

COVID-19 Response

"Being an advisor means helping new staff to provide great services."

"We know what is happening and that our voice counts."

"We picked the way to help people live in their own place."

"We try to help everyone get what they need, they can say what they want and we help along with their case manager."

THE EXECUTIVE ADVISORS OF LSI HAVE A POSITIVE AND STRONG IMPACT ON BOTH THE CLIENTS AND STAFF OF THE AGENCY

A cornerstone of Lincoln Street Inc.'s philosophy is that the people supported have an active voice in the governance of the organization. Recently, this has included advising on COVID response.

The executive advisors develop welcome packets and the team personally welcomes new individuals into the LSI community. Advisors meet with all new employees, asking questions they designed to promote sound values in providing services through empowerment and choice. Executive Advisors review models of home supports and make choices on future directions for the program. They review the agency's Quality Service Review and all survey information collected throughout the year, providing their recommendations to the Board.

"Executive Advisors provide an invaluable service to the organization in meeting its mission and we thank all who have participated in the past four years!"

– Cheryl Thrall, Executive Director LSI

Peer Leadership – Lived Experience Strengthens Supports

THE IMPORTANCE OF LIVED EXPERIENCE

Lived experience comes from living as a member of a minority or oppressed group. People who have lived with mental health, developmental disabilities and/or substance use disorders know first-hand about the challenges and what supports make a difference. VCP agencies are strengthened by the contributions of people with lived experience in critical leadership roles and in providing direct support to peers.

PEERS LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION TAKES MANY FORMS

- Residential and housing supports
- Mental health crisis response, case management and crisis bed support
- "Warm" phone response line for support
- Consultation to families in crisis
- Peer mentoring for people transitioning back into the community
- Outreach to students with I/DD transitioning to adult services
- Staffing wellness centers and day programs for people in recovery
- Training on Mental Health First Aid and Intentional Peer Support
- Participation in ethics teams and clinical standards reviews
- Serving as community living coaches
- Participation on medication delivery teams
- Youth promoting safe and healthy social, physical and mental wellness through movement and activity



Chris Dubeau, an Executive Advisor at Lincoln Street Inc.