**Brenda L. Underhill, MS**

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2011 – present **Senior Associate, Treatment Innovations,** Newton Centre, Massachusetts. Provides training and supervision nationally to clinical staff and program supervisors implementing *Seeking Safety: Treatment for posttraumatic stress disorder and substance abuse* by Lisa M. Najavitis, Ph.D., Professor of Psychiatry, Boston University School of Medicine, Lecturer, Harvard Medical School, and founder of *Treatment Innovations*.

1998 – present **President**, **Underhill & Associates**, San Rafael, California. Private consulting firm specializing in training, management, planning, program design, qualitative evaluation and organizational development services to public and private nonprofits, government agencies and educational institutions in substance abuse, trauma and related mental health issues.

2007 - 2011 **Coordinator of Trauma Recovery Services**, **Marin Services for Women,** Greenbrae, California. Responsible for the design and implementation of trauma services for the agency. Provided trauma/PTSD education, training and direct clinical services to ensure professional trauma-specific services are provided throughout the agency. Provided clients in both the Residential and Outpatient programs with trauma and PTSD counseling and psycho-educational groups utilizing the evidence-based curricula *Seeking Safety: A Treatment Manual for PTSD and Substance Abuse* and *Beyond Trauma: A Healing Journey for Women.* Conducted ongoing trauma in-service trainings and consultations for all clinical staff. Co-facilitated supervision groups for MFT Interns. Conducted community and media education/presentations on integrated substance abuse and trauma treatment. Provided clinical assessment and crisis management services to agency clients.

2002 - 2004 **Perinatal Consultant, Liaison to Child Welfare and Social Services, Contra Costa County, Health Services Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Services Division,** Martinez, California. Provided organizational consultation and clinical supervision to Contra Costa perinatal and women and children’s programs including training, education, and program evaluation. Served as Co-Chair of the Contra Costa County Substance Abuse and Child Welfare Collaborative. Acted as liaison between Alcohol and Other Drug Services and the Department of Social Services, Family and Child Services to create and coordinate effective multi-disciplinary systems design, policy development, treatment, cross training and multidisciplinary case conferences. Designed and implemented county wide trainings for providers of substance abuse, mental health and domestic violence services.

2001 - 2002 **Project Director, Federal Drug Treatment Court Evaluation, Children and Family Futures**, Irvine, California. Provided technical assistance and training related to systems collaboration, evaluation, policy development, and clinical practice among substance abuse, child welfare, and dependency court systems.

1998 - 2001 **Program Manager**, **Perinatal Specialist**, **Contra Costa County, Health Services Department Community Substance Abuse Division,** Martinez, California. Provided consultation and clinical supervision to perinatal and women and children’s programs. Served as liaison between Community Substance Services and other County and Community agencies including the Department of Social Services, Family and Child Services and Domestic Violence Services. Coordinated the activities of the interdisciplinary Alcohol Drug Abuse Perinatal Task Force. Designed and implemented county wide trainings for substance abuse, mental health and domestic violence.

1994 - 1998 **Senior Associate, Policy Research Incorporated**, Bethesda, Maryland. Coordinated a five-year evaluation project for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), Clinical Interventions Branch’s Women and Children’s Programs. Responsible for the design and implementation of a formative evaluation tool (Diagnostic Assessment) and implemented over 70 assessments of federally funded women and children residential substance abuse programs. Provided planning of and delivery of technical assistance to grantees in management, treatment services and systems collaboration. Reviewed and commented on reports prepared by Policy Research Incorporated related to substance abuse treatment for women and children, health care policy and women and violence.

1981 - 1994 **Executive Director, Alcoholism Center for Women, Inc**., Los Angeles, California. Responsible for organizational strategic planning and management of organization including oversight of all programs and departments, program implementation, fiscal accountability for federal, state, county, city and privately funded grants, proposal writing, policy analysis, contract negotiation, fundraising, staff supervision, public and community relations. Directed and implemented a statewide training and technical assistance project for the State of California. Conducted regional trainings. Participated in national and statewide leadership and organizing activities to improve services for women, children and their families affected by alcohol and drug related problems.

1984 - 1994 **Faculty**, **Chemical Dependency Studies Program, California Family Study Center,** Burbank, California. Assisted in the founding and implementation of a Chemical Dependencies Certification Studies Program to provide graduate and postgraduate level education and training for therapists, counselors, nurses, employee assistance workers, teachers and mental health professionals. Developed and taught core curriculum classes in Intervention, Treatment and Recovery, Group Treatment and Family Dynamics and electives in Diagnosis and Treatment of Adolescents, Gender Issues, and Relapse Prevention. Developed a curriculum and taught MA level courses in chemical dependency. Developed and implemented a course fulfilling BBSE and Board of Psychology requirements for substance abuse continuing education requirements.

