John Puls, LCSW, MCAP

Licensed Psychotherapist
Master's Certified Addiction Professional

4400 North Federal Hwy Suite 210
Boca Raton, FL 33431
jpulslcsw08@gmail.com
(708) 655-1863

Professional Experience

Puls Therapeutic Solutions, LLC - January 2017 - Present
Boca Raton, FL

- Individual, family, and substance abuse counseling
- Supervision of 6 psychotherapists and 12 case managers within my practice
- Co-founder of Full Life Comprehensive Care
- Crisis interventions for substance use disorder and severe mental illness
- Substance use disorder and mental health forensic work

Adjunct Professor - January 2020 - Present
Florida Atlantic University School of Social Work - Boca Raton, FL

- Teaching substance use disorder elective
- Social work practice theories
- Following ASWE social work guidelines

Clinical Director of Case Management - February 2018 to January 2021
Guardian Recovery Network - Delray Beach, FL

- Weekly and ongoing supervision for case managers
- Coordinating with families and primary treatment providers
- Linkage to local community resources
- Crisis intervention and referrals to higher levels of care as needed

Primary Therapist - June 2017 to January 2021
Guardian Recovery Network (PHP/IOP) - Delray Beach, FL

- Individual and group psychotherapy
- Development and implementation of evidenced based treatment plans
- ASAM assessments for appropriate levels of care
- Substance abuse psychoeducation
- Crisis intervention
- Family therapy

Clinical Therapist - June 2017 to January 2018
Boca Detox Center - Boca Raton, FL

- Crisis intervention and assessments
- Substance abuse psychoeducation
- Group therapy
- Family interventions

MSW Intern - September 2016 to May 2017
Caron Renaissance - Boca Raton, FL

- Work directly with primary and family therapists
- Complete initial clinical assessments
- Facilitate and co-facilitate process groups and various speciality groups
- Develop individualized treatment plans for patients

Director of Recovery Services - January 2016 to November 2017
Recovery Management Services, LLC - Boca Raton, FL

- Supervise team of peer recovery support specialists
- Vocational skills training
- Assist in crisis management
- Coordination with families and primary treatment team

Social Work intern - May 2016 to August 2016
South County Mental Health Center, Inc. - Delray Beach, FL

- Completed client intakes upon admission to the crisis stabilization unit
- Attending court proceedings related to baker acts
- Linkage to resources for indigent population
- Supportive counseling
- Facilitation of psychoeducation groups
- Discharge planning
- Suicide risk assessments and safety planning

Director of Operations - January 2014 - January 2016
Arch to Freedom - Boynton Beach, FL

- Complete operational oversight for FARR certified 23 bed sober living
- Management of 3 individual house managers
- Overseeing intakes and discharges into sober living facility
- Crisis intervention and referral services

Behavioral Health Technician - January 2013 - February 2014
Into Action Treatment Center - Boynton Beach, FL

- Administering urine analysis for patients
- Transportation to appointments
- Facilitating 12 step support groups

Education and Training

Florida Atlantic University - Graduated Summer 2016
Boca Raton, Florida
Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) 4.0 GPA

- Graduated Summa Cum Laude
- Treasure for the Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society

Florida Atlantic University - Graduated Spring 2017

Boca Raton Florida
Master of Social Work (MSW) 4.0 GPA

- Graduate Pathways Scholarship recipient

Awards

- 2023 Alumnus of the Year for Florida Atlantic University School of Social Work
- Sierra Tuscan's "Hope Recognition" award 2024 honoring a professional who has contributed to prevention and education of substance use disorder
- Winner of the Heart of Social Work Essay Contest

License and Certifications

- Licensed Clinical Social Worker SW 16498
- MCAP #100479 (Master's Certified Addiction Professional)
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy certificate

Professional and Corporate Affiliations

- Member of NASW (National Association of Social Workers)
- Member of the National Organization of Forensic Social Workers
- Palm Beach Mental Health Counselors Association
- Broward County Mental Health Counselors Association

Professional Organization Presentations and Workshops

Puls, J., Et al. (2020, January 21). *Spanish River High School Panel Discussion - Substance Use Issues.* Panel discussion for Spanish River High School Parents in coordination with Jewish Family Services.

Puls, J. (2021, March 10). *Integrating Families Into the Treatment Process.* Community training for local professionals in coordination with Guardian Recovery Network.

Puls, J. (2021, June 11). *The Power of Language in Substance Use.* Webinar continuing education presentation for TPN Health.

Puls, J., Et al. (2022, January 25). *Fentanyl Awareness and Harm Reduction.* Webinar panel discussion for families in coordination with B'Nai Torah Congregation and Jewish Family Services.

Puls, J. (2022, April 22). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Current Research. Recovery Strategies.* Webinar Presentation for the Mental Health Counselors Association of Palm Beach.

Puls, J. Et al. (2022, November 8). *The Marchman Act: Planning for Individuals and Families Struggling with Substance Use.* Webinar panel discussion for Florida Atlantic University School of Social Work

Puls, J. (2023, June 17). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* Workshop presented for the National Association of Social Workers Florida 2023 conference.

