



A Collaboration Between



Center for
Social Innovation



THE NATIONAL CENTER ON
Family Homelessness

t3 faculty create training opportunities that are practical, skills-based, interactive, and grounded in adult learning theory. Our trainers include former case managers, educators, clinicians, doctors and nurses, and consumers.

Mark Allison, MS

Mark has been working to end homelessness for twenty years. As a Senior Associate with the Center for Social Innovation, he is responsible for conducting needs assessments and providing technical assistance to communities throughout the country wishing to improve the effectiveness of their efforts to prevent and reduce homelessness. Prior to joining C4, Mark was Executive Director of the Supportive Housing Coalition of New Mexico, where he pioneered the evidence-based practices of permanent supportive housing and Housing First in New Mexico. His leadership was recognized for creating innovative housing that combined mixed income populations, cutting edge sustainable “green” features, and award winning design. Earlier in his career, Mark managed a multi-service drop in center that served an average of 425 people daily. Mark has served on numerous boards, commissions, and task groups and is currently the Vice President of the Board of Directors of the National Low Income Housing Coalition. Mark holds a B.S. and M.S. in Political Science from Illinois State University. He resides in Albuquerque, NM.



Tom Bardwell

Tom Bardwell is a public health professional and artist. A native Ohioan, Tom moved to Massachusetts in 2004 to complete the Emerson College Master's Program in Theatre Education. Tom's specialty is facilitating trainings on harm reduction, trauma-informed practices, and stigma to best serve youth populations experiencing homelessness. As an advocate for youth, Tom has applied his talents within various settings such as after-school programs, day-cares, and summer camps. From 2007 to 2011, he worked for Youth on Fire, a homeless youth drop-in center in Cambridge, where he implemented anti-oppression workshops and created safe space for frontline staff, youth and members of the community. Tom serves on the Massachusetts Commission on Gay Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender Youth and is a member of the Homeless Youth Providers Network. Tom holds a BA in Sociology.

meet our faculty



Barbara Bennett, MEd, PhD

Barbara is a school psychologist who has worked with Seattle Public Schools since 2007 providing professional development and coaching to teachers. She is co-founder of First Place, a non-profit agency and school for children and families who have experienced the trauma of homelessness and community violence. Barbara is an adjunct faculty member at an innovative National Center of Excellence and is an instructor of The Psychology of Trauma, a University Behind Bars course at Monroe Correctional Complex.



Fred Berman, MSE

Prior to joining The National Center on Family Homelessness, Fred spent 20 years with the Cambridge Department of Human Services as a planner. He coordinated planning for the Cambridge Continuum of Care for over a decade, overseeing a tripling of annual HUD funding, a near-quadrupling of the number of units of permanent supportive housing for homeless persons, and successful implementation of a multi-site homeless management information system (HMIS), which served as a model for other communities and the State. Fred is a trained mediator and is committed to the collaborative process. He brings a consistently high level of energy and passion to his work on behalf of homeless and at-risk members of our community — whether it be advocacy, data systems development, program design, grant writing, or contributing hands-on support towards a successful project.



Wayne A. Centrone, MD

Wayne is a physician and public health professional who has dedicated his career to working with high risk and marginalized homeless and underserved populations around the world. After finishing a family practice residency, he completed a one-year fellowship training program in "Homeless and Underserved Medicine" at Outside In Medical Clinic (Portland, OR), where he later became the medical director. In addition, Wayne has also completed an 18-month graduate certificate program from the prestigious University of Oxford in the delivery of healthcare services to homeless populations. In addition to his work with homeless populations in the United States, Wayne works extensively in international medical and social outreach – spending time in Latin America helping to develop and promote public health and primary care resources to street youth and underserved communities. Wayne is currently a Senior Associate in Health Policy at the Center for Social Innovation.

Melissa Cogswell

Melissa has been with the Center for Social Innovation since 2010. A Massachusetts Department of Education certified teacher and certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor, Melissa now uses her skills as an educator to help people in ways that extend beyond the bounds of the classroom. Melissa's work is informed every day by her personal struggles with mental illness. She knows from experience that recovery is possible for everyone.



