



a human approach  
to mental health + healing

**Gary Morse, Ph.D.**

Vice President, Research and Development  
Places for People

Dr. Gary Morse, Vice President of Research and Development at Places for People, finds the most rewarding part of his work with people with serious mental illness, who are often underserved and stigmatized, is seeing clients recover a sense of their joy and fulfillment in life.

Since 1981, Morse has served in the mental health care field providing behavioral health services, researching and developing best practices, administering programs, consulting, and training. He has been the leader in the development of programs including homeless outreach, assertive community treatment (ACT), and integrated dual disorders treatment (IDDT).

Morse founded the mental health care organization Community Alternatives in 1995 after Missouri privatized outpatient mental health services. Morse and his colleagues recognized the need for providing services to the most vulnerable groups of people with mental illness. One of the hallmarks of leading Community Alternatives has been “reaching out and caring for the forgotten,” says Morse.

Community Alternatives joined with Places for People in January 2011 to provide more clients with expanded services. Morse says “the sense of connection, of shared purpose, of common ideas, of passion about the work” will lead Places for People forward in providing exceptional care and personal recovery.

Morse’s extensive work in the field of mental health care includes the development of programs for other underserved populations, including people with serious mental illness co-occurring with HIV/AIDS and youths with behavioral disorders and criminal justice involvement.

He has also worked as a federal investigator on multiple grant projects, served as a national trainer for ACT projects, and authored over 50 professional articles. He has made presentations at HUD, HHS, NIMH, SAMHSA, and a number of national association meetings.

