



## ***BHPOC Committee on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Behavioral Health***

Legislative Office Building Room 3000, Hartford CT 06106  
(860) 240-0346 Info Line (860) 240-8329 FAX (860) 240-5306  
**[www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC](http://www.cga.ct.gov/ph/BHPOC)**

---

**Co-Chairs: Alice Forrester & Brenetta Henry**

### **Agenda**

**December 2, 2025 11:00 AM via ZOOM**

*The BHPOC is committed to creating to an environment that provides equal access to behavioral healthcare in a culturally competent capacity, with particular attention to social and racial justice.*

### **I. Welcome**

### **II. Possible New Names for the Committee and Continued Purpose**

- Family Integration Management
- Committee on Responsive Care and Workforce Development
- Committee on Responsive Care and Practice Advancement
- Committee on Workforce, Care, and Practice Advancement
- Integrated Health, Workforce & Community Services Committee
- Health & Community Workforce Strategy Council
- Community Health, Talent & Services Committee
- Community Engagement & Workforce Empowerment Committee
- Health Care & Community Outreach Committee
- Workforce & Community Outreach Council
- Community Health & Workforce Advancement Committee
- Health & Community Partnership Council

### **III. CT Peer Recovery Support for Adults**

- The role of Peer Recovery Support workers
- The new State certification for Peer Recovery Support

### **IV. Policy Recommendations for the Legislative Session**

### **V. New Business, Announcements, Adjournment**

Bio:

Elsa Ward, MS, is the Director of Recovery and Community Affairs for Connecticut's Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and represents the Office of the Commissioner and DMHAS statewide. She endorses integrated care to address the whole person, including multiple pathways of care to obtain, sustain and maintain recovery.

Ms. Ward has worked in the not-for-profit behavioral health field for over 20 years in a broad array of service systems. She brings expertise in program development and recovery peer support.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 11:00 AM via ZOOM**