

Education

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

August 2017 – Present

- Doctoral Program Student, School of Social Work
- Research Assistant to Dr. Angie Kennedy, Associate Professor
 - Worked on grounded theory study of young women's violence disclosures, with a focus on conceptualization and data analysis
 - Organized historical texts in preparation for analysis related to the history of eugenics and social welfare
- Research Assistant to Dr. Sacha Klein, Assistant Professor
 - Worked collaboratively on a multidisciplinary research team with Dr. Klein, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and Public Policy Associates on a nation-wide implementation and outcome program evaluation study for the *Teen Connect* Program
 - Responsible for the coordination of survey data collection among multiple child welfare agencies, data entry, preliminary data analysis, and report writing
 - Participated in facilitation of key informant interviews and focus groups
- Research Interests: Deradicalization of social movement organizations, systematic perpetuation of trauma by helping institutions, experiences of injection drug users working in harm reduction initiatives, military/law enforcement/corrections workers' experiences of institutional betrayal and moral injury

Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI

August 2009 – August 2011

- Master of Social Work

May 2006 – April 2008

- Bachelor of Social Work

Work Experience

Therapist/Owner

August 2017 – Present

Betsy Meier Counseling PLLC

- Provide mental health counseling for individuals, families, and groups, with a focus on survivors of trauma, including but not limited to child sexual abuse, sexual assault/rape, domestic violence, and community violence
- Additional areas of specialty include personality disorders, mood disorders, and dissociative disorders

Therapist

January 2016 – August 2016

Cherry Health Heart of the City Counseling Center, Grand Rapids, MI

- Provided therapy to individuals and families, with a focus on survivors of trauma
- Assisted clients in accessing health insurance, supplemental funding from community resources, and access to psychiatric services

Clinical Social Worker

January 2016 – December 2016

Ionia Correctional Facility, Michigan Department of Corrections, Ionia, MI

- Assisted in the creation and implementation of trauma-informed correctional care programming

Elizabeth Meier, LMSW
(616) 430-3134 / meiere13@msu.edu

- Provided direct treatment to male prisoners (at both Level II and Level V maximum security, in segregation and general population units), including individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, psychoeducation, co-morbid substance abuse therapy, evaluation/assessment services, and case management

Therapist

June 2011 – January 2016

YWCA of West Central Michigan, Grand Rapids, MI

- Provided treatment to survivors (adults and children 4 & older) and perpetrators (adult) of domestic violence and sexual trauma
- Advocated for clients across multiple systems, including criminal justice, medical, child welfare/foster care, family court, including providing frequent expert witness testimony
- Facilitated psychoeducational batterers' intervention groups and the support group for woman-identified adult survivors of sexual trauma
- Frequently presented on the effects of domestic violence/sexual trauma on children and domestic violence perpetrator dynamics at trainings and community agencies
- Mentored MSW-level interns
- Strategized ways to improve trauma-informed delivery of support services for survivors and assisted in the implementation of new programming
- As a member of the Committee for Understanding Racial Equity, organized and facilitated internal trainings/events, and assisted in the planning of the racial justice campaign Stand Against Racism

Full-time Graduate Assistant

September 2010 – April 2011

Inclusion and Equity Division, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI

- Worked directly with the Vice President in coordinating activities related to the University Inclusion Implementation Plan
- Worked with a variety of committees including: Gender Identity and Expression, University Climate Study, University MLK Executive Planning, and the Inclusion and Equity Advisory Board

Part-time Graduate Assistant

August 2009 – September 2010

School of Social Work, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI

Outreach Coordinator

June 2008 – March 2010

The Grand Rapids Red Project, Grand Rapids, MI

- Created, implemented, and facilitated community outreach trainings for new volunteers
- Organized and coordinated volunteer participation in outreach events
- Assisted with: grant writing and reporting, implementing the Overdose Intervention and Prevention Training Program, hepatitis C counseling/testing

Program Associate, Adult Viral Hepatitis Prevention and Programming

June 2008 – August 2009; Michigan Department of Community Health, Lansing, MI

- Served on the 15th Annual STD & HIV Conference Planning Committee
- Provided support to the Governor's-appointed Hepatitis C Advisory Task Force and served on its sub-committee, the Syringe Access Work Group

Conference Presentations

- “Understanding Anti-Violence Work Inside/Outside a Feminist Non-Profit Structure,” Panelist, The Revolution will not be Funded: Countering the Power of the Non-Profit Industrial Complex in Grand Rapids: GVSU Change U Activist Assembly, Grand Rapids, MI, February 2015.
- “Catch Them Early: The Role of Prevention Providers in Engaging Young and New Injection Drug Users,” Co-presenter, 10th Annual Michigan Substance Abuse Conference, Detroit, MI, September 2009.
- “Why Can’t We Be Friends? Building Relationships between Local Health Departments and Community-based Organizations,” Co-Presenter, 15th Annual STD & HIV Conference, Kalamazoo, MI, October 2009.

Service/Volunteer Work

July 2017 – Present: Board Member, The Grand Rapids Red Project, Grand Rapids, MI

- Advise, govern, oversee policy and direction, participate in fundraising, and assist with leadership and promotion of the Red Project’s mission to improve health, prevent HIV, and reduce risk.
- Co-chair: Board Governance and Nominating Committee
- Provide clinical supervision to interns and recovery coaches

April 2014 – Present; Volunteer, Partners for a Racism-free Community, Grand Rapids, MI

- Assist in the credentialing of organizations working toward creating an inclusive and racism-free environment

2006 – 2008; 2010 – 2017; Volunteer, The Grand Rapids Red Project, Grand Rapids, MI

- Provided consultation for staff members, including Recovery Coaches, on managing direct client service while maintaining healthy boundaries and promoting self-care
- Co-facilitated the Clean Works Harm Reduction Program Volunteer Training and Street Outreach Workshops
- On-site: Provided needle exchange/safer injection supplies, trained clients in overdose prevention and intervention, provided hepatitis C counseling and testing, educated on disease transmission, provided safer sex education, engaged in street outreach, and completed new client intake assessments as needed.

2006 – 2007; Volunteer, The Network, Grand Rapids, MI

- Co-facilitated LGBTQ youth support group discussions on self-esteem, self-confidence, healthy relationships dynamics, safer sex, identity development, politics, religion, and how to advocate for policy change