

United Services, Inc.
unitedservicesct.org

Cherie Poirier, Director, Division Development & Communications

Cherie leads development and communications for United Services, a nonprofit behavioral health center serving more than 10,000 children, adults, and families across northeastern Connecticut each year. Drawing on her background in business administration, pharmacy, psychology, storytelling, and community engagement, she cultivates partnerships that strengthen mental health, family stability, and community wellness. Cherie is passionate about connecting people and organizations to purpose—helping them see how their support plants the seeds of hope and healing across our region.

Susana Shymanik, Director Children & Families

Susana earned her Master's degree in Forensic Psychology from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. Over the past decade, she has had the privilege of working with individuals and families across all age groups, and has discovered that her true passion lies in supporting at-risk youth and their families. Throughout her career in the nonprofit sector, Susana has focused on advocacy and psychoeducation—empowering families to access the resources and tools they need to thrive.

As her work has evolved, she has developed a deeper interest in addressing these challenges from a systemic and global perspective, recognizing the need for more comprehensive programming and advocacy for children, adolescents, and their families. Having advanced quickly through various leadership roles, Susana now serves as the Director of the Children and Families Division at United Services, where she continues to drive initiatives that create lasting, positive change for the communities we serve.

Kerri Durdan, CPSRP

Kerri Durdan serves as a Certified Peer Support and Recovery Professional (CPSRP) with United Services' Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) program. Drawing on her own lived experience in recovery, Kerri offers compassionate, person-centered support to individuals seeking wellness and stability. She helps clients navigate treatment, build resilience, and strengthen recovery skills through shared understanding and practical guidance. Kerri's work reflects United Services' commitment to holistic, recovery-oriented care that empowers individuals to lead meaningful, self-directed lives.