



PEER RECOVERY

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE



Traci Bowermaster, LCSW

Traci Bowermaster, LCSW, is the Lead Teacher of Insight Recovery School, which is a school-within-a-school housed in White Bear Lake Area Learning Center in suburban St. Paul. A special education teacher, Traci helped found the program 23 years ago as a dream to build a recovery high school that had strong special education support as highlighted in her master's thesis "Chemically Dependent Teens with Special Needs: Educational Considerations for After Treatment". She was one of the first members of the Association of Recovery Schools, having been present at its inaugural meeting and has been active in ARS ever since, serving in many roles on and off the board. Traci currently is serving as the ARS Accreditation Coordinator. Traci is the mother of a college senior and lives in White Bear Lake, MN with her husband Derick and their cats.



Gabby Wohlford

Gabby Wohlford is the Chief Operating Officer and Vice Principal at Emerald School of Excellence, a private Recovery High School in Charlotte, NC. Gabby joined Emerald as an advisory committee chair in May 2019 shortly after graduating with a B.A. in Psychology from the University of North Carolina Asheville. During her time as an undergraduate, Gabby interned at multiple recovery centers in North Carolina and completed two independent research projects on the stigma associated with substance use disorders, both of which were published in undergraduate journals. Gabby has had the privilege of being a part of the growth of Emerald School of Excellence since the school

opened its doors in 2019. Having experienced mental health and substance use struggles as an adolescent, she knows firsthand just how much these factors can impact the high school experience. Gabby believes that the individualized, self-paced education in a recovery-friendly and supportive environment that Emerald School of Excellence and other Recovery High Schools provide is the solution many of our youth need.



Roger Oser

Roger Oser has served as the Principal at ABCD's William J. Ostiguy Recovery High School since its inception in October 2006. Ostiguy High is one of the first high schools in Massachusetts for young people in recovery from substance abuse disorder and the first recovery high school to receive national accreditation by the Association for Recovery Schools. Roger believes in the importance of community involvement and partnerships and in addition to having previously served as the Chair of the Association for Recovery Schools, he served as the co-chair of the Boston Youth Service Network. His participation in the Massachusetts Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP) and experience as a Lynch Leadership Fellow (LLA) has allowed him to continue to develop his skills not only as an educator, but also as an advocate for students and school communities that are in danger of being marginalized. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a master's degree from the Citadel.



Beth Samuelson

Beth Samuelson has been an LADC for over 30 years. She has worked both in treatment centers and recovery high schools, including Insight Recovery High School in White Bear Lake, MN. She helped start a dual diagnosis treatment center and an outpatient treatment center for adolescents. Beth also assisted with opening Insight in January of 2001. Beth recently retired and is currently doing consulting work at the Alternative Learning Center in White Bear Lake.