



Cornerstone



Lisa H. Katz, LCPC

Chief Program Officer

Education:

- MS in Counseling Psychology, Loyola College in Maryland, 1997
- BA in Psychology, Hood College, 1989
- CARF Surveyor since 2025

Current Role:

As the Chief Program Officer at Cornerstone Montgomery, I am responsible for all client services except for the OMHC. My work primarily focuses on ensuring the standardization of the quality of services provided to our clients, including ensuring that we are using evidence based practices.

Passion for Cornerstone Montgomery:

What I love most about working at Cornerstone Montgomery is the culture. The staff I work with truly care about each other, as well as the clients that we serve and are passionate about our mission.

Professional Affiliations:

- Leadership Montgomery Class of 2021

Narrative Bio:

Lisa H. Katz is a highly respected leader in the field of mental health services, currently serving as the Chief Program Officer (CPO) at Cornerstone Montgomery. With over thirty five years of experience in the nonprofit sector, coupled with a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor License (LCPC), Lisa has built a reputation for her strategic vision and dedication to client-centered care. In her current role, she is responsible for overseeing all client services (except the OMHC) and ensuring the standardization and quality of care across the organization. Her leadership is marked by a deep commitment to implementing evidence-based practices that support clients in achieving greater independence and improved quality of life.

Lisa's journey into the world of psychiatric rehabilitation began during her undergraduate studies at Hood College, where she completed an internship at Way Station (a division of Sheppard Pratt) in Frederick, Maryland. It was there that she first experienced the transformative power of collaborative care. Working alongside adults with serious and persistent mental illness, Lisa saw how clients and staff could work together as equals, and this model of care became the foundation for her career. After completing her B.A. in Psychology, Lisa immediately took a position in Way Station's Residential Rehabilitation Program, where she began her lifelong commitment to supporting individuals with mental health challenges.

Throughout her career, Lisa has held key leadership roles at various nonprofit organizations in Maryland and Virginia, as well as in the Loudoun County Government. At Family Services, Inc. (a division of Sheppard Pratt), Lisa served as the Director of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services. She played a pivotal role in securing a SAMHSA Primary Behavioral Health Care Integration (PBHCI) grant, which included the adoption of an Electronic Health Record system. This experience led her to become the Director of Health Information Technology, overseeing IT and Billing Departments.

However, after several years in the IT realm, Lisa felt the pull to return to client-focused work. When the opportunity to join Cornerstone Montgomery as CPO arose, she knew it was the perfect chance to re-engage directly with program clients and services. Lisa's connection to Cornerstone runs deep, as she had previously collaborated with the organization on the PBHCI grant and shared clients.

At Cornerstone Montgomery, Lisa has led several key initiatives that have had a lasting impact on the organization. One of her most significant achievements has been the complete reorganization of the Residential Crisis Services (RCS). Faced with the challenge of rebuilding the program after the departure of several key staff members, Lisa integrated crisis services across multiple jurisdictions, ensuring consistency and excellence in care delivery. She has continued her work in unifying the Southern Maryland programs, moving them under corresponding service lines to ensure a cohesive and client-focused approach, no matter the location.

Bio Continued:

Lisa's leadership is deeply informed by her own personal experiences. Growing up in a family that faced economic hardship, and with an older brother diagnosed with schizophrenia and several family members experiencing significant mood disorders, Lisa understands firsthand the challenges associated with mental illness. Her father's death at a young age from complications related to diabetes, exacerbated by a lack of access to preventative care, also shaped her commitment to addressing social and economic injustices through her work. These experiences drive Lisa to create systems that provide equitable support to all clients, regardless of their background.

Outside of her professional life, Lisa is a dedicated mother to two teenage daughters, who both challenge and inspire her. To recharge, she enjoys playing Dungeons and Dragons, where she takes on the role of a Barbarian character, solving problems with strength and creativity. This creative outlet allows her to approach her work with renewed energy and passion.

Lisa's greatest motivation is the desire to leave people better off than she found them. She is driven by the progress her clients make, whether they're achieving personal goals or gaining independence. Her leadership is rooted in compassion, empathy, and a commitment to ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to succeed.