

# **NANCY M. FITZSIMONS, Ph.D., MSW, LISW**

(she/her/hers)

Minnesota State University Mankato

Department of Social Work

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Minnesota Licensed Independent Social Worker (LISW) #23146

## **EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. Received July 1997  
Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago  
Dissertation: *Social work education and developmental disabilities: A national survey of University Affiliated Programs*  
Concentration: Developmental Disabilities and Social Welfare Policy
- MSW Received June 1991  
Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago  
Concentration: Child and Family
- B.S. Received June 1985  
Mankato State University, Mankato, Minnesota  
Major: Social Work  
Minor: Sociology

## **AREAS OF PRACTICE & SCHOLARSHIP INTEREST**

- Interpersonal violence and crimes perpetrated against people with disabilities.
- Institutional/congregate care and interpersonal violence risk reduction and prevention (primary, secondary, tertiary).
- Sexual violence risk reduction and prevention (primary, secondary, and tertiary).
- Social welfare policy and social work policy advocacy practice.
- Social work practice with people with disabilities across disability and intersecting identities: Policies and practices promoting equity and justice, self-determination, advocacy/self-advocacy, empowerment, supported decision-making, and true person-centeredness.

## **CURRENT POSITION**

### **Professor, Research Graduate Faculty, MSU Mankato Distinguished Faculty Scholar**

- Appointed by the Dean of CAHN to serve a 1-year term as the MSW Program Director effective May 15, 2023.
- Full-time appointment in the CSWE accredited Master of Social Work program.
- Fall 2022 Interim MSW Program Director (August 14, 2022 – December 15, 2022).
- Appointed Chief Administrator/Program Director of the MSW Program August of 2005 through July 2012. Obtained CSWE Accreditation in October 2010. Reappointed MSW Program Director

May 2023 through July 2024.

- Promoted to the rank of Professor, August 15, 2011.
- Promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, August 2006.
- Appointed as a member of the Research Graduate Faculty, 2011, Reappointed 2015 & 2020.
- Selected as a 2022 Minnesota State University Mankato Distinguished Faculty Scholar.

## UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2011 (August)  
to present

### **Professor**

Department of Social Work, Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Courses taught:

- SOWK 679: MSW Capstone Project (5 sections)
- SOWK 655: Advanced Social Welfare Policy Practice (20 section)
- SOWK 650: Advanced Standing Preparation Seminar (6 section)
- SOWK 629: Applied Social Work Practice (1 section, Summer 2024)
- SOWK 611: Macro Social Work Practice and Theory (9 sections)
- SOWK 611: Foundations of Generalist Practice II (Organizations & Communities) (5 section)
- SOWK 605: Social Welfare Policy and Services (12 section)
- SOWK 445: Practice III Community Social Work Practice (2 section)
- SOWK:446: Organizations and Community Practice (1 section)
- SOWK 412: Social Welfare Policy & Issues (3 section)
- SOWK 432/532: Empowering Social Work Practice with People with Disabilities (7 sections)
- SOWK 212: Introduction to Social Work (5 sections)

2006 to  
2011

### **Associate Professor**

Department of Social Work, Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Courses taught:

- SOWK 650 Advanced Standing Preparation Seminar (1 section)
- SOWK 615 Foundation Practicum & Seminar I (1 section)
- SOWK 613 Human Behavior and the Social Environment II (1 section)
- SOWK 605 Social Welfare Policy and Services (3 sections)
- SOWK 412/512: Social Welfare Issues & Policy (5 sections)
- SOWK 432/532: Social Work & Disabilities (3 sections)

2001-2006

### **Assistant Professor**

Department of Social Work, Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Courses taught:

- SOWK 190: Introduction to Social Welfare Services (11 sections)
- SOWK 214: Community Social Services Project (1 section)
- SOWK 412/512: Social Welfare Issues and Policy (11 sections)
- SOWK 445: Practice III, Macro Practice with Organizations & Communities (8 sections)
- SOWK 469: Applied Social Research for Social Workers (2 sections)
- SOWK 485: Special Topics: Victimization of People with Developmental & Other Disabilities (4 sections)
- SOWK 485: Special Topics: Disabilities and Social Work (1 section)
- SOWK 495: Senior Paper Seminar (1 section)

2000-2001      **Research Assistant Professor, Instructor**  
Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago  
Course:  
▪    DIS 430: Disability Policy and Organizations

In addition, I taught as an adjunct faculty at Jane Addams College of Social Work prior to teaching at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

## PUBLICATIONS / SCHOLARSHIP

### Books

Frawley, P., & Fitzsimons, N. (2026, in press). *Flipping the story on disability and violence: People with an intellectual disability and allies leading the change*. Routledge.

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2009). [\*Combating violence and abuse of people with disabilities: A call to action\*](#). Paul H. Brookes Publishing.

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2008). *Shadow victims: Crimes against people with disabilities workbook* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Law Enforcement Resource Center.

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2005). *Shadow victims: Crimes against people with disabilities workbook*. Law Enforcement Resource Center.

### Book Chapters

Fitzsimons, N. M., & Anklan, M. (2020). [Macro level advocacy for mental health professionals: Promoting social justice for LGBTQ survivors of interpersonal violence](#). In A. Johnson, E. Lund, & Burgess, C. (Eds.), *Violence against LGBTQ+ persons: Research, practice and advocacy*. Springer Nature.

- Michelle Anklan is a former MSW student at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2017). [Partnering with people with disabilities to prevent interpersonal violence: Organization practices grounded in the social model of disability and spectrum of prevention](#). In A. Johnson, R. Nelson, E. Lund (Eds.), *Religion, Disability, and Gender Violence* (pp. 45-65). Springer.

### Refereed Articles

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2020). [Reframing the problem of sexual victimization of people with disabilities](#). *Journal of Sexual Medicine*, 4(4), 1039.

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2016). [Vulnerability to crime victimization of people with disabilities: Barriers to equal justice](#). *University of St. Thomas Law Journal*, 13(1), 33-87.

Fitzsimons, N. M., Hagemeister, A. K., & Braun, E. J. (2011). [Interpersonal violence against people with disabilities: Understanding the problem from a rural context](#). *Journal of Social Work in Disability & Rehabilitation*, 10, 166-188.

- Elizabeth Braun is a former MSW student and research assistant.

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2010). Interpersonal violence against people with disabilities: Raising awareness among vocational rehabilitation counselors. *Journal of Rehabilitation Administration*, 34(2), 73-90.

Fujiura, G.T., Fitzsimons, N.M., Marks, B., & Chicoine, B. (1997). Predictors of BMI among adults with Down syndrome: The social context of health promotion. *Research in Developmental Disabilities*, 18(4), 261-274.

## Curriculum

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2014). *Preventing abuse against adults with disabilities: An on-line training for disability service professionals*. Praesidium, Inc.

- Contracted by Praesidium to develop the curriculum.

Fitzsimons, N. M. & Wilkins, T. L. (2005). *Shadow victims: Crimes against people with disabilities* (On-line training). Law Enforcement Resource Center.

Fitzsimons-Cova, N., & Rothbart Seidman, R. (2001). *Disability awareness for law enforcement: A Curriculum for Law Enforcement Professionals and Police Social Workers*. Institute on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Fitzsimons-Cova, N., Drum, C., Keys, C., Wonderlich, M. & Horner-Johnson, W. (2000). *Taking Charge: Responding to Abuse, Neglect and Financial Exploitation*. Institute on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Fitzsimons-Cova, N., & Wonderlich, M. (2000). *Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation: Recognition, Reporting, and Prevention for Direct Support Persons*. Institute on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Fitzsimons-Cova, N., & Wonderlich, M. (2000). *Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation: Recognition, Reporting, and Prevention for QMRPs, Middle Managers and Professional Staff*. Institute on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Fitzsimons-Cova, N., & Wonderlich, M. (2000). *Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation: Recognition, Reporting, and Prevention for Administrative Personnel*. Institute on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago.

## Dissertation

Fitzsimons-Cova, N. M. (1997). *Social work education and developmental disabilities: A national survey of University Affiliated Programs*. University of Illinois at Chicago.

## Technical Reports (Partial List)

Link to [policy advocacy brief](#) co-created with MSW students taking SOWK 655: Social Work Policy Practice.

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2021, October 27). [A report about MavPODS at Minnesota State University Mankato: Unequal opportunity](#). Minnesota State University, Mankato.

- Introduction to Social Work students conducted an inquiry into access to MavPODs on the MSU, Mankato campus. This report documents a class project examining how long it takes to access an inaccessible MavPOD, larger accessible MavPOD, and alternative accessible study space on campus.

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2021, June 1). *Examining homelessness and housing in the Mankato area community: A report for Partners for Housing*. Minnesota State University, Mankato.

- MSW generalist year students conducted stakeholder interviews for P4H as part of a MSW class project. The results with recommendations were written in a 32-page report presented to the Executive Director and Housing Program Manager at P4H.

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2019, May 30). *Reimagining the poverty simulation and a community's response to poverty: A report for the Greater Mankato Area United Way*. Minnesota State University Mankato.

- MSW generalist year students conducted stakeholder focus group meetings and 1:1 interviews for the GMAUW as part of a MSW class project. The results with recommendations were written in a 40-page report presented to the CEO of the GMAUW.

Fitzsimons, N. M. & Olmstead Implementation Office. (2018, January 29). [\*Comprehensive plan for prevention of abuse and neglect of people with disabilities: Report\*](#). St. Paul, MN: Olmstead Implementation Office.

Fitzsimons, N. M. (2013, March). *Prevention, detection, response, and monitoring sexual violence in Maryland State Facilities, sheltered workshops, and licensed provider programs serving people with mental health disorders and developmental disabilities: Findings and recommendations for compliance with S. B. 556 and the Demby settlement agreement, Final Report*. Minnesota State University, Mankato

- Prepared for the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Mental Hygiene Administration.

