



**My ability to listen to stakeholders, visualize solutions and opportunities, and then get others to share in that vision—my ability to communicate—is what has allowed me to make impactful changes in the organizations and communities where I have worked. I am looking for a challenge that will afford me the opportunity to make the best use of the skills and talents I have developed, while also learning something new, and help make a difference that will be of lasting benefit to my colleagues, my community, my friends, my family, and myself.**

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network

#### Director of Communications

November 20, 2017-present

- Represent the agency at the state legislature and with executive level officials for budget and policy discussions;
- Develop and implement communication strategy for enlarging and engaging GMHCN membership;
- Develop and write all major communication initiatives including project, grant, and funding proposals;
- Supervise communications staff by assigning and monitoring work;
- Assess, evaluate, and provide feedback to communications staff on their performance;
- Collaborate with other nonprofit and state organizations to advance behavioral health policy for all Georgians;
- Represent the agency at the state (2017-present) and national level (including accepted invitation to National Council on Mental Health Recovery, Washington D.C., July 2023 and APA conference presentation 2022);
- Develop and implement presentations and trainings to advance local, state, and national behavioral health policy;
- Establish a state-wide network of mental health advocates to have a voice in state policy;
- Maintain proficiency in technology necessary to execute job functions, including Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative Cloud, Jotform, Constant Contact, social media accounts, and other proprietary software.

#### Interim Executive Director

July 13, 2022-January 15, 2024

- Duties performed concurrently with Director of Communications duties (left);
- Stabilized organization after the sudden death of established leader in July 2022;
- Oversaw \$5.4m annual budget for 15 contracted projects employing 105 people at six GMHCN properties;
- Modernized and scaled administrative, financial, payroll, and human resource processes;
- Provided technical and difficult management advisory service for complex organization matters, including those related to wages and discrimination, at six different GMHCN offices across the state, and dozens of geographically widespread and diverse worksites including correctional facilities, state mental hospitals, and private medical providers;
- Established and nurtured DEIA&B initiative;
- Provided staffing, recruitment, and placement guidance, support, and oversight to leadership team in offices and worksites throughout the state;
- Provided direct performance management and supervision for between 42 employees (July 2022) and 16 employees (January 2024);
- Began building a culture of accountability for staff (productivity measures) and leadership (first working employee handbook; first regular staff meetings, first regular management meetings);
- Analyzed personnel needs of the organization and reorganized staff as part of larger effort to resolve staffing and personnel challenges;
- Collaborated with GMHCN Board, the State of Georgia, and the legislature to ensure operational continuity;
- Secured a \$1.4m contract with Grady Health to provide services at the landmark Fulton County Crisis Center (opening May 2024), increasing GMHCN's budget for 2024 by almost 20%;
- Secured \$100k+ from corporate donors to fund the first in-person GMHCN conference since 2019.

## **Georgia Council for Recovery**, Atlanta, Georgia

**Program Coordinator**, January 4, 2016-June 16, 2017

- Developed a learning community of Georgia's Recovery Community Organizations;
- Visualized and created content and marketing materials for trainings, events, and advocacy efforts;
- Wrote content and managed distribution of weekly email (Constant Contact).

## **Pineland Behavioral Health/Developmental Disabilities**, Statesboro, Georgia

**Social Service Technician**, June 2, 2014-December 11, 2015

- Assessed strengths, needs, abilities and preferences of outpatient individuals with mental health challenges;
- Enhanced community awareness of recovery through media, events, advocacy, and engagement;
- Assisted in the planning, preparation, and execution of a successful 10-year accreditation review.

## **Georgia Southern University**, Statesboro, Georgia

**Assistant Professor of Interior Design**, August 1, 2006-May 31, 2013

- Developed and taught traditional and online lecture and studio courses at all academic levels;
- Assigned and evaluated work performed by students in the classroom and the work-study program;
- Provided academic advising, accreditation review, faculty senate, and committee service.

## **Florida State College at Jacksonville**, Jacksonville, Florida

**Professor of Interior Design**, August 1, 2005-July 31, 2006

- Taught traditional lecture and studio courses;
- Provided academic advising, curriculum review, and adjunct faculty and advisory board facilitation.

## **Savannah College of Art and Design**, Savannah, Georgia

**Programming Manager**, Campus Card Services, November 2001-August 2002

- Developed and implemented debit card system for 7K+ students; including marketing (with SCAD Group Inc), and customer support for campus and off-campus merchants;
- Supervised technical, maintenance, and administrative support staff.

**Financial Aid Counselor**, September 1998-November 2001

- Editing/publication production (editor, Financial Aid Guide) • Banner (Oracle database)/Web coordinator for financial aid; Financial aid counseling.

## **Moody's Investors Service**, New York, New York

**Analyst/Coordinator**, December 1994-November 30, 1996

- Responsible for all post-sale analysis and credit report production for all municipal commercial paper and variable-rate demand debt.

**Rating Committee Coordinator/CSS**, June 1990-December 1994

- Coordination of analytical staff and management into approved sign-off rating committees; Bond rating information delivery to general public and press services.

## **CONSULTING**

### **New York Embroidery Studio**, New York, New York January 2013-now

Provide occasional communications guidance on a wide variety of topics, including notably:

- Redesign of the nyembroiderystudio.com website and development of a social media plan in 2013
- Strategy development to business model during the beginning of Covid, including the recruitment of New York politicians to support NY ES in producing PPE while the city was in crisis in March 2020.

### **Rod Keenan New York**, New York, New York August 1990 - May 2020

Assisted in every aspect of the development and growth of the brand (the first successful men's hatmaker in a generation) including securing a meeting with the first buyer (Barneys New York), creating product line sheets for the first four seasons, and developing invoicing procedures. Developed the website in 1997, assembled the successful application packet for the Council of Fashion Designers of America; designed the presentation and provided coaching for a 2008 Gravity Free presentation, and supported the dissolution of the shop in the spring of 2020.

## FREELANCE

*Threshold*, self-published novel, 2014

*Prequel*, self-published novel, 2013

*The Georgia Guardian* (Savannah) (1998-2000) Feature contributor

*Project X* (New York) (1992-1995) Staff writer

*Fad* (Los Angeles) (1992-1993) Feature contributor

## EDUCATION

MFA AUG 2005	<b>Savannah College of Art and Design</b>	Interior Design
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Thesis: *The Village Green: A model facility for the autistic spectrum disorders community.*

BA JUNE 1998	<b>University of Georgia</b>	English
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## ACTIVE CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS

**Policing Alternatives and Diversion Initiative of Atlanta/Fulton County** (Board member since 2019)

**Georgia Behavioral Health Planning and Advisory Council** (since 2022)

**Behavioral Health Services Coalition** (since 2015)

**Fulton County Mental Health and Justice Task Force** (Fulton County Center for Diversion and Services) since 2017