In this side event, we present information on initiatives related to supports and services for people with psychosocial disabilities that are compliant with the CRPD. All such supports and services must start from the abolition of force and coercion, and respect for the individual’s own self-knowledge as well as his or her autonomy, will and preferences.

Within this framework, questions can be raised. What is the role of mental health services in transforming support practices? How do initiatives outside the context of mental health services, such as models based on peer support or personal assistance, play a role in promoting a shift away from the medical model of psychosocial disability? How do these different types of projects overlap and relate to one another?

Chair
Diane Kingston, Deputy Director, CBM International Advocacy and Alliances (IAA) and Former Member of the Expert Committee for the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2013-2016, United Kingdom

Speakers
Facundo Chávez Penillas, Human Rights and Disability Advisor, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva, Switzerland
Findings of the OHCHR report on mental health, with regard to persons with psychosocial disabilities

Michelle Funk, Coordinator, Mental Health Policy and Service Development, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland
WHO QualityRights work to promote services and supports for people with psychosocial disabilities in line with international human rights standards

Jolijn Santegoeds, Co-Chair, World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry (WNUSP)
(Presentation title to follow)

Sera Davidow, Director, Western Mass Recovery Learning Community (RLC), Holyoke, MA, USA
From Human Rights to Humanity: No-Force Options in Mental Health

Lucila López, Social Psychologist, User and Survivor of Psychiatry, Argentina
The role of personal assistance in supporting people to live autonomous lives

Tina Minkowitz, Founder and President, Center for the Human Rights of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry, Chestertown, NY, USA
Support for People with Psychosocial Disabilities in Independent Living Framework