

KRISTIN ESPOSITO, LMSW

EDUCATION

Syracuse University • M.S.W. Family Mental Health Concentration: May 1997

New York State Education Department • License # 074607

State University of New York at Plattsburgh • BA in Psychology; graduated Cum Laude: May 1994

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Syracuse University- Syracuse, New York

Internship Placement Coordinator

9/12 – present

- Assist Students in integrating social work theory and practice through their field placement experiences
- Provide consultation, support and mediation to students and their field supervisors when problems arise
- Procure field placements for 45-50 undergraduate and graduate students seeking individualized experiences
- Develop learning opportunities by establishing new relationships with community agencies/programs
- Carry an Undergraduate advising load of 10
- Lead expert in program, agency and county services in Cayuga and Oswego Counties
- Participant on the Curriculum Committee focusing on developing an Integrated Curriculum concentration
- Maintain accurate and contemporaneous notes and record keeping
- Provide support and coordination of the HRSA grant as a part of the Upstate New York Mental and Behavioral Health Education Consortium
- Developed and presented “A Successful Transition to School: Helping Children Adjust to the School Setting” in Central Square, N.Y. to teacher’s assistants, school psychologists and one on one aides; **October 31, 2012**
- Provided research, created powerpoint and co-presented “Preparing Students to Effectively Work in Changing Environments” Syracuse, N.Y.; **March 22, 2013**
- Presented at Toomey Residential Services “Preparing Staff to Effectively Work in Changing Environments: Syracuse, N.Y., **May 15, 2013**

Elmcrest Children’s Center- Syracuse, New York

Director of Transitional Programming

6/11 – 9/12

- Administrated the Family Support Center (FSC), Group Emergency Foster Care program (GEFC), Agency Operated Boarding Home (AOBH) and Girl’s Residential Program
- Collaborated with the Department of Social Services of the 14 municipalities within the Region to provide treatment and adequate aftercare services for children returning to their home communities
- Developed and educated staff on evidence-based practices (Dialectical Behavioral Therapy) and research-informed care (Cornell University’s - Children and Residential Experiences, *CARE*)
- Chairperson for diagnostic assessments for boys and girls agency-wide, ages 6-19
- Provided an Integrated Clinical Summary of Diagnostic findings, including placement and treatment recommendations to the respective County and Court
- Developed and provided agency training to childcare, clinical and supervisory staff; including satellite offices in Cortland, Binghamton and Oswego
- Provided community training and consultation for other foster care, mental health and therapeutic agencies
- Supported the expansion of the Family Support Center model of care to other municipalities within Region III
- Supervised eight clinical and program managers, with an overall responsibility for 35 childcare and support staff
- Provided agency leadership through training, on-call support and executive decision making

Program and Clinical Director of the Family Support Center (FSC)

4/05 - 6/11

- Directed Onondaga county’s unique foster care program designed to reduce the trauma of placement for all children entering and moving through the foster care system; ages newborn to 19 years old

- Participated on a multidisciplinary team on a weekly basis to review cases, promote successful family reunification, streamline services and to provide clinical consultation
- Met with University Hospital Pediatric Unit's ENHANCE clinic monthly to coordinate client's medical needs, medications, care and case planning
- Chaired the FSC/DSS executive committee with the goal of tracking program outcomes, modifying program design to best suit current foster care trends and problem solving obstacles in meeting program goals
- Collected, recorded and interpreted statistical data to support program outcomes and efficacy
- Collaborated with county executives, University Hospital's medical staff and mental health practitioners to expand the Center's original design intended to serve 8 children and increased occupancy to 14 children
- Tailored a training program specific to developing staff competencies when working with children and families interfacing with the foster care system. Topic's included: adjustment to foster care, culture and diversity, human growth and development, trauma informed care and treatment, coping skills assessment, behavior modification planning and implementation, and family engagement
- Trained clinical staff in Solution Focused Therapy as a short term intervention
- Created, wrote and re-wrote the FSC Policy and Procedures
- Sought out financial contributions, interior design and had direct oversight of the building layout of the newly constructed Family Support Center (May 2010)
- Lead the agency's initiative to develop a model of treatment and marketing plan to replication the FSC in other counties across the Central New York Region
- Provided training to the Department of Social Services related our intra-agency collaboration, policy and practice
- Provided consultation to other agencies across the United States interested in replicating the FSC model
- Guest Speaker at the NYPWA 142nd Annual Summer Conference, *July 24-27, 2011*

