

Arizona

Board of Behavioral
Health Examiners

ISSUE 9/ JULY 2024

NEWSLETTER

Staff Spotlight

Polly Knape, Deputy Director



Hello! I joined Board staff in March. Prior to accepting the role of Deputy Director, I served on the Board as a Professional Member. I have worked in Behavioral Health for the majority of my career. I began as a BHT in the public system, completed my master's degree, became licensed as a LAC, then continued my career with a focus on leadership and systemic improvement.

I have been privileged to witness the positive evolution and regulation of our profession and the Board over more than two decades. I remember applying for licensure and being terrified to call or reach out to the Board if I had questions; stories were circulating highlighting licensure struggles and poor experiences engaging with the Board. Slowly overtime the stories started to change, applications were processed faster, board staff became increasingly collaborative, the Board began to focus on the rehabilitation and education of licensees and the perception of the Board began to shift from being an enemy to being an ally.

I'm a people person, passionate about continuous learning, bringing positivity to our world, lifting others, and ensuring access to appropriate care for all. I look forward to supporting the positive impact the Board has lifting the professions, supporting licensee's, and protecting the public.

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SUPERVISED WORK EXPERIENCE AND CLINICAL SUPERVISION VERIFICATION FORMS



Please visit our
discipline specific
links to obtain
these forms.

Contact Information

A licensee or applicant must update their contact information with the board within 30 days. This can be done in their profile on the

Boardal

R4-6-205





A WORD FROM OUR BOARD

Mark Shen
LPC



Becoming a board member has allowed me to play a part in ensuring that clients are protected and that licensees are providing care that is based on regulatory requirements and best practices. I have always taken my role as a gatekeeper to the practice of counseling and therapy very seriously and have always worked to ensure that clients receive ethical and high-quality care. I have seen the board's identity change from being an agency that has been viewed as being difficult to engage, to an agency that is open and transparent to the community and to licensees. During my time as a board member, I have noticed that the board is making a conscious effort to educate the community about the board's goal to rehabilitate licensees and to take action that protects the community. I believe that a good board member needs to be committed to making decisions that protect the general public and that helps to ensure that licensees are properly informed. I am constantly motivated to help others to succeed and to prosper. I completely relate to and uphold the board's purpose to help establish and maintain standards related to the practice of counseling and therapy. I have always been committed to ensuring that all behavioral health professionals are providing care that is based on best practices and that are in line with ensuring that all clients receive care that is ethical and that helps ensure that the community is protected. I greatly enjoy every opportunity to learn and to develop and welcome every opportunity that allows me to be more effective in my role as a board member.

Compacts

*Counseling Compact and
Social Work Compact are
officially signed into law!*

SB1173, SB1036

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