

# Mst. Jen Hirsch, LMSW

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## EDUCATION

- In progress* Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- 2013 Masters of Social Work, University of New England, Portland, ME
- 2007 Bachelors of Science, Design and Environmental Analysis with a concentration in Human Factors and Ergonomics, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

## FUNDING

- 2023 School of Social Work summer research funding. Co-PI. Project: *The State of Anti-Racism in Social Work PhD Program Aims and Objectives: A content analysis*
- 2022 College of Social Science Thompson Endowment Award for graduate student research. PI. Project: *The experiences of grief and wishes of people in the early stages of dementia: a qualitative study.*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2023 - current **Guest Lectures**, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI  
Medicare Policy History for Dr. Horner's SW 420: Social Work and Social Policy II  
Medicare Policy and Program for Dr. Shires' SW 472: Social Work in Health Care
- 2022 - current **Instructor of Record**, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI  
Courses Taught:  
Grief Literacy for Social Work  
Intro to Women's and Gender Studies
- 2021 - current **Faculty Associate**; Arizona State University Online, Phoenix, AZ  
Courses Taught in MSW program:  
Advanced Generalist Practice  
Foundation Practice  
Policy Practice  
Courses Taught at Bachelor's level:  
Social Policy and Advocacy  
Social Policy and Services
- 2021 **Adjunct Faculty**; Aurora University Online, Aurora, IL  
Instructor in Online MSW program  
Courses Taught:  
Oncology Social Work Elective  
Medical Social Work Elective

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2024      **Key Personnel for Improving psychosocial support for mesothelioma caregivers through a participant-centered online support group with PI Amanda Toler Woodward**  
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI  
Contributed to development of grant proposal including theoretical framework for intervention and design of qualitative components.
- 2022      **Project Coordinator for Leveraging music in dementia care with PI Dr. Fei Sun;**  
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI  
Oversee informed consent process for research participants, coordinate communication with participants and keep detailed records.
- 2015      **Pilot Program Clinical Investigator**  
MidMichigan Medical Center, Midland, MI  
Collaborate to build study at hospital site including determining appropriate target study participants; Conduct ACP conversations and all conversations; Co-write final report for hospital site regarding outcomes and recommendations.
- 2013      **Process Improvement Project Team Lead**  
Hospice of Kitsap Co, Silverdale, WA  
Team completed chart review of current agency use of General Inpatient level of care at hospice houses and analysis of best practice guidelines; Wrote report of recommended procedure changes.
- 2006      **Research Assistant for Indoor environmental quality and productivity with PI Alan Hedge**  
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
Gathered, organized, and cleaned air quality data with different time frequencies; Validity testing of sensors.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer Reviewed Journal

- Wentworth, C., Doberneck, D.M., Barnes-Najor, J.V., Smith, M., **Hirsch, J.**, & Reid, M.R. (2024). Feminist community engagement disrupted: Pathways for boundary spanning and engagement during disruption. *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*, 28(3), 59-71
- Hirsch, J.**, DeCarlo, M., Lewis, A., & Walker, C. (2024). Alternative Pathways to Social Work Licensure: A Critical Review and Social Equity Policy Analysis. *Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work*, 21(2), 177-198. <https://doi.org/10.1080/26408066.2023.2284919>
- Shires, D. A., Kattari, L., Hosea, F., **Hirsch, J.**, Mulvaney, M., Matthews, A. K., & Thompson, H. S. (2023). Healthcare experiences among Black and White sexual and gender minority cancer survivors: a

qualitative study. *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*, 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11764-023-01504-z>

Zhang, P., Sun, F., & Hirsch, J. (2023). Perceived barriers and social cultural factors associated with Advanced Care Planning conversations among Chinese American older adults. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 42(10), 2110-2118. <https://doi.org/10.1177/07334648231176142>

Nedjat-Haiem, F. R., Hirsch, J., Currin-McCulloch, J., & Lundquist, M. (2023). Social Workers' Perspectives about Advance Directives: A Qualitative Study. *Patient Education and Counseling*, 111, 107691. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pec.2023.107691>

Marmo, S. & Hirsch, J. (2023). Visitors not welcome: Hospital visitation restrictions and institutional betrayal, *Journal of Policy Practice and Research*, 4(1), 28-40. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42972-022-00063-4>

Hirsch, J. (2022). Book Review: Living through Loss by Nancy R Hooyman, Betty J Kramer, and Sara Sanders, *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 66(6), 839-842. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01634372.2022.2155750>

Hirsch (2021). The Powerlessness of Families, *Journal of Social Work in End-of-Life & Palliative Care*, 17(1), 3-7. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15524256.2021.1881691>

Hirsch, J. (2016). The wish to die: Assisted suicide and mental illness. *Journal of Social Work in End-of-Life & Palliative Care*, 12(3), 231-235. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15524256.2016.1200516>

## **Blog**

Hirsch, J., & Sun, F. (2021, December). Palliative care for people with dementia: Review of an international psychogeriatrics paper: "Achieving consensus and controversy around applicability of palliative care to dementia" by Van Der Steen et al. *IPA Bulletin* 38(4). <https://www.ipa-online.org/UserFiles/file/IPABulletin-Volume38-Issue4-Dec2021.pdf>

