

# FRONTLINES

Spring 2018 VOLUME 38 ISSUE 1

Official Periodical of the Washington Association

Of Designated Crisis Responders

## Letter from the President

### *Goodbye DMHPs, hello DCRs & Happy Spring!*

This is my first letter as President of the WADCR Association. I have been in the role of the 1st Vice President since 2015 and moved into the role of the President this January when Tiffany Buchanan stepped down.

#### Here is a little bit about me:

I moved from Germany to Seattle in 1992 and finished graduate school in 1994. My first job in the mental health field was on a voluntary crisis team where I worked from 1994 until 2001. Despite having had very different plans like private practice and long-term therapy, I fell in love with crisis work. I also worked as a per diem DMHP in King County for a few years and very briefly as an emergency room Social worker. I became a full time DMHP with Snohomish County in 2001 and have been the DMHP/DCR manager for the last seven years. Despite often being frustrated with situations like “walk away” cases and the countless hours spent on finding placement, I still find DCR work rewarding and interesting.

Outside of work I love fencing, skiing, traveling and cooking with lots of different spices. I have been rehabbing a post-surgery hip and, as a result, a cranky knee while we are remodeling our kitchen. Needless to say, none of that is conducive to pursuing my favorite activities. I am looking forward to getting back into sports, having room for more spices and no longer washing dishes in the tub!

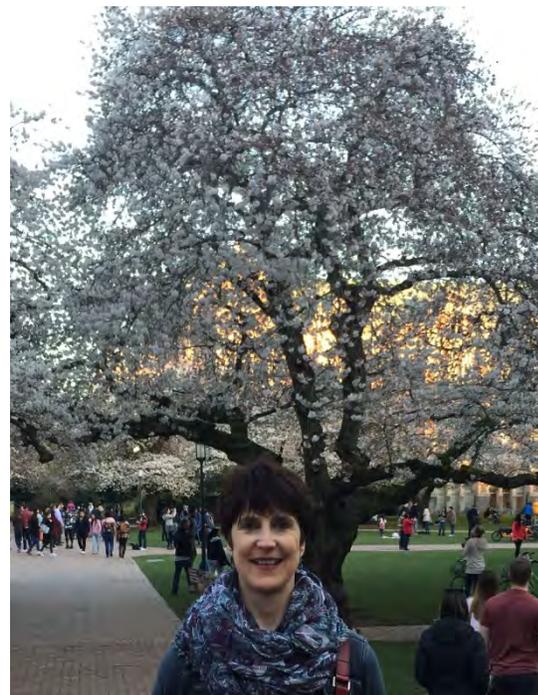
We have been busy with our involvement between the legislative session and the implementation of Ricky’s Law. You will find

details in this issue in a separate legislative section. You will also find details about our current WADCR Board.

It will be interesting to see how it all works out as we expand into SUD detentions.

I am excited to serve as the President for the Association as we move into this new territory and would love to hear from all of you about how things are going in your area.

**Continued on page 2**



President's Letter continued from page 1

We had a successful DMHP Academy in Everett in March and are currently planning for Spokane in July and in the fall for Lacey or Everett. Starting with this most recent Academy we are adding more SUD related topics and presenters to Academies in the future. We had a great & engaged group of DCRs from around the state, well received presenters and a fun social outing to a local brewery in Everett.

We are also planning our spring conference and are looking forward to our annual fall conference at Sun Mountain.

I hope to see many of you throughout the year.

*Carola-*

# Secretary's Soap Box!



## Can You Say Epidemic?

I recently witnessed the opioid epidemic in microcosm. My eleven-year-old daughter was prescribed a 60-day supply of Vicodin, with option to refill, and advised by nursing staff to ask for a "dose" if the pain was a two out of ten. That's 2 out of 10!

That's right. You were not reading this sideways.

To recap: a 60-day, with option to refill, supply of narcotics to an 11-year-old with instructions to med seek PRN. Apparently, that M.D. hadn't heard of the opioid epidemic.

Or perhaps, more accurately, they didn't have the insight to see their own responsibility.

DCRs we have our work cut out for us...

