

CHRISTINE DEJULIIS

PEER SPECIALIST – ARTIST – CREATIVITY COACH – ART EDUCATOR

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My passions in life are recovery and wellness, art and all things creative, and being of service by using my gifts and talents to positively impact my community and help those in need.

EXPERIENCE

LIFE CALLING

ARTIST, SOLOPRENEUR

I have been on a creative journey my entire life. My fondest recollections from childhood involve creativity in some aspect, whether it was spending time in make believe play, facilitating an art class for the other children in my neighborhood, painting a mural on my bedroom wall, writing stories, or acting in school plays. Although filled with many delightful memories, my life has not been without its challenges and I can say with all sincerity that art saved my life and has helped me become a finer human being. As a self-taught artist, my yearning for creative expression has grown exponentially, leading me to improve my artistic abilities and enrich my artistic endeavors. My current focus is on developing a new body of painting and mixed-media work as well as writing an updated and expanded edition of my book *Art Without End™*. In addition, I am in the process of compiling a collection of my poems for publication. I have recently had the good fortune to obtain a studio space in the Bromo Seltzer Arts District in Baltimore City; therefore, it is with unbridled enthusiasm that I am diving in to see what I can manifest in my new creative space. I am equally enthusiastic to become further involved with the Baltimore art community. In addition to my own art, it is my deepest passion and enduring joy to support others in their creative journey.

AUGUST 2018 – PRESENT

PEER SPECIALIST AND CREATIVITY IN RECOVERY FACILITATOR, JOHNS HOPKINS BROADWAY CENTER FOR ADDICTION

Helping patients clarify where they want to go and how they are going to get there, on their own terms and at their own pace. This is done by meeting patients where they are, providing mentorship, and connecting them with resources. In addition, I facilitate a weekly Creativity in Recovery group for which I developed the curriculum, guiding principles and procedures in cooperation with a credentialed counselor. During group time, under my guidance, patients actively engage in the creative process through a broad array of art and creative projects including painting, collage, mixed-media, art appreciation, storytelling, journal writing, poetry, sculpture, working with clay, mosaic, found object art, sketching, art journaling, and expressive drawing. The group held its first art exhibit at the Broadway Center September 2019 to celebrate National Recovery Month. The exhibit was warmly received with positive feedback from staff, patients, visitors, and the Creativity in Recovery group participants. I am also responsible for creating bulletin board displays throughout the building. The displays are updated approximately every 30 – 45 days.

OCTOBER 2014 – JANUARY 2017

ART PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND FACILITATION, ART ALONG THE WAY

Developed an art program curriculum and facilitated a variety of art, creativity, and wellness related workshops for female offenders. The workshops were designed to encourage and facilitate creativity, mindfulness, communication, contemplation, a sense of purpose and wellbeing. The art projects were shown to increase self-esteem and motivation, help with emotion regulation, build confidence, develop social and life skills such as the willingness to experiment and learn from mistakes, promote self-reflection, and teach participants how to work with a focused discipline. There was the added benefit of finding satisfaction in following activities through to completion with something tangible to show for their efforts. Participants were provided the opportunity to exhibit their work and once the workshop series was completed they were given the chance to mentor their peers entering the program.

OCTOBER 2012 – FEBRUARY 2014

CREATIVE DIRECTOR, CREATIVITY CHANGES EVERYTHING

Developed and led community, group, and individual art/creative workshops and programs. Programs included a monthly family community art night, annual art festival community art activity, a year-long art program for peers in recovery, mental health conference presenter, guest speaker on the benefits of art and creativity, facilitated a variety of creative workshops throughout the recovery community including the following organizations: National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Mental Health America, Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers Association, Bell Socialization Services, Victim Assistance Center, and Community Support Program. Planned, designed, funded, and executed a community Poetry Garden (where a vacant lot stood) in collaboration with local elementary through high school students, teachers, parents, and other local artists. Active resident of Royal Square Arts Neighborhood. Founding member Kings Courtyard Artists' Collective. Provided creativity coaching services to a wide variety of clients including visual artists, writers and musicians.

AUGUST 2010 – OCTOBER 2012

AMBASSADOR OF CHANGE, MOVEMENT OF CHANGE

Authored book *Art Without End™* around which I developed and launched my Art Without End™ Creative Quest program. Art Without End™ Creative Quest is a journey of discovery and renewal based on my philosophy regarding the creative process. Guided by the Art Without End™ core principles and using various art media and methods, an ever-unfolding approach to art and life ensues. Designed and launched an Art Without End™ jewelry line, T-shirts and Healing Art Cards.

JUNE 2010 – JULY 2011

WARMLINE CALL SPECIALIST, MENTAL HEALTH AMERICA

Provided peer support, referrals to community services, and referrals for crisis-intervention. Participated in monthly community provider crisis-intervention meetings as a representative of Mental Health America. Compiled reports and implemented changes on the Warmline as needed.

NOVEMBER 2011 – JANUARY 2014

IN OUR OWN VOICE PRESENTER, NAMI

In Our Own Voice is a peer-led program, with state and national training from NAMI, it helps educate people that there is hope, there is recovery for people with mental illness. In Our Own Voice helps educators, law enforcement, medical professionals, patients, and other members of the community to learn more about mental illness.

35 YEARS OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

STUDENT AUGUST 2017 - PRESENT

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY, HARFORD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RECOVERY COACH TRAINING, CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY FOR ADDICTION RECOVERY (CCAR) RECOVERY COACH ACADEMY

SMART RECOVERY FACILITATOR TRAINING, SMART RECOVERY ORGANIZATION

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID, NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS, MARYLAND ADDICTION AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS CERTIFICATION BOARD (MABPCB)

RECOVERY COACH MENTORING AND EDUCATION TRAINING, MABPCB

MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING, TREE OF HOPE

ADVANCED MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEMS BALTIMORE

WELLNESS RECOVERY ACTION PLAN TRAINING, CHESAPEAKE VOYAGAGERS

LEAP COURSE, DR. XAVIER AMADOR, LEAP INSTITUTE

RECOVERY COACHING AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

SPIRITUALITY FOR RECOVERY COACHES, CCAR

CREATIVITY COACH CERTIFICATION, MARNEY MAKRIDAKIS, ARTBUNDANCE™

MEANING COACH TRAINING, DR. ERIC MAISEL

PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL OF SPIRITUAL HEALING, YORK, PA

QUALITIES

- Compassionate
- Artistic/Creative
- Empathetic
- Determined
- Dedicated
- Flexible
- Encouraging
- Organized

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

I have been in active recovery from mental illness and substance abuse since 2009. My recovery and wellbeing are a priority in my life. It is my heart-felt desire to be a positive influence on my peers in recovery and to be a valuable member of my community.

My short-term goals are to obtain my bachelor's degree in Psychology and to increase my visibility as an artist and arts educator.

My long-term goal is to promote social justice through art.

AFFILIATIONS

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Psi Beta Honor Society

National Organization for Arts in Health

National Alliance on Mental Illness

Baltimore Recovery Corps