



Meet  
*Dr. Louise Stanger*

**Author**-*Falling Up, A Memoir of Renewal and Learn To Thrive, An Intervention Guidebook*

**Educator**-Former Faculty SDSU, School of Social Work, SDSU Interwork Institute

**Director**-All About Interventions and Past Director of Alcohol and Other Drug Services USD

**Clinician**-LCSW, CDWF Candidate

**Principal Investigator**-Department of Education and NI-NIAAA and other grants

**Woman**-Widow, Wife, Mother, Stepmother, Grandmother, Step Grandmother

LOUISE STANGER Ed.D, LCSW, CIP -Interventionist- Speaker- Author-Educator

Louise Stanger has over thirty-five years of experience as a college professor, researcher with five million in government grants, and a licensed clinician, working with families and individuals who experience substance abuse and mental health disorders. She has been a licensed clinician (LCSW) since 1973.

Louise started her college teaching career at the ripe young age of 21. She received her Bachelor's degree in English Literature from the University of Pittsburgh, Master's in Social Work from San Diego State College and Doctorate in Education from the University of San Diego. She has served as faculty at San Diego State University School of Social Work and SDSU Interwork Institute as well as been the Director of Alcohol and other Drug Services at the University of San Diego. She has had grants from United States Department of Education, the United States National Institute of Health and National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism as well as private foundation grants to reduce high risk problematic drinking as well as explore parent-based interventions. Louise was one of the first United States Higher Education

Associates named to consult with other universities across the country on how to reduce risk associated with alcohol and other drug problems.

Another area of expertise which Louise has experience is sudden death, grief and loss. Louise was a third generation widow as her mother and grandmother were also widowed at a young age and used this experience as the grounds for her doctoral dissertation which explored women who had been widowed at a young age. Not wanting to be locked away in academic journals, Louise produced one of the first websites on widowhood. This led to her having the opportunity to work with the widows of 9/11 through the Columbia School of Social Work and to write in collaboration with journalists for the NY Fire Department's LINKS magazine. She still writes on this subject today.

In addition, her own experience with Sudden Infant Death Syndrome has made her a spokesperson on this issue. October is National SIDS Awareness month and to this end she has a guest article in Parents Magazine and has written in Baby Spot.

The San Diego Business Journal named Louise as one of the Top Ten "Women Who Mean Business" and Quit Alcohol named her as one of the Top Ten Interventionists in the country in December 2013. Foundations Recovery Network - at their 2014 Moments of Change Conference - proclaimed Dr. Stanger as the Fan Favorite Speaker.

Today, Louise serves as President of the Sydney D. Holland Foundation that is principally committed to helping at-risk youth and to funding substance abuse programs which serve women. The Foundation has provided pro-bono intervention services and scholarships to such treatment facilities as Miriam's House, Friendly House LA, Prototypes, La Fuente, activities at Urban Fitness 911, provided assessment scholarships for Autism at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute, Training Grant for Teen Line Suicide Prevention, outdoor educational experiences for at-risk youth at Outdoor Outreach San Diego, and art and dance experiences for at-risk youth provided by The Dizzy Feet Foundation and others.

Louise is passionate about the intervention work she does with families whose loved ones' experience substance abuse, process disorders, chronic pain, and mental health disorders. She is well known for an invitational team approach. Whether she is working collaboratively with other treatment professionals, inviting loved ones to change, or teaching families how to take care of themselves, physically, emotionally and spiritually or consistent with their values, she remains a fierce advocate that change is possible.

Consistent with her desire for public discourse, Louise is a sought after voice in her field and has increased her writing with blogs and articles in other publications. Louise has written several guest articles on substance abuse and mental health disorders, recovery, pain management and

family dynamics. Publications include the Journal of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Recovery Campus, Sober World, Healthy Place, Parent Magazine, Yahoo TV Guide, Addiction Blog, The Baby Spot, and Good Every Day, amongst others. Her memoir - Falling Up: A Memoir of Renewal - about her life, career and work with families was published on Amazon in 2015 and recently she published Learn to Thrive- An Intervention Guidebook which is available for free download on her website <http://www.allaboutinterventions.com>.

Having been an award-winning teacher which included being honored as Faculty Homecoming Dedicattee while at San Diego State University, Louise enjoys putting together original, engaging and interactive curriculum. She prides herself on customizing her presentations and workshops and continues to present all over the country, including: Alta Mira, Sausalito, Ca, His House, Upland, Ca, Magnolia Landing For Women, North Carolina, BRC , Austin, TX, The Arbor, Austin, TX, Kemah Palms, Houston, TX, Beit T'Shuvah, LA, Miriam's House, LA, Addiction Therapeutic Services, Palm Springs, Northbound, Costa Mesa, WAAT, San Diego, Orange, Malibu, San Fernando, Coachella Valley and LA; Auoura Behavioral Health, San Diego, Menninger's, Paradigm Malibu in Malibu and especially New Found Life Family Program, Long Beach, CA where she gained her start as a treatment presenter.

As a national conference presenter she has presented alone and collaboratively (with Jeffrey Merrick, Tom Horvath and James Flowers). Conferences she has presented at include CORE, WCSAD, Admissions and Marketing Symposium, Behavioral Health Care Symposium, and Foundations Recovery's conferences. She will be making an international debut this June at Celebrate World Drug Day at Recovery Plus in London thanks to a most gracious invitation and will be doing a keynote in Dallas this November at Foundations with Lori Jean Glass and Robyn Cruze.

Louise believes learning never ends and is now completing her Supervision Certification with Brene Brown's Daring Way and Rising Strong. Most importantly, Louise knows that she could not do the work she does - teaching, writing, inviting others to change - without the support and love she receives from her husband John Wadas, their blended family which consists of 5 children and 7 grandchildren, her daughters Sydney, Felicia and Shelby and all of her colleagues who continue to challenge the behavioral health care field and make her a better person and practitioner.