## Kerry Haynes Shoreline Social Rehab Supervisor



Kerry has been with BHcare since 1998 when she began as an intern at the Shoreline social program, OPTIONS (Opportunities Provided Through Interests, Outreach, Networking and Support), that serves our mental health and substance abuse clients. At the end of her internship, she applied for an open position and has been there ever since. Today she supervises the OPTIONS team which provides social opportunities for clients including skill building and recreational activities.

Special events are always something Kerry looks forward to at OPTIONS. Every May, OPTIONS hosts an art show at Blackstone Library where clients

share their paintings, drawings and sculptures. "The art show is always a highlight of mine. I am so proud to see the many talents of our clients," Kerry said. She also enjoys partnering with the Valley Social Club for pool tournaments, summer picnics and holiday celebrations. It provides increased social opportunities for all the clients of the social programs.

Working with community businesses is another activity that Kerry enjoys. She recalls the time Shoetique hosted two dozen clients; fitting each of them with beautiful sandals and when a Mary Kay consultant gave makeovers to the ladies of OPTIONS.

Kerry has a Bachelor of Social Work from Southern Connecticut University. She said that her relationship with her cousin, an individual who has a severe developmental disability, was the catalyst for pursuing a career in social work.

Kerry feels a connection to the agency, her co-workers and the people BHcare serves. She says she "loves, loves, community mental health." As a Connecticut native who lived most of her life in Branford, she feels it is important to be involved with building community relationships.

Kerry serves on various fundraising committees at BHcare, and has been volunteering at the Community Dining Room in Branford for 22 years. Kerry also serves on the board of directors the Patricia C. Andriole Volunteer Services Center in Branford and is a member of the Rotary Club of Branford.