1980 - 1981 **Director of Recovery Services**, **Alcoholism Center for Women, Inc.,** Los Angeles, California. Responsible for the planning, implementation, coordination and evaluation of all aspects of the Recovery Services Program. Employed, supervised and evaluated all Recovery Services personnel. Participated in the formulation of agency-wide policies, procedures and fiscal operations. Responsible for staff training and development. Conducted outreach and community education through presentations, media outreach, and public relations activities. Organized conferences, gatekeeper trainings, forums and community events.

1980 **Interim Director/Clinical Coordinator**, **Youthful Alcohol Abuse Program,** Buffalo, New York. Planned, developed, managed and supervised a program for young people with alcohol related problems. Established and assured implementation of internal administrative procedures. Assured quality and continuity of services. Trained and supervised all program staff. Responsible for managing and refunding of program’s grant. Procured subcontract work consistent with program objectives and assured proper and timely integration of all subcontracting relations. Established a full range of community referral agreements.

1979 - 1980 **Assistant Director/Clinical Coordinator**, **Youthful Alcohol Abuse Program,** Buffalo, New York. Planned, developed and managed all clinical services to adolescents. Provided in-services training in general counseling skills and alcohol abuse assessment to the program’s clinical staff. Developed and implemented service entry and exit criteria, service reporting guidelines, procedures and record system, consistent with regulatory funding guidelines. Assured annual program budget reflected the needs of the clinical operations of the program and staff training. Conducted training workshops of professionals of youth agencies in identification, intervention and referral of youth with alcohol abuse problems.

1978 - 1979 **Alcoholism Rehabilitation Specialist**, **Alcoholism Services of Erie County,** Buffalo, New York. Supervised clinical services of a 31-bed in-patient rehabilitation program designed to provide detoxification and substance abuse treatment services chronic debilitated alcoholic men and women. Provided clinical and administrative supervision to residential services staff. Responsible for the development and implementation of program activities, curriculum development, in-service trainings and staff assignments. Supervised the service delivery of all client services, assuring consistency with established service plans, time lines and appropriateness of services. Participated in interviewing and selecting staff agency-wide and in determining promotion readiness of current staff.

1977 - 1978 **Alcoholism Rehabilitation Technician**, **Alcoholism Services of Erie County,** Buffalo**,** New York.

1977 **Alcoholism Counselor, Fairview Information and Referral Center,** Binghamton,New York.

**PUBLICATIONS**

Najavits, L.M., Schmitz, M. & Underhill, B. L. (2009). Seeking Safety Adherence Scale – Expert Rating. Unpublished manuscript, Treatment Innovations: Newton Centre, MA.

Drabble, L. & Underhill, B. (2002). “Effective interventions and treatment for lesbians.” In S.L. Straussner & S. Brown (Eds.), Handbook for addiction treatment for women: Theory and practice. New York: Jossey-Bass.

Drabble, L., & Underhill, B. (2002, August). Alcohol and drug training in the field of child welfare: Summary of a needs assessment in Northern California*.* Davis, California: The Center for Human Services, University of California, Davis.

Underhill, B. L. and Finnegan, D. (Eds.). (1996). Chemical dependency: Women at risk. Binghamton, New York: Haworth Press.

Underhill, B. L. and Finnegan, D. (Eds.). (1996). Journal of Chemical Dependency Treatment, 6 (1:2).

Underhill, B. L. (1993). Creating visibility. Los Angeles: Alcoholism Center for Women.

Underhill, B. L. (1991). "Recovery needs of lesbian alcoholics in treatment." In N. Van Den Berg (Ed.), Feminist perspectives on addiction. New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Underhill, B. L. and Ostermann, S.E. (1991) "The pain of invisibility: Issues for lesbians." In P. Roth. (Ed.) Alcohol and drugs are women's issues - Volume One. (pp. 85-97). Metuchen, New Jersey: Women's Action Alliance and Scarecrow Press, Inc.

Underhill, B. L. (1988, June 16). "Alcoholism treatment for undeserved populations: Barriers to effective services and recommendations for change.” In Causes and Consequences of Alcohol Abuse”, Hearings before the Committee on Governmental Affairs, United States Senate, Washington, D.C., 204217.

Underhill, B. L. (1986). "Driving under the influence of gender discrimination," Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly. 3(2), 115215.

Underhill, B. L. (1986). "Issues relevant to women's aftercare needs," Alcohol Health and Research World. 11(1), 4647.

**AWARDS**

2001 **Commitment and Collaboration Service Award**, Contra Costa County Children and Family Services Department, Martinez, California

2001 **Excellence in Service to Women and Children Award**, Contra Costa County Community Substance Abuse Services, Martinez, California

1994 **Career Achievement Award,** National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, San Diego, California

1994 **Leadership Recognition Award,** California Legislative Assembly, Los Angeles, California

1994 **Commendation for Service,** Los Angeles City Council, Los Angeles, CA California

1994 **Pioneer Award,** California Women’s Commission on Alcohol and Drug

Dependencies, Los Angeles, California

1988 **Leadership Appreciation Award,** Los Angeles County Commission for Women, Los Angeles, California

1974 **Rehabilitation Counseling Traineeship,** Rehabilitation Services, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Buffalo, New York

**RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2016 **Participant, “Pregnant and Postpartum Women’s Treatment,” Summit Meeting, SAMHSA,** July 27 – 29.

