

Tina Shelton

Resumé

Summary

Exceptional life skills professional with over 15 years in direct care in residential, psychiatric rehabilitation and mental health organizations. Effective advocate for welfare of persons in client-centered and trauma-informed manner. Known for building an atmosphere of collaboration, caring professionalism, and consistency with team. Track record of controlling costs, communicate effectively verbally and through reports, exercise good judgement and committed to problem-solving at all levels. Experience with adults with psychiatric illness, homeless, and families, and persons with developmental disabilities. Coordinated with maintenance team for high level of service. Committed to recovery and respectful models of change.

Core Competencies

Independent Living Skills Trainer | Crisis Management | Maintain confidentiality, reliability, safety and prevention policies | Medication Monitoring | Cognitive skills trainer | Conduct assessments | Employment Preparation Trainer | Effective facilitator | Complete internal audits | Promote problem-solving | Practice good judgement | Diligent | Provide support in respectful and trauma-informed manner | Train new staff competently | Credible team member and advocate | Responsible for annual health and fire inspections | Coordinated repair for physical structure | Case management | Diagnostic interviewer

Professional Experience

JCHAI-Judith Creed Horizons for Achieving Independence, Bryn Mawr, PA July 2023-present

Provide one-one-one and group services and documentation for adults living with developmental differences or disabilities, including autism. Coordinate with team to meet objectives respectfully and provide quality service.

New Foundations, RHD Bryn Mawr, PA

March 2016-July 2023

Residential care for adults with mental illness. Community setting that provides supervision, training and guidance in daily living skills, guided by the principles of recovery to assist individuals to achieve life goals.

Recovery Support Staff (on-call and part time)/Life Skills Professional

- Worked all shifts while providing direct care for residents of CRR
- Coordinated with treatment team members, including medical team and family members
- Established goals that were authentic and client-centered and facilitated progress towards those goals.
- Facilitated household tasks, daily schedule and fostered safe habits and routines
- Designed, developed and taught classes for success in independent living skills
- Completed regular weekly and monthly internal audits and surveys to meet regulatory standards
- Engaged residents effectively
- Conducted team meetings and 60-day reviews
- Adept at seeing individual's strengths and fostering progress
- Stay current with brain science research to provide best care for symptom management
- Maintain strict confidentiality and responsibility at all times
- Attend trainings for CPRP certification, as well as trainings in trauma-informed care

Compeer of Suburban Philadelphia Delaware County, PA 2001-present

Volunteer

- Provide emotional, practical, and friendly support to people living with chronic mental illness
- Matched with two different individuals, sequentially, and facilitated community visits bi-monthly
- Provided monthly reports to Director

Lane Shelter Care Eugene, OR

1994-1999

Relief Advocate Counselor

- Provided staff coverage in multiple agencies as a substitute mental health technician
- Provided services to individuals with chronic and severe psychiatric needs and homeless families
- Participated in direct services as well as problem-solving when necessary
- Performed duties required in each setting
- Communicated effectively in each setting
- Became a trusted member of teams
- Became advocate of persons living with disabilities

Oregon Research Institute Eugene, OR

1994-1999

Research assistant

- Conducted structured diagnostic interviews and assessments in person and on phone
- Wrote diagnostic reports
- Cooperated with team to produce data for published research
- Maintained confidentiality, reliability, and credibility as part of a research team
- Learned new instruments as necessary (SCID, etc)

Herrin House Dallas, TX

1989-1994

Rehabilitation Specialist and Program Specialist

- Provided intensive case management to individuals in psychiatric residential setting
- Taught independent living skills including employment preparation training and rational behavior training
- Facilitated the smooth running of the program through staff meetings, crisis management and problem-solving
- Coordinated with team to control costs in a non-profit organization
- Program Specialist duties included preparing for annual health and fire inspections, maintaining safety and prevention policies, supervision, scheduling, hiring and training of staff, job development, negotiating and managing the maintenance and repair tasks for the physical structure

Volunteer Experience

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Branch co-chair

2002-present

Member and co-chair of local branch of peace and justice organization.