Fitzsimons, N. M., & Aldrich, L. (2013, February). *A report on the well-being of children and youth in Mankato/North Mankato. Fulfilling the five promises: Caring adults, safe places, healthy start and healthy development, effective education, and opportunities to help others*. Minnesota State University, Mankato.

- A collaboration of the Department of Social Work at Minnesota State University, Mankato, YWCA Mankato, and Greater Mankato United Way.
- Laura Aldrich was a MSW student and research assistant on the project.

Fitzsimons, N. F., Mackie, P. F. E., Ganey, A., & Schlager, A. (2009, October). *A report on the well-being of youth and youth serving organization in the greater Mankato area: Are we living up to our designation as one of the 100 best communities for young people?* Minnesota State University, Mankato.

- A collaboration of Mankato Area Healthy Youth (MAHY), Department of Social Work at Minnesota State University Mankato, and Mankato YWCA.
- Alyssa Schlager was a MSW student and research assistant on the project.

## Opinion Editorials

Fitzsimons, N. (2025, May 2). [\*Silence is an action\*](#). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.

Fitzsimons, N. (2024, July 4). [\*Setting the record straight on crime\*](#). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.

Fitzsimons, N. (2022, April 18). [\*The lived experience of Autistic adults: ABA and the inconvenient truth\*](#). Opinion editorial printed in The Reporter at Minnesota State University.

- Fitzsimons, N. (2022, December 23). [\*Children in poverty: A collective choice\*](#). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2022, March 31). [\*ADA regulations did not anticipate ManPODs\*](#). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2021, September 10). [\*Equity and inclusion. But not for all\*](#). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2021, July 23). [\*Making a case for equity\*](#). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2020, November 26). [\*Real 'divisive ideology' is racism\*](#). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2020, April 19). [\*Students tracked impact of COVID-19 on their lives\*](#). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Project with 29 MSW students in the Social Work Policy Practice Class. Ten students had reflection letters to the editor printed in the paper.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2020, January 9). [\*Needs vs. wants: The real purpose of public higher education\*](#). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2019, January 5). [\*Look at underlying needs that require charity\*](#). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2018, August 3). [\*A good time to talk about race in Mankato\*](#). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2018, June 21). *Endorsing Convention Offers Important Political Discourse*. My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2018, January 31). *'Fantasy Maid' Article Wasn't Newsworthy*. My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2017, October 6). [\*'Anthem Protest Won't Cloud the Message\*](#) (in support of black athletes taking a knee during the national anthem). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N., & Remold, M. (2017, April). *Supporting Female Service Members and Veterans Victims of Sexual Violence*. My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2016, December 30). *Charity goes only so far*. My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2016, October 24). *Cartoon Uncomfortable, Thought Provoking* (race and perception of law enforcement). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2016, May 28). *Employee Demotion Hearing was Troubling, Unfair Process*. My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2015, July 1). *ADA Access will Benefit Community Living*. My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2015, January 16). *Improve Child Protection System*. My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.

- Fitzsimons, N. (2014, October 15). *Questions Justification for 'Hitting' Kids* (corporal punishment). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2014, February 16). *Support Services (in schools) Critical for Students*. My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2012, October 14). *Don't restrict hard-fought-for-voting rights*. My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2012, January 29). *Men must be part of solution* (preventing sexual violence). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2011, September 11). *We pledged allegiance, but not to each other* (invited to write letter on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N. (2011, March 20). *Ending power-based violence*. My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.
- Fitzsimons, N., & Boone, K. (2008, October 17). *Community ranking needs to grow* (well-being of children and youth in Mankato area community). My View printed in the Mankato Free Press.

## LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 2019 February 5   | Minnesota House of Representatives, Higher Education Finance and Policy Division Committee, <i>Barriers to students with disabilities in higher education</i> . |
| 2017 March 14     | Minnesota House of Representatives, Health and Human Services Finance Committee, <i>MSCOD FY 18/19 Funding, H.F. 2117/ S.F. 1730</i> .                          |
| 2007 September 26 | Minnesota House of Representatives, Public Safety Committee, Disability Subcommittee, <i>Crime victimization of people with disabilities</i> .                  |
- Invited by Committee Chair Representative Madore to testify.

## CONSULTANT

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 2018, April to present | <p>Expert witness on lawsuits involving interpersonal violence perpetrated against people with disabilities in service settings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hall Law, P.A.: Retained as an expert witness for the plaintiff.</li> <li>▪ Pemberton Law, PLLP: Retained as expert witness for the plaintiff. Resolved via settlement agreement.</li> <li>▪ Barna, Garza &amp; Steffen, LLC: Retained as expert witness for the plaintiff. Resolved via binding arbitration.</li> <li>▪ Cunningham Bounds LLC: Retained as expert witness for the plaintiff. Resolved via settlement agreement.</li> <li>▪ Clark Partington: Retained as expert witness for the plaintiff. Resolved via settlement agreement.</li> </ul> |
| 2017 May - 2018 Feb.   | Minnesota Olmsted Subcabinet, Olmstead Prevention of Abuse and Neglect Specialty 2018, Committee, Co-Chair.   |

- Co-Chaired the Specialty Committee to develop a comprehensive plan to prevent abuse and neglect of people with disabilities for the State of Minnesota. Served as content expert; lead planner of committee framework, process, and meetings; and lead author of Committee documents and [final report](#).
- 2012 August- Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Mental Hygiene
- 2013 March Administration
  - Contracted by the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors to provide consultation to the Mental Hygiene Administration on policy and procedure changes and the implementation of staff training and consumer education pertaining to prevention, reporting and response of sexual harassment and sexual assault in state psychiatric centers as mandated by Maryland legislation Senate Bill 556 and Denby Litigation Settlement.
- 2010 to Arc Greater Twin Cities, Consultant on the Violence and Abuse Prevention present Initiative
  - In 2018 developed the webinar [Understanding the 'Vulnerability' of People with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities to Sexual Violence from a New Lens](#) for the Arc of Greater Twin Cities and the Sexual Violence Center, Minneapolis as part of an Office of Violence Against Women grant funded project.
  - In 2012 provided consultation on the *Breaking Down Barriers: Building Bridges Community Response Forum* to prevent violence and abuse of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

## REVIEWER

- 2012 January - 2017 Appointed to the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Social Work in Disability and Rehabilitation*. Reviewed two articles a year.
- 2014 Article Editor, Sage Open a peer-reviewed open-access publication from SAGE Publications. Manuscript entitled *Sense of Coherence, Social Capital, and Positive Change among Parents of Children with Intellectual Disabilities*, Spring 2014
- 2009 Book proposal review (solicited), Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co., Inc, *High-Risk Challenging Behaviors in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: Assessment and Intervention*, October 2009
- 2008 Book Review for the World Institute on Disability, *Stick & Stones: Disabled People's Stories of Abuse, Defiance and Resilience* by Marsha Saxton, 2009. Excerpt from review appears on the back cover of the book.
- 2007 Book manuscript review (solicited), UCLA School of Public Affairs, Children and Youth Services Review, *Receipt of Services among Families Raising Children with Special Health Care Needs: A multilevel Analysis of State Policy*, November 2007.
- 2006 Manuscript review for Lyceum Press, *Empowering Vulnerable Populations* by Mary Keegan Eamon, 2008.



## RESEARCH

- 2011 - 2012      Principal Investigator, Mankato Child and Youth Well-being Survey, 3-Year Follow-up, Department of Social Work, Minnesota State University, Mankato
- Conducted 68 semi-structured interviews with Mankato Area youth serving providers and representatives from business, faith, government, higher education, and media on the well-being of children and youth in Mankato/ North Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2008              Principal Investigator, Mankato Youth Services Survey  
Department of Social Work, Minnesota State University, Mankato
- In the spring of 2008 Minnesota State University, Mankato Department of Social Work collaborated with Mankato Area Healthy Youth to survey 12 Mankato area youth and family (birth to 18 years) serving agencies to learn how each agency was impacted by the 2002-2003 funding cuts to youth services by the Minnesota Legislature.
- 2003 - 2005      Principal Investigator/Project Director  
Department of Social Work, Minnesota State University, Mankato
- Grant. Awarded a \$150,000 training grant in October of 2003 by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Violence Against Women entitled *Law Enforcement Training to Stop Abuse and Sexual Assault Against People with Disabilities*. Developed a Minnesota Peace Officer Standards & Training (POST) Board certified on-line course for law enforcement officers entitled Shadow Victims: Crimes Against People with Disabilities. POST certified the course for 10 continuing education units.
- 1999 - 2001      Research Assistant Professor/Principal Investigator  
Abuse and Disability Initiative, Institute on Disability and Human Development, Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago.
- Consultation and Proposal Development (2000-2001): Solicited by the Inspector General of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to serve on a work group to develop new standards for the assessment and treatment of children and adolescents with developmental disabilities exhibiting sexual behavior problems. Funded by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to develop a proposal for creating a UIC-DCFS Center for Research and Intervention in Developmental Disabilities. Contract awarded in the amount of \$13,789 dollars.
- Conducted an extensive literature review on the assessment and treatment of children and adolescents with developmental disabilities exhibiting sexual behavior problems. Components of the literature review include: 1) understanding children and adolescents with developmental disabilities, 2) understanding abuse and neglect – an overview of the problem, impact and treatment, 3) understanding psychosexual development in children and adolescents.
- Developed a research and intervention proposal consisting of: 1) a training program for child welfare, community mental health, and foster parents, 2) an interdisciplinary diagnostic clinic, 3) a technical assistance and intensive follow-up support program for foster parents, child welfare and community mental health workers, and 4) a research center. The five-year budget for start-up and operation budget was estimated at \$11,647,946 dollars.
- Completed Project (1999 – 2001), *Equity and Equality Under the Law Project*. Funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Assumed role of Principal Investigator and Project Director six months into the three-year project. Total funding over the life of the grant was \$300,000 dollars.

