

Marcus D. Weathers Jr., Ph.D., CRC, NCC

Mississippi State University
Dept. of Counseling, Higher Education Leadership, Educational Psychology, & Foundations
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EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin–Madison (CACREP Accredited) Madison, WI
Doctor of Philosophy, Rehabilitation Counselor Education August 2025
Dissertation: *Exploring the Reentry Experiences of Black Returning Citizens with Disabilities: An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis*
Advisor: Dr. Timothy Tansey

University of Wisconsin–Madison (CACREP Accredited) Madison, WI
Master of Science, Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling May 2021
Advisor: Dr. Timothy Tansey

University of Dubuque Dubuque, IA
Bachelor of Science, Psychology May 2018
Minor: Sociology
Advisor: Dr. Henry Grubb

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Weathers, M. Jr., Andre, L., & Casado Pérez, J. F. (under review). Listening against the grain: Critical phenomenology for counseling and education research. *Counseling Outcome Research and Evaluation*.

Matkin, K., **Weathers, M. Jr.,** LeBlanc, L., & Kim, J. (under review). Carceral trauma and disability: mapping an intersectional ecology for rehabilitation practice. *Rehabilitation Psychology*.

Fry, H., **Weathers, M. Jr.,** Zhou, K., *Stevenson, S., Zemlak, J.L., Brown, R.L., & Keller, A. (2026). Investigating the factor structure of the 84-item version Ryff scales of psychological well-being for African American women in the United States. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*, (in press). <https://doi.org/10.1177/10436596261459427>

Brehmer, C.E., **Weathers, M., Jr.,** Qin, S., *Walz, S., *Brickl, K., & Tansey, T. (2026). Shifting student attitudes towards individuals with disabilities and previous incarceration experience. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, 64(2), 160-168.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10522263251413798>

Saia, T., Hill, J., & **Weathers, M., Jr.** (2025). Moving from awareness to action: Integrating anti-ableist strategies into the rehabilitation profession. *The Professional Counselor*, 15(3), 214-226. [doi:10.15241/jch.15.3.214](https://doi.org/10.15241/jch.15.3.214)

*Note: *Asterisk denotes student collaboration.*

Isadore, K. M., **Weathers, M., Jr.**, Chen, R., Ma, E., & Schneck, A. K. (2025). Therapeutic outcomes for Black college students with disabilities: A longitudinal analysis of psychological and academic distress. *Journal of Multicultural Counseling and Development*, 53(3), 131-142. doi.org/10.1002/jmcd.12324

Meyer, J., Brinck, E. A., **Weathers, M., Jr.**, Park, S., Qisti, D., Zencir, A., Fosu-Asare, L., Anderson, C. A., & Tansey, T. N. (2025). Vocational rehabilitation outreach to diverse populations: Identifying underserved populations through demographic analysis. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, 62(1), 39-48. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10522263241301196>

Weathers, M., Jr., & Matkin, K. (2024). Have we responded to the call? A 25-year follow-up on multicultural rehabilitation changes. *Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling*, 55(1), 35-50. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1891/JARC-2023-0021>

Kim, J., Park, S., Castruita-Rios, Y., **Weathers, M., Jr.**, Park, M., Inge, K., Riesen, T., Keeton, B., Avellone, L., & Tansey, T. (2024). Customized employment for transition-age youth in state vocational rehabilitation program PY2017-PY2020: Analysis of service outcomes and related factors. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, 60, 281-297. <https://doi.org/10.3233/JVR-240013>

Kim, J., Riesen, T., Inge, K., Keeton, B., **Weathers, M., Jr.**, & Tansey, T. N. (2022). Customized employment as a pathway to competitive integrated employment: An analysis of RSA 911 data of state vocational rehabilitation agencies with the highest use of this intervention. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, 58(1), 89-98. <https://doi.org/10.3233/JVR-221227>

INVITED PUBLICATIONS

Brehmer, C., Brickl, K., Cook, L., Hendon, D., Persson, A., Spivey, L., Tosti, C., Walz, S., **Weathers, M., Jr.**, & Winkler, Z. (2025, July). Serving Justice-Involved Consumers: A Vocational Rehabilitation Toolkit. *Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center for Quality Employment (VRTAC-QE)*. https://tacqe.com/wp-content/uploads/eri-files/toolkit_justice-involved_qe.pdf

