

Dr. Steffanie Altenbern, DHSc, CSWA,

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EDUCATION & TRAINING

Eastern Virginia Medical School Hampton Roads, VA

Degree: Doctor of Health Science

Metropolitan State College of Denver Denver, CO

Degree: Master of Social Work

Spring Arbor University Spring Arbor, MI

Degree: Bachelor of Social Work

Majors: Social Work, Psychology

Bridges out of Poverty Certified Trainer

Certified to train Bridges out of Poverty to specified audiences

EXPERIENCE

Co-Owner, Portland Metro, OR October 2023 – Present

Personalized Natural Wellness

- Fulfill administrator role for medical practice
- Maintain relationships with referral sources
- Handle all administrative and operational tasks, remaining in compliance with Oregon Health Plan(OHP) and Oregon Health Administration (OHA)

Social Worker/Owner, Tualatin, OR January 2023 – Present

Willow Tree Case Management

- Complete psychosocial evaluations for home health patients
- Responds to crisis intervention needs for Medicaid population
- Collaborates with outside agencies to broker resources for patients

Assistant Professor of Social Work, Portland, OR August 2022 – Present

George Fox University

- Teach social work practice courses
- Advise students on career and academic guidance
- Collaborate with department to refine and develop relevant content

Medical Social Worker, Hillsboro, OR July 2022 – October 2022

Oregon Continental Home Health

- Facilitated in development of the Social Work team
- Completed psychosocial evaluations for home health patients
- Hosted a weekly social work meeting with social work team
- Collaborated with outside agencies to broker resources for patients

Health Systems Supervisor, McMinnville, OR May 2022 – July 2022

Yamhill Community Cares Organization

- Facilitated in development of the Behavioral Health Systems team
- Created workflows to establish network adequacy for behavioral health providers
- Maintained a thorough understanding of Medicaid Behavioral Health Services
- Ensured Medicaid providers are providing relevant and appropriate Medicaid services

- Stayed up to date on Medicaid policy

Assistant Professor of Social Work, Nampa, ID
Adjunct Professor of Social Work, Remote
Northwest Nazarene University

January 2019 – July 2022
July 2022 - Present

- Teach BSW and MSW social work courses at the generalist and specialized level
- Conduct internship liaison duties in the field director role
- Develop and teach new courses as needed
- Be available as a mentor and faculty member as needed for students
- Lead the development of an online program

Adjunct Professor, Remote
Spring Arbor University

November 2017 – December 2023

- Teach social work courses to distance learning students
- Remain in compliance with the CSWE program to educate students on the provided material
- Be available as a mentor and faculty member as needed for students

Homeless Liaison, Nampa, ID
Nampa School District

October 2016 – December 2018

- Responsible for the homeless caseload in the Title I school district (roughly 10% of students/1800 students)
- Provide verification, resources, and case management to students and families
- Work alongside staff, interns, and volunteers
- Supervise MSW and BSW interns

Prevention Management Organization, Cheyenne, WY
Community Prevention Specialist

October 2015 – October 2016

- Managed Laramie County budget, operations and program
- Built relationships to influence community change around substance abuse, tobacco and suicide
- Maintained relationships with key stakeholders, including legislators, elected officials, law enforcement, school districts, community partners
- Stayed up to date with research around substance abuse, tobacco and suicide data
- Influenced policy change to work toward a mission of a healthier Wyoming

Leicht Therapy, Cheyenne, WY
Owner & Therapist

July 2014 – January 2015

- Contract with community organizations providing mental health services
- Maintain relationships with clients needing in-home services
- Work with clients focusing on self-sufficiency and overcoming poverty
- Facilitate community groups focusing on varying topics

Wyoming Family Home Ownership Program, Cheyenne, WY
Executive Director

March 2013 – July 2014

- Manage WYFHOP program in Albany and Laramie County, including budget and operations
- Recruit and train volunteers, managing and developing volunteer roles
- Report to Board of Directors on a monthly basis
- Work closely with community partners, accountant, and founder for growth purposes
- Stay in compliance with HUD, IRS, and various grantors