Oversaw the development of a disability awareness curriculum for law enforcement officers. Coordinated three cross-sector advisory committees, totaling 77 persons, in Chicago, DuPage County, and Morgan County, Illinois. Secondary goal was facilitating networking among advisory committee members to increase community collaboration, communication, awareness and problem-solving.

- Completed Project (1998-2000): *Advocacy and Empowerment Project*. Funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, Office of Special Education, U.S. Department of Education. Assumed role of Principal Investigator and Project Director during the last 1½ years of the 3-year project. Total funding over the life of the grant was \$375,000.

Oversaw the final development, pilot-training, statewide training, evaluation, and dissemination of a training curriculum entitled: *Taking Charge Responding to Abuse, Neglect and Financial Exploitation*. One-day training workshops were conducted for persons with disabilities, family members, and advocates.

- Completed Project (1999-2000): Contract with the Illinois Department of Human Services, Office of Developmental Disabilities to develop training curricula about abuse, neglect and exploitation recognition, reporting and prevention for direct support persons, QMRPs, and administrative personnel (a separate curriculum for each group). Contract award of \$55,000.

1995 - 1999 Senior Research Specialist/Project Director, Research Unit, Department of Disability and Human Development (UAP), University of Illinois at Chicago.

Project: *Ann M. Kiley Developmental Center Transition Evaluation*. Funded by the Illinois Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities and NIDRR funding (subcontract from the Institute on Community Integration, University of Minnesota). Totals over \$400,000 over life of the grants.

Oversaw the daily operation of a five-year longitudinal evaluation of the closure of Ann M. Kiley Developmental Center. Responsibilities included: recruitment and supervision of research assistants; development and implementation of survey and other instruments; interfacing with key stakeholders; database management and statistical analysis; and writing of reports.

1993 - 1995 Research Assistant, Research Unit, Institute on Disability and Human Development (UAP), University of Illinois at Chicago

Projects: *2450 West Monroe Organization Disability Assessment*; *Longitudinal Study of Assistive Technology and Community Integration: Needs, Efficacy & Costs*; and *Health Promotion Study of Adults with Down Syndrome*.

Involved in all aspects of the *Health Promotion Study*, including data collection via in-depth telephone interviews, database development and data entry, statistical analysis using SPSS for Windows, and drafting of the research methodology section for a journal article.

## AWARDS AND HONORS (2003 to present)

2023, April Recipient of *The Dan Burton Award*, Senate District 18 DFL, for exemplary public service to the DFL and the people of south-central Minnesota.

2022, April Selected as a 2022 Minnesota State University, Mankato *Distinguished Faculty Scholar*. Awarded \$5,000 and a 1-course reassignment to support scholarship.

2022 Recipient of a *Faculty Advisor Leadership* award for serving as the faculty advisor to the MSU,

Mankato College Democrats.

- 2019 July Appointed by Governor Tim Walz to serve as *Chair of the Minnesota Council on Disability*.
- 2020 February Led efforts to transition the organization to new leadership.
- 2018 May Graduate of the *University of Minnesota, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Policy Fellows Program*, 2017-18 cohort.
- 2017-2018 *University of Minnesota, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Policy Fellows Program*, selected as a 2017-18 Policy Fellow.
- 2017-2018 *Faculty Improvement Grant*, Minnesota State University, Mankato. Awarded \$2,500 to participate in the University of Minnesota, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Policy Fellows Program.
- 2015 *NASW-MN Social Work Day at the Capitol Advocacy Award for 2014 advocacy*, faculty co-advisor/co-organizer.
- 2014 *NASW-MN Social Work Day at the Capitol Advocacy Award for 2013 advocacy*, faculty advisor/organizer.
- 2013 *College of SBS Distinguished Professor*, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Advisory Board award. (2013). Minnesota State University, Mankato.
- 2013 *The Arc of Greater Twin Cities Change Maker Award* (April 2013), St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 2013 *Faculty Improvement Grant (FIG)*, Minnesota State University, Mankato.
- Awarded \$2,149 to participate in a Green Dot Violence Prevention Institute, Four-Day Instructor Certification Training (2012-13 AY).
- 2011 *Higher Education Resource Services (HERS) Institute for Women*, Nominated by The President's Commission on the Status of Women and selected by President Richard Davenport to represent Minnesota State University, Mankato at the Wellesley College Institute 2011-2012.
- 2011 *Presidential Teaching Scholar Fellowship Award*. Minnesota State University, Mankato. Awarded \$7,300 to work on a writing project during the summer of 2011.
- 2010 *NASW-MN Social Work Day at the Capitol Advocacy Award for 2009 advocacy*, faculty advisor/organizer.
- 2009 *Minnesota State University Author*, Minnesota State University, Mankato book author recognition.
- 2008 *NASW-MN Social Work Day at the Capitol Advocacy Award for 2007 advocacy*, faculty advisor/organizer.
- 2006 *NASW-MN Social Work Day at the Capitol Advocacy Award for 2005 advocacy*, faculty advisor/organizer.
- 2006 *Presidential Teaching Scholar Fellowship Award*. Minnesota State University, Mankato. Awarded \$6,300 to work on a writing project during the summer of 2006.

- 2006 *SBS Outstanding Advisor Award*. Minnesota State University, Mankato, College of Social and Behavioral Science.
- 2005 *Alleviating Violence Recognition Award*. Committee Against Domestic Abuse, Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2004 *SBS Distinguished Teacher Award*. Minnesota State University, Mankato, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.
- 2003 *Faculty Improvement Grant*, Minnesota State University Mankato. Awarded \$2106 dollars to participate in the Bristol International Credit Earning Programme, International Social Welfare and Public Policy, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Program, July 3 to July 17.

## PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024. *The Flipped Social Ecological Model of Disability Violence*. Co-presented with Dr. Patsie Frawley, University of New South Wales. (Invited presentation) (November 8). Critical Disabilities Studies Research Network Series, Donald Beasley Institute and University of Otago, New Zealand.
- 2024 *The Illusion of Protection: Critiquing the Protection Approach to Interpersonal Violence Experienced by people with Disabilities*. (Invited presentation) (November 8). Critical Disabilities Studies Research Network Series, Donald Beasley Institute and University of Otago, New Zealand.
- 2024 *Roundtable: Evaluating the Impact of Sexual Abuse and Risk/Harm Reduction Strategies*. Co-presenter with Dr. Susan Abend and Aafke Scharloo. (August 6). 17<sup>th</sup> IASSIDD World Congress, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2024 *Applying the Upstream/Downstream Parable to our Practice* (February 9). NASW-MN Winter Virtual Conference.
- 2023 *Going Upstream: Prevention, Connection, Action, Hope*, Invited Keynote (August 2). Greater Mankato Area United Way, Women of Heart Luncheon.
- 2023 *Evidence-Based Practice from an Equity Lens: Challenges and Opportunities*, Invited Keynote. (January 27). NASW-MN Winter's Brightest Ideas Virtual Conference.
- 2019 *Moving from Intent to Impact: Becoming an Ally in the Lives of People with Disabilities*, Invited Keynote. (September 25). 5<sup>th</sup> Minnesota Gathering for Person Centered Practices, University of Minnesota, Eagan, Minnesota.
- 2019 *Unpacking and Reframing Vulnerability at the Intersection of Disability and Violence* (Invited presentation) (September 25, 2019). 5<sup>th</sup> Minnesota Gathering for Person Centered Practices, University of Minnesota, Eagan, Minnesota.
- 2018 *Creating 'No Wring Door' for Interpersonal Violence Survivors with Disabilities Seeking Help* (April 19, 2018). 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Hawaii International Summit on Preventing, Assessing and Treating Trauma Across the Lifespan. Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma (IVAT). Honolulu, Hawaii.
- 2017 *People with disabilities are on your campus and are victim/survivors of sexual violence TOO: Enhancing your understanding to engage in inclusive prevention and response*. (June 15). Minnesota Campus Sexual

- 2017 *Policy Dictates Your Practice: Time to Speak Out and Influence Policy Makers*, MSSA 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Region 9 Summer Conference, Department of Social Work, Minnesota State University, Mankato, May 17, 2017.
- 2016 *Examining Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, and Elder Violence in a Rural Community Context: A review of the literature*. (April 22). 2016 CADAkids Victim-Witness Conference: Effective response to domestic and sexual violence in rural communities. Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2015 *Challenging our Assumptions about Vulnerability to Crime Victimization of People with Disabilities*. (October 5). University of St. Thomas Law Journal Annual Lecture, Minneapolis, Minnesota (invited speaker).
- 2015 *Making Task Groups Work for You and Your Organization*. (October 22). Minnesota Financial Worker and Case Aide Association Annual Conference, Alexandria, Minnesota.
- 2015 *Let's Talk Change – Envisioning New Person-Centered Possibilities for People with Disabilities* (June 5). 2015 NASW-MN Annual Conference, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 2015 *Enhancing Ability to Better Support People with Disabilities*. (May 13). 2015 AARM Conference, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- 2015 *Let's Talk Change – Envisioning New Person-Centered Possibilities for People with Disabilities* (March 25). 122nd Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2015 *Making Task Groups Work for You and Your Agency*. (March 26). 122nd Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2015 *Enhancing Ability to Better Support People with Disabilities*. (March 25). 122nd Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2015 *Are we really preventing Interpersonal Violence? Moving our Practice from Response to Prevention*. (March 26). Co-presented with Stephanie Little, MSW candidate at the 122nd Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2014 *What's with all this Change in Minnesota: Supporting a Life that Makes Sense to the People you Support* (Invited Keynote presentation). (October 15, 2014). SCOPE (South Central Organization of Providers to Educate) Fall Conference, South Central College, North Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2013 *Using Assertiveness to Advocate for Your Rights and Reduce Your Risk for Abuse* (April 27, 2013). Co-presented with Hanna Massey, BSSW student at the 2013 Self-Advocacy Conference, Advocating Change Together, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 2013 *Your Safety, Your Rights: Reducing Your Risk for Abuse* (April 26, 2013). Co-presented with Jamie Mack, BSSW student at the 2013 Self-Advocacy Conference, Advocating Change Together, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 2012 Three workshops: *Sexual Violence Against People with Disabilities: Examining the Problem from a New Lens*; *Communicating and interviewing people with intellectual and developmental disabilities*; *Strategies for advocates, mental health professionals, and law enforcement*; *Sexual violence Against People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: Identification and Intervention* (contracted speaker) (May 10). Sexual Violence Training Summit, Florida Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Sarasota, Florida.

