

SUMMARY

I am a passionate social worker with over a decade of experience serving diverse populations, including children, adolescents, and families in underserved communities. My commitment lies in fostering meaningful connections with clients, advocating for their well-being, and empowering aspiring social workers to thrive in the profession.

EDUCATION

San Diego State University

Masters in Social Work | Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential | Title IVE Program | May 2017
San Diego, CA

University of San Diego

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies | Sociology Minor | May 2013
San Diego, CA

EXPERIENCE

La Mesa Spring Valley School District

District Social Worker | July 2024-Present

- Acts as the Foster/Homeless Liaison, responsible for designing, implementing, and overseeing programs, events, and initiatives that support the needs of students in foster care and families experiencing unstable housing.
- Provides professional development needs, in-service training, presentations, workshops, consultation and guidance on the use of innovative methods, strategies, and materials to support site social workers.
- Developing and implementing district attendance improvement efforts to increase student engagement.
- Assists with implementing a Community Schools grant across 13 school sites, focusing on service coordination and fostering community engagement.
- Part of the crisis response team, providing support and resources to school sites during critical situations to ensure students and staff well-being.

San Diego State University

Lecturer (Part-time) | Fall Semester 2023, 2024

- Developed and provided engaging lectures for the MSW, School Social Work 758 course
- Wrote course materials including syllabi, group assignments, exams, handouts, and lecture slides
- Connected to community members in the field to provide students with guest speakers
- Fostered an inclusive and collaborative class environment
- Provided additional academic support and mentorship with the PPS and Title IVE program

Highlands Elementary (LMSV District)

School Social Worker | August 2019-June 2024

- Supports a school of approx. 500 students in developing social emotional skills
- Provides individual and group SEL counseling to promote mental health
- Facilitates school and district wide Professional Development and Parent Education courses
- Supervises MSW interns and BSW students year round as a field instructor

- Collaborates with diverse families, students, and administrative staff
- Works alongside families to access additional resources from community agencies
- Connects with families to support underrepresented populations and home visits
- Applies restorative practices school-wide in addressing behavior and peer conflict
- Coordinates attendance interventions on a 3 tier system
- Facilitates Student Success Team meetings, monitors 504 plans, and intervention meetings
- Implements Safe School Ambassadors evidence-based program
- Provides crisis intervention to include suicide risk and threat assessments
- Responds to escalated behaviors and implements de-escalation techniques
- Administers alternative to suspension groups
- Maintains food pantry and monthly grocery pass out
- Completes home visits for vulnerable families that are in need or in crisis
- Participates in district efforts to support

Child Welfare Service: Emergency Response; Continuing Services, Adoptions

Protective Services Worker | August 2016-July 2019

- Investigated allegations of abuse with incorporating trauma informed practices
- Attended court hearings and testified regarding recommendations for CWS involvement
- Facilitated reunification with diverse families and connected them to outside resources
- Used case management (CMS/CWS) systems to document case notes and write monthly status reports
- Evaluated the actions/behaviors of parents and children to determine the need for counseling programs
- Assessed, diagnosed, and applied intervention techniques to child, family, and adult-related problems
- Facilitated child family team meetings to support improved outcomes
- Supervised family visitations and completed regular home visits

SouthBay Community Services

EXCEL Foster Youth Case Manager | October 2013-June 2016

- Provided case management services to former foster youth aged 16 to 21
- Provided support for educational planning creating connections and meetings with college counselors
- Taught educational/vocational curriculum and personal development workshops
- Provided one-on-one job counseling and goal setting activities with diverse population
- Developed relationships with community based organizations and collaborated in community events

SKILLS

- Proficient in MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Caljobs, CISRS, CWS/CMS, JELS, Aries, Canva
- Presented at the American Psychological Association Convention 2017
- Conversational in Spanish

AWARDS

- Kappa Gamma Pi Award 2013 (Leadership, Service, and Academics)
- 2022 San Diego County Outstanding School Social Worker Award

TRAININGS/CERTIFICATIONS

- Nonprofit Leadership and Management Certificate 2013
- Domestic Violence 40hr Counselor Certificate
- UCSD Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Program Certificate

- Supporting Children Mental Health Wellness Training
- Restorative Practices Training
- Engagement and Assessment Training
- Safety Organized Practice Training
- LGBTQIA Training
- Cultural Humility Training
- Trauma Informed Care Training
- Motivational Interviewing Training
- Restorative Practices Training
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)/ Human Trafficking Training
- Structured Decision Making (SDM) Training
- ACT Adoption and Permanency Curriculum Training
- Child Abuse and Mandated Reporter Training
- Second Step, Why Try, MindUP Curriculum Training
- Mindfulness-based Stress Reduction (MBSR) Program
- Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools (CBITS) Training