

2004 – January 2009 Buckhorn Children & Family Services (PCWA) Hazard, KY
Director of Programs

- Strategic planning and budgetary responsibilities for eight treatment foster care programs
- Collaboration with community partners and other professionals within the Public Child Welfare System
- Agency representative for Treatment Foster Care Children Alliance
- Advocacy of agency programs and employees
- Participation in interagency committees
- Assisted in policy and procedure development and implementation for agency and Treatment Foster Care programs
- Ensured compliance of programs with KRS regulations and participation and approval of responses to Office of Inspector General (OIG) as required
- Political advocacy to ensure funding for agencies serving clients

1996–2004 Presbyterian Child Welfare Agency (PCWA) Hazard, KY
Program Manager/Area Manager

- Supervisory responsibility for employees in Treatment Foster Care Programs
- Ensured trainings for foster parents and staff
- Collaboration with community partners for the care of the children
- Advocacy for the programs
- Monitored programs compliance with regulatory organizations
- Fundraising activities with and for the clients
- Assisted in growth of the foster care program from one region to four.

1994-1996 Presbyterian Child Welfare Agency (PCWA) Buckhorn, KY
Case Manager

- Case management for eight to twelve clients
- Developed and implemented treatment plans with clients
- Conducted individual and group counseling for clients and families
- Collaboration with community partners
- Advocacy for clients in community and schools

1991-1994 Morehead Treatment Center Morehead, KY
Youth Worker/Juvenile Counselor Senior

- Developed and implemented treatment plans with clients
- Conducted individual, group and family counseling
- Supervised clients in daily activities
- Ensured completion of all paperwork related to placement and discharge of clients

EDUCATION

August 2005 – May 2008 University of Kentucky
Southeast Kentucky MSW Program
Hazard, KY
Master of Social Work

- Project AGE: Certificate in Gerontology
- Honored as “Outstanding Student of the Year” by faculty & peers

August 1988 – May 1991
Richmond, KY

Eastern Kentucky University

BS: Corrections and Juvenile Services

PRESENTATIONS

April 8, 2013 CCTS Conference

BEPCP: Media Campaign to Promote Smoke-Free Facilities. Linda Napier, Diane Kronemeyer, Melissa Slone, Beth Bowling, Carol Riker, Jessica Akers, Kellie Watts

July 30-31, 2012 NCI: Community Network Program Centers Program

Understanding Cancer: Developing and Evaluating an Easy to Read Cancer Education Curriculum for the Appalachian Population. Stephenie Kennedy, Stephenie Kennedy, Mary Ellen Conn, Darla Fickle, Marcy Bencivenga, Brenda Kluhsman, Sharon Dwyer, Melissa Slone & Samuel Lesko.

September 22, 2009 Leadership Exchange: Best Practices in Action Partner Panel
Represented the Breathe Easy: Perry County Partnership

2008 Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators (KASWE)

Factors Associated with Perceived Quality of Life Among Rural and Urban Elders in Kentucky

2008 Kentucky Rural Health Annual Program Meeting

Factors Associated with Perceived Quality of Life Among Rural and Urban Elders in Kentucky

VOLUNTEER/ACTIVITIES

Current

1/2016-Present

Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky, Community Advisory Council. Mission: To address the unmet health care needs of Kentuckians by developing and influencing health policy, improving access to care, reducing health risks and disparities, and promoting health equity.

6/2015-Present

Perry County Early Childhood Community Advisory Board. Goal is to form partnerships with community stakeholders and assess Appalachian parents' and child service providers' preferences and perspectives.

2014-Present

Appointment to Human Services Program Advisory Committee of Hazard Community and Technical College. Goal is to provide direction for the program and its service to students and the local community.

2007-Present

National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Member

2012-Present

National Rural Health Association and Kentucky Rural Health Association member
Goal is to provide leadership on rural health issues at a state and national level.

Focus Group Moderator

Moderator Training completed with George Washington University (Feb. 27 & March 7, 2013).

March 11, 2013

Focus Group for BMore Project

March 18, 2013

Focus Group for BMore Project

Past

2008-2013

Breathe Easy: Perry County Partnership Committee Member

Community-based project aimed at educating the community on the dangers of Secondhand smoke.

2009-2010

Appalachian Community Cancer Network (ACCN) Community Advisory Council
Addresses cancer disparities in Appalachian regions of Kentucky, West Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Virginia.

Big Sandy Community Advisory Board (BSCAB) Member: Focuses is on cancer disparities in Big Sandy Region of Kentucky.

2007-2010

City of Jenkins Planning Committee Volunteer

Work as part of a community-based organization to address the needs of the citizens (with special emphasis on the aging) of Jenkins, Kentucky

2000-2007

Foster Care Review Board Volunteer

Knott Co., KY

Assured the mental, physical, and treatment needs of clients in states care in Knott County were receiving the care necessary in their foster care placements. Also make recommendations on permanency for the children.

Kentucky Elder Readiness Initiative Program (KERI) Community Representative
300 hours Graduate Education Practicum

Statewide project designed to assess the community readiness of elder issues. Worked as a regional contact and implemented programs identified as needs.

U.K. North Fork Valley Community Health Center- Graduate Education Practicum

Kentucky River Community Advisory Board for the Prevention Research Board Member
Community based organization implementing programs designed to promote healthy communities in the Kentucky River Region.

National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

Eastern Kentucky Branch Chair- June 12, 2009-August 20, 2010

Secretary NASW-KY Executive Committee- August 20, 2010- July 2011

Vice President NASW-KY Executive Committee- July 2011- July 2014

Committees Served on: Ethics Committee for State Chapter; Membership Committee Chair; Conference Planning Committee and Social Work Reinvestment Initiative Committee