Hirsch, J. (2021, November 13). Advocacy opportunity: Improving Access to Mental Health Act. *SWHPN blog*. [https://www.swhpn.org/index.php?option=com\\_dailyplanetblog&view=entry&year=2021&month=10&day=13&id=72:advocacy-opportunity-improving-access-to-mental-health](https://www.swhpn.org/index.php?option=com_dailyplanetblog&view=entry&year=2021&month=10&day=13&id=72:advocacy-opportunity-improving-access-to-mental-health)

## **ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

### **Peer Reviewed Conferences**

Hirsch, J. & Gibson, A. (2024, November 13-16). *Brain Fog and a Shrinking World: Grief and Loss in the Context of Dementia*. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Seattle WA

Hirsch, J., & Gibson, A. (2024, April 11-13). *Grief, Loss, and Information Sharing in the Context of Dementia*. Association for Death Education and Counseling Annual Conference, Houston, TX

Lampe, J., & Hirsch, J. (2023, October 26-29). *Using a doctoral-level program evaluation class to critically evaluate the doctoral program*. Council of Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, GA

Hirsch, J., Sun, F., Cohen, D., Kim, H., Barbieri, S., & LeBlanc, B. (2022, November 2-6). *Recruiting, facilitating, and supporting persons living with dementia as trainers in research*, within symposium titled Enriching our discovery by training for engagement: Methods for patient/person engagement in research. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN

Marmo, S. & Hirsch, J. (2022, April 25-26). *Visitors not welcome! From evidence-based to authority-based practice: The impact of restricted visitation on patients and caregivers during Covid-19*. Social Work Hospice and Palliative Care Network 2022 General Assembly, Santa Fe, NM

Nedjet-Haiem, F., Hirsch, J., & Currin-McCulloch, J. (2022, April 25-26). *A provider survey on documenting advanced directives: A qualitative study with social workers*. Social Work Hospice and Palliative Care Network 2022 General Assembly, Santa Fe, NM

Hirsch, J. (2021, July 16). *The limits of individual autonomy: A case study inspired discussion about family, power and safety*, Social Work Hospice and Palliative Care Network 2021 Virtual Summit July meeting: Ethics and Decision-Making in End-of-Life Care

Hirsch, J., Cogan, E. (2020, October 20). *Moving beyond “provided emotional support”: Introducing Pollin’s Psychosocial Dimensions of Illness*, 55<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting of Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care, virtual.

### **State Conferences**

Hirsch, J. (2024). *The move to a new living environment: Loss and grief in significant life change*. Michigan Assisted Living Association Conference and Dementia Summit; virtual.

Hirsch, J. (2024). *Becoming loss detectives: How to support grievers*. Michigan Assisted Living Association Virtual Conference and Dementia Summit; virtual.

Hirsch, J. (2023, May) *Considering grief in assisted living, with a special focus on residents living with cognitive changes*. Michigan Assisted Living Association Annual Conference and Dementia Summit; Lansing, MI.

Hirsch, J. (2022, May) *Demystifying the dying process for care providers and administrators*. Michigan Assisted Living Association 2022 Virtual Conference & Dementia Summit.

Hirsch, J. (2017, September 29) *Navigating the health care system and community resources*. Michigan Parkinson’s Foundation Annual Conference; Bay City, MI.

### **Continuing Education Presentations**

- Hirsch, J.,** Fix, J, & Lee, J. (2022, March 11 and 18). *Lead with your heart: Supporting people with dementia through grief*. Virtual interactive web seminar through Michigan Assisted Living Association in partnership with National Council of Dementia Minds
- Hirsch, J. (2019, March 14) *Integrating Spiritual Tools into Social Work Practice*. MidMichigan Medical Center; Midland, MI.
- Hirsch, J. (2018, October 18) *Sifting through Muddy Waters: Grief, Depression, and Dementia*. MidMichigan Home Care; Midland, MI.
- Hirsch, J. (2017, January 12) *Death with Dignity: Current Laws and Ethical Considerations*. MidMichigan Home Care; Midland, MI.
- Hirsch, J. (2017, September 29) *Bereavement and Grief*. Woodland Hospice House; Mount Pleasant, MI.
- Hirsch, J. (2017, March 22) *Medical Crisis Counseling Model*. MidMichigan Home Care; Midland, MI.
- Clark, D., **Hirsch, J.** (2016, November 3) *Complicated Grief*. MidMichigan Home Care; Midland, MI
- Hirsch, J.,** Lemoine, P. (2016, August 3) *Advanced Care Planning*. MidMichigan Home Care; Midland, MI.