- 2011 *Preventing Abuse and Neglect of People with Intellectual Disabilities: New Approaches to Stopping Harm* (contracted feature speaker) (April 11). International Symposium, Everybody's Business: Stopping the Abuse and Neglect of People with Intellectual Disabilities. Griffith University, School of Social Work, Brisbane Queensland, Australia.
- 2010 *Violence & Abuse Against People with Disabilities* (pre-symposium presentation) (December 14). Griffith University, School of Social Work, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.
- 2010 *The Taking Charge Program* (invited featured speaker) (December 9). Self-Advocate and Peer Educator Forum, Latrobe University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.
- 2010 *Violence & Abuse of People with Intellectual Disabilities* (Invited feature speaker). (December 8). Prevention of Violence and Abuse Against Women with Disabilities: A Victoria Forum, Latrobe University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.
- 2010 *Dissecting Interpersonal Violence of People with Disabilities: Getting to the Root Cause* (contracted keynote speaker) (October 29). Overcoming Barriers: Washington State's 7th Annual Vulnerable Adult Abuse Conference, Seattle, Washington.
- 2010 *Interpersonal Violence of People with Disabilities: Understanding the Problem in Rural Communities* (contracted workshop) (October 28). Washington State's 7th Annual Vulnerable Adult Abuse Conference, Seattle, Washington.
- 2010 *Dissecting Interpersonal Violence of People with Disabilities: Getting to the Root Cause* (contracted keynote speaker). Abuse of Persons with Disabilities Silent Voices Conference, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.
- 2010 *Interpersonal Violence of People with Disabilities: Understanding the Problem in Rural Communities* (invited workshop), (October 14). Abuse of Persons with Disabilities Silent Voices Conference, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.
- 2010 *Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities: Getting to the Root Cause of the Problem.*
- Contracted plenary panel speaker and workshop presentation) (June 8). TASC P & A/Cap Annual Conference, Los Angeles, California.
- 2010 *Preventing Sexual Violence of People with Intellectual Disabilities.* (March 24). 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2010 *The Power of Language: Eliminating Disempowering Language from Professional Practice.* (March 25). 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2010 *Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities in Rural Areas: The Great Unknown.* (March 24). 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2010 *Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities: Myths and Breaking Down Barriers.* (February 25). Cornerstone Annual Conference 2010 on Domestic Violence and Abuse, Cornerstone Services, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- 2009 *Combating Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities: A Call to Action, Meet the Authors Session: Diversity/Social Justice.* (November 8). Council on Social Work Education 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, San Antonio, Texas.

- 2009 *Preventing Sexual Violence of People with Developmental Disabilities*. (September 11). National Sexual Assault Conference, Alexandria, Virginia.
- 2009 *Preventing Sexual Violence of People with Developmental Disabilities*. (August 24). 35<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Victim Assistance Conference, Scottsdale, Arizona.
- 2009 *Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities: Your Role in Busting Myths and Breaking Down Barriers*. (August 23). 35<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Victim Assistance Conference, Scottsdale, Arizona.
- 2009 *Understanding Abuse of People with Disabilities: Implications for Rural Practice*. (July 27). 34<sup>th</sup> Annual National Institute on Social Work and Human Services in Rural Areas, Duluth, Minnesota.
- 2009 *Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities: Your Role in Busting Myths and Breaking Down Barriers* (May 28, 3-hour workshop). 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Minnesota Conference on Crime Victims, Brainerd, Minnesota.
- 2009 *What Every Cop Must Know About People with Disabilities & the Law, Getting an MSW: Why, When & How?* (March 27). 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- 2009 *Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities: What you Don't Know & What You Can Do About It (workshop)* (March 26). 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- 2009 *Taking Charge to Prevent Abuse: Your Safety, Your Rights Part I (Safety Skills) and Part II (Assertiveness) (workshops)*, (April 18). Moving Self-Advocacy Forward, 2009 Minnesota Self-Advocacy Conference, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 2005 *The Developmental Asset Framework for Positive Youth Development*. (September 29). MSSA Region 9 Fall Conference, Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2005 *Shadow Victims: Crimes Against People with Disabilities*. (March 17). Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2004 *Abuse of People with Developmental Disabilities: Steps You Can Take to Protect and Empower Consumers*. (September 25). MSSA Region 9 Fall Conference, Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2003 *Helping Students Promote Social Justice for Victims of Maltreatment with Disabilities using the Taking Charge Curriculum*. (November 1). 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of the Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Reno, Nevada.
- 2003 *Promoting Justice for People with Disabilities: Teaching Skills to Facilitate Effective Multidisciplinary Committees*. (October 31). 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of the Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Reno, Nevada.
- 2002 *Victimization of People with Disabilities: Attitudes and Preventing Maltreatment*. (September 13). MSSA Region 9 2002 Annual Training Conference, Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2001 *Development of a Curriculum to Help People Take Charge Against Abuse, Neglect and Financial Exploitation*. 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the American Association on Mental Retardation, Denver, Colorado.

- 2001 *Promoting Equal Justice Under the Law: Development of a Disability Awareness Curriculum for Law Enforcement.* 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the American Association on Mental Retardation, Denver, Colorado.
- 2001 *Law Enforcement and the ADA.* Use of Force Conference, North East Multi Regional Training, Bloomingdale, Illinois.
- 2000 *Self-Determination: Helping People with Disabilities Take Charge Against Abuse, Neglect, and Financial Exploitation.* Presentation at the Illinois Council on Training Annual Fall Conference, Galena, Illinois.
- 2000 *Self-Determination: Helping People with Disabilities Take Charge Against Abuse, Neglect, and Financial Exploitation.* Presentation to representatives from the Arc of Japan at a six-day seminar entitled *Protecting the Rights of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities: Current and Historical Practices in Illinois and the United States*, Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
- 2000 *Helping People with Mild to Moderate Mental Retardation Take Charge Against Abuse, Neglect and Financial Exploitation.* Presentation at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of QMRPs, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2000 *Taking Charge: Responding to Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation.* Workshop conducted at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Disability Studies, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2000 *Self-Determination: Helping People with Disabilities Take Charge Against Abuse, Neglect and Financial Exploitation.* Presentation at the ARC of Illinois Convention, Itasca, Illinois.
- 1999 *Results of a National Survey of UAPs on Social Work Education and Developmental Disabilities.* Paper presentation to the Social Work Division at the annual meeting of the American Association on Mental Retardation, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 1997 *Results of a National Survey of UAPs on Social Work Education and Developmental Disabilities.* Poster presentation at the annual meeting of the American Association of University Affiliated Programs, Kansas City, Missouri.
- 1995 *Health Promotion Study on Adults with Down Syndrome.* Presentation at the American Association on Mental Retardation National Conference, San Francisco, California.

## SERVICE PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 *Community Health and Wellness: Moving Our Thinking and Action “Further” Upstream.* (October 26). Greater Mankato Area United Way, expanded community sector presentation.
- 2023 *Moving Upstream: Upstream, Midstream and Downstream Harvesting* (October 26). Greater Mankato Area United Way, community partner presentation.
- 2023 *Advocacy: Preparing for Social Work Day at the Capitol.* Guest lecture in Jennifer Andrashko’s SOWK 441 Generalist Practice Class (February 20 & 21).
- 2022 *Disability and Interpersonal Violence* (October 26). Guest lecture in Laura Schultz’s SOWK 427: Social Work and Domestic Violence class.



- 2022 *Reframing the Vulnerability of People with Disabilities to Sexual Violence* (March 22). Continuing Education Presentation for the Minnesota Society for Clinical Social Work (MSCSW).
- 2021 *Disability and Interpersonal Violence* (October 20). Guest lecture in Laura Schultz's SOWK 427: Social Work and Domestic Violence class.
- 2021 *Reframing 'Behavior'* (September 15). Guest lecture in Dr. Andrew Johnson's ELE 215: Introduction to Educational Psychology & Instruction class.
- 2020 [\*Unpacking and Reframing Disability: Critical Consciousness Raising to Incorporate a Critical Response into Clinical Practice\*](#) (December 14). Continuing Education Presentation for the Minnesota Society for Clinical Social Work (MSCSW).
- 2020 *Unpacking and Reframing Vulnerability at the Intersection of Disability & Interpersonal Violence* (October 24). Arc Minnesota Potpourri Conference.
- 2017 *Rethinking 'Vulnerability' and 'Prevention' of Abuse and Neglect*. (December 7). Staff development training for Aveyron Homes, Hutchinson, Minnesota.
- 2014 *Person-Centered Approach and Person-Centered Planning* (March 13). Informal presentation for The Arc of Minnesota Southwest, Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2013 *A Report on the Well-Being of Children and Youth in Mankato/North Mankato: fulfilling the Five Promises* (February 11). Greater Mankato Community Summit on Youth. YWCA, Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2012 *Breaking Down the Barriers: Building Bridges*. (October 19). Community-Response Forum to prevent violence and abuse of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Keynote Speakers and Panel Presentation facilitator. The Arc Greater Twin Cities, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 2011 *Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities*. (Nov. 14). Staff training for Committee Against Domestic Violence (CADA), Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2011 *Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities: An Overview for HMC Board Members*. (May 25). Presentation for Harry Meyering Center, Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2011 *Sexual Violence and People with Disabilities*, part 2 of 2. (March 4). Webinar for the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MnCASA), St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 2011 *Disabilities and Sexual Violence Awareness*. (February 19). Crime victim advocate training for Crime Victims Services, New Ulm, Minnesota.
- 2011 *Sexual Violence and People with Disabilities*, part 1 of 2. (January 26). Webinar for the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MnCASA), St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 2010 *Getting an MSW: When, Why and How?* (panel presentation) (March 24). 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2010 *Sexual Violence and People with Disabilities: Problem and Prevention*. (February 26). Sexual Violence Prevention Program, Minnesota Department of Public Health, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 2010 *Sexual Violence of People with Disabilities*. (January 11). Crime victim advocate training for Sexual Violence Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