Livia Davis, MSW, CSWM

Livia is Director of Organizational Development at the Center for Social Innovation and the project director for the SAMHSA Supportive Services Housing (SSH) national Technical Assistance Center. Livia has conducted online and in-person workshops and seminars on social connectedness, learning communities, leadership development, consumer involvement, goal achievement, accessing mainstream resources and housing. Previous to joining the Center for Social Innovation, she spent 14 years developing and operating homeless services and housing programs, including permanent supportive housing and residential treatment programs. She was a first-responder assisting Hurricane Katrina evacuees arriving at Otis Air Force Base in Massachusetts. Livia holds a B.A. in Human Ecology from College of the Atlantic and a M.S.W. from Boston University. She grew up on her great-grandfather's 300-acre farm in Denmark, where up to 125 people who experienced homelessness could live, work, and belong to a community. This gave her first-hand experience of a model that emphasizes social inclusion, consumer involvement, and supported employment as the cornerstones for empowerment and the development of independence and self sufficiency.



Laura Gillis, RN, MS

Laura has 20 years of leadership and management experience in community based health care organizations. She is currently the Director of Performance Improvement and a member of the Leadership Team at the Center for Social Innovation. Laura manages the Community Development Technical Assistance project, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to improve the performance, cost effectiveness, and quality of programs of their grantees. She is also the C4 lead on SAMHSA's Housing and Homelessness Resource Network, a national technical assistance center for SAMHSA grantees. Drawing on her experience as the past President of Baltimore Homeless Services (the lead entity for HUD's Continuum of Care in Baltimore City) and former Clinical Director at Health for the Homeless of Maryland, Laura has expertise in developing strategic partnerships, improving service delivery systems, health and homelessness, and quality improvement. She is also knowledgeable and passionate about authentically integrating the voices of people who have experienced homelessness and mental illness into community organizations.



Kathleen Guarino, LMHC

Kathleen is a Senior Program Associate, Clinical Design at The National Center on Family Homelessness, where she specializes in supporting service providers and organizations in understanding traumatic stress and creating trauma-informed services and systems. Kathleen develops resources, curricula and training materials and provides training on traumatic stress, vicarious trauma, and trauma-informed care. She also provides individualized consultation to organizations throughout the country to develop trauma-informed programming. Kathleen is a licensed mental health clinician who received her Masters in Counseling Psychology from Boston College. Prior to her work at The National Center, Kathleen worked as a clinician at a residential treatment facility, where she provided therapeutic services for children and families impacted by trauma. Kathleen continued her clinical training by completing the Certificate Program in Traumatic Stress Studies at the Trauma Center in Brookline, MA, in 2007.

Rachael Kenney, MA

Rachael is a sociologist with expertise in youth, evaluation, and project management. At the Center for Social Innovation, she is currently involved in evaluations of Critical Time Intervention (CTI) and Motivational Interviewing (MI) training tools. In addition to her evaluation efforts, Rachael is a certified Mental Health First Aid trainer and also conducts onsite and online trainings and technical assistance on data, outreach, and youth homelessness. She has overseen editorial development for the PATH website. Rachael holds a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Massachusetts and an M.A. in Sociology from Boston College. She is a self-described "try"/triathlete and enjoys exploring the great outdoors near her home in Golden, Colorado.



Ken Kraybill, MSW

Ken has worked in the health, behavioral health, and homelessness arena since 1982. As a Senior Associate at the Center for Social Innovation, Ken serves as the Director of Training and Co-Director of t3. Drawing upon 18 years of direct service experience in homelessness settings, Ken has developed various curricula, resource guides, and workshops to inform and equip others in the field. He provides training nationally on topics including outreach and engagement, Motivational Interviewing, and supervision. Ken also facilitates staff retreats to foster resiliency and renewal for care. Ken has a particular interest in helping others develop skills in Motivational Interviewing, an approach relevant to all areas of human service. He is a member of the Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers (MINT). Ken has an MSW from the University of Washington in Seattle, WA.