Weathers, M., Jr., & Clark, L. (2022, December). Skills Confidence Inventory. *Shirley Ryan Ability Lab*. <https://www.sralab.org/rehabilitation-measures/skills-confidence-inventory>

Weathers, M., Jr., Walton, K., Tittelbach, T., & Tansey, T. (2020, March). Barratt Impulsiveness Scale. *Shirley Ryan Ability Lab*. <https://www.sralab.org/rehabilitation-measures/barratt-impulsiveness-scale>

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- *Hayes, J., *Watts, M., *Fosu-Asare, L., & **Weathers, M., Jr.** (2026). *Triple Jeopardy: An Intersectional Perspective on Trauma, Disability, and Incarceration*. [60-minute oral presentation]. Presented at the National Association of Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- *Showers, C., *Finch, P., & **Weathers, M., Jr.** (2026). *Examining the Revolving Door: How Misalignment of Reentry Services Creates an Epidemic*. [Roundtable discussion]. Presented at the National Association of Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Yoon-Lee, S.W., Khan, A., **Weathers, M., Jr.**, *Pour, F., Chiu, J., Conyers, L., *Cameron, M. (2026). *Research and Reflections Related to HIV and Employment*. [Virtual 60-minute oral presentation]. Presented at the Addressing Career Counseling and Employment Needs of People Living with HIV Webinar hosted by North Carolina Central University and the National Working Positive Coalition.
- *Denney, T., *Tiffin, R. & **Weathers, M., Jr.** (2026). *Missing from the conversation: Exploring training experiences for counselors in rural communities*. [Scientific poster]. Presented at the Association for Rehabilitation, Research, Policy, and Education Conference. San Antonio, TX.

Note: *Asterisk denotes student collaboration.

- Brehmer, C. & **Weathers, M., Jr.** (2025). *Serving Justice-Involved Consumers: A Vocational Rehabilitation Toolkit*. Presented as an online webinar training event for the Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center for Quality Employment.
- Weathers, M., Jr.**, Almusytir, A., Upchurch, S., Salisbury, J., Park, S., Stevenson, S., Tate, A., Kim, J., Moser, E., Anderson, C. A., Tansey, T. N., Brinck, E. A. (2024). *Understanding job retention among recipients of state vocational rehabilitation services: A mixed-methods investigation*. [60-minute oral presentation]. Presented at the National Symposium on Quality Employment. Madison, WI.
- Matkin, K., **Weathers, M., Jr.**, Khan, U., & Baumunk, M. (2023). *Academic ableism: Removing ableism in teaching and supporting disabled students*. [60-minute oral presentation]. Presented at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Diversity Forum. Madison, WI.
- Matkin, K. & **Weathers, M., Jr.** (2023). *Multiculturalism in rehabilitation counseling: where we've been and where we need to go*. [60-minute oral presentation]. Presented at the Annual National Rehabilitation Counselor Association Conference. Little Rock, AR.
- Weathers, M., Jr.**, Park, S., Castruita-Rios, Y., & Brinck, E. (2023). *Engaging transition-age youth with disabilities and families: A single case study*. [Scientific poster]. Presented at the Annual National Association of Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers Conference. Arlington, VA.
- Anderson, C.A., Park, S., Ramirez, M., **Weathers, M., Jr.**, Nierenhausen, E., & Tansey, T.N. (2022). *TECH-Prep: Fostering career pathways in coding for youth of color with IDD*. [Scientific poster]. Presented at the 22nd Annual National Rehabilitation Counselor Educators Conference. San Diego, CA.

Park, S., Tunsirimas, N., Yano, R., & **Weathers, M., Jr.** (2021). *Suggestions for suicide assessment and treatment for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities*. [Virtual 60-minute oral presentation]. Presented at the Annual National Rehabilitation Counselor Educators Conference.

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

Research Consultant

Starkville, MS

Marcus D. Weathers Jr., LLC

August 2025-Present

- Collaborate with educational partners to develop or refine work readiness and soft skills curricula, ensuring they are accessible and tailored to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.
- Develop modules related to workplace communication, problem-solving, teamwork, time management, and STEM-specific skills.
- Integrate inclusive teaching strategies to ensure accessibility for individuals with different disabilities.
- Develop and deliver training for educators, mentors, and employers on how best to support individuals with disabilities in STEM fields.
- Offer recommendations on workplace accommodations and strategies for fostering inclusive environments.
- Implement both formative and summative evaluations to assess the program's effectiveness in increasing participants' exposure to STEM careers.
- Collect feedback from participants, instructors, and employers to refine program design and delivery.
- Advocate for the inclusion of people with disabilities in STEM careers through community workshops, webinars, and presentations.
- Raise awareness about the importance of soft skills in STEM and promote the success stories of people with disabilities who thrive in the field.
- Develop grant proposals to secure additional funding for research and program expansion.
- Provide updates and reports to funding agencies and other stakeholders to ensure transparency and accountability.