- Facilitate communication within Branch as well as organize events for members and public
- Prepare agenda for monthly meetings, conduct meetings,
- Build efficacy of Branch during organizational challenges
- Coordinate with regional and national staff and volunteers
- Engaged in racial justice advocacy
- Plan educational and public actions to facilitate change
- Participate in national committees to advocate for justice

Girl Scouts of Eastern Pa

2007-present

Leader, Assistant Leader, Cookie Manager

- Planned and led activities for different age youth
- Coordinated and communicated effectively with parents and volunteers
- Provided guidance and training including assistance with meeting goals
- Maintain records and coordinate with other adult leaders as needed

- Completed trainings including First Aid, Safety Training, Outdoor Skills

Mom's Club of Havertown East 2001-2010

Vice-President of Administration 2001-2002

- Coordinated aspects of service opportunities for club members
- Maintained membership in the support organization
- Provided open, welcoming, informed online and in-person presence for mothers and children

Education:

Honors Baccalaureate (B.S.) from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Psychology

Trainings towards CPRP certification

Responses to Questions on Application

1. WILPF US is a mission-driven membership organization. What does that mean to you? As a mission-driven organization, WILPF is prescribed to have its actions relate to that mission, and other aspects are secondary. For example, we are not a humanitarian organization, although we may act in accordance with humanitarian goals. Our mission defines us and is our reason for being. Our Branch trip to the U.S.-Mexican border may have looked like a humanitarian mission, but it was a fact-finding and relationship-building trip so that we could more fully fulfill our mission of building bridges for peace and freedom. We did not continue to raise money for future trips, but we maintain those relationships we built so that we are effective advocates for peace on the border.

2. Please describe your involvement in WILPF, including a brief summary of work at the level of branch, national, and/or international:

Since joining WILPF, as a member of the Delaware County Branch (in PA), I quickly joined the leadership team and worked with other members to organize the business and actions our Branch was involved in. As a part of that Branch, I was asked to help to organize an event in honor of Kay Camp, who lived in our area. As such, I learned early on the impact one person can have within WILPF. I have continued to be a part of my local Branch, even while we navigated a merger between two nearby Branches. Being in WILPF in Philadelphia area means a rich history and at times that history comes into clear focus. I worked with Libby Frank to plan a Regional Meeting in 2013, learning a lot, including how to use Skype! (Throwback!) My participation in the national level of organization has been limited, but I have taken part in Membership meeting calls in the mid 2000's and have recently helped to get the Border and Migrations Justice subcommittee off the ground as part of relaunch of the AHR Issue Committee. I have not participated in International WILPF, but since attending the virtual International Congress, I have been more engaged in their emails and updates. I have attended UN Meetings (NPT Treaty Review Conference) in the past.

Now, within the last few years, I have joined a national committee and have been active in the Border and Migration Justice Committee (part of AHR), which I had been reluctant to do as my Branch leadership roles have growing! It has been a privilege to interact and get to know members in different part of our country, as well as to learn from these wonderful WILPF women and men. It is an honor, and perhaps has helped me to tiptoe closer to being involved with the National Board.

3. Why are you interested in filling this position?

I am interested in serving on the Board as I feel ready to take that next step. I expect that some of the jobs of the board will not be within the scope of my expertise and that I have much to learn. I know that the Board includes people who have dedicated sweat and tears to WILPF, and I look forward to learning from them.

4. Please describe your other non-WILPF work or involvement that you believe helps qualify you for this position:

Outside of WILPF, I work in the mental health field, primarily providing assistance to those who need help in residential or community settings. That work has taught me about using mindfulness, paying attention to conflict resolution, and the language of nonviolence. I try to see myself as a problem-solver at many levels. I use skills learned through rational behavior training to pay attention to my own beliefs and challenge irrational belief when I recognize them. This, in turn, helps me to interact in a more authentic and meaningful way.

I also co-lead a Girl Scout troop for my high schooler. I have 3 children, and we live with my husband outside of Philadelphia. We are active in our community and my husband is currently running for a position on our township school board. Since 2016, as many pro-democracy groups were created, I joined one in our local township. It has been a relationship-building and a growing experience to be a part of this action-network. I am passionate about our work to slow global warming, and am involved in local organizations to advocate for a better world.

5. What skills can you offer in this position?

I am seen as someone who can help with running meetings and seek to receive input from others when there is a decision to be made. I can be action-oriented, and strive to use rational thinking skills when there is a problem to be solved. I also bring the trust and confidence of WILPF folks that I have worked with through the years. I am willing to learn and to be open, while using foundational communication skills. I grew up in the south, have lived on the West Coast, and have lived on the East Coast for over 20 years, so I bring an experience of different US geographies with me.

Letters of Recommendation

November 8, 2023

To whom it may concern regarding the nomination of Tina Shelton to the WILPF US Board of Directors.

I enthusiastically recommend Tina Shelton for the US WILPF Board of Directors. I have worked with Tina indirectly and directly for several years. She has been an active, involved and responsive branch member of the Greater Philadelphia Branch, she's welcomed me to present virtually at their meetings about public banking, and she's been a real ally in helping to promote solidarity actions, One WILPF Calls and webinars, and projects of the Women, Money and Democracy Committee.

