

Mary M. Blake, CRE is a Public Health Advisor with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA's) Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), Division of Service and Systems Improvement, Community Support Programs Branch. In that position, she serves as project officer for discretionary grant programs to States and community-based groups, provides oversight and collaboration in the evaluation of consumer-run programs, and serves as a member of the project management team for the National Center for Trauma-Informed Care.

From 2003 – June 2007, Ms. Blake was President and Director of Training & Communications at the Consumer Action Network (CAN) in Washington, DC. In that capacity, she was responsible for administration of the agency's operations and programs. She led several special projects and policy initiatives at CAN, including advising the DC Department of Mental Health on policy development related to advance directives and other issues. She also worked closely with government and private agencies to promote evidence-based practices regarding mental health services in Washington, DC and testified before the DC City Council.

Ms. Blake is a frequent speaker at conferences and an experienced trainer on a variety of issues, including recovery, empowerment, trauma-informed strategies in the treatment setting, crisis intervention techniques, stigma and mental illness, and Advance Directives. She serves on several Boards of Directors related to disability rights and mental illness. Ms. Blake is a graduate of the Catholic University of America.