Director of Health Care Integration (Bridges to Health Medicaid Waiver Program- B2H) **2/09 - 5/10**

- Participated in the agency's strategic plan to become a Health Care Integration Provider for the 14 counties in Region III, New York State
- Given special assignment to create the agency's Health Care Integration Services without start up costs
- Successfully opened a satellite office in Binghamton, NY and built Elmcrest's reputation as a valued provider
- Recruited, hired, trained and supervised Health Care Integrators in Syracuse and Binghamton
- Provided training and support to multiple Wavier Service Provider agencies across the region as a member of the Tri-Agency Review Committee (Elmcrest - Hillside - House of the Good Shepherd)
- Trained as an Health Care Integrator and Administrator through the Office of Children and Family Services
- Co-created the B2H Policy and Procedure in compliance with the Office of Children and Family Services B2H standards and the Office of Medicaid Inspector General

Social Worker - Family Support Center **5/98 - 4/05**

- Served a diverse population from infancy to late adolescence entering foster care
- Provided short-term, solution focused therapy to families and children in crisis
- Provided clinical observation, assessment, treatment and recommendations to Onondaga County DSS
- Wrote clinical recommendations to the Placement Review Committee and Single Point of Access (SPOA) for children requiring a higher level of care
- Supervised multiple student interns from Syracuse University, Lemoyne College and Cazenovia College, as well as the Family Support Center Case Aides
- Created and facilitated an Orientation Program for DSS/FSC staff prior to the Program's expansion in January of 2000
- Participated on the FSC management team overseeing the daily operations of the Program
- Maintained the Program's reputation as an innovative therapeutically focused initiative; at times without a director

Social Worker - Residential Boy's Program **3/97 - 5/98**

- Provided individual, group and family therapy to clients ages 12-17

- Incorporated treatment planning and goals into the milieu by supporting and informing the direct care workers
- Developed a problem solving curriculum and held weekly groups for Conduct Disordered clients
- Functioned as a school Social Worker for site-based school programming at Elmcrest
- Provided crisis intervention counseling to children at risk, and to those who disclosed sexual abuse

Recreation Therapist

10/95 – 3/97

- Provided structured play, arts and crafts, skill building and activities for children ages 0-19
- Managed a discrete budget for recreation
- Created weekly recreation schedule for staff
- Researched local opportunities for economical recreation, activities and leisure

COMMITTEES

- School of Social Work Curriculum Committee – Integrated Concentration
- Disproportionate Minority Representation of Children in Foster Care Committee Member
- Community Child and Adolescent Advocate - SUNY Child Psychiatry
- Onondaga County OnCare Stakeholder
- PASS (Parents Advocating for Safer Schools) Co-founder and member

EXPERIENCE/CERTIFICATIONS

- Experience in stress management, deep muscle relaxation, EMDR- mindfulness, and meditation
- Experience in play therapy for children ages 3-6
- At Risk Evaluation and Crisis Response
- CANS (Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths) Assessment Certification
- Child and Residential Experiences (CARE) Certified Trainer - Cornell University
- Therapeutic Crisis Intervention Certification - Cornell University
- High Fidelity Wraparound Facilitator
- Risking Connection Certified Trainer – SIDRAN Institute
- CPR and First Aid - American Red Cross

INTERNSHIPS

Hughes Magnet Elementary School – Syracuse, N.Y.

8/95 – 5/96

Completed bio-psycho-social assessments for students. Participated on a multidisciplinary team aimed at strategically planning for student success. Supported students and their families on the Committee of Special Education. Conducted groups to students needing extra support during their school day focused on skill and self-esteem building, conflict mediation and productive citizenship. Met with individual students to provide individual counseling.

Elmcrest Children’s Center, Family Focused Residential Program – Syracuse, N.Y.

8/96 – 5/97

Developed treatment plans for male adolescent residents suffering from emotional and mental health issues. Provided individual and family therapy. Developed a clinical evaluation tools for residents receiving treatment in school, the milieu and in the community. Established, promoted and executed a family focused curriculum to involve families in the successful treatment of their family member.

HONORS/AWARDS

Phi Eta Kappa, Dean’s List Honoree, National Academic Honor Society: Spring 1994
Psi Chi, National Honor Society in Psychology (Fund-raiser Chair): inducted Spring 1993
Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society: inducted Fall 1993
Distinguished Service Award, Elmcrest Children’s Center: Spring 2000, 2005 and 2010