1998 - Present **Consultant**, **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment**, Rockville, MD.

2006 **Grant Reviewer, “Residential Treatment for Pregnant and Postpartum Women” Review Committee,** **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration,** **Center for Substance Abuse Treatment,** Rockville, MD.

2006 **Grant Reviewer, “Prevention of Methamphetamine Abuse” Review Committee,** **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment,** Rockville, MD.

2004 **Member, Steering Committee,** **Contra Costa County Child Welfare Redesign, Children and Family Services,** Martinez, CA.

2004 - 2005 **Member,** **Women’s Constituent Committee, Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs,** Sacramento, CA.

2004 **Member, Self-Assessment Team,** **Contra Costa Child Welfare Redesign, Children and Family Services,** Martinez, CA.

1999 - 2001 **Co-Chair, Contra Costa County Alcohol and Other Drug Services and Contra Costa County Children and Family Services Collaborative,** Martinez, CA.

2001 - 2002 **Consensus Panel** **Member and Facilitator, Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) Series 51, “Substance Abuse Treatment: Addressing the Specific Needs of Women”, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment,** Rockville, MD.

1997 - 2001 **Chair**, **Alcohol and Drug Perinatal Task Force**, **Contra Costa County Community Substance Abuse Services,** Martinez, CA

.

1998 **Grant Reviewer, “Targeted Capacity Expansion” Review Committee,** **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment,** Rockville, MD.

1995 - 1998 **Member Technical Expert Group**, **National Women's Resource Center for the Prevention of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Abuse and Mental Illness**, Alexandria, VA.

1988 **Invited Testimony, Hearings Before the Committee on Governmental Affairs, United States Senate: “Alcoholism Treatment”, June 16, 1988, Washington, DC.**

1987 - 1996 **Member**, **National Advisory Board, Women's Action Alliance,** New York, N Y.

1988 - 1996 **Member,** **Board of Directors, National Association of Lesbian and Gay Addiction Professionals,** Los Angeles, CA.

1994 **Guest Reviewer, Alcohol Health and Research World.** Issue on Women and Alcohol 8, (3).

1993 - 1994 **Member**, **Social Model Consensus Committee, State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs,** Sacramento, CA.

1993 - 1994 **Member, Working Group on Gay and Lesbian Substance Abuse Treatment, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration,** **Center for Substance Abuse Treatment,** Rockville, MD.

1992 - 1994 **Vice Chair, Lesbian and Gay Constituent Committee, State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs,** Sacramento, CA.

1991 - 1992 **Member**, **Steering Committee, Women's Leadership Development Project, State Department of Alcohol and Drugs,** Sacramento, CA.

1990 - 1991 **Member**, **Board of Directors, California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives,** Los Angeles, CA.

1990 - 1991 **Chair, Ad Hoc Women's Services Committee, California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives,** Los Angeles, CA.

1989 - 1994 **Member,** **California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives,** Los Angeles, CA.

1989 - 1992 **Member,** **Treatment Committee, Governor's Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse,** Sacramento, CA.

1987 - 1988 **Member, Joint Audit Committee, State of California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs,** Sacramento, CA.

1983 - 1989 **Co-Chair**, **Women's Alcohol and Drug Services Task Force of Los Angeles County,** Los Angeles, CA.

1986 **Technical Expert, Hazelden,** “Spirit to Spirit: Women, Empowered in Recovery” (video production), 1990.

1985 - 1992 **Member**, **Licensing and Certification Committee, State of California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs,** Sacramento, CA

.

1985 - 1986 **Member, Women's Initiative Committee, State of California Department of Alcohol & Drug Programs,** Sacramento, CA.

1984 - 1985 **Member, Women's Initiative Steering Committee, State of California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs**, Sacramento, CA.

1982 - 1983 **Treasurer, Board of Directors,** **California Women's Commission on Alcoholism,** Los Angeles Chapter, Los Angeles, CA.

1982 - 1985 **Member, Lesbian and Gay Alcoholism Task Force of Los Angeles County,** Los Angeles, CA.

1981 - 1982 **Co-Chair,** **Alcoholism Alliance for Action,** Los Angeles, CA.

1976 - 1977 **Member, Board of Directors, Opportunities for Broome,** Binghamton, NY.

1976 - 1977 **Member**, **Board of Directors, Binghamton Women's Center,** Binghamton, NY.

1975 - 1976 **Member**, **Drug Abuse Advisory Board, Serving the New York State Assembly, Standing Committee on Mental Hygiene,** Albany, NY.

**EDUCATION**

M.S. Rehabilitation Counseling, State University of New York at Buffalo, New York

B.A.Psychology, State University of New York at Buffalo, New York

**References Available Upon Request**