Graduate Research Assistant

Madison, WI

University of Wisconsin–Madison

May 2020-August 2025

Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education

- Collaborated with the research team to design and implement a project focused on enhancing work readiness skills for transition-age youth of color with intellectual and developmental disabilities, aiming to address disparities in employment opportunities.
- Assisted in the development of research protocols, data collection tools, and intervention materials tailored to the specific needs and cultural backgrounds of the target population.
- Participated in participant recruitment, screening, and data collection, ensuring adherence to ethical guidelines and informed consent procedures throughout the research project.

- Conducted literature reviews and contributed to the synthesis of existing knowledge on work readiness interventions for individuals with disabilities, integrating cultural competence and inclusive practices into the project's framework.
- Contributed to the coordination and delivery of training sessions and interventions, providing support to participants and facilitating engagement in skill-building activities aimed at enhancing employment prospects and career development.
- Collaborated with community organizations and stakeholders to ensure the project's relevance and impact within the target population, fostering community partnerships and promoting the dissemination of research findings.
- Analyzed and interpreted research data (notably using SPSS & Microsoft Office programs), contributing to the preparation of reports, presentations, and scholarly publications aimed at sharing the project's findings and advancing knowledge in the field of disability employment and vocational training.

COMPETITIVE GRANTS & FUNDING

University Grant: The Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED), Mississippi State University, “*ORED Travel Grant #167*” January 2026-June 2026

Amount: \$1,300

University Grant: Wisconsin Scholarship Hub (WiSH), University of Wisconsin-Madison, “*Student Research Grants Competition–Conference Presentation Funds*”

January 2025-June 2025

Amount: \$2,000

Federal Grant: National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR), “*Merit Switzer Research Fellowship for Doctoral Dissertation Research*”
NIDILRR Grant Number: 90SFGE24000536

September 2024-August 2025

Amount: \$45,000.00

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Conference Award: National Rehabilitation Association, “*Graduate Literary Award*”

September 2025

Amount: \$500

Conference Award: Association for Rehabilitation, Research, Policy, and Education, “*ARRPE Graduate Student Award*”

February 2025

University Award: University of Wisconsin–Madison, “*Fong Chan Award*”

September 2024-May 2025

Amount: \$2,000

Research Fellowship: University of Wisconsin–Madison, “*Innovative Partnership for Advancing Rehabilitation Research & Training (IPARRT) Fellow*” September 2023–August 2025

University Fellowship: University of Wisconsin–Madison, “*School of Education-Graduate Research Scholar Fellow*” September 2019–August 2025

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

Certified Rehabilitation Counselor #521680	2021–Current
Licensed Professional Counselor (WI) #7089-226	2022–Current
National Certified Counselor #1745172	2026–Current
<u>Qualified Mindfulness Facilitator (Brown University)</u>	2026–Current

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor (tenure-track)	Starkville, MS
<i>Mississippi State University</i>	August 2025–Present
<i>Department of Counseling, Higher Education Leadership, Educational Psychology, and Foundations</i>	

- Design and update course syllabi, incorporating evidence-based practices and ensuring alignment with CACREP accreditation standards.
- Provide clear, well-organized lectures, case studies, and group discussions to facilitate student learning.
- Utilize diverse instructional methods (e.g., in-person, online, hybrid) to accommodate diverse learning styles and maximize engagement.
- Create and update course materials (lecture notes, readings, assessments, etc.) aligned with current research and emerging trends in rehabilitation counseling.
- Contribute to the development and revision of the department’s curriculum.
- Hold regular office hours to meet with students for individual consultations and academic guidance.
- Mentor students in research projects, internships, and professional development.
- Provide constructive feedback on assignments, exams, and clinical practice.
- Serve on academic committees (e.g., curriculum development, accreditation, hiring committees) within the department or university.
- Participate in faculty meetings, departmental events, and university-wide initiatives.
- Contribute to the development of departmental and institutional goals, aligning them with broader educational and community needs.

