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UNITY HOUSE DIRECTOR RECEIVES NATIONAL CERTIFICATION

Susan Sloan is now Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioner



Susan Sloan,
Director of IPRT & Drop-In
Center

Auburn, New York – Unity House of Cayuga County, Inc. Executive Director Liz Werner is pleased to announce that long-time employee Susan Sloan has received the Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioner (CPRP) credential. Sloan is the director of IPRT (Intensive Psychiatric Rehabilitation Treatment) and Drop-In Center at Unity House in Auburn.

“This national credential is a significant accomplishment for Susan and a feather in the cap of Unity House,” said Werner. “I had complete confidence in Susan’s ability to do well on the examination, even though forty percent of test-takers fail on the first attempt. Obtaining this certification validates all the good work Susan has been doing for ten years, and I recognize that the strength of Unity House’s mental health program is largely due to Susan’s leadership. She truly embraces the philosophy of psychiatric rehabilitation, and is one of the most compassionate people I know.”

Only 2,600 individuals across the nation have earned Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioner certification, issued by the U.S. Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (USPRA). According to their Web site, CPRP is a “test-based certification that fosters the growth of a qualified, ethical, and culturally diverse psychiatric rehabilitation workforce through enforcement of a practitioner code of ethics.” CPRPs share a commitment to the fundamental principle that recovery from serious mental illness is possible.

“Working in this field changes people’s lives; it’s why I’ve stayed in this position at Unity House all these years.” said Ms. Sloan. “Psych rehab is about helping those with mental illness feel comfortable in their own skin, reducing their suffering, and increasing their happiness and satisfaction in life. Knowing that what we do here at

Unity House is recognized nationally has broadened my view of psych rehab and all aspects of mental health.”

Unity House’s Intensive Psychiatric Rehabilitation Treatment (IPRT) program opened in 1993. Ms. Sloan joined Unity House in June 1996 as an overnight residential counselor, and became the supervisor of IPRT in January 1997.

Ms. Sloan holds a B.A. in secondary English with a math minor from Montclair State University. She has earned 25 master’s credits from Empire State and Syracuse Universities, and is certified to teach English and math. She was employed with Easter Seals from 1979-1981, was the former director of the Auburn SCAT van transportation service from 1981-1989, and served as the director for Big Brothers/Big Sisters in Auburn before coming on board at Unity House in 1996. Ms. Sloan also served on the Cayuga County United Way Campaign Cabinet for eight years.

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