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Cheryl Forchuk

Distinguished University Professor
University of Western Ontario
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Biography

Dr. Forchuk is a Distinguished University Professor and Associate Director of Nursing Research at the Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing, Faculty of Health Sciences, with a cross appointment to the Department of Psychiatry, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, University of Western Ontario. She is a Scientist and Assistant Director at Lawson Health Research Institute, London, Ontario.

Dr. Forchuk is also currently Group Leader, Mental Health/Health Outcomes Research. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Bachelor of Arts in psychology from the University of Windsor. She received her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Toronto with a clinical specialty in mental health-psychiatric nursing and her Ph. D. from the college of nursing at Wayne State.

Other Honors

- ❑ Dr. Forchuk has published on many topics including: denial, therapeutic relationships, sexuality, transitional discharge and housing.
- ❑ She has published a book through Sage on Peplau's interpersonal theory of nursing and through Canadian Scholar's press on homelessness, housing and mental health.

Research Interests

- ✚ Exploring the capacity of the community to create, support, and evaluate housing for psychiatric consumers/survivors, poverty and social inclusion, homelessness in youth and veterans, housing issues related to mental health, and the use of smart technology in mental health

Housing issues related to Mental Health



Mental health is a level of psychological well-being, or an absence of a mental disorder; it is the "psychological state of someone who is functioning at a satisfactory level of emotional and behavioral adjustment"

The importance of housing in everyone's life is clear and obvious. The elements of secure housing include affordability, security of tenure, desirability and safety of location, and the condition of the dwelling unit itself.



All of these elements add up to something that is called 'home' and this term has a number of very important meanings.

When the elements are positively aligned, 'home' is a foundation, a base, and a key component of our personal lives.

A life in the community is built from home, and after facing the daily challenges of community life it is the place to return and recharge. People living with mental illness have repeatedly made this point

- Homeless people have a greater incidence of a range of health problems and life expectancy is reduced by 20 years .
- Poor housing conditions damage health. Marsh and colleagues were able to analyze a large sample of people and demonstrate that housing plays an independent role on affecting.
- Spending a disproportionate amount of income on housing leaves people unable to purchase other necessities such as adequate food. Welfare and disability incomes for people living with mental illness are inadequate in this respect.
- If having a secure home is important to all of us, it is doubly so to people living with mental illness and this is why they so strongly endorse the importance of housing.
- Too often they are familiar with not having a secure home, or not having a home at all.
- The call to arms of a growing number of people living with mental illness is “a home, a job, a friend.”

Emergency Mental Health Related Journals

- [International Journal of School and Cognitive Psychology](#)
- [Psychology & Psychotherapy](#)
- [Psychiatry: Open Access](#)
- [Psychological Abnormalities in Children](#)

Emergency Mental Health Related Conferences

Annual Conference on Fostering Human Resilience

Annual Summit on Sleep Disorders and Medicine

Euro Global Summit and Medicare Expo on Psychiatry



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