Lead Graduate Instructor	Madison, WI
<i>University of Wisconsin–Madison</i>	September 2022–December 2025
<i>Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education</i>	

- Created and assessed course materials, including syllabi, assignments, and exams, ensuring alignment with learning objectives and academic standards.
- Developed and delivered undergraduate counseling courses focused on theories, techniques, and practical applications in rehabilitation counseling.

- Led and supervised class discussions rooted in multicultural engagement, provided mentorship and guidance to students, and fostered critical thinking and professional development.
- Designed and implemented innovative teaching strategies, such as case studies, role-playing exercises, and experiential learning activities, to enhance student engagement and comprehension.
- Developed and taught graduate-level courses in rehabilitation counseling, covering topics such as foundations in addictions counseling and ethical and professional orientation for counseling professionals.
- Provided leadership and mentorship to graduate students, guiding them in understanding the complexities of working with diverse client populations and addressing multifaceted rehabilitation needs.
- Developed and evaluated comprehensive curriculum materials, including syllabi, course projects, and assessments, ensuring alignment with CACREP standards and best practices.

Teaching Assistant

Madison, WI

University of Wisconsin–Madison

January 2021–December 2025

Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education

- Assisted in the delivery of undergraduate rehabilitation counseling courses, supporting the lead instructor in facilitating class discussions, preparing instructional materials, and grading assignments.
- Contributed to the development and refinement of course materials, including presentations, handouts, and assessments, to ensure clarity and alignment with learning objectives.
- Provided feedback on student assignments and assessments, offering constructive criticism and guidance to support students' academic growth and skill development.
- Collaborated with faculty members and the lead instructor to coordinate and supervise experiential learning opportunities, such as internships and practicum placements, for undergraduate students.
- Assisted in the instruction and delivery of graduate-level rehabilitation counseling courses, providing support to the lead instructor in facilitating class discussions, preparing instructional materials, and evaluating student performance.
- Mentored and guided graduate students in their academic pursuits, offering assistance in understanding advanced rehabilitation counseling theories, interventions, and research methodologies.
- Contributed to the development of course materials, including presentations, seminar activities, and assessment tools, ensuring alignment with the rigor and depth expected at the graduate level.
- Provided comprehensive feedback on graduate students' assignments, thesis projects, and research proposals, aiding in the refinement of scholarly work and the development of advanced counseling skills.
- Collaborated with faculty members and the lead instructor to coordinate and supervise clinical practicum experiences, ensuring graduate students received valuable practical training in rehabilitation counseling settings.

Courses Taught

Mississippi State University – Tenure Track Assistant Professor

Spring 2027

- COE 8363: Psychological Aspects of Disability
- COE 8383: Job Placement in Rehabilitation

Fall 2026

- COE 8373: Medical Aspects of Disability
- COE 8703: Principles of Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Summer 2026

- COE 3313: Rehabilitation Services
- COE 8073: Cultural Foundations in Counseling
- COE 8733: Trauma Counseling Interventions

Spring 2026

- COE 8363: Psychological Aspects of Disability
- COE 8383: Job Placement in Rehabilitation

Fall 2025

- COE 8373: Medical Aspects of Disability
- COE 8703: Principles of Clinical Mental Health Counseling

University of Wisconsin–Madison – Graduate Student Lead Instructor

Fall 2024

- RPSE 500: Foundations of Rehabilitation Psychology
- RPSE 730: Professional Counseling Orientation

Spring 2024

- RPSE 505: Biological, Psychosocial, & Vocational Aspects of Disability
- RPSE 721: Foundations in Addictions Counseling

Fall 2023

- RPSE 505: Biological, Psychosocial, & Vocational Aspects of Disability
- RPSE 730: Professional Counseling Orientation

Spring 2023

- RPSE 335: Sports Psychology

Fall 2022

- RPSE 335: Sports Psychology
- RPSE 125: Health & Rehabilitation Professions

University of Wisconsin–Madison – Graduate Student Teaching Assistant

Spring 2024

- RPSE 135: Incarceration & Disability

Spring 2023

- RPSE 660: Incarceration & Disability
- RPSE 721: Foundations in Addictions Counseling

Fall 2022

- RPSE 730: Professional Counseling Orientation

Spring 2022

- RPSE 125: Introductions to Health & Rehabilitation Professions
- RPSE 505: Biological, Psychosocial, & Vocational Aspects of Disability
- RPSE 721: Foundations in Addictions Counseling

Fall 2021

- RPSE 125: Introductions to Health & Rehabilitation Professions
- RPSE 335: Sports Psychology
- RPSE 500: Foundations of Rehabilitation Psychology
- RPSE 730: Professional Counseling Orientation

Spring 2021

- RPSE 335: Sports Psychology

Selected Guest Lectures

Weathers, M., Jr. (2026, March). *Counseling Formerly Incarcerated Black Men with Disabilities*. CNSL 6770, University of Vermont.

