

## **Sherry Healey – Trainer Bio**

Sherry Healey, Community Living and Employment Specialist with the University of Minnesota Institute on Community Integration, is assisting MN providers to transform from sheltered work to competitive integrated employment and NY state to address DSP workforce recruitment and retention challenges. Ms. Healey graduated from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor's degree in Human Resource Management. She served as Human Resource Manager for NCR and AT&T Corporations for eight years, when her eldest son developed epilepsy and autism at the age of 2. Subsequent to his diagnosis, Ms. Healey began her career in special education and social services. She has worked as a Job Coach, Job Developer, and Employment Services Director with Illinois I/DD service providers. As Statewide Employment First Manager with the Illinois Department of Human Services, she worked to create systems change that resulted in increased community-based, integrated employment opportunities for individuals with significant disabilities. She was among the first in Illinois to be recognized as a Certified Employment Support Professional with the Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE). Ms. Healey also volunteers her time and expertise as Board President of Community Access Naperville, a local nonprofit providing individuals with limited communication and social skills an opportunity to be active and engaged in their community.