Melissa Martin, MSW

Melissa Martin joined the Center for Social Innovation in 2009, where she conducts research, reports on evidence-based practices, and coordinates t3's online skills courses. She is the Project Manager for an NIMH-funded research study on Critical Time Intervention (CTI) training and a certified Mental Health First Aid trainer. Melissa recognizes the power of addressing poverty and homelessness at a systemic level, and values the role of federal and state legislation, community-level solutions, and organizational policy in creating positive social change. Melissa holds a BA in Sociology from Gettysburg College and a MSW from Boston University.



Sharon Morrison, RN

Sharon has worked as a provider in homeless services for the past nineteen years. She began work as a nurse with Boston's Health Care for the Homeless Program fourteen years ago. At Boston's Health Care for the Homeless Program she has provided care in shelters as a Family Practice nurse, on the streets as an Outreach nurse, and in outpatient clinics as a Diabetes nurse. She currently works in an outpatient clinic-serving Veterans of the Armed Services. She brings to her work a perspective that blends both Eastern and Western traditions of care.



Jeff Olivet, MA

Jeff, Chief Executive Officer of the Center for Social Innovation, has been working on issues of poverty, homelessness, HIV, healthcare access since 1993. He has been an outreach worker, case manager, housing director, writer, speaker, and activist. An experienced trainer, Jeff has developed curricula and trained people in the US and internationally on Motivational Interviewing, trauma, homelessness, outreach, self-care, Critical Time Intervention, harm reduction, and HIV prevention. After Hurricane Katrina, he helped create a Shelter Health manual and training curriculum, working with communities throughout the southeast during the months following the storm. Since the Center for Social Innovation was founded in 2006, Jeff has become a national leader in developing

innovative online training on best practices for working with vulnerable people.



Steven K. Samra, MPA

Steven is a Recovery Specialist for the Center for Social Innovation and has dedicated his life to working with underserved populations. From 2004 to 2010, Steven provided street outreach and oversaw a Veterans Service Center that specializes in serving veterans experiencing homelessness. He spent two years as a team member of a national training team for the National Health Care for the Homeless Council. Steven serves on the Board of the Continuum of Care Steering Committee in Nashville. He co-founded The Contributor, a street newspaper produced and sold by people experiencing homelessness in and around Nashville, Tennessee. Steven is a contributor to the Homelessness Resource Center's website and writes occasionally for Change.org's Poverty

section. During his spare time, he blogs at Stone Soup Station and can be found periodically tweeting on Twitter as @StoneSoupStn. Steven earned his BA and MPA at California State University – Chico.

Sonia Suri, PhD

Sonia is a Senior Research Associate with The National Center on Family Homelessness. She oversees the evaluation of Strengthening At Risk and Homeless Young Mothers and Children, a multi-year initiative of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation that seeks to improve the housing, health and development of homeless and at risk young mothers and children. Sonia is a public health professional with expertise in qualitative, quantitative and mixed-method research methodologies in evaluating public health programs. She has evaluated several public health programs that provide cultural and linguistic competent services to minority groups. Most recently she collaborated with the Educational Development Center, Centers for Disease Control, and the Doris Duke Foundation to design and implement a national study that examines state public health commitment to children maltreatment prevention. Sonia has served as a Commissioner on the Immigrant and Refugee Subcommittee of the Governor's Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. She received her Ph.D. in Medical Anthropology with a concentration in Public Health from the University of Connecticut.



Katie Volk, MA

Katie Volk, MA is the Co-Director of t3 and a Senior Associate at the Center for Social Innovation. She has directed numerous training, technical assistance, and curriculum development efforts and has trained thousands of service providers around the country. Prior to joining C4, Katie spent seven years working with The National Center on Family Homelessness, where she worked with communities in the post-Katrina Gulf, was lead author of SAMHSA's Homelessness and Traumatic Stress Training Package, and developed the PEACH Initiative, a physical and emotional awareness program for children living in transitional settings. Katie played an integral role in the conceptualization, writing, design, and release of America's Youngest Outcasts: State

Report Card on Child Homelessness. She has a joint Master of Arts from Tufts University in Child Development and Urban Policy and an undergraduate degree from the College of the Holy Cross. She completed the Trauma Certificate Program at the Trauma Center in 2007.