- 2009 *Violence, Abuse and Exploitation of People with Disabilities*. (December 9). Six-hour training for the Women's Center of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.
- 2009 *Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities*. (November 18). Crime Victim Services, New Ulm, Minnesota.
- 2009 *Understanding Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities: Busting Myths and Breaking Down Barriers*. (July 22). Presentation for Arc Great Twin Cities, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 2009 *The Power of Language and People with Disabilities*. (July 13). Presentation for VINE Faith in Action, Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2009 *Understanding Sexual and Domestic Violence of People with Disabilities*. (April 28). Stop it Before it Starts: Preventing Sexual and Domestic Violence Workshop presented by the Minnesota Men's Action Network: Alliance to Prevent Sexual and Domestic Violence, Mankato, Minnesota.
- 2009 *Getting an MSW: When, Why and How?* (panel presentation) (March 24). 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Bloomington, Minnesota.
- 2007 *Social Welfare Policy and Services in the United States*. (January). Presentation for faculty and social welfare students at the School of Social Welfare, Helsinki Polytechnic Stadia.
- 2007 *Understanding Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities*. (January). Presentation for faculty and social welfare students at the School of Social Welfare, Helsinki Polytechnic Stadia.
- 2001 Invited and funded by the Protection and Advocacy Japan to conduct a series of presentations on the Taking Charge curriculum and strategies for preventing abuse of people with disabilities in Japan (October 31 to November 7).
- Community-Based Approach to Self-Advocacy and Empowerment for People with Disabilities*. (November 1). Sponsored by Barrier-Free Citizens Council, Tokyo Municipal Social Welfare Council, and the City of Musashino Social Welfare Council, Tokyo, Japan.
- Preventing Abuse of People with Disabilities*. (November 2). Sponsored by the Shinjuku Center for Persons with Disabilities and the Center for Global Partnership, Tokyo, Japan.
- Disability Awareness for Law Enforcement*, (November 2). Presentation for Protection and Advocacy Japan, Subcommittee on Law Enforcement, Tokyo, Japan.
- The Goal of the Advocacy and Empowerment Project: People with Disabilities Stand Up for their Rights and The Community-Based Advocacy Project: What We Can Learn from the Taking Charge Curriculum*. (November 3). Sponsored by Protection and Advocacy Japan, The ARC of Kanagawa, The Autism Society of Kanagawa, Japan Down Syndrome Association, Ombudsman Network, Kanagawa Social Welfare council, Yokohama Social Welfare Council, Yokohama Family Support Association, Kanagawa Newspaper Welfare Foundation, Yokohama, Japan.
- Social Approach to Disability: Paradigm Shift in Defining and Understanding Disability; Maltreatment & Its Consequences for Persons with Disabilities: The Role of Knowledge in Facilitating Empowerment; and Empowerment and the Taking Charge Curriculum*. (November 6). Sponsored by The ARC of Nabari, Tsu, Japan.

- 2001 *Taking Charge: Responding to Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Instructor Development Course* for Protection and Advocacy Japan.
- Four-day instructor's development course for 35 disability advocates from Japan. Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2001 *Disability Awareness for Law Enforcement: Instructor Development Course*. Three-day instructor development course for North East Multi Regional Training, Lombard Police Department, Lombard, Illinois.
- 2001 *Disability Awareness for Law Enforcement*. One-day law enforcement course for Mobile Training Unit # 14, Alton, Illinois.
- 2001 *Developmental Disabilities and Domestic Violence*. One day training for the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Springfield, Illinois.
- 2001 *Disability Awareness for Law Enforcement*. One-day law enforcement course for North East Multi Regional Training, Streamwood Police Department, Streamwood, Illinois.
- 2000 *Disability Awareness for Law Enforcement*. Two-day law enforcement course for East Central Illinois Law Enforcement Training Project, Champaign Police Department, Champaign, Illinois.
- 2000 *Disability Awareness for Law Enforcement*. Two-day law enforcement course for North East Multi Regional Training Unit (NEMRT), Elmhurst Police Department, Elmhurst, Illinois.
- 1999 *History of Disability Policy in the United States*. Presentation to MSW Students at Jane Addams College of Social Work, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1998 *The Closure of Kiley Developmental Center: Movement to Community-Based Long-Term Care*. Poster presentation at the College of Associated Professions Research Forum, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1998 *Inclusion: The Law and Implementation Issues*. Presentation to the Village of Hinsdale Park and Recreation Commission, Hinsdale, Illinois.
- 1997 *Social Work Practice in Developmental Disabilities*. Presentation to BSW students and faculty at the 1997 Social Work Alumna Recognition Award ceremony, Department of Social Work, Mankato State University, Mankato, Minnesota.
- 1997 *The Closure of Kiley Developmental Center*. Colloquium presentation, Institute on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1997 *Social Work Practice in Mental Health Settings in the Field of MRDD*. Presentation to MSW students in the Mental Health Concentration at Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1994 *Siblings of Children with Developmental Disabilities*. Presentation for parent group, Little Friends, Inc., Naperville, Illinois.

## MEDIA INTERVIEWS / PODCASTS

- 2023 [Woman wins legal victory in bid to free herself from guardian.](#) (April 4). Minneapolis Star Tribune. Interviewed by Chris Serres.
- 2021 [Federal officials investigating access to Mankato study pods.](#) (December 22). U. S. News & World Report.
- 2021 [Federal officials investigating access to Mankato study pods.](#) (December 22). AP News
- 2021 [Feds investigate study pod access at MSU Mankato.](#) (December 21). Minnesota Public Radio.
- 2021 [Inaccessible study spaces prompt complaint, federal probe.](#) (November 17). The Mankato Free Press.
- 2021 [Unique program challenges Minnesotans to think differently about race.](#) (October 14). KARE 11 News.
- 2020 [Safer future planning with Dr. Nancy Fitzsimons,](#) Episode 7, The Arc Minnesota Focus on the Future Podcast Series.
- 2019 [Treat people like people: A new campaign highlights power of people with disabilities.](#) (November 25). Minneapolis Star Tribune. Interviewed by Chris Serres.
- 2018 [Two young women sexually assaulted at group home.](#) (January 29). Minneapolis Star Tribune. Interviewed by Chris Serres.
- 2017 [Minnesota health regulators can't keep up with abuse reports.](#) (February 17). Minneapolis Star Tribune. Interviewed by Chris Serres.
- 2016 [Minnesota man's fight for promotion spurs disability rights debate, galvanizes coworkers.](#) (February 4). Minneapolis Star Tribune. Interview by Chris Serres.
- 2015 [A Matter of Dignity,](#) (November 11). Five-Day Special Report, Minneapolis Star Tribune. Interviewed by Chris Serres for the series of articles printed November 8 to 12.
- 2013/2014 Twin City Public Television (TPT) documentary [Independence to Inclusion.](#) Interviewed for the documentary in the fall of 2013. Appear twice in the documentary that aired on TPT in April and May of 2014.
- 2013 [Autism Speaks.](#) (April 9). Interviewed by Nora Rubovitz for a web article about recognizing and preventing abuse of people with autism.
- 2012 Arc Greater Twin Cities, Abuse Prevention Initiative (October 19). Interviewed for the *Imagine a World without Violence* video.
- 2011 New focus on sexual abuse of people with disabilities. (January 27). Interview by Gail Rosenblum, Minneapolis Star and Tribune.
- 2009 [Scoop Essentials: Preventing Violence, Abuse and Neglect.](#) (July 7). Interviewed by Michelle Diamont for Disability Scoop an on-line source for developmental disability news.

## PROFESSION SERVICES (Current service in bold.)

2021 Feb.- National Association of Social Workers, Minnesota Chapter, Social Policy Action  
2024 May Network (SPAN) member.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE (Current service in bold.)

2023 Aug.- Greater Mankato Area United Way, Consultant and Collaborator Moving Upstream Project.  
July 2024

2021 December [The Natalie Project](#), an organization bringing awareness to the sexual abuse epidemic  
2023 December amongst people with intellectual and developmental disabilities based out of San Diego, California. Selected by founder of the Natalie Project, Julie Payne Neward to serve on the Board of Advisors.

**2018 - Present [The Arc of Minnesota](#), Board of Directors, 3rd term.**

- Board Co-Chair (June 2023 to June 2024).
- Secretary (2020-2022)
- Governance Committee (2019 to present).
- Chair of the Public Policy Committee (2020 – May 2023).

2019 July - [Minnesota Council on Disability](#) (MCD), Chair. Appointed Chair by Governor Walz. 2020  
February

- Led organization through independent external investigation of Executive Director and transition to Interim leadership.

2018 -2020 Mankato YWCA, Racial Justice Facilitator. Facilitator circle dialogues about race.

2015 July - Minnesota Council on Disability (MCD), Council Member. Appointed by Governor 2020  
2020 February Mark Dayton in June 2015 to serve a 3-year term representing Region 9.  
Re-appointed by Governor Mark Dayton to serve a second 3-year term representing Region 9 in June of 2018.

- Elected to the Executive Committee in September 2018.
- Served as the Vice Chair from January 2019 to July 3, 2019, until appointed Chair.

2015 January - Southwest Minnesota Olmstead Community Council, Arc of Southwest Minnesota, Ally  
2020 January member of the Council.

