

## **Biography**

Dr. Laura Otis-Miles, Senior Vice President  
Mental Health Systems  
May 11, 2022

B.A. in Psychology and Social Welfare, University of California at Berkeley, 1993  
Ph.D. in Clinical-Community Psychology, University of South Carolina, 2001

Laura Otis-Miles, Ph.D., CPRP, Senior Vice President of Clinical Services, joined Mental Health Systems as Vice President in 2010. During her tenure, she has brought tremendous growth and success to behavioral health operations with County, State, and Federal funding including Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), Full Service Partnerships, Supportive Housing and Homeless Storage Connect Centers, Veterans and Military Services, and MHS' expansion in 2015 to her hometown of the San Francisco Bay Area – Assisted Outpatient Treatment through AB 1421 implementation of Laura's Law in Contra Costa County, and most recently in 2019, Santa Clara ACTION and LINKED service navigation for justice-involved, at risk homeless clients reentering the City of San Jose and surrounding Silicon Valley community.

Dr. Otis-Miles has 19 years of behavioral health experience within San Diego County, having completed her predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, San Diego, Department of Psychiatry and Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System, where she was later appointed to the Clinical Faculty as a Licensed Psychologist and Clinical Instructor. While at U.C. San Diego, she integrated her academic work with community mental health in her role as Program Director of Community Research Foundation's New Vistas Crisis Center, a CARF-accredited, 24-hour short-term acute residential treatment program for homeless clients with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders. Venturing away from her native California, Dr. Otis-Miles served as the first Chief of Domiciliary Care for the Homeless Veterans Program at the Richard L. Roudebush Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Indianapolis, Indiana, overseeing the opening and accreditation of an off-station, 50-bed facility providing Vietnam era and returning Afghanistan/Iraq veterans with housing and treatment from 2007-2010.

Dr. Otis-Miles has been actively involved in numerous boards and committees, including the VA San Diego ASPIRE Center and Public Mental Health Academy Advisory Boards, San Diego Psychological Association Community Mental Health Committee, San Diego Coalition for Mental Health, and San Diego State University School of Social Work's Academy for Professional Excellence Curriculum Committee and Motivational Interviewing Trainer. In 2016, she was the winner of the MHS Employee of the Year Award and promoted to Senior Vice President in 2018. As of July 2021, she currently represents the North Inland region of San Diego County on the Continuum of Care (CoC) Advisory Board with the Regional Task Force on Homelessness.

Dr. Otis-Miles obtained her Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical-Community Psychology from the University of South Carolina, and Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, Berkeley. Additionally, Dr. Otis-Miles is a Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioner (CPRP), Licensed Health Service Provider in Psychology through the Indiana State Psychology Board, and a Licensed Psychologist through the California Board of Psychology since 2003.