

Meet the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee



I am a lifelong resident of Detroit, raised by parents who stressed the importance of education, spirituality, and self-awareness. I excelled in school in the social sciences area, which led to an interest in politics and culture. As a kid, I realized that I wasn't given the gift of playing sports, even though I love sports. I learned and accepted my gift was to understand concepts, ideas, and worldviews.

I graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work and wanted to work with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). I believe I am an asset to this community as I have an educational background and shared life experience.

I was appointed to the Developmental Disability Council, a federal/state council that advocates for I/DD individuals. Within a year, The Peer Mentor Program was created and as a result of my contribution to the project, I was offered the position of Peer Mentor Coordinator where I serve as the liaison to the DD Council. In my role, I offer training and peer-to-peer counseling.

When I hear Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), I think that the playing field will be fair and just. Ideally, I see a community that looks, thinks, and has different experiences but is willing to work together for the common good. To make it quite clear, I understand that everyone has prejudices and biases. Still, if true DEI occurs, it starts with one questioning and challenging their values and worldviews.

For more info on Peer Mentoring, use this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-ejXepa2o8>

Robert Spruce
Member Engagement
Dept.
Peer Mentor Coordinator

Provider Spotlight



Mental Health Services and Programs
for Adults & Children
<https://develctrs.org/>

- Support includes outpatient treatment, case management, & psychiatric services
- Clubhouse programming to participate in a work-ordered day
- Assertive Community Treatment for people with a severe mental illness
- Support to help secure permanent housing for adults with a mental illness
- Care coordination for young adults with a mental illness and DD or I/DD



If you would like to receive services, call the DWIHN 24/7 Access Helpline:
1-800-241-4949