

VERONICA KNOWLES

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EDUCATION

University of Alabama
Master of Social Work 2004
 Emphasis: Children Youth and Families
 Advanced Standing, Outstanding Graduate Student Recognition

University of Mississippi
Bachelor of Social Work 2002

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Mississippi State University *Aug 2017-Current*
Instructor

Instruct undergraduate students interested in Social Work or related studies. Provide advising to students to help them successfully matriculate through CSWE accredited BSW program. Offer insight to the field of Social Work to students and serve as a resource to practice opportunities for students seeking experiences outside of the classroom. Monitor students' success by creating and administering measurement tools that capture information presented in class. Developed a course for Distance Education.

COURSES

Class	Fall	Spring	Summer
HBSE I	2018	2019, 2020,2022	2019
HBSE II	2021,2022	2019,2021	2018
Practice I	2017,2018,2021 2022	2019, 2020 2021,2022	
Practice II	2018, 2022	2022	
Populations at Risk	2017-2019,21- 22	2019,2020,2021 2022	
SW Healthcare	2021	2022	
Policy I		2018	
Senior Seminar			
Seminar Resilience		2020	2021
Substance Abuse			2019
Study Abroad: Kenya			2022

Adjunct Lecturer- Social Work Program, Mississippi State University **2014-2017**

Served as an instructor for this 3 hour course.; focused on helping undergraduate students identify populations at risk and establish a professional approach to working with identified populations as determined by CSWE, developed course materials and syllabus, evaluated student performance, provided timely grade reports to the department.

Lecturer- The Allied Health Approach Stepping Stones Career College **2013**

Collaborated on curriculum and professional development of students. Served as night lecturer throughout the program, instructing on the different roles and of the healthcare team and best practice methodologies for a professional setting.

Field Instructor- University of Southern Mississippi **2012**

Served as preceptor for MSW student and incorporated theories identified in the traditional classroom setting with field practice.

Trainer- THRIVE **2011**

Taught future trainers to train healthcare personnel how to engage patient self-care. Educated the community and family members of patients diagnosed with End Stage Renal Disease on risk factors, prevention strategies, and the importance of early screening.

Health Educator- Good Choices- Healthy Lifestyles

2003

Facilitated curriculum with students in 10 county radius. Educated children in grades K-12 about the advantaged of choosing healthy behaviors. Served as a community liaison to promote healthy behaviors and reducing risk factors that led to unhealthy behaviors/habits.

Instructor- Sexually Transmitted Disease

2002

Implemented curriculum developed by MS Dept. of Health to reduce the risk and spread of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS. Received certificate to train or educate on STDs throughout the state of Mississippi.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Rush Health Systems

April 2018 – Current

PRN Therapist/Clinical Supervisor

Provided group therapy to senior citizens and worked very close with psychiatrist to develop treatment plans for patients served.

Ellisville State School

June 2015-Aug 2017

Bureau Director

Served as director and operating administrator of Columbus Community Programs that include Community Respite, Waiver Services, Work Activity Center, Prevocational Skills Training, Targeted Case Management, IDD Community Home, and Supported Living. Managed the finances established through the operating budget set by Mississippi Department of Mental Health. Wrote grants and managed the resources. Overseen all operating programs and served as chief liaison between professional staff and MDH.

Neshoba County DHS

Jan 2015- June 2015

Area Social Work Supervisor

Provided supervision for frontline social workers in the Department of Family and Children Services. Provide support for workers in the field and offer best practice model coaching according to family centered model. Collaborate with community stakeholders for the best interest of children and youth in Neshoba County, Mississippi.

Montfort Jones Memorial Hospital

Dec 2013 – April 2014

Program Director

Served as the manager and supervisor of the geriosphyciatric program/department. Managed a staff of more than 20 professionals which included nurses and other mental health professionals. Provided group therapy to senior citizens and worked very close with psychiatrist to develop treatment plans for patients served. Participated in hospital administration to represent the best interest of the hospital with financial decisions. Collaborated with community liaisons to promote a greater awareness of the importance of a strong mental health for people living in the community.

Pioneer Health Services

Sept 2012- Nov 2014

Therapist

Provided comprehensive individual and group therapy to individual diagnosed with a serious mental illness. Developed a master treatment plan for services to be rendered on the unit. Worked with other agencies in the community to promote awareness of signs and symptoms of mental illness along with services available for individuals identified as having a mental illness. Offered community education and free screenings for linkage to services to treat mental illness and substance abuse.

Fresenius Medical Care

April 2008 – Sep 2012

Nephrology Social Worker

Provided education and counseling to patients and their families affected by End Stage Renal Disease. Worked as a part of a multidisciplinary team to provide comprehensive services to patients receiving dialysis at the largest dialysis company in the world. Collaborated with Mississippi Kidney Foundation to provide services to people at risk of developing kidney disease such as free screenings, education, preventions, and awareness. Traveled throughout the country being educated on the latest best

practices and research approaches identified in the field of Nephrology. Completed psychosocial assessments and provided linkage to community resources.

