



## **PUBLIC SECTOR - Hannah Larsen, MD**



Hannah Larsen, MD has been a dedicated public sector servant-leader since her completion of residency at Harvard Longwood 10 years ago. Her commitment to the public sector is a springboard for her ongoing clinical, teaching, and advocacy work both within and outside Massachusetts Psychiatric Society. She has dedicated her career to promoting recovery of individuals with severe mental illness in community settings and has worked with Cambridge Health Alliance, Bay Cove Human Services and Eliot Community Human Services. She served as the Medical Director of the Gill Mental Health & Wellness Clinic and of the Center House Day Treatment program. Dr. Larsen formerly served as Medical Director of Eliot's outpatient, emergency services, and crisis stabilization programs. Currently, she provides team-based psychiatric care to patients in the adult Program for Assertive Community Treatment (PACT) at Eliot continuously since 2013. And since 2022, she became the first Director of Psychiatric Integration in Eliot's Adult Community Clinical Services (ACCS) where she continues to serve their psychiatric needs.

Her educational activities include developing and teaching Resident Wellness Workshops, Transition to Practice Seminars about Community Psychiatry at the Harvard Longwood Residency which evolved into separate seminars in the BIDMC and BWH residencies. She supervises nurse practitioners and psychiatric residents rotating on PACT electives. With her commitment and passion for teaching about Recovery and Wellness, she has presented on these topics in regional community settings as well as at the APA's Institute of Psychiatric Services' Annual meetings. Her role with Eliot as their Director of Psychiatric Education and Research is well established.

Her active clinical practice with Eliot Community Human Services is balanced with her avocational interests pursued through her activities with Massachusetts Psychiatric Society. She has been a member of MPS since 2009 and continuously serves on the Public Sector Committee since 2015. She spent a year as a member of the MPS Legislative Committee which helped inform her ongoing advocacy efforts. Hannah raises her voice with surety to state the obvious about gun control, nurse practitioners functioning as physicians, and no short cuts to treating mental illness. She served as the Secretary of the Executive Committee between 2020-2022 spanning the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. During that same period, she was called to action concerning Race, Equity and Inclusion resulting in her Co-Chairing the Antiracism Committee, organizing the MPS Antiracism Webinar Series and since 2022 Chairing the Antiracism Committee. She served as the Conference Chair for the MPS Envisioning and Equitable Mental Health Crisis Response presentation and webinar and a Councilor on the MPS Council. She received the Presidential Award last year (2022) for her advocacy efforts to advance diversity and racial equity in our profession.

On a national level, Dr. Larsen has been an active member of the American Association of Community Psychiatrists and is a strong, inspiring, and contributing presence on their listserv. Internationally, she has shared her innovative thinking about recovery at a Canadian ACT conference.

Dr. Larsen earned her medical degree from Emory University School of Medicine and prior to that a BA in Psychology also from Emory University. She then completed her residency training at the Harvard Longwood Psychiatry Residency Training Program, where she served as Chief Resident for the Massachusetts Mental Health Center Partial Hospital and spearheaded several wellbeing initiatives for residents.

Dr. Larsen is just winding up for a pitch that in concert with many around her, with similar interests and commitments, will knock it out of the ballpark to change both the face of MPS and the Behavioral Healthcare Delivery System to meet the diversity and equity needs in our communities.

Given her significant contributions to both MPS and the public sector behavioral healthcare system, it is with great pleasure that MPS awards Dr. Hannah Larsen with the 2023 Outstanding Psychiatric Award for Public Sector Psychiatry.