*Brandon-*

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### Washington Association of Designated Crisis Responders Executive Committee

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**Shelby Whitworth**  
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2nd Vice President  
**Renee Morrison**  
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Treasurer  
**Gary Carter**  
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Secretary  
**Brandon Foister**  
360-676-2020  
[Steven.Foister@compassh.org](mailto:Steven.Foister@compassh.org)

Chair  
Education and Legislative Committee  
**Diane Swanberg**  
206-263-1438 desk line  
[diane.swanberg@kingcounty.gov](mailto:diane.swanberg@kingcounty.gov)

# Officer Biographies:

## **Shelby Whitworth**

### **1st Vice President**

*Shelby Whitworth is a Designated Crisis Responder with Frontier Behavioral Health in Spokane, WA.*

*She has been with the Crisis Response Department since 2002 and a Team Leader since 2005. Shelby earned her Bachelor's in Psychology at the University of Montana in 1996 – Go Griz!*

*She completed her Master's in Clinical Psychology at Eastern Washington University in 2002.*

*Elected to the Washington Association of Designated Mental Health Professionals in 2016 as Secretary, Shelby now serves as First Vice President.*

*In her spare time, Shelby enjoys being with her husband of 21 years and her two daughters, ages 21 and 17.*



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## **Renee Morrison**

### **2nd Vice President**

*I am Renee Morrison. I am the Crisis Services Manager and Supervisor of DCRs for Pend Oreille County Counseling Services (POCCS). I live in Newport, Washington and have been employed by Pend Oreille County for the last five years.*

*I am a graduate of Eastern Washington State University and earned a MS in Applied Psychology, Mental Health Counseling track. I began my second career at Sacred Heart Medical Center working as a counselor on the adult psychiatric unit from 1998 until 2000. In 2000 I joined the Crisis Team at Spokane Mental Health in Spokane, Washington and became a County Designated Mental Health Professional (CDMHP) in 2001. In 2006 I joined the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Adult Mental Health Services in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. I was a Crisis Responder and member of the Assertive Community Treatment Team, and Designated Examiner (DE) – the equivalent to a Designated Crisis Responder in Washington State.*

*I am married – 25 years! – with three adult children and grandmother to three beautiful grandchildren. Yes, I am biased! I love being with family and walking our Great Pyrenees (dog), gardening, camping, boating, and shopping at flea markets and second-hand stores.*

*I am a returning member of the Washington Association of DCRs (formerly WACDMHP and WADMHP) and am honored to be serving as your 2nd Vice President.*

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# Biographies (cont.):

## **Brandon Foister**

### **Secretary**

*There are many words that spring to mind when describing Brandon Foister: DCR, Humanitarian, Salon Quality Hair, Devil may care attitude and charisma that would make a Southern Baptist Charismatic blush to name a few.*

*I was first designated in the former late, great Timberlands RSN as a DMHP in 2011 (not so long ago that the "C" was still intact in "CDMHP") - Shout out to little Lewis! I have worked as a full time DMHP, DMHP on-call, in-custody MHP in a County Jail and for the last two years as DMHP/DCR Manager in Whatcom and San Juan Counties.*

*I dream of starting an on-line palindrome magazine for cat enthusiasts and have been fishing on three continents (four if you don't count Central America as part of South America).*

*I look forward to serving as Association Secretary and actively striving to facilitate our shared vision as a board for the betterment of DCRs state wide.*

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## **Diane Swanberg**

### **Chair**

### **Legislative and Education Committee**

*Diane is the Coordinator/Program Manager for King County Crisis and Commitment Services. She oversees a team of 52 designated crisis responders (DCR) who complete all the involuntary behavioral health assessments and detentions in King County.*

*Diane earned her MSW degree from the University of Washington and is a certified Chemical Dependency Professional and certified Mental Health Professional with the State of Washington.*

*Diane worked in the field of chemical dependency and mental health for 20 years. She has extensive experience working with chronically mentally ill and chemically dependent people and their families. She has specialized experience and knowledge in the treatment needs of women, geriatrics and the homeless populations in both mental health and substance abuse.*

*Diane moved into her current position in 2014. She is focused on educating community partners, providers and families about the involuntary treatment process and on improving access to treatment and less restrictive alternatives.*

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## **Upcoming DCR Academy:**

**July 23rd -27th, 2018 – Spokane WA.**

**Accommodations: Red Lion Hotel River Inn – Spokane, WA**

**Register online @ [www.wadcr.org](http://www.wadcr.org)  
Registration contact: [WDMHP@gmail.com](mailto:WDMHP@gmail.com)**

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# Washington Association of Designated Crisis Responders

## Spring Conference

Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick, WA

June 20, 2018

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### Assessment of Risk with Substance Use