Weathers, M., Jr. (2025, October). *Incarceration and Return to Society*. RPSE 135, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Weathers, M., Jr. (2024, September). *Disability Law Across the Criminal Justice System*. RPSE 135, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Weathers, M., Jr. (2024, June). *Treatment Settings & Treatment Planning*. RPSE 721, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Weathers, M., Jr. (2024, June). *Ethical & Legal Considerations in Addictions Counseling*. RPSE 721, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Weathers, M., Jr. (2024, March). *Disability, Intersectionality, & Inequity*. RPSE 505, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Weathers, M., Jr. (2024, March). *Reentry into Society*. RPSE 135, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Weathers, M., Jr. (2024, March). *Encounters with the Criminal Justice System: School-to-Prison Pipeline*. RPSE 135, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Weathers, M., Jr. (2024, February). *Deinstitutionalization*. RPSE 135, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Weathers, M., Jr. (2024, February). *Disability & the Criminal Justice System*. RPSE 135, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Weathers, M., Jr. (2023, March). *Psychotherapeutic Approaches to Treating Addictions*. RPSE 721, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Practicums and Internships Supervised

Summer 2024

- RPSE 630: Internship in Rehabilitation or Special Education
- RPSE 880: Rehabilitation Counseling Practicum

Spring 2022

- RPSE 630: Internship in Rehabilitation or Special Education
- RPSE 890: Rehabilitation Counseling Practicum II

Fall 2021

- RPSE 890: Rehabilitation Counseling Practicum II

Summer 2021

- RPSE 880: Rehabilitation Counseling Practicum I

Spring 2021

- RPSE 630: Internship in Rehabilitation or Special Education

CLINICAL & PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Madison, WI

Graduate Student Clinical University Supervisor

August 2021–December 2025

- Advised and supervised graduate students in their clinical placements, overseeing their practical training and providing constructive feedback to support their professional growth.
- Established collaborative partnerships with rehabilitation facilities and community organizations, offering students opportunities for hands-on experience and research collaboration.
- Supervised and mentored graduate-level rehabilitation counseling master's students during their clinical practicum experiences, ensuring adherence to ethical guidelines, professional standards, and best practices in counseling.
- Provided individualized supervision, offering constructive feedback and guidance to support students in developing effective counseling techniques, case conceptualization skills, and treatment planning abilities.

- Conducted regular supervision sessions to review client cases, assess student competencies, and facilitate reflective practice to enhance students' clinical skills and professional identity.
- Collaborated with site supervisors and faculty to create meaningful and enriching clinical experiences for students, fostering a comprehensive learning environment within diverse rehabilitation settings.
- Assisted students in navigating challenging clinical situations, addressing ethical dilemmas, and developing strategies for self-care and professional growth in the field of rehabilitation counseling.
- Evaluated students' clinical performance, prepared formal assessments, and provided recommendations for their continued development as rehabilitation counseling professionals.
- Engaged in ongoing professional development, staying abreast of current trends, research, and best practices in rehabilitation counseling while integrating this knowledge into the supervision process for students.

New Beginnings Counseling Center, LLC

Madison, WI

Licensed Professional Counselor Intern

June 2023–May 2024

- Provided individual and group counseling services to diverse client populations, employing evidence-based therapeutic techniques to address a wide range of mental health concerns and life challenges.
- Identified client strengths, limitations, needs, and barriers faced in treatment, service, and accomplishment of goals in accordance with their relevant salient identities.
- Conducted comprehensive assessments and formulated treatment plans tailored to each client's unique needs, fostering a collaborative and client-centered approach to therapy.
- Demonstrated expertise in crisis intervention, offering timely and effective support to clients experiencing acute psychological distress or trauma.
- Established and maintained a strong network of referrals and collaborations with healthcare providers, social service agencies, and community resources to ensure comprehensive care for clients.
- Contributed to the advancement of the counseling profession and ongoing professional development through involvement in professional organizations, advocacy efforts, and participation in continuing education and research activities.

