

Medi-Cal Peer Certification Stakeholder Advisory Council Member

Iris Allen-Willis | Community Action Marin

Iris Allen-Willis became a provider to those struggling with homelessness and mental illness shortly after she came to Marin County in 2013 through unexpected, less than ideal circumstances. Shortly after having entered the County's homeless shelter system, she quickly found work as a peer mental health provider within the behavioral health system. Simultaneous to participating in advocacy for the SB803 legislation to be put on the ballot, Iris was able to connect many community members with serious mental health issues to services, as well as having been able to connect many of these to housing while she was yet in the shelter system herself. After serving for years in positions of increasing responsibility (including leading a peer mental health team) while increasing involvement and participation in the mental health community, Iris is excited to finally get to participate in the meaningful implementation of a cause all of us have fought so hard for.