### **Other Social Work Presentations**

- Hirsch, J.** (2024, November). *Non-death loss and preparatory grief in dementia*. Support team members training; National Council of Dementia Minds; Virtual
- Hirsch, J.,** & Lampe, J. (2023, October). *The state of anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion content in social work PhD program online material: A content analysis*. Lunch and Learn, Michigan State University; East Lansing, MI.
- Matson, B., & **Hirsch, J.** (2023, April). *Social work is social justice: Addressing the ASWB licensing exam*. Lunch and Learn, Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Virtual.
- Cohen, S., **Hirsch, J.,** Walker, C. & Young, K. (2023, February). *Combating the Gatekeeping of Social Work: A #StopASWB Panel*. Social Workers Confronting Racial Justice Conference, Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Virtual.
- Cohen, S. **Hirsch, J.** & Young, K. (2022, October). *Social work is social justice: Disparities with the ASWB licensing exam*. Noontime Knowledge, School of Social Work, University of Alabama; Virtual.

### **POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Peer Reviewed Conferences**

- Woodward, A., Towe, M., **Hirsch, J.,** and White, J. (2023, November 13-16). *Partnering with community on a successful federal funding application for mesothelioma caregivers*. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Seattle WA

Reid, M., Wentworth, C., Barnes-Najor, J., Smith, M., **Hirsch, J.**, & Doberneck, D. (2023, October 4-5) *Feminist community engaged disrupted: Pathways for engaging together during disruptions*. Engagement Scholarship Consortium Conference; East Lansing, MI.

Shi., J., Sun, F., **Hirsch, J.**, Cohen, D., & Kim, Ha-Neul. (2022, November 2-5) *The Efficacy of Music and Dementia Education Project on Health Care Professional Students: Preliminary Outcomes*. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting; Indianapolis, IN.

Hirsch, J. (2022, April 25-26). *Hospice policy advocacy: Understanding structural inequities, changing demographics, and possible policy solutions*. Social Work Hospice and Palliative Care Network General Assembly; Santa Fe, NM. Won 2022 Best Poster: Clinical Practice

## **SERVICE**

### **Conference Reviewer**

2024	CSWE conference abstracts
2024	GSA conference abstracts
2023	GSA conference abstracts

### **Paper Reviewer**

2024	Aging and Mental Health
2024	Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement
2024	Social Work in Health Care Journal

### **Associate Editorial Board**

2022-Present	Social Work in Health Care Journal
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### **Michigan State University**

2024	Member, President's Advisory Committee on Disability Issues
2024	Treasurer, Graduate Student Accessibility & Support Network 2022-2024 Member
2022-Present	Member, Feminist Community Engaged Disrupted Learning Community

2022-Present Co-lead, Disability Reading Group

2022-Present Social Work Department Steward, Graduate Employee Union  
2022-2024, Bargaining Committee and Plank Lead

### **Community**

2022-Present Volunteer, National Council of Dementia Minds

### **Profession**

2024- Present Special Interest Group co-lead, Advanced Illness, Palliative, and End of Life Care, Society for Social Work Research

2023-Present Events Co-coordinate, AGESW Student Committee

2022-2024 Special Interest Group co-lead, Research, Social Work Hospice and Palliative Care Network

2020-2022 Strategic engagement committee, Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network

2018-2020 Item reviewer, Advanced Palliative and Hospice Social Work Certification exam

2018 Item writer, Advanced Palliative and Hospice Social Work Certification exam

### **MidMichigan Health**

2016 Panelist for Schwartz Center Rounds: "The Gift of Timely Conversations: 'It always seems too early, until it's too late.'"

2016 Corporate Performance Management Team: Hospice Referrals and Intake Process

2015 Corporate Performance Management Team: Home Care Timely Initiation of Care

### **LICENSES**

2017 - Present Licensed Master's Social Work (Michigan) – Clinical Specialty - # 6801097338

### **CERTIFICATIONS**

2019 - current Advanced Palliative and Hospice Social Work Certification

2017 - 2019                      Spiritual Care Generalist Certificate  
2016 - 2020                      Advanced Care Planning Certified Facilitator

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

2024                                AGESW Doctoral Student Award  
2018                                MidMichigan Health Top Performer  
2018                                MidMichigan Home Care MVP

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

2022 – Present                National Association of Social Workers  
2021 - Present                Gerontological Society of America  
2021 - Present                Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work  
2018 – Present                Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network

### **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

2016-2019                **Medical Social Worker;** MidMichigan Homecare, Mount Pleasant, MI  
Complete psychosocial assessments in home care, hospice, and palliative care program;  
Engage in crisis intervention, counseling, coaching support, and community resource  
connection; Provide individual, family, and group bereavement supports.

2014-2016                **Medical Social Worker;** MidMichigan Medical Center, Midland, MI  
Discharge planning Med/Onc unit; Provide resource connection and brief counseling  
intervention; Facilitate goals of care discussions and hospice transition conversations.

2013-2014                **Hospice Social Worker;** Hospice of Kitsap County, Silverdale, WA  
Provide social work services to community and hospice house patients; Facilitate  
bereavement support groups; Assist patients in accessing Death with Dignity.

2012-2013                **Hospice Intern;** CHANS Hospice and Volunteers, Brunswick, ME  
Provide bereavement services through telephone contacts and co-facilitate support  
groups; Collaborate to plan, facilitate, and teach hospice volunteer training.

2011-2012                **Social Work Intern;** Cancer Care Center, Sanford, ME  
Complete psychosocial assessments and provide support to outpatient oncology clinic;  
Develop referral process; Manage and grow resource library.