- Cultivate existing and identify new donor relationships
- Supervise MSW intern

Circles Wyoming, Cheyenne, WY
Community Coordinator

June 2012 – March 2013

- Develop relationships with community agencies, businesses, and potential volunteers
- Plan and facilitate the Circles Initiative within the Cheyenne community
- Work closely in line with the Bridges out of Poverty model
- Assist participants in working from poverty to self-sufficiency
- Recruit and train volunteers that will help participants within the program
- Attend training as needed
- Represent the organization in community meetings through speaking and networking

Love INC of Littleton, Littleton, CO
Clearinghouse Coordinator

January 2010 – May 2010

- Coordinate and supervise daily volunteers for clearinghouse operations
- Maintain and continue to build relationships with area churches
- Manage file flow for the clearinghouse, ensuring client needs are being met
- Work closely with Executive Director to assess needs and develop ministry
- Follow through on established ministries and assess areas for potential growth
- Communicate with community volunteers to assign client needs

Jewish Family Services, Denver, CO
Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Case Manager
Emergency Assistance Case Manager

May 2009 – September 2010

- Screen callers to determine eligibility for emergency rent assistance
- Built relationships with a diverse caseload through assistance and resources
- Helped to coordinate clients during an agency summer lunch program
- Assisted the department with holiday programs for clients
- Attend a variety of social service agencies and community events
- Conducted intake for food pantry clients
- Worked closely with the food pantry manager to ensure effective pantry operations

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS & MEDIA APPEARANCES

Altenbern, S. (2023) 'Bridge out of Poverty' one hour overview. North American Association of Christians in Social Work (NACSW) 73rd Annual Convention, Pittsburgh, PA.

Altenbern, S. (2022) 'Bridges Out of Poverty' training to members of the Idaho Behavioral Health Network (IIBHN)

Baraka, S & Altenbern, S. (2023). Can rich & poor still exist? [Video podcast episode]. George Fox Talks. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F5fcZLM5xVc>

Altenbern, S. (Pending May 2024). 'From frustration to empathy: Working with those of a different socioeconomic status. 2024 Affirming Identities Conference, Juneau, AK.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Member of George Fox University Finance Committee	August 2023 – Present
Member of Doctor of Psychology Dissertation Committee	August 2023 – Present
George Fox University Faculty Wellness Group Leader	August 2023 – December 2023
Membership on the NNU Faculty Hiring Committee	Spring 2019

VOLUNTEER WORK & COMMUNITY EFFORTS

Student Advocacy Advisor **Yearly (2019 – 2024)**

- Facilitated Student Involvement at state legislative LEAD Advocacy Days

Lilly Fellow **2020 - 2021**

- One of ten faculty member representing several disciplines involved in a monthly pedagogy discussion as part of the Lilly Fellowship program for 2020-2021 school year
- Contribute reflective analysis on reading, discussions and application

Idaho Farmers Market Association **2020 - 2021**

- Serve on a task force mobilizing mobile food pantry resources for food deserts
- Collaborate with professionals from the statewide entity and University of Idaho to implement a grant-funded project

Food Bank Volunteer **2020 - 2021**

- Organized food drive at elementary, middle and high school for local food pantry

Idaho Citizens Review Panel (Chair) Region III, Idaho **2016 - 2017**

- Review child welfare policies and procedures
- Lead a panel of 3-5 members as they make recommendations to Department of Health & Welfare staff
- Attend conferences and represent Region III as needed
- Recruit, interview and coordinate new panel members

Wyoming's Road Home (Co-Chair), Statewide/Wyoming **2013 - 2014**

- Creating a 10-year plan to eliminate homelessness in the state of Wyoming

Wyoming Continuum of Care (CoC), Regional & Statewide Board Member **2013 - 2014**

- Working with the Southeast Region of Wyoming and the state of Wyoming to identify resources needed for homeless and transitional housing to ensure there is permanent housing available in all communities.
- Assist with annual Point in Time (PIT) count to assess homeless within Laramie County, Wyoming

Laramie County Community Partnership, Cheyenne, WY Board Member **2012 - 2014**

- Team player that identifies gaps in the community, and brainstorms ways to fill those gaps, whether it be a best-practice model program or strengthening an existing program

Recover Wyoming, Statewide/Wyoming Board Member **2013 - 2014**

- Attend monthly board meetings and contribute to community efforts for Recover Wyoming, to help continue services in Wyoming for those in recovery from addiction