Community Counseling Services

July 2005 – April 2008

Outpatient Therapist

Provided comprehensive counseling for children diagnosed with severe emotional disturbances. Served as Program Director for four successful day treatment programs. Facilitated daily peer group counseling sessions. Completed initial psychosocial assessments and offered an initial DSM diagnosis. Completed individual treatment plans and provided quarterly updates. Implemented the Adolescent Offenders Program in Winston County. Served on multiple taskforces that worked to address the emotional support for children with mental illnesses.

Morgan County Department of Human Resources

May 2004 – July 2005

Senior Social Worker

Completed child abuse and neglect investigations throughout Morgan County, Alabama. Worked closely with youth court judge and law enforcement to ensure that children were being protected against abuse and neglect. Participated in the foster care system to train and recruit potential foster parents. Participated in trainings that addressed professional development, dangers of drugs and alcohol, state licensure, and family reunification.

Crestwood Medical Center, Behavioral Health

Nov 2004 – July 2005

Therapist/Screeners

Responded to on call alerts from busy Emergency Department in hospital. Screened patients for level of crisis and collaborated with psychiatrist on call to determine if hospitalization was necessary. Provided individual and group therapy to patients admitted to behavior health division. Completed integrated treatment plan and made recommendations for appropriate discharge plans. Provided linkage to community resources and follow up care. Facilitated the 12-step program for recovery for individuals addicted to a substance such as drugs or alcohol.

Tuscaloosa County Department of Human Resources

Jan 2004 – May 2004

MSW Student Intern

Worked closely with Senior Social Workers in the foster care and protective services division. Completed monthly home visits to children in foster care assigned by field education. Worked to improve relationships with children in foster care and their birth parents. Served on multiple taskforces that worked to address the emotional support for children within the foster care system.

Family Crisis Services of Northwest Mississippi

June 2001 – May 2003

Volunteer Coordinator/Health Specialist

Coordinated community events to enhance awareness of agency programs that included: case management, health promotion, child advocacy, and assistance to victims of sexual abuse/assault. Organized regular volunteer recruitment efforts and provided the agency with over 100 volunteers from 20 volunteers. Scheduled and participated in multiple health fairs throughout 10 county radius and educated children and adults about the importance of Good Choices and Healthy Lifestyles. Supervised and managed a 24-hour crisis hotline. Organized fundraising events throughout the year to match contributions provided by a variety of supporters including United Way.

AWARDS

National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Fellowship

2012 – 2013

Each year the NKF awards fellowships for outstanding professionals in the field of Nephrology. The recipient is invited to attend the Nation Kidney Foundation's Spring Clinical Meeting and submit a review of a course presented at the national conference to the Journal of Nephrology. Attended the 2012 Spring Clinical in Las Vegas, Nevada and submitted an article related to the Burnout of Social Workers in the field of Nephrology Social Work.

Alabama Children Youth and Family Fellowship

2003 – 2004

Received stipend each month to commit to work in the field of Family and Children Services with the Alabama Department of Human Resources. Worked in Morgan County, Alabama, after completing a successful internship at Tuscaloosa County DHR.

Volunteer of the Year 2002 – 2003

Donated more than 2000 hours to a nonprofit agency that addressed the awareness of sexual assault and aided in the support efforts to assist victims of sexual assault.

PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

- “Student Success 101***
NASW- MS Annual Social Work Conference, Jackson, MS **2020**
- “Grand Families”***
Mississippi Conference on Aging, Southaven, MS **2019**
- “Professionalism in the Workplace”***
Presentation at Baptist Memorial Hospital-Golden Triangle **2012**
- “The Power to Thrive and Not Survive with ESRD”***
Presentation at Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Health Center **2011**
- “Social Workers in Health Care”***
Presentation for Neshoba County Allied Health Classes **2011**

LICENSURES

- LCSW- Mississippi C-7465, Board Approved Clinical Supervisor
- LMSW
- CMHT

SERVICE

- 2022- ASWB, Practice Analysis Taskforce Member (National)
- 2022- CSWE Minority Fellow Mentor (National)
- 2022- NASW-MS Board Member, Vice President, Program Committee, Conference Facilitator
- 2021- NASW-MS Board Member, Northern Rep, Program Committee, Conference Facilitator
- 2020- NASW-MS Board Member, Northern Rep, Program Committee, Conference Facilitator
- 2019 NASW- MS Membership Chair
- 2018-2019 Mississippi State University – B.R.I.D.G.E.S. Mentor
- 2017-Current Mississippi State University – Social Work Program Admissions Committee
- 2017 -Current Mississippi State University – Social Work Program Awards Committee
- 2017-Current Mississippi State University – Social Work Program Curriculum Committee
- 2017-Current Mississippi State University – Social Work Program Scholarship Committee

MEMBERSHIPS

- Association of Social Work Board
- Council on Social Work Education
- Baccalaureate Program Director
- American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- American Red Cross-SAF
- National Association of Social Workers
- National Kidney Foundation
- Mississippi Kidney Foundation
- Mississippi Conference on Social Welfare

AWARDS

- College of Arts & Sciences Teaching Award in Social & Behavioral Sciences **2022**
- MS Chapter NASW Service Award **2021**