

Maruka J. Rivers, MSW, LCSW

336-456-3576

Rivers.mj@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Master of Social Work (MSW), *Simmons College School of Social Work (Boston, MA)*, 8/2008

Bachelor of Social Work (BSW), *University of North Carolina at Greensboro (Greensboro, NC)*, 5/2006

LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION

North Carolina Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW, Jan 2012-Present)

Certified Clinical Supervisor, NASW-NC (April 2015, Based on 20 class hrs. and written exam)

Career Highlights

- Director level Agency Leadership
- **Certified Clinical Supervisor (NASW-NC Certificate)**
- Social Work Field Education Unit Instructor
- Adjunct faculty, Course Instruction
- **Outpatient psychotherapy(CBT/DBT, MI, Narrative, Reality/Choice)**
- **Crisis Management/ IVC Interviews**
- Staff/Agency Training
- **Presentations (NASW-NC, NCCU Student Affairs)**
- Sole Proprietor/Private Practice

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty/Field Liaison *Simmons College School of Social Work (July 2016-Present)*

- Graduate level instruction to MSW degree seeking students **bridging generalist and clinical Social Work practice**
- Foster a sense of professional **social work identity and ethical responsibility as it relates to diversity and multicultural social work practice**
- Offer students **multiple frameworks for ethical clinical practice** with individuals, families, groups, and communities
- Act as liaison between the school, student, and agency, Support field instructors in providing supervision and feedback to students, Monitor school requirements around CSWE competencies, evaluation, and process recordings

Field Unit Instructor *Urban Ministries of Durham (Aug 2013-Present)*

- Implemented a social work field unit **servicing a cohort of 8-12 social work students** per academic year
- Collaborated with area schools of social work to offer **CSWE competency based education**
- Provided clinical supervision, individually and in a group setting weekly to students in the cohort
- Tailored field experiences to student academic and skill level for individualized placement experiences
- Created **paid summer Social Work Fellowship program** within the organization for former Social Work interns

Adjunct Faculty *Joint Master of Social Work UNC-Greensboro/NCA&T State University (Spring 2012)*

- Graduate level instruction to MSW degree seeking students **on concepts of diversity in Social Work practice**
- Foster a sense of professional **social work identity and ethical responsibility as it relates to diversity and multicultural social work practice**
- Offer students **frameworks for cross-cultural practice** with individuals, families, groups, and communities

Adjunct Faculty *Guilford Technical Community College- Human Services Technology (Fall 2011)*

- Course instruction to Associate Degree seeking students in the Human Service Technology program
- Foster a **foundational sense of professionalism** in beginning human service students
- Introduce concepts of diversity, **basic human behavior**, and **theories of problem formation**

- Familiarize students with the diverse human service professions and **roles of professional helpers**
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PRESENTATIONS

Rivers, M. (2016). *A Critical Analysis of SWK Ethics: Working with Diverse Clients*, North Carolina Central University Social Work Department Durham, NC

Rivers, M. (2015). *Community Based Practice in the Whirlwind of Community Based Settings*. Presentation, NASW-NC Annual Fall Conference Asheville, NC.

Rivers, M. (2010). *Identity Development Amongst LGBT College Students*. Presentation, Student Affairs Retreat Bennett College Greensboro, NC.

SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Contract Therapist *The SEL Group* (August 2016-August 2017)

- Outpatient psychotherapy with a caseload of adults, children, families, and couples
- Diagnosis and treatment planning
- Maintain records for insurance and billing purposes
- Communicate with collateral contacts as needed

Clinical Consultant, *Urban Ministries of Durham* (August 2016-August 2017)

- **Develop and implement** agency wide and department specific **Staff Development** workshops, trainings, and other opportunities
- Offer group and individual clinical supervision for clinical staff of the organization
- Provide consultation on high needs clients, and offer best practice solutions
- Maintain field education program for social work students, provide individual and weekly supervision

Clinical Director, *Urban Ministries of Durham* (August 2013-August 2016)

- **Expand organizational capacity:** Implemented Social Work Field Education Unit to serve more clients via social work services, Streamlined structured assessment protocol for clients entering services, Enhanced hiring process to add new staff in key roles in the organization
- **Clinical and Administrative Supervision:** Clinical supervision of staff and interns, 3 MSW's, 1 MPA, 8-12 interns, 2 Certified Peer Support Specialists; Clinical oversight of Substance Abuse Education/Self-help program and mental health support groups; Administrative supervision of all shelter staff and operations (**~20 staff and 150 clients per night**)
- **Organizational and Community Leadership:** Participate in weekly management team meetings with the Executive Director and other Director level staff, Report program progress to the board of directors, Attend local government meetings to maintain continuity of care and to inform local policy and funding initiatives
- **Training:** Train agency staff in psycho-social issues and best practices in areas of Mental Health, Trauma, Motivational Interviewing and Brief Therapeutic Interventions, Coordinate training with outside agencies as needed for enhanced service delivery
- **Clinical Practice:** Provide direct clinical interventions for high level and vulnerable clients using CBT, DBT, Narrative Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, and SAMHSA Recovery Oriented Principals

Therapist and Sole Proprietor *Conscious Awakening Counseling and Consulting PLLC* (June 2012-August 2013)

- Diagnosis and treatment planning with a caseload of individuals, families, and couples
- Maintain records for insurance and billing purposes
- Marketing and business development as the sole owner of the private practice

Behavioral Health Therapist IV *Monarch NC Crisis Emergency Services Unit* (June 2012-February 2013)

- Multi-Axial assessment and diagnosis of individuals experiencing acute psychiatric and substance abuse emergencies
- Initiate IVC procedures when indicated by acuity and risk factors
- Safety planning and disposition for individuals assessed

- Use therapeutic interventions with individuals on the unit to increase coping skills, insight into their mental illness, and increase capacity to function in a less restrictive setting
- Coordinate consumer care with MCO's and community based providers for after care

Clinical Counselor *North Carolina A & T State University (June 2009-June 2012)*

- Outpatient psychotherapy to a diverse student population with a range of diagnoses
- **Administered standardized assessment tools such as 16PF, Keirsey Temperament, and Life Values Inventory**
- Facilitated therapeutic and psycho-educational groups on campus;
- Collaborated with multidisciplinary team, including a staff psychiatrist
- Referred clients to appropriate campus and community resources to meet holistic needs

Clinical School Social Worker *Phoenix Charter Academy (Boston, MA, September 2008-March 2009)*

- Counseling and crisis intervention to high risk students ages 14-21
- Coordinated psycho-social services for students
- Facilitated psycho-educational groups throughout the school year
- Collaborated with collateral contacts such as, DCF workers, probation officers, parents/guardians, and other mental health professionals
- Created and informed school policy around mental health and behavioral issues