*Stefanie Tietge, LICSW, CDP, MSW*

Stefanie Tietge is the Clinical Operations Manager for Behavioral Health Services at Kaiser Permanente in Spokane. Prior to this, Stefanie worked at Frontier Behavioral Health in Spokane for 10 years, working with adults who struggle with symptoms of co-occurring disorders. Stefanie also is an Adjunct Professor at Spokane Falls Community College, where she teaches courses on addiction and the pharmacology of drugs. She assisted in Designated Crisis Responder Training with DBHR over the past year. She is passionate about educating our community about co-occurring disorders, improving treatment resources and reducing the stigma that individuals with co-occurring disorders face. Stefanie is a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker, and also is a licensed Chemical Dependency Professional. She lives in Spokane, WA with her twin boys, two golden retrievers, and her cranky cat.

#### Conference Agenda:

- 7:30 Registration & Breakfast
- 8:30 Opening Remarks
- 8:45 Assessment of Risk with Substance Use  
Stefanie Tietge, LICSW, CDP, MSW
- 10:45 Break
- 11:00 DBHR Update – Robby Pellett
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 Assessment of Risk with Substance Use
- 2:30 Break
- 2:45 Assessment of Risk with Substance Use
- 3:30 Legislative Update - WADCR Board
- 4:30 Adjournment

**Conference Registration: \$70**

Registration fee includes  
breakfast and lunch.



**Registration form: [www.wadcr.org](http://www.wadcr.org)**

#### **Cancellation Policy:**

For a full refund all cancellations must be written and received by the contact person listed on the registration form at least 14 days prior to the event. Cancellations are subject to a \$15.00 handling charge. All other requests for refunds will be reviewed by the WADCR Executive Board.

**CEU/CME: 8 hours**

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**Register Online: [www.wadcr.org](http://www.wadcr.org)**

**Registration Contact: [WADMHP@gmail.com](mailto:WADMHP@gmail.com)**

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## White Robe Scholarship

David Kludt had a 40 year career in mental health. The majority of those years David was involved in crisis work as both a clinician (DMHP) and an administrator. David has long been connected to the DMHP/DCR Association. During his years working at the State level David was a strong advocate for DMHP's/DCR's and the Association.

David and the DCR Association are pleased to offer a scholarship opportunity to a DCR to attend the annual DCR Fall Conference at beautiful Sun Mountain Lodge. The scholarship includes conference registration and 3 nights lodging.

To apply: Submit a brief letter of interest via email to an Association Executive Committee member (see contact emails listed on page 2) by Friday, September 14th, 2018. Please include the following information in your letter of interest:

- Your name
- Agency and or County you work for
- Length of time as a DMHP/DCR
- Briefly, why you became a DCR and what you enjoy most about being a DCR.

## Trivia: What is with the name of the scholarship?

David always reflected that the only reason he came to the conference each year was because of the luxurious Sun Mountain white robes provided to guests during their stay. David and The DCR Association Board hope whoever is selected will have an informative, enjoyable conference and relax in your white robe.

## Summary of DCR Related Legislation that passed in the 2018 Legislative Session

<b>SSB 5553</b> (Pedersen)	<b>Preventing suicide by permitting the voluntary waiver of firearm rights</b>	Creates a process by which a person can voluntarily waiver firearm rights and prohibiting the transfer of firearms to such persons. Voluntary firearm waivers are entered into federal databases.
<b>SSB 6124</b> (Dhingra)	<b>Clarifying that court hearings under the Involuntary Treatment Act may be conducted by video</b>	Adds a definition of "hearing" for all civil involuntary treatment proceedings under RCW 71.05 that allows for individuals to participate in hearings either in person or by video, or by any equivalent technology. Requires all parties to participate in the hearing in person rather than by video if determined by the court. Permits witnesses to appear via other means including telephonically.
<b>ESSB 6491</b> (O'Ban)	<b>Increasing the availability of assisted outpatient behavioral health treatment</b>	Broadens assisted outpatient treatment (AOT) eligibility. Requires only 1 prior commitment, removes requirement to be unable to remain safely in community, and expands AOT to substance abuse, not just mental health. Eliminates intermediate evaluation, meaning DMHP evaluation can lead directly to 90-day AOT commitment. Applies higher initial detention standard to revocation of AOT less restrictive orders, but leaves current revocation standard in place for all other LRs. Medication management is made an optional service rather than mandatory. Requires notification to care coordinator when a person is not in compliance with treatment conditions.