Promoting Recovery from Onset of Psychosis – Journey Mental Health Center Madison, WI

Service Facilitator Intern

August 2021–May 2022

- Conducted comprehensive assessments of clients' needs and developed individualized care plans, collaborating with clients and their support networks to address social, emotional, and practical challenges.
- Advocated for clients by coordinating access to community resources, such as housing assistance, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and vocational training, to support their holistic well-being.
- Facilitated regular client meetings and progress reviews, ensuring ongoing support and monitoring of clients' goals and objectives within the community.

- Collaborated with interdisciplinary teams, including social workers, healthcare providers, and local agencies, to provide integrated and coordinated care for clients with complex needs.
- Managed a caseload of clients, maintaining detailed and accurate records of client interactions, service provision, and progress toward goals in compliance with agency and regulatory standards.
- Advocated for systemic change by identifying gaps in community services and participating in initiatives aimed at improving access to resources for underserved populations.

Yahara House – Journey Mental Health Center

Madison, WI

Service Facilitator Intern

January 2021–May 2021

- Conducted comprehensive assessments of clients' needs and developed individualized care plans, collaborating with clients and their support networks to address social, emotional, and practical challenges.
- Advocated for clients by coordinating access to community resources, such as housing assistance, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and vocational training, to support their holistic well-being.
- Facilitated regular client meetings and progress reviews, ensuring ongoing support and monitoring of clients' goals and objectives within the community.
- Collaborated with interdisciplinary teams, including social workers, healthcare providers, and local agencies, to provide integrated and coordinated care for clients with complex needs.
- Managed a caseload of clients, maintaining detailed and accurate records of client interactions, service provision, and progress toward goals in compliance with agency and regulatory standards.
- Contributed to the development and implementation of client-centered programs and initiatives designed to enhance the quality of care and support for individuals within the community.

Dane County Juvenile Detention Center

Madison, WI

Juvenile Counselor Intern

May 2020–September 2020

- Provided counseling services to incarcerated youth, addressing their mental health needs and offering support during a challenging and isolating period exacerbated by the pandemic.
- Adapted counseling strategies to accommodate the unique challenges posed by the pandemic, such as increased feelings of isolation, anxiety, and limited access to traditional support systems.
- Collaborated with detention center staff to implement mental health programs and coping skills workshops tailored to the specific needs of the youth population during the pandemic.
- Employed tele-counseling and virtual therapy platforms to ensure continuity of care and maintain therapeutic relationships with clients while adhering to safety protocols.

- Advocated for the mental health needs of incarcerated youth, recognizing the heightened impact of the pandemic on their well-being and working to implement additional support measures within the detention center.
- Adapted to evolving safety protocols and public health guidelines, ensuring the delivery of counseling services while prioritizing the health and well-being of both clients and staff.
- Documented and reflected on the unique challenges and opportunities presented by providing counseling services in a juvenile detention center during a global health crisis, contributing to the advancement of knowledge in the field of correctional counseling during times of crisis.

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Professional Service

Odyssey Beyond Bars Academic Mentor, *University of Wisconsin* January 2024-September 2024
 Consulting Reviewer, *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin* January 2023-Present

Conference Service

Technical Assistance Center for Quality Employment (TAC-QE) Student Volunteer May 2024
 Association for Counselor Education & Supervision (ACES) Student Volunteer October 2023
 Technical Assistance Center for Quality Employment (TAC-QE) Student Volunteer June 2023

University Service

School of Education Board of Visitors Department Representative October 2024
 Summer Education Research Program (SERP) Student Mentor June 2023-August 2023
 Dean's Student Graduate Advisory Council September 2019-May 2021
 Resident Assistant August 2014-May 2016

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA)	2021-Present
American Counseling Association (ACA)	2021-Present
Counselors for Social Justice (CSJ)	2021-Present
Association for Counselor Education & Supervision (ACES)	2021-Present
National Rehabilitation Counselors Association (NRCA)	2021-Present
National Association for Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns (NAMRC)	2023-Present
Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health (AC CJH)	2023-Present
National Working Positive Coalition (NWPC)	2024-Present
Southern Association for Counselor Education & Supervision (SACES)	2025-Present
Mississippi Association for Counselor Education & Supervision (MACES)	2025-Present
Mississippi Counseling Association (MCA)	2025-Present