



Some leaders build programs. Some leaders build people. The extraordinary ones build both.

For nearly twenty years, Dr. Meghan Fondow has been that rare leader. She has envisioned, developed, and sustained an integrated behavioral health program that has transformed care at Access Community Health Centers while simultaneously investing in the people, teams, and culture that ensure the work will continue long into the future. Meghan is a true “unicorn” in healthcare: a clinician who understands patients, a program builder who turns ideas into action, and an educator who develops the people who bring those ideas to life. While a leader may excel in one of these roles, Meghan has spent her career seamlessly connecting all of them. Access has been extraordinarily fortunate to benefit from her nearly two decades of leadership, vision, and commitment—not only because of the programs she has built, but because of the people and teams she has strengthened along the way. That unwavering commitment is what makes her an exceptional recipient of the Don Bloch Award.

Meghan joined Access Community Health Centers in 2007 as the organization's first Behavioral Health Consultant Post-Doctoral Fellow. What began as a fellowship opportunity became a nearly two-decade commitment to advancing integrated care in community health. Today, Meghan serves as Director of Behavioral Health and Clinical Training while continuing to provide direct patient care.

Access CEO Ken Loving describes Meghan's impact this way:

"Working alongside Dr. Fondow is a joy. She is an exceptional clinician who consistently goes above and beyond to help our patients connect, heal, and succeed. Beyond her clinical work, Meghan has profoundly shaped our organization by fostering a culture of inclusion, respect, and collaboration. She helps our teams articulate how Access can become an even better care provider and employer, and she creates organization-wide educational sessions on teamwork and resilience that strengthen how we work together every day. Meghan is one of those fortunate people who discovered exactly how she wanted to make an impact—and found a place where she makes that difference every single day."

During her tenure, Meghan has transformed Access' behavioral health program from a single part-time psychologist into a multidisciplinary team of more than twenty behavioral health consultants, psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, care coordinators, and trainees fully integrated within primary care. In doing so, she has created the foundation for integrated behavioral health to thrive well into the future.



Like any great builder, Meghan has done far more than create a successful program—she has created one designed to endure. She has established the foundation, developed the workforce, and cultivated the relationships necessary for integrated behavioral health to thrive. Under her leadership, Access has expanded behavioral health services while embedding collaboration, trust, and shared purpose into the organization's everyday approach to care.

Meghan's influence extends far beyond behavioral health. Alongside developing nationally respected psychology and social work fellowship programs at Access and training rotations with the University of Wisconsin School of Social Work, she has become a driving force behind organizational learning and development. Through organization-wide education on communication, teamwork, resilience, and collaboration, Meghan transforms the principles of integrated care into everyday practice, equipping colleagues with the skills to communicate effectively, trust one another's expertise, and deliver better care together.

Her impact as a mentor is equally extraordinary. To date, Meghan has directly supervised and mentored more than one hundred trainees. Many entered community health with limited experience in integrated behavioral health and left with a lifelong commitment to serving medically underserved populations. Ten of Access' current Behavioral Health Consultants trained in programs she helped develop, while many others now practice integrated behavioral healthcare throughout Wisconsin and across the country.

Every clinician Meghan mentors extends her influence. They improve care for patients, strengthen healthcare teams, and develop future clinicians of their own. Her impact multiplies with every person she teaches.

Jamie Colvin, LCSW, Behavioral Health Clinical Training Manager, credits Meghan's guidance with fostering "a stronger, more collaborative team culture while playing an instrumental role in the development and growth of our Behavioral Health Training and Fellowship Program." Jamie adds, "Meghan consistently leads with integrity, generosity, and a genuine commitment to serving others. She truly embodies the spirit of leadership and service."

Behavioral Health Consultant Regional Lead Dr. Alexander Smith describes Meghan's commitment to compassionate, patient-centered integrated care as "a model to which we all aspire." Former fellow Haleigh Carter credits Meghan's mentorship as one of the primary reasons her career in community health remains meaningful and sustainable—and why she chose to remain at Access.



Meghan's commitment to developing others extends well beyond our organization. Through the Collaborative Family Healthcare Association, she has supported organizations implementing integrated behavioral health models and helped teams build sustainable approaches to care. She has served as Member-at-Large for CFHA's Primary Care Behavioral Health Special Interest Group, taught family medicine residents as an Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, and previously taught integrated care through Arizona State University's Doctor of Behavioral Health program.

Her scholarship reflects that same commitment. Meghan authored and co-authored chapters in the 2024 *Implementer's Guide to Primary Care Behavioral Health*, focusing on workforce development, quality improvement, technology, chronic disease management, and behavioral health interventions. Through publications and national presentations, she consistently translates experience into practical guidance that enables organizations across the country to strengthen integrated care.

Dr. Don Bloch believed that lasting change is achieved through collaboration, mentorship, and investing in others. For nearly two decades, Meghan has brought those values to life. She has done far more than build an integrated behavioral health program—she has cultivated the people who will sustain and strengthen it for years to come. With humility, compassion, and unwavering integrity, she develops clinicians into leaders, teams into true collaborators, and bold ideas into lasting systems of care. Her influence is reflected not only in the thousands of patients whose lives have been improved, but also in the countless colleagues she has inspired, challenged, and equipped to carry this work forward.

I have the privilege of working alongside Meghan as both a colleague and a friend, and I can think of no one who more fully embodies the collaboration, mentorship, and commitment to others that define the Don Bloch Award. The true measure of a leader is not only what they build, but what continues because they were there. Like Dr. Don Bloch, Meghan's greatest legacy is the people she has inspired, mentored, and prepared to carry this work forward.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth A. Zeidler Schreiter", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Elizabeth A. Zeidler Schreiter, Psy.D.
Chief Behavioral Health Officer