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## ***Proposed Amendment(s) to the Association Bylaws***

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During the Association Executive Board meeting, in accordance with Article V “Amendment of Bylaws”, the Association Bylaws were reviewed and amended. Also, in accordance with Article V, the Proposed Bylaws reflecting the amendments are presented for membership review in this newsletter prior to acceptance by the membership.

Registered members with voting privileges will receive notification with a point-by-point identification of the proposed changes to the Association Bylaws, along with a voting ballot to be returned to the Association for tabulation by the deadline posted in the notification.

The current Association Bylaws are available to download in PDF format at [www.wadcr.org](http://www.wadcr.org).

### **Proposed WADCR Association Bylaws:**

#### **Article I: Name and Purpose**

##### **Section 1 Name:**

The name of this non-profit organization shall be the Washington Association of Designated Crisis Responders (formerly known as Designated Mental Health Professional) hereinafter referred to as The Association.

##### **Section 2. Purpose:**

The purposes for which this organization exists are as follows:

to provide a common identity for those in the DCR’s role,

- a. to establish a network for sharing of information among DCRs,
- b. to promote the professional growth of DCRs through the development of a program of continuing education,
- c. to promote participation advocating and acting as the subject matter expert (SME) in the involuntary behavioral health system and community education regarding behavioral health issues.
- d. to increase collaboration and cohesion across the state regarding the role of the DCR.

#### **Article II: Membership**

##### **Section 1. Regular Membership:**

All DCRs in the State of Washington are members of The Association and are entitled to the following privileges:

- a. to vote in all elections of The Association

officers,

- b. to seek and hold office in The Association,
- c. to chair or serve on committees of The Association,
- d. to receive The Association newsletter,
- e. to maintain regular membership requires current status as a DCR,
- f. and any other privileges granted by The Executive Committee.

##### **Section 2. Associate Membership:**

All interested parties shall be eligible for associate membership and entitled to the following privileges:

- a. to receive The Association newsletter without charge,
- b. and any other privileges granted by the Executive Committee.

##### **Section 3. Dues:**

Dues shall be established by the Executive Committee.

#### **Article III: Officers**

##### **Section 1. Elections:**

The term of elected office will be two years and concurrent with the calendar year. Election of officers shall be staggered such that the President, First Vice President and Treasurer are elected in one year and the Second Vice President and Secretary in the second year.

The President will inform all Association members of any upcoming positions and nominations through the DCR official publication, Frontlines, preceding

the election:

- a. 60 days in advance, The Board request nominations,
- b. 45 days in advance, the nominations are due to the board,
- c. 30 days in advance nominations will be published in Frontlines.

Voting will be electronic, and due by one week prior to the next conference. Alternative voting methods may be accommodated as approved by the Committee/ Board.

Results of the election will be announced at the conference and in the following Frontlines.

### **Section 2. President:**

The President shall preside at all general membership meetings and shall serve as the Chair of the Executive Committee. The President shall appoint ad hoc committees subject to the Executive Committee approval. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

The President shall have the responsibility for all functions of the organization. This responsibility may be delegated to a standing committee, which the President shall chair. All standing committees shall report to the President about committee activity in a timely manner.

The President shall have the responsibility for the maintenance of the Association's web site. This responsibility may be delegated.

The President shall perform such other duties as necessary or required by a vote of the Executive Committee.

The President shall have cosignatory authority on any bank accounts authorized by the Executive Committee.

### **Section 3. First Vice President:**

The First Vice President shall assume the role of President in the absence of the President.

The First Vice President shall perform such other duties as necessary or required by a vote of the Executive Committee.

### **Section 4. Second Vice President:**

The Second Vice President shall assume the role of President in the absence of the latter and the First Vice President.

The Second Vice President shall perform such duties as necessary or required by a vote of the Executive Committee.

### **Section 5. Secretary:**

The Secretary shall be responsible for recording, publishing and maintaining the minutes and records of the organization and of the Executive Committee.

The Secretary shall be responsible for conducting all elections and voting procedures in accordance with Article IV, Section 1 and Article V.

The Secretary shall be responsible for the publication and distribution of Frontlines twice per year. This responsibility may be delegated to a standing committee.

The Secretary shall perform other duties as necessary or required by a vote of the Executive Committee.