2014 June - Harry Meyering Center, Mankato Minnesota, President of the Board of Directors.

2015 June HMC provided residential services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ICF/DD and Adult Foster Care ). Served as Board Chair for a 1-year term.

2012 August - Youth Voices, YWCA, Mankato, Minnesota. Provide bi-weekly consultation to the 2013  
May director of the Youth Voices Project funded by the Otto Bremer Foundation.

2011 - Mankato Area Healthy Youth, Mankato, Minnesota, Leadership Team  
2012 June Responsible oversight of \$375,000 Otto Bremer Foundation Grant.

- 2010 Nov. - Crime Victim Services, Certified Sexual Assault Advocate, New Ulm, Minnesota,  
2011 October Completed a 40-hour training in September 2010.
- 2010 October - The Arc Minnesota (formerly the Arc Twin Cities), Consultant on the Violence and to 2020 Abuse Prevention Initiative, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 2009 - Harry Meyering Center, Mankato, Minnesota, Member Board of Directors.  
2014 May HMC provided residential services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ICF/DD and Adult Foster Care ). Served on the Search Committee to select a new executive director (January – March 2014).
- 2008-2010 Minnesota Department of Public Health & Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Violence, Sexual Violence Taskforce, Policy Action Team.
- 2006-2009 Mankato Area Healthy Youth, Mankato, Minnesota, Board of Directors, Vice Chair.
- 2005-2009 Mankato Area Healthy Youth Education Committee, Mankato, Minnesota, Chair.
- 2004-2006 Mankato Area Healthy Youth Steering Committee, Mankato, Minnesota. Appointed to a 2-year term on the MAHY Steering Committee in June of 2004 as the MSUM representative.
- 2004-2005 Mankato Area Healthy Youth Public Relations Committee, Member
- 2003-2017 YMCA Brother/Sister Program, Mankato, Minnesota. Community Consultant for the Brother/Sister Program. Interview and screen potential brother/sister applicants.
- 2003, June Grant Proposal Consultant, Community Assistance for Refugees, Mankato, Minnesota. Grant Proposal: *Rent Wise: Tenant Education Program* submitted to the Xcel Energy Foundation.
- 1996-2000 Human Rights Committee, Blare House, Des Plaines, Illinois. Member of the Human Rights Committee at Blare House. Blare House provided residential and supported employment services to adults with autism and other severe communication disorders.

## SERVICE TO MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

- 2024 MSW Program, Off-site Supervision. Providing biweekly social work off-sight practicum supervision to two generalist year MSW students (January – July).
- 2024 MSW Program, MSW Faculty Search Committee, Assistant Professor/Clinic position, Co-Chair.
- 2024 MSW Program, MSW Faculty Search Committee, Assistant/Associate Professor position, Co-Chair.
- 2023 MSW Program, MSW Field Education Director Committee, Chair.
- 2023-2024 Department of Social Work Scholarship Committee, Chair.
- 2023-2024 University Research Committee, College of Allied Health and Nursing representative
- 2022-2023 Department of Social Work Scholarship Committee, Chair.

2022-2023	College of Allied Health and Nursing, Health and Biomedical Summit Planning Committee
2022-2023	University Research Committee, College of Allied Health and Nursing representative
2022-2023	MSW Program, Admission Committee. Reviewed applications to the traditional 2-year program.
2022	MSW Program, MSW Faculty Search Committee, Member.
2022	MSW Program, Off-site Supervision. Providing biweekly social work off-site practicum supervision to two generalist year MSW students and two specialist year MSW student (January – July).
2022	MSW Program, MSW Field Director Search Committee, Chair.
2021-2022	MSW Program, Admission Committee. Reviewed applications to the traditional 2-year program.
2021-2022	Department of Social Work Scholarship Committee, Chair.
2021-2022	College of Allied Health and Nursing, member of the Planning Committee.
2021	BSSW Program, member of the BSSW Faculty Search Committee.
2020-2021	Department of Social Work Scholarship Committee, Chair.
2020-2021	MSW Program, Admission Committee. Reviewed applications to the traditional 2-year program.
2021	MSW Program, Off-site Supervision. Provided biweekly social work off-site practicum supervision, focusing on advanced generalist social work practice with an emphasis on macro practice, to one student in the MSW program (January – July).
2019-2020	Department of Social Work Scholarship Committee, Chair.
2019-2020	MSW Program, Admission Committee. Reviewed applications to the traditional 2-year program.
2018-2019	MSW Program, Admission Committee. Reviewed applications to the traditional 2-year program.
2018-2019	Department of Social Work Scholarship Committee, Chair.
2018-2019	Department of Social Work Library Liaison. Collaborate with MSU, Mankato librarian Kellian Clink on selecting books to add to the social work collection.
2018-2024	College Democrats, Faculty Advisor. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recipient of the 2023 Minnesota State University Outstanding RSO Award.</li> </ul>
2016-2017	Department of Social Work Scholarship Committee, Chair.

2016-2017	MSW Program, Admission Committee. Reviewed applications to the traditional 2-year program.
2016–2017	Department of Social Work Library Liaison. Collaborate with MSU, Mankato librarian Kellian Clink on selecting books to add to the social work collection.
2015-2016	Department of Social Work Scholarship Committee, Chair.
2015-2016	MSW Program, Admission Committee. Reviewed applications to the traditional 2-year program.
2015–2016	Department of Social Work Library Liaison. Collaborate with MSU, Mankato librarian Kellian Clink on selecting books to add to the social work collection.
2014-2015	Department of Social Work Scholarship Committee, Chair. Revised the scholarship documents, including clarifying criteria for each scholarship.
2014-2015	MSW Program, Admission Committee. Reviewed applications to the traditional 2-year program.
2013-2014	Department of Social Work, Scholarship Committee, Chair.
2013-2014	MSW Program, Admission Committee. Reviewed applications to the traditional 2-year program.
2013-2014	18 <sup>th</sup> Annual Social Work Day at the Capitol, Department of Social Work, Co-Chair of the Social Work Day at the Capitol Planning Committee. Co-mentored 2 BSSW student liaisons and 1 MSW student liaison. Co-created all SOWK-DAC planning materials..
2013-2014	MSW Program, fall 2013 Search Committee Chair, Spring 2014 Search Committee Member, hired MSW Field Director.
2013-2014	MSW Program, Program Evaluation Committee, Member.
2014	MSW Program, Off-site Supervisor. Provided biweekly group off-sight practicum social work supervision to three foundation year students in the MSW program (January – July).
2013	MSW Program, Off-site Supervision. Provided biweekly group off-sight practicum social work supervision to two foundation year students in the MSW program (January – July).
2012-2013	17 <sup>th</sup> Annual Social Work Day at the Capitol, Department of Social Work, Coordinate/facilitate student participation. Mentored 1 BSSW student liaison. Co-created all SOWK-DAC planning materials. Recipient of the 2014 NASW-MN Advocacy Award for our participation at the 2013 Social Work Day at the Capitol.
2012-2013	MSW Program, Search Committee, Hired fixed-term MSW Field Director.
2012-2013	MSW Program, Admission Committee. Reviewed applications to the traditional 2-year program.
2012-2013	MSW Program, Program Evaluation Committee, Member.



2012-2014	Faculty Association Budget Committee, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Faculty Representative
2012	MSW Program, Off-site Supervision. Provided biweekly social work off-site practicum supervision, focusing on macro social work practice, to one student in the MSW program (January – July).
2011-2012	President's Commission on the Status of Women, HERS representative.
2010	MSW Program, Off-site Supervision. Provided biweekly social work supervision, focusing on program management of a group home, to one student in the MSW program (January – July).
2009	MSW Program. Provided biweekly social work supervision, focusing on direct practice with people with developmental and other disabilities, to two students in the MSW program (January – July).
2009-2012, August	MSW Program, Admissions Committee, Chair.
2008-2012, August	MSW Program, Capstone Workgroup, Chair.
2008–2012, May	Faculty Association Graduate Committee, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences representative, 2011-12 AY faculty co-Chair.
2007-2008	Department of Social Work Faculty Search Committee, Chair, Hired 1 BSSW faculty and 1 MSW faculty.
2007-2012, August	MSW Program, Program Assessment Workgroup, Chair.
2006-2009	Department of Social Work, MSW Admissions Committee, Member.
2006-2007	Department of Social Work, Faculty Search Committee, Chair, Hired 2 MSW faculty.
2005-2004	Faculty Association SBS Salary Equity Task Force, SBS Faculty representative.
2004-2008	Social Work Club, Advisor.
2004-2006	CETL Feminist Issues Learning Community, Facilitator.
2004-2006	Faculty Association Faculty Development Committee, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Representative.
2003-2004	Department of Social Work Faculty Search Committee, Committee Member, Hired 1 BSSW faculty.
2003-2004	Faculty Association Faculty Development Committee, Chair and College of Social and Behavioral Sciences representative. Member of the Faculty Association Executive Committee.

