

Jessica Grimm-Gonzalez

Executive Director, Bravehearts MOVE New York

By navigating systems and spaces in silence, Jessica knows firsthand the impact that can occur from growing up unheard as a child living with trauma. Through a deep commitment to personal and collective healing, she has transformed her adverse adolescent experiences into a lifelong mission to create courageous change. She is the Founder and Executive Director of Bravehearts M.O.V.E. New York, a youth-led nonprofit organization working to transform how agencies and systems partner with young adults and lived experts. Bravehearts designs & leads youth-driven initiatives that support young people impacted by the mental health, juvenile justice, child welfare, and intersecting youth serving systems across New York State. Jessica works alongside county, state, and national partners to advance meaningful youth/adult partnerships practices and strengthen healing-centered services. In addition to her leadership at Bravehearts, Jessica also serves as a Subject Matter Expert with LEX Workforce LLC, where she develops peer advocacy training curriculum and supports program development for both providers and peer professionals. A seasoned public speaker, program developer, and policy advisor, Jessica, has spent over two decades working locally, nationally, and internationally alongside peer fellows to improve pathways to adulthood in the areas of housing, education, employment, and belonging. She is especially passionate about advancing peer-led program development and strengthening supervisory practices that support the growth, competency, and sustainability of the lived experience workforce.