Puls, J. (2023, September 15). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* Webinar presented for the South Florida Christian Counselors Association.

Puls, J. (2023, October 20). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* Webinar presented for the Suncoast Mental Health Counselors Association.

Puls, J. (2023, October 30). *Understanding the Opioid Crisis and Harm Reduction.* Workshop for Lynn University Psychology Students.

Puls, J., Et al. (2023, November 3). *Client Acquisition From a Business and Clinical Perspective.* Panel Discussion for the East Coast Symposium on Addictive Disorders.

Puls, J. (2023, November 17). *Assertive Community Treatment: A Paradigm Shift in Treating Severe Mental Illness.* Workshop presentation for the Mental Health Counselors Association of Palm Beach.

Puls, J. (2023, December 8). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* Webinar presentation for the National Board of Forensic Evaluators.

Puls, J. (2024, March 22). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* Workshop presented for the Palm Beach Florida Psychological Association.

Puls, J. Et al. (2024, May 31). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis and Clinical Strategies*. Panel discussion for the South Florida Professional Liaison Association.

Puls, J. (2024, June 19). *Navigating the Opioid Crisis: A Comprehensive Review of Harm Reduction Psychotherapy.* Workshop presentation for the National Association of Social Workers Florida Conference.

Puls, J. (2024, June 20). *Assertive Community Treatment: A Paradigm Shift in Treating Severe Mental Illness.* Workshop presentation for the National Association of Social Workers Florida Conference.

Puls, J. (2024, July 30). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* Workshop presentation for CE You! Summer Conference.

Puls, J. (2024, August 2). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* NAMI Palm Beach County general meeting presentation.

Puls, J. (2024, September 14). *Assertive Community Treatment: A Paradigm Shift in Treating Severe Mental Illness.* Virtual CE training for the 2024 Global Exchange Conference

Puls, J. (2024, September 20). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Implications for Crisis Intervention*. Workshop for the Wisconsin Crisis Intervention Conference

Puls, J. (2024, October 1). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* Webinar for the Florida Mental Health Advocacy Coalition.

Puls, J. (2025, January 25). A*ssertive Community Treatment: A Paradigm Shift in Treating Severe Mental Illness.* CE training for the Broward County Mental Health Counselors Association

Puls, J. (2025, January 31). *Navigating the Baker Act: History, Ethics, and Practical Insights.* CE training for the Florida Mental Health Counselors Association annual conference

Puls, J. (2025, February 21). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* CE training at Futures Recovery Healthcare

Puls, J. (2025, March 6). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* Parent education group for Other Parents Like Me (OPLM)

Puls, J. (2025, April 18). *Navigating the Baker Act: History, Ethics, and Practical Insights.* CE training for the Palm Beach Mental Health Counselors Association

Puls, J. (2025, May 28). *The Marchman Act: A Legal Framework for Involuntary Addiction Treatment.* CE training for the National Organization of Forensic Social Workers

Puls, J. (2025, June 6). *The Marchman Act: A Closer Look at Involuntary Treatment for Addiction.* CE training at the Florida National Association of Social Workers conference.

Puls, J. Et al. (2025, June 20). *Florida Civil Commitment and Guardianship: Legal Pathways to Support Recovery.* CE and CLE training for attorneys and psychotherapists.

Puls, J. (2025, July 7). *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* CE training for the University of Wisconsin.

Puls, J. (2025, August 7) *Cannabis Induced Psychosis: Recent Trends in Cannabis Use.* CE training for the Hope Consortium Conference through the University of Wisconsin.

Puls, J. (2025, August 15) *Discover the Potent Trio: Kratom, Kava, and Ketamine.* CE training for the Florida Society of Addiction Medicine.

Puls, J. (2025, October 4) *Beyond Codependency: Embracing Prodependency and Family Unity in Addiction Treatment.* CE training for the East Coast Symposium on Addictive Disorders.

Puls, J. (2025, October 5) *Involuntary Commitment to Treatment as an Effective Intervention Tool for Substance Use Disorder.* CE training for the East Coast Symposium on Addictive Disorders.

Puls, J. (2025, October 17) *The Marchman Act: A Closer Look at Involuntary Treatment for Addiction.* CE training for NASW Space Coast at Palm Point Behavioral Health.

Puls, J. (2025, October 31st) *Discover the Potent Trio: Kratom, Kava, and Ketamine.* CE training for the National Board of Forensic Evaluators.

Puls, J. (2025, November 21) *The Baker Act and Marchman Act: Understanding Florida's Involuntary Commitment Laws.* CE training for the SunCoast Mental Health Counselors Association.

Litigation History

- Qualified expert witness testimony and evaluation for marchman act cases in Florida
- Standard of care in addiction treatment/wrongful death cases for plaintiff and defense counsel
- Suicide standard of care expert witness
- Mitigation specialist for cases involving addiction
- Family law expert witness

Non-profit Board/Committee Member

- Board member of the Palm Beach County HUB, Recovery Community Organization
- Board member of the South Florida Professional Liaison Society
- Board member of NAMI PBC

***** For forensic cases, references are available upon request *****