

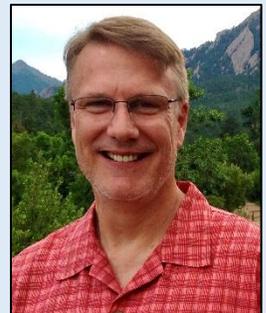
Speaker Bios – Faces and Roles of Recovery

TONY FOSTER

Tony Foster secured his B.A. in Psychology, and two years later, received his M.Ed. in Counseling from Sul Ross State University. He is currently the Executive Director of Amarillo Mental Health Consumers, a peer-driven activity center, based on the substrate that recovery from mental illness is possible. His responsibilities include advocacy, peer mentoring, wellness programming, facilitating peer-led groups, and instructing GED classes. Tony's local and state advocacy efforts are focused on increased funding for the mental health system, challenging the mental health consumer stereotypes, and a more progressive mental health provider system that includes peer support models. Tony's research interests include psychopathology, theories of personality, statistical analysis, number theory, and elements of social psychology. He is an accomplished author with peer reviewed mental health and math articles published in reputable journals, including Europe's Journal of Psychology and Cambridge University's Mathematical Gazette. Tony is also an avid mountain hiker who has climbed some of the tallest mountains in the United States.

JIM WHITTON

Jim Whitton is a community volunteer currently raising money to help Storybridge expand Dolly Parton's Imagination Library throughout Potter and Randall Counties. Over the course of his career, Jim served as Regional Director for The Hunger Project, an international organization dedicated to ending world hunger; Director of Advertising for Hastings Entertainment; and President of HMW & Associates, a talent agency with offices in New York and Los Angeles. He holds a B.A. in History from Middlebury College. For the past 20 years, Jim has facilitated local support group meetings of the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA). DBSA is a national organization that exists to bring hope, help, support, and education to those living with mood disorders. The Amarillo chapter provides monthly peer-to-peer meetings for those suffering from depression, anxiety, and bipolar disorder.



Jim is married to Barbara Harter Whitton. They have lived in Amarillo for the past 28 years. He enjoys golf, biking, skiing, and travel. Barbara and he are active members of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

RICO GOFF

Bio of Rico Goff to be added.