### **Section 6. Treasurer:**

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies and other assets of the organization. The Treasurer shall receive and, as authorized by the Executive Committee, disburse such monies; maintain necessary bank accounts; make regular financial reports; have co-signatory authority on any bank accounts authorized by the Executive Committee and conduct other financial affairs of the organization as deemed appropriate.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all membership functions of the organization. This responsibility may be delegated to a standing committee.

The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as necessary or required by a vote of the Executive Committee.

### **Section 5. Vacancies:**

Any office vacated prior to the expiration of the term of office shall be filled by a majority appointment of the Executive Committee. Reelection shall be in accordance with Article III, section 1.

### **Section 6. Removal of an Officer:**

Any officer may be removed by a simple majority vote of the membership.

The Executive Committee may remove an officer for cause, due to failure to perform the duties of

their position.

## **Article IV: Committees**

### **Section 1. Executive Committee:**

The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the officers of The Association. The duties of The Executive Committee shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- a. to evaluate information and advise the membership as to possible courses of action, to make decisions for The Association when conducting a timely vote of the membership is not feasible.
- b. to evaluate proposals of committees appointed by individual officers, when those proposals are submitted to The Executive Committee,
- c. to act as a coordinating body,
- d. to inform the membership of activities and action taken in a timely manner,
- e. to carry out such other duties as necessary or required by a vote of the Executive Committee to carry out such other duties required by a majority vote of the membership.

The Executive Committee cannot make amendments to the Bylaws or do anything which is prohibited by the Bylaws.

### **Section 2. Standing Committees:**

Any Executive Committee Officers may appoint standing committees to assist with Legislative, Education, membership and Newsletter functions, with majority approval of The Executive Committee.

### **Section 3. Ad Hoc Committees**

Any Executive Committee Officers may appoint standing committees ad hoc, with majority approval of The Executive Committee.

## **Article V: Amendment of Bylaws**

Proposed amendments to the Bylaws shall be approved by the Executive Committee and submitted to the membership no less than 30 days prior to voting on said proposals.

Proposed amendments shall be approved by a simple majority of votes received.

The method of voting shall be determined by the Executive Committee, and in all cases shall be conducted in such a manner as to afford all regular members in good standing the opportunity to vote.

Approved amendments to the Bylaws shall be published in the newsletter subsequent to their passage.

The Association Bylaws shall be reviewed and amended as needed and at a minimum of every three years.

The Bylaws of the Association shall on the website or other public location.

## **Article VI: Business Affairs of the Association**

### **Section 1. Fiscal Year**

The Fiscal Year shall commence on January 1 and end on December 31.

### **Section 2. Parliamentary Authority**

Parliamentary authority for all meetings of the Association shall be Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, when they are not superseded by these Bylaws.

The majority of the Executive Committee officers constitute a quorum.

### **Section 3. Dissolution:**

In the event of dissolution of the Association, property shall be transferred to such organizations determined by the Executive Committee to have purposes and activities most consonant with those of the Association provided, however that such organizations shall be exempt under appropriate federal and state laws. No property shall be distributed to any individual member(s) for the personal and private use of said member(s).

**Revised and Proposed at DCR Association Board Retreat, April 16, 2018, Leavenworth, Washington**

## Call to Action:

### Language in addendums to contracts with BHOs from DBHR

“When a DCR submits an Unavailable Detention Facility Report (No Bed Report) to DSHS the DCR office will attempt, regardless of location, to re-evaluate the individual on a daily basis to determine if they continue to meet criteria for detention, and to seek an involuntary treatment bed if they do. Every day the DCR finds the person to meet criteria for detention but is unable to find an involuntary treatment bed an Unavailable Detention Facility Report shall be submitted.”

Does this mean that the DCR is expected to locate, reevaluate and possibly continue ITA proceedings regardless of the hospital deciding to discharge or keep the individual?

If this is the case, how can the statutory requirement of due process through judicial review be safe guarded if we are operating as if due process is a grey area when we issue a “walk-away”/ no-bed report form?

We already know that most courts across the state consider this practice boarding and will routinely dismiss these cases.

Please relay any concerns as soon as possible to your DCR manager and/or support network so they can communicate directly with DBHR.

The State DCR Association Board

## ***Useful SUD related links:***

<http://www.wsha.org/articles/new-law-effective-april-1-2018-involuntary-treatment-act-applies-patients-substance-use-disorders/>

<http://www.wsha.org/wp-content/uploads/Considerations-in-Managing-Substance-Use-Disorder-Patients-under-Rickys-Law.pdf>