


MINDY L. SWISHER



SUMMARY

Highly qualified LCSW with a passion for professional development and continued learning. Enthusiastic motivator and advocate with an innate ability to connect with others and build trust. Excellent oral and written communication skills. Intuitive problem solver. Effective public speaker with ability to clearly convey information to a diverse population. Trustworthy leader with a strong sense of self accountability.

EXPERIENCE

Office of Children's Services
Protective Services Manager I

Fairbanks, AK
March 2017- Present

- Manage child welfare field office, overseeing 32 employees
- Provide and hold staff accountable to policy, procedures and OCS's practice model
- Collaborate with community stakeholders to produce better outcomes for parents and children
- Demonstrate extensive knowledge of best practice with the OCS policy and procedures
- Participate and lead macro level work groups to develop change management practices

Office of Children's Services
Protective Services Specialist IV

Fairbanks, AK
June 2011 - March 2017

- Provide direct guidance and supervision to 5 initial assessment workers by monitoring their casework and collaborating on critical decision making
- Provide training to staff and community members regarding policy and evidence based practices of the child welfare system
- Testify in CINA court hearings as an expert witness and prepare written reports for legal action
- Participate in work groups to enhance the quality of the services provided to families in Alaska
- Coach with CSBP for the Child Welfare Academy- UAA (2015-present)

Office of Children's Services
Protective Services Specialist II

Fairbanks, AK
June 2006 - June 2011

- Received incoming reports of alleged child abuse and neglect from the community and determined which reports would be assessed further by an initial assessment worker
- Conducted comprehensive interviews to assess safety of children and to determine if further intervention was necessary
- Utilize skills such as family engagement, risk and safety assessment, interviewing, case planning
- Utilize technology through training and community presentations
- Form partnerships with community agencies and Alaska Native Tribes

Camp Fire USA
Camp Manager

Fairbanks, AK
May 2004 – July 2004

- Recruited, trained, and supervised support camp staff and volunteers
- Developed and implemented curriculum for a school-aged camp program
- Provided leadership for youth

Camp Fire USA

Fairbanks, AK

Site Director

Sept. 2001 – May 2004

- Created and implemented an after school program for school-aged children
- Recruited, trained and supervised 2-3 staff members

UAF Upward Bound

Assistant Resident Director

Fairbanks, AK

June 2003 – Aug. 2003

- Mentored and tutored 60 high school students from surrounding Alaskan Native communities
- Implemented rules and established an environment of accountability with students

EDUCATION

University of Alaska Anchorage
Master of Social Work

Graduated May 2013

University of Alaska Fairbanks
Bachelor of Social Work

Graduated May 2006

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES

- Field instructor for BSW students through University of Alaska Fairbanks (2012 – 2017)
- Guest speaker at University of Alaska Fairbanks regarding topics about child abuse and neglect
- Guest trainer for Child Welfare Academy on resiliency and self-care (2014)
- Board member for the Fairbanks Community Mental Health Services (2014)
- Board member for Resource Families Advisory Board (2018-Present)

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2013 Giving Back Award (Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living)
- 2014 Honorable Mention for the Denali Peak Performance Award (