



2019 Annual Conference
Changing Minds, Changing Lives:
Rethinking Treatment for People Living with Serious Mental Illness

Saturday, November 2nd, 2019 in Norwood, MA

Keynote Address
Severe Mental Illness:
Recognizing and Responding to the Impact on Families (1.5CE)

Presented by Margaret Guyer, Ph.D.
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Prevalence rates for mental illness in the United States range from 25 to 32% including substance use. In Massachusetts, more than 180,000 adults live with bipolar disorder or schizophrenia. A person living with severe mental illness, like any one of us, is part of a family and is loved by parents, siblings, children, friends, and other community members. Recognizing and responding to the impact of living with severe mental illness for an individual and for the people who love them is essential for any behavioral health provider. Through the lens of the intergenerational impact of mental illness across the lifespan, this presentation will provide an overview of assessments strategies, interventions, and community resources to equip private practice practitioners with the tools to recognize and respond to the impact of severe mental illness. Models of 'recovery' and the role of people with lived experience of severe mental illness in the transformation of contemporary behavioral health interventions will be discussed.

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Detect and assess the familial impact of severe mental illness.
2. Utilize a phenomenological framework to inform CBT formulation and interventions for individuals living with severe mental illness.

Margaret Guyer, Ph.D. (she/her/hers) is a clinician who has worked with people with severe mental illness for more than 20 years. As an administrator with the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health she is responsible for the identification, evaluation, and dissemination of evidence-based practices within the Department of Mental Health and among community providers. She maintains a private practice in Brookline and particularly enjoys working with couples and families impacted by severe mental illness.