

John Puls, LCSW, MCAP

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Professional Experience

Private Psychotherapy Practice - January 2017 - Present

Boca Raton, FL

- Individual, family, and substance abuse counseling
- Supervision of 6 psychotherapists within my practice
- Crisis interventions for substance use disorder
- Substance use disorder and mental health expert witness work

Adjunct Professor - January 2020 - Present

Florida Atlantic University School of Social Work - Boca Raton, FL

- Teaching substance use disorder elective
- Social work practice theories
- Following ASWE social work guidelines

Clinical Director of Case Management - February 2018 to January 2021

Guardian Recovery Network - Delray Beach, FL

- Weekly and ongoing supervision for case managers
- Coordinating with families and primary treatment providers
- Linkage to local community resources
- Crisis intervention and referrals to higher levels of care as needed

Primary Therapist - June 2017 to January 2021

Guardian Recovery Network (PHP/IOP) - Delray Beach, FL

- Individual and group psychotherapy
- Development and implementation of evidenced based treatment plans
- ASAM assessments for appropriate levels of care
- Substance abuse psychoeducation
- Crisis intervention
- Family therapy

Clinical Therapist - June 2017 to January 2018

Boca Detox Center - Boca Raton, FL

- Crisis intervention and assessments
- Substance abuse psychoeducation
- Group therapy
- Family interventions

MSW Intern - September 2016 to May 2017

Caron Renaissance - Boca Raton, FL

- Work directly with primary and family therapists
- Complete initial clinical assessments
- Facilitate and co-facilitate process groups and various speciality groups
- Develop individualized treatment plans for patients

Director of Recovery Services - January 2016 to November 2017
Recovery Management Services, LLC - Boca Raton, FL

- Supervise team of peer recovery support specialists
- Vocational skills training
- Assist in crisis management
- Coordination with families and primary treatment team

Social Work intern - May 2016 to August 2016
South County Mental Health Center, Inc. - Delray Beach, FL

- Completed client intakes upon admission to the crisis stabilization unit
- Attending court proceedings related to baker acts
- Linkage to resources for indigent population
- Supportive counseling
- Facilitation of psychoeducation groups
- Discharge planning
- Suicide risk assessments and safety planning

Director of Operations - January 2014 - January 2016
Arch to Freedom - Boynton Beach, FL

- Complete operational oversight for FARR certified 23 bed sober living
- Management of 3 individual house managers
- Overseeing intakes and discharges into sober living facility
- Crisis intervention and referral services

Behavioral Health Technician - January 2013 - February 2014
Into Action Treatment Center - Boynton Beach, FL

- Administering urine analysis for patients
- Transportation to appointments
- Facilitating 12 step support groups

Education and Training

Florida Atlantic University - Graduated Summer 2016
 Boca Raton, Florida
Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) 4.0 GPA

- Graduated Summa Cum Laude
- Treasure for the Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society

Florida Atlantic University - Graduated Spring 2017
 Boca Raton Florida
Master of Social Work (MSW) 4.0 GPA

- Graduate Pathways Scholarship recipient

Awards

- 2023 Alumnus of the Year
- Winner of the Heart of Social Work Essay Contest

License and Certifications

- Licensed Clinical Social Worker SW 16498
- MCAP #100479 (Master's Certified Addiction Professional)
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy certificate

Professional and Corporate Affiliations

- Member of NASW (National Association of Social Workers)
- Palm Beach Mental Health Counselors Association

Professional Organization Presentations and Workshops

- Puls, J., Et al. (2020, January 21). *Spanish River High School Panel Discussion - Substance Use Issues*. Panel discussion for Spanish River High School Parents in coordination with Jewish Family Services.
- Puls, J., Et al. (2022, January 25). *Fentanyl Awareness and Harm Reduction*. Webinar panel discussion for families in coordination with B'Nai Torah Congregation and Jewish Family Services.
- Puls, J. (2022, April 22). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Current Research. Recovery Strategies*. Webinar Presentation for the Mental Health Counselors Association of Palm Beach.
- Puls, J. Et al. (2022, November 8). *The Marchman Act: Planning for Individuals and Families Struggling with Substance Use*. Webinar panel discussion for Florida Atlantic University School of Social Work
- Puls, J. (2023, June 17). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use*. Workshop presented for the National Association of Social Workers Florida 2023 conference.
- Puls, J. (2023, September 15). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use*. Webinar presented for the South Florida Christian Counselors Association.
- Puls, J. (2023, October 20). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use*. Webinar presented for the Suncoast Mental Health Counselors Association.
- Puls, J. (2023, October 30). *Understanding the Opioid Crisis and Harm Reduction*. Workshop for Lynn University Psychology Students.
- Puls, J., Et al. (2023, November 3). *Client Acquisition From a Business and Clinical Perspective*. Panel Discussion for the East Coast Symposium on Addictive Disorders.
- Puls, J. (2023, November 17). *Assertive Community Treatment: A Paradigm Shift in Treating Severe Mental Illness*. Workshop presentation for the Mental Health Counselors Association of Palm Beach.
- Puls, J. (2023, December 8). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use*. Webinar presentation for the National Board of Forensic Evaluators.

Litigation History

- Qualified expert witness testimony and evaluation for marchman act cases in Florida
- Standard of care in addiction treatment/wrongful death cases for plaintiff and defense counsel

- Multiple depositions in high profile addiction treatment center wrongful death cases
- Suicide standard of care expert witness
- Mitigation specialist for cases involving addiction
- Family law expert witness case

Non-profit Board/Committee Member

- FARR subcommittee member for mental health housing certification
- Board member of the Palm Beach County HUB, Recovery Community Organization
- Board member of FAU office of professional development School of Social Work
- Board member of the South Florida Professional Liaison Society

References

- Amanda Eiola (561) 704-9334
Psychotherapist
- David Landsman-Wohlsifer (215) 470-2129
Psychotherapist and professor
- John Egan (610) 938-7589
Psychotherapist and addiction treatment center outreach
- Natalie Cohen, Esq. - (561) 202-7950
Marchman act and guardianship attorney
- Joe Considine, P.A (561) 655-8081
Marchman act attorney
- Jami Gursky (954) 703-3756
Medical malpractice - defense
- Susan Ramsey (561) 283-2204
Medical malpractice, personal injury, wrongful death - plaintiff