2002-2010	Social Work Day at the Capitol, Department of Social Work, Coordinate/facilitate student participation, mentored student liaisons.
2002-2003	Department of Social Work Faculty Search Committee, Chair, Hired BSSW faculty.
2002-2003	Faculty Association Faculty Development Committee, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences representative.
2001-2003	College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Committee, Department of Social Work representative.
2001-2002	Department of Social Work Faculty Search Committee, Co-Chair.
2001-2002	Writing Intensive General Education Category Course Instructor Group, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences representative.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2025	<i>Community Connection: Building Pathways to Confidential Advocacy &amp; Services for Rural Survivors</i> (1.5 hours). Bree Adams and Maren Woods, Praxis, August 5, 2025.
2025	<i>Diversity Made Simple: A Positive &amp; Shame-Free Guide to Reducing Cultural Offenses and Repairing Cross-Cultural Relationships</i> (6 hours, 2 ethics and 4 cultural competence), Center for Rural Behavioral Health, Minnesota State University, Mankato, July 11.
2025	<i>Invisible Injuries: Acquired Disabilities from Violence</i> , Rachel Ramirez, Director of Health and Disability programs at the Ohio Domestic Violence Network, Activating Change (1.5 hour), May 27.
2025	<i>Proposed Medicaid Funding Cuts and the Harms They Pose to People with Disabilities: A Beyond 2025 Critical Conversation</i> , Meg Comeau and Dr. Tami Gouveia, Center for Innovation in Social Work & Health, Boston University School of Social Work (1 hour), May 21.
2024	Health Summit, <i>Creating Community Well-Being: Shaping the Future of Health Care</i> (3 hours), Minnesota State University, Mankato, College of Allied Health and Nursing, April 3. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keynote delivered by Dr. Sarha V. Vinson, Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry, Chair of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Morehouse School of Medicine.</li> </ul>
2024	Federal Bar Association, Minnesota Chapter, <i>An Unfinished Journey – Civil Rights for People with Developmental Disabilities and the Role of the Federal Courts</i> (3 hours). March 19.
2024	Social Work Advocacy Week, Virtual Sessions and Day at the Capitol (3 hours), NASW-MN. February 26, 28 & 29. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Work Workforce Issues</li> <li>• Disability Wage Justice</li> <li>• Revisioning Child Welfare</li> </ul>

- 2024 NASW-MN *Winter Virtual Conference* (6 hours), February 9.
- *Social Work Practice with Immigrant and Refugee Clients*, Neerja Singh, LICSW, LADC.
  - *Grief as Activation toward Emotional and Ecological Healing in the Time of Climate Collapse*, Tessa Anittila, MSW, LICSW.
  - *Money Talk: Merging Mental Health and Money*, Lindsey Konchar, MSW, CFSW.
  - *Revisioning Child Welfare Reform*, Miriam Itzkowitz, MSW, LICSW.
  - *Expansive Ethics: Embodying our Values in a Complex Landscape*, Casie Iwata, MA, MSW, LICSW.
- 2023 Health and Biomedical Summit, *Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity* (6 hours), Minnesota State University, Mankato, College of Allied Health and Nursing, March 29.
- Keynote delivered by [Dr. Mary Owen](#), University of Minnesota Medical School (Duluth), Director of the Center of American Indian and Minority Health.
  - Breakout: Youth Mental Health Navigator: A collaborative approach to increasing equitable youth access to mental health services.
  - Breakout: High Impact Programming at the YWCA
- 2023 *Canary in the Coal Mine: Reinvesting in the Health, Prosperity and Wellness of America*, [Dr. William Cooke](#), Center for Rural Behavioral Health Annual Lecture (1.5 hours), March 23.
- 2023 Social Work Advocacy Week, Virtual Sessions (7 hours), NASW-MN. February 27 and 28.
- Advocacy from an Anti-Ableist, Intersectional, and Disability Justice Lens.
  - Mental Health: Legislative Themes, Investment, and 988 Crisis Line, Mental Health Minnesota.
  - Child Welfare and Family Services: Foster Advocates.
  - Community Safety and Emerging Cannabis Legislation, Minnesota Justice Research Center.
  - Housing: Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless.
- 2023 *Race x Disability: Lifting Up Black and African American Leaders in the Disability Justice Movement* (1 hour, virtual), Salem State University, Lamont Simmons, MSW, EdD. & Elspeth Slayter, MSW, MA, PhD. February 8.
- 2023 NASW-MN *Winter's Brightest Ideas Virtual Conference* (7 hours), January 27.
- 2022 *Legislative Advocacy 101* (6.5 hours). Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota, Minnesota state capitol in St. Paul, September 19.
- 2022 *Culture of Safety Orientation* (2.5 hours). Minnesota Department of Human Services, August 31.
- 2022 *Experience Is Our Teacher: People with Disabilities on Allyship, Advocacy, and Pride* (1 hour). Minnesota State, April 27.
- 2022 Social Work Virtual Advocacy Week (5.5 hours), NASW-MN, April 4, 5 & 6.
- 2022 *Mental Health is Health*, Health and Biomedical Sciences Summit (7 hours). Keynote speakers: [Johann Hari](#) author of *Disconnection: Uncovering the Real Cause of Depression* and [Dr. Abigail Gewirtz](#) author of *When the World Feels Like a Scary Place*. College of Allied Health and Nursing, Minnesota State University Mankato, March 30.

- 2022 *Racial Justice and Disability Justice: Working Together to Free our Minds and Bodies* (1hour). Minnesota State, February 23.
- 2022 *Disability Justice: Why it's Everybody's Business* (1 hour). Minnesota State, January 26.
- 2022 *Advocacy Bootcamp* (3 hours). Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota, January 24.
- 2021 *Mankato Area Public Schools Equity Summit* (3 hours). Keynote speaker [Dr. Keith Mayes](#), Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of Minnesota. MAPS, September 16.
- 2021 The Arc Minnesota Board of Directors Training: *Leading with Cultural Competence, DEI+B and Race Equity*, [Dr. Ramon A. Pastrano IV](#) (Virtual, 1.5 hours). August 2.
- 2021 *Creating an Anti-Racist Minnesota Together*, Social Work Summit (Virtual, 4 hours), NASW-MN, May 14.
- 2021 *Criminal vs. Civil cases: Understanding the Crucial Interplay for Sexual Abuse/ Assault Victims* (1 hour), National Crime Victims Bar, presented by [Dave M. Ring](#) and [Matt Murphy](#) (online), April 26.
- 2021 Disability Policy Seminar (Virtual), The ARC National, April 19 & 20.
- 2021 Social Work Virtual Advocacy Day (4 hours), NASW-MN, April 21.
- 2021 *Trauma Informed Behavior Support* (1.5 hours), Minnesota Department of Human Services, presented by [Karyn Harvey](#), PsyD., April 12.
- 2021 *Trauma Informed Supports: Trauma and Healing in the Lives of People with Intellectual Disabilities* (4 hours), Minnesota Department of Human Services, presented by Karyn Harvey, PsyD., March 15 and March 22.
- 2021 *The Body Keeps the Score*, 2-Day Trauma Conference presented by [Bessel A. van der Kolk](#), MD (online), February 25 and 26.
- 2019 *Collaborative Safety*, Safety Leadership Institute (7 hours), training for the Minnesota Department of Human Services, October 14.
- 2019 *Promising Practices Spotlight Series: Massachusetts* (webinar 1.5 hours), Adult Protective Services Technical Assistance Resource Services, July 18.
- 2019 *A Rural Perspective: Serving Survivors of DV/SA with Disabilities in Rural Communities* (webinar 1.5 hours), The Vera Institute of Justice, Vera Center on Victimization and Safety, July 16.
- 2019 WINGS 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Guardianship Summit, *Guardianship and SDM: Times They are a Changin* (6.25 hours), Volunteers of American Minnesota and WINGS Minnesota, May 17.
- 2019 *Autonomy is Safety: Using Supported Decision-Making to Facilitate the Safety of People with Di* (1.5 hours), The Vera Institute of Justice, Vera Center on Victimization and Safety, May 14.
- 2019 Vulnerable Adult Forensic Interview Training (25 hours), CornerHouse, Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 26-29.

- 2018 *Historical Trauma and Poverty: Adverse Childhood Experience* (2.75 hours), Department of Social Work Child Welfare Program, REACH, and the Greater Mankato Area United Way, North Mankato, Minnesota, June 27.
- 2018 WINGS 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Guardianship Summit, *From Theory to Practice* (6.25 hours), Volunteers of American Minnesota and WINGS Minnesota, January 26.
- 2017-2018 University of Minnesota, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Policy Fellows Program, 2017-18 Policy Fellow.
- 2017 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Police and Social Services Conference, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, Minnesota, September 28.
- 2017 Minnesota World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Conference (5 hours), Minnesota Elder Justice Center, Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, June 14.
- 2017 MSSA 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Region 9 Summer Conference (6 hours), Department of Social Work, Minnesota State University, Mankato, May 17, 2017.
- Policy Dictates Your Practice: Time to Speak Out and Influence Policy Makers (presenter).
  - Ethics in Rural Practice: Background, Dilemmas, and Challenges.
- 2017 *Sexual Assault and Survivors with Disabilities* (1.5 hours), The National Council on Juvenile and Family Court Judges, St. Paul, Minnesota, April 24.
- 2017 Social Work Day at the Capitol (4 hours), NASW, St. Paul, Minnesota, April 3.
- 2016-2018 *Write on Race, to Be Right on Race*, Greater Mankato Diversity Council, Mankato, Minnesota, August 2016 to August 2018.
- Two-year community journaling and critical conversation initiative
  - Biweekly prompt topics and assignments
  - Quarterly harvesting meetings
- 2016 The National Alliance to End Sexual Violence Policy Think Tank, Washington, DC, December 7-8.
- 2016 *Person-Centered Planning: A Picture of a Life*, University of Minnesota, Research and Training Center on Community Living (12 hours), St. Paul, Minnesota, June 15 and June 17.
- 2016 26<sup>th</sup> Annual NASW-MN Conference, Navigating the Winds of Change: Transforming Lives (6 hours), St. Paul, Minnesota, June 3, 2016.
- Navigating Disparities in Health Care: Social Workers Ethical Obligations
  - Ethics When Working in a Host Setting
  - Immigration Forum
- 2016 *Understanding the How's and Why's of Supported Decision Making* presented by Jonathan Martinis (2.5 hours), sponsored by WINGS Minnesota and the Minnesota Department of Human Services, Community Supports Administration, St. Paul, Minnesota, May 16.
- 2015 Creative Housing Conference, Arc Greater Twin Cities, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, November 14.

