

Lori Ashcraft, PhD, CPRP, ITE, MSW, MPA, BS

During her 40-year behavioral health career, Lori has had a strong interest in the therapeutic effects of self-determination, choice, and personal freedom. She did her dissertation on freedom, spending a month in Russia at the time the Soviet Union collapsed, and focused her inquiry in Soviet mental hospitals, where the lack of freedom and choice was pervasive. After a full career in California that included the Deputy Director for Community Programs of state Department of Mental Health, she re-located to Arizona where she accepted the position as Director for Adult Services for the Regional Behavioral Health Authority and served as a professor for the University of Arizona teaching psychosocial rehabilitation. It was during this time that Lori became involved in the recovery movement. Through training with Mary Ellen Copeland and help from colleagues at Boston University, her commitment to recovery principles became a passion. In the fall of 2000, Lori accepted the position as Executive Director of the Center. Lori was the Executive Director for the Recovery Innovations Recovery Opportunity Center. In 2014 Lori created Resilience Inc. a training and consulting service dedicated to preparing and supporting a peer workforce.