



### **The Council Mourns the Loss of Legendary Anti-Stigma Leader Dr. Patrick Corrigan**

The New Jersey Governor’s Council on Mental Health Stigma was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Patrick Corrigan, PsyD., who was well known for his extensive and impactful stigma-related research, publications, teaching and other contributions to the behavioral healthcare community. He most recently served as a Distinguished Professor of Psychology; Director of the Center for Health Equity, Education and Research; and Core Faculty Member in the Division of Counseling and Rehabilitation Science at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Dr. Corrigan “was the world expert on stigma in mental health. The United States Congress, the White House, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and dozens of universities called on him to provide his expertise. Stanford University lists him in the top 2% most cited scientists in the world. His work helped thousands of seriously mentally ill individuals receive better and more effective healthcare. Pat served the poor and suffering in a way few individuals ever will,” as stated in his [obituary](#).

“I was shocked and devastated to learn that Pat had passed away. I have known of him and his work, and I was struck by his passion that was clearly demonstrated by his immediate acceptance of our invitation to deliver the keynote presentation during the New Jersey Governor’s Council on Mental Health Stigma ‘s *20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Showcase* event that was held in July of 2025, which he did virtually from his home in Illinois,” said Debra L. Wentz, PhD, Chair of this Council. “It was a tremendous honor to have Pat present for us, and I am so grateful to have had the privilege of meeting him, as well as learning and being greatly inspired by him.”

“The Council sends deepest condolences and warmest wishes to Pat’s wife Georgeen, their children Abraham and Elizabeth, and their grandchildren Jack, Clara, and Nathaniel. His memory and the legacy he had created for behavioral healthcare providers and service recipients will endure for many years,” Dr. Wentz added.