



WISe, FYSPRTS, Youth leadership and the importance of Youth voice.

Evelyn Clark - Breakout Bio

Evelyn is the Youth Liaison for Washington State Health Care Authority, The Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery. She was appointed by the Governor as a member on the Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice. She also chaired the youth subcommittee under the partnership council for two years, leading youth to be agents of change. She is now the Co-chair of the Partnership council on Juvenile Justice Behavioral Health committee. Evelyn has lived experience in the juvenile justice system and the behavioral health system. For nine years, she served youth in Children's long-term inpatient facilities, juvenile rehabilitation facilities, juvenile detention, foster care system, and youth within the Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISe) program. During those eight years she also served on Local community boards; The Tacoma Gang Reduction project, Pierce County Sexual Exploitation of Minors Task Force, Tacoma Gun Safety, and Pierce County Juvenile Court Youth and Family Council as the Youth Tri Lead. During her last two years of direct service, she was the Youth Tri lead for Pierce County WA Family Youth System Partner Round Tables which is a governance structure for youth and families impacted by the system to voice change to all youth serving systems. With the help of the youth, she created their local youth group, Youth Truth. Evelyn was one of the first youth peer counselors in the State Of Washington to supervise other youth peer counselors at a behavioral health agency. Her new role with the State allows her to provide technical assistance on utilization of youth peer counselors, youth engagement and leadership to youth serving systems and agencies across Washington State. Evelyn is a Program manager for the Youth Professional Leadership training, a Statewide FYSPRT youth coach and a WISe youth coach. She recently helped create and is the Program Manager for 'Building the Blueprint for Youth Leadership in WA State', which is the Washington State Children's Behavioral Health Youth Network. Evelyn is a newly appointed co-chair of the International Association of Peer Support Youth and Young Adult committee and the SAJE (Study and Advancement of Justice Effectiveness) advisory committee to represent youth voice. Recently, she is the proud recipient of the 2019 Peer Alternatives Youth and Young Adult Leadership Award. She is passionate about ending racial and ethnic disparities in the systems and promoting leadership opportunities for people of color. Her vision for the youth is that they will take over what she currently is doing in her work.