- 2015 Teaching Poverty 101 Institute, Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin Madison, May 26-29.
- 2015 2015 AARM Conference, *Shifting Gears*, Bloomington, Minnesota, May 13-14.
- 2015 SCOPE (South Central Organization of Providers to Educate) Spring Conference, *Providing Services in the New Age*, South Central College, North Mankato, Minnesota, April 28.
- 2015 Minnesota Self-Advocacy Conference 2015, *Celebrating 25 Year of the ADA*, St. Paul, Minnesota, March 27-28.
- 2015 Safe Harbor Regional Trafficking Conference, Southwest Crisis Center, Redwood Falls, Minnesota, March 12.
- 2015 *Person-Centered Thinking*, University of Minnesota, Research and Training Center on Community Living (12 CE), Mankato, Minnesota, February 11-12.
- 2014 SCOPE (South Central Organization of Providers to Educate) Fall Conference, *Creating a Life that Makes Sense*, South Central College, North Mankato, Minnesota, October 14
- 2014 *Economic Mobility in America: Moving Towards Enough for All* (1-day workshop), Pew Charitable Trusts and A Minnesota to End Poverty, St. Paul, Minnesota, June 2.
- 2014 Social Work Day at the Capitol, NASW, St. Paul, Minnesota, April 7.
- 2013 Green Dot Violence Prevention, Four-Day Instructor Certification Training (28-hours), Springfield Virginia, July 23-26, 2013.
- 2013 Social Work Day at the Capitol, NASW, St. Paul, Minnesota, April 8.
- 2012 Sexual Violence Training Summit, Florida Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Sarasota, Florida, May 10-11.
- 2011 – 2012 HERS Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration, Wellesley College. Competitive application and review process. Nominated by The President’s Commission on the Status of Women and selected by President Richard Davenport to represent Minnesota State University, Mankato at the Wellesley College Institute 2011-2012. Natick & Wellesley, MA, October 13 -15, November 10-12, February 2-4, March 15-17.
- 2011 2nd Annual National Crime Victims with Disabilities Conference, Orlando, Florida, December 13-15.
- 2011 The Minnesota Symposium: *Primary Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Violence: Applying Research to Practice*, MnCASA, MN Department of Public Health, MN Office of Justice Programs, St. Paul, Minnesota, August 26.
- 2011 135<sup>th</sup> AAIDD Annual Meeting, Inclusive Communities: Pathways to Realizing the Vision. St. Paul, Minnesota, June 6 & 7.
- 2011 International Symposium and Roundtable, Everybody’s Business: Stopping the Abuse and Neglect of People with Intellectual Disabilities, Griffith University, School of Social Work, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, April 11 & 12.

- 2011 Social Work Day at the Capitol, NASW, St. Paul, Minnesota, April 4.
- 2011 Green Dot Violence Prevention Training (6-hour training), Sexual Violence Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 5.
- 2010 Independent Study Abroad, Melbourne, Victoria and Brisbane, Queensland, Australia (November 24 – December 10). Hosted by Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society, Latrobe University and School of Social Work, Griffith University.
- 2010 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Intellectual Disability Policy Roundtable, School of Social Work and Social Policy, Latrobe University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, December 2.
- 2010 Washington State's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Vulnerable Adult Abuse Conference, Seattle, Washington, October 28 & 29.
- 2010 Abuse of Persons with Disabilities Silent Voices Conference, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, October 14 & 15.
- 2010 Crime Victim Advocate Training, Crime Victim Services, New Ulm, Minnesota, September (40-hour training).
- 2010 TASC P & A/CAP Annual Conference, Los Angeles, California, June 8 & 9.
- 2010 Social Work Day at the Capitol, St. Paul, Minnesota, April 12.
- 2010 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 23-26.
- 2010 Cornerstone Annual Conference 2010 on Domestic Violence and Abuse, Cornerstone Services, Bloomington, Minnesota, February 25.
- 2009 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Council on Social Work Education, San Antonio, Texas, November.
- 2009 1<sup>st</sup> Annual National Crime Victims with Disabilities Conference, Denver, Colorado, September-October.
- 2009 National Sexual Assault Conference, Alexandria, Virginia, September 9-11.
- 2009 35<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Victim Assistance Conference, Scottsdale, Arizona, August 22-24.
- 2009 Annual National Institute on Social Work and Human Services in Rural Areas, Duluth, Minnesota, July 27-28.
- 2009 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Minnesota Conference on Crime Victims, Brainerd, Minnesota, May 27-28.
- 2009 Stop it Before it Starts: Preventing Sexual and Domestic Violence Workshop presented by the Minnesota Men's Action Network: Alliance to Prevent Sexual and Domestic Violence, Mankato, Minnesota, April 28.
- 2009 Social Work Day at the Capitol, St. Paul, Minnesota, March 30.

2009	116 <sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota Social Service Conference and Expo, Bloomington, Minnesota, March 26-28.
2008	America's Promise Alliance, 100 Best Communities for Young People National Forum, Washington, DC, September 21-23.
2008	Social Work Day at the Capitol, St. Paul, Minnesota, April 2.
2007	Annual National Institute on Social Work and Human Services in Rural Areas, Montgomery, Alabama, July.
2007	Social Work Day at the Capitol, NASW, St. Paul, Minnesota, April 3.
2006-2007	Leadership Institute, Minnesota State University, Mankato.
2006	Social Work the Wellstone Way, NASW, St. Paul, Minnesota, September 29.
2006	Social Work Day at the Capitol, NASW, St. Paul, Minnesota, April 3.
2005	Council on Social Work Education, Site Visitor Training, Austin, Texas.
2005	23rd Annual Conference of the Association of the Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Austin, Texas.
2005	MSSA Region 9 2005 Fall Conference, Mankato, Minnesota, September 29
2005	<i>Essentials of Asset Building: Training of Trainers</i> , Search Institute, Minneapolis, Minnesota, July 25 & 26.
2005	Social Work Day at the Capitol, NASW, St. Paul, Minnesota, April 4.
2005	Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 42 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, March 16 – 18.
2004	<i>Asset-Based Community Development 101 Workshop</i> , Mankato, Minnesota, September 28.
2004	MSSA Region 9 2004 Fall Conference, Mankato, Minnesota, September 25.
2004	Office of Violence Against Women Grantee Training, <i>Elder Abuse and Abuse of People with Disabilities</i> , Orlando Florida, February 18-20 & Chicago, Illinois, May 5 -6
2004	Mental Health Day at the Capitol, St. Paul, Minnesota, March 1.
2003	21st Annual Conference of the Association of the Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Reno, Nevada.
2003	MSSA Region 9 2003 Fall Conference, Mankato, Minnesota, September 19.
2003	<i>Bristol International Credit Earning Programme</i> , International Social Welfare and Public Policy, 15 <sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Program, July 3 to July 17.
2003	Social Work Day at the Capitol, NASW, Bloomington and St. Paul, Minnesota, March 20.
2002-2003	Valley Writing Project, Minnesota State University Mankato.



- 2002 20th Annual Conference of the Association of the Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- 2002 MSSA Region 9 2002 Fall Conference, Mankato, Minnesota, September 13.
- 2002 Minnesota Social Service Association 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Conference and Expo, *Uniting Communities: Many Faces, Many Places*, Bloomington, Minnesota, March 21
- 2002 The Collaboration, *Values, Citizenship and Community: Preparing Students for Leadership in a Democratic Society*, Bloomington, Minnesota, February 14 and 15.
- 2001 MSSA Region 9 2001 Fall Conference, Mankato, Minnesota, September 21.

## SOCIAL WORK DIRECT PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

- 2000 – 2001 MSW Field Placement Supervisor at Little Friends, Naperville, Illinois.
- Contracted to provide clinical supervision of a second year MSW student from Jane Addams College of Social Work doing her field placement at Little Friends.
- 1994 – 1998 Social Work Consultant at Augustana Center, Lutheran Social Services, Lincolnwood, Illinois.
- Contracted to conduct psycho-social assessments for adults and children with developmental disabilities and provide consultation on implementation of psychosocial recommendations.
- 1991 - 1993 Family Therapist/Social Work at Krejci Academy School, Little Friends, Inc., Naperville, Illinois.
- Provided family services, consisting of family therapy, case management, parent skills training, parent support group, and advocacy to parents of children with developmental disabilities from diverse cultural, socio-economic, and racial backgrounds.
- 1990 - 1991 Intern at Jewish Family and Community Services, Buffalo Grove, Illinois.
- Provided individual, couples, and family therapy to persons of Jewish heritage.
- 1990 - 1990 Case Manager/Qualified Mental Retardation Professional (temporary position) at Community Alternative Unlimited, Libertyville, Illinois.
- Provided case management services to children & adults with developmental disabilities and their families. Conducted psycho-social & I-CAP assessments, coordinated interdisciplinary meetings, and facilitated residential placement.
- 1988 - 1990 Program Coordinator at Little City, Palatine, Illinois.
- Oversaw program and habilitation services at a 240-bed residential facility for persons with developmental disabilities comprising of a 100-person Community Living Facility, 100-persons Childcare Institute, and a 30-person Supported Living Arrangement.
- Home Manager at Little City.
- Performed QMRP functions including the development of individual habilitation plans and managed the residential program for 20 adults with developmental disabilities.

Case Manager/Social Work at Little City.

- Provided case management services, conducted psychosocial assessments, performed intake and discharge activities, and provided advocacy services for 60 adults with developmental disabilities.

1986 - 1988      Community Worker at Ada S. McKinley, Chicago, Illinois.

- Provided home-based family services, in collaboration with a master's degree social worker, consisting of family counseling, case management, parent skills training, and advocacy to children with developmental disabilities and their families from diverse racial/ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities since 2024
- Member of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities since 1997.
- Member of the National Association of Social Workers since 2002.
- Member of the Social Policy Action Network, NASW-MN since February 2021.
- Member of The Arc Minnesota since 2014
- Member of the ACLU since 2017.
- Member of the Southern Poverty Law Center since 2016.
- Member of Human Rights Watch.
- Member of Human Rights Campaign.