I participated in the racial justice book group that the Philadelphia Branch conducted a couple years ago and it was very well organized and well run, mostly due to Tina's reliable reminders and timely zoom links.

I've been impressed with Tina's ability to rally her branch to promote Mayors for Peace, and support the Divest Philly campaign to divest pension funds from nukes. She also championed immigration concerns, taking a contingent to the southern border to assess for themselves what was happening and how they could be most helpful. That kind of energy, dedication, logistical organization and passion should be recognized and appreciated at WILPF. I am over the moon that such a passionate person with such a deep commitment to peace, anti-racism, social justice and collaboration is applying for our Board. Please give her nomination special consideration.

Marybeth Gardam
WILPF US
Women, Money & Democracy Committee Chair

To the members of the Nominating Committee,

I'm honored to nominate Tina Shelton to be a member of the WILPF US Board. Tina joined WILPF after 9/11 and she has been the co-chair of the Greater Philadelphia Branch (GPB) since 2012. Tina is a very kind, caring and wise person. I've known her since she joined WILPF and have seen her grow into a highly competent peace and justice activist who is an expert at networking and organizing. Tina is very thoughtful of other people and knowledgeable about all aspects of what WILPF stands for and does.

Her frequent emails to the GPB about all the the local, national and international campaigns WILPF and other peace organizations enables GPB members to take action. Tina doesn't just send out these emails, she attends the events, whether it's a film about Korean women working toward a peaceful reunification of South and North Korea or actions in support for banning all nuclear weapons. Tina has represented WILPF on Zoom calls with PA's senators and congresspeople many times, pressing them to end military aid to Israel unless its ends its subjugation of and apartheid practices against the Palestinian People. Most recently Tina talked with Senator Fetterman's Foreign Affairs staffers to demand he vote for a ceasefire and humanitarian aid in Israel's current war to ethnically cleanse Gaza.

When Kay Camp was still alive, Tina organized a beautiful tribute to Kay at the Swarthmore Meeting House. It meant a lot to Kay and her family and the WILPF members who came to celebrate Kay, who served as both US Section President and International WILPF and WILPF's Disarmament Chair. Kay was also the mastermind of WILPF's very successful STAR Campaign in the early 1980s.

Tina traveled with WILPF members to aid the refugees at the US border in Brownsville, Texas. This is just one example of Tina's great humanity and acting to help others in their quest for peace, freedom and justice.

Tina and members of the GPB work for racial justice in our community. Tina is a leader in the GPB's discussions of systemic racial injustice in the US and how as individuals, WILPFers can acknowledge their own racism and become antiracists. The GPB did a workshop on this at a recent US national meeting. Tina also worked with Libby Frank to organize a WILPF regional meeting.

Tina has become an outstanding WILPF leader and she'll be a great asset to the National Board. I wholeheartedly recommend her to you.

Genie Silver

(Former US Section Board member and Vice-President of the US Section)

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Candidate's Statement

It is my view that the strength, heartbeat, and spirit running through WILPF is the sisterhood – the personal relationships forged through working and “breaking bread” together, locally and beyond. Our connections are what forms the bonds, the glue, that keeps WILPF going. To be honest, I have had multiple conversations with WILPF elders who question the relevance of WILPF, and while those questions are necessary in order to keep our purpose clear, they also continue to bring clarity to the need and purpose of WILPF. I am running for an At-Large position, and if elected, I will continue to work on the Congress Program Planning Committee and in other roles where I might be useful. I tend to bring a concrete view to my work in WILPF, focusing on what we can accomplish, and at times, letting other things go, knowing that we cannot do it all. On the other hand, we are not called to sit aside and we can take encouragement from each other. While some of us are moved by actions, others by the nitty gritty of getting the work done, and others are building connections with others, there is room for all of us in WILPF. As a Branch member and leader, I have appreciated the support from National, and have ideas of how to build on that. As a person who has great appreciation for the men and women I have met in WILPF, I am eager to build on those connections and create the change we want to see in the world. In addition to our work to shift away from a war economy, I value the chance to work with other WILPF and community members to undergo a radical change in terms of understanding my whiteness, privilege, and how to move toward an equitable, inclusive, and healthy community. I appreciate WILPF's history, uneven at times, of working for racial equity. As peace activists, it is our calling to take on this work of creating freedom within ourselves and between peoples of different backgrounds.

In my personal life, I have 3 children, the youngest in High School, and my husband and I remain active in our school and township communities. We live in the suburbs of Philadelphia. In addition to WILPF, I am active in Divest Philly from the War Machine (a coalition), an Action Group that is affiliated with Indivisibles, a local faith community, and as a Girl Scout leader. I will support my husband in his new role as School Board Commissioner, and look forward to building our community in that way.