited Presentations (selected from over 80 keynote and other presentations)**

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| Testified before the Congressional Committee – Labor, Health, and Human Services sub-committee – Washington, DC. The benefits of a strength based approach with individuals with mental health issues. March 2008.  Member of the American Psychology Association (APA) five year workgroup Recovery to Practice October 2009 to September 2014.  The 29th Annual Carter Center Symposium on Mental Health Policy – Featured Speaker November 7-8, 2013  Alternatives 2004 Annual Conference – Conference Keynote - Denver, CO October 2004 |

**National Boards and Member Organizations (selected)**

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| Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) – Member for the Center for Mental Health Services Consumer Advisory Board 2013 to 2017  Member of the Board for the Inter-National Association of Peer Supporters (iNAPS) December 2013 to Present  Member of the Board of the Copeland Wellness and Recovery Center December 2013 to Present  Chair of the Board for formerly the United States Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (USPRA) June 2010 – June 2013  Member of the Board of CARF (Certification Association of Rehabilitation Facilities) 2001 to 2006  Executive Committee Member and IAPSRS Representative, Board of Directors, New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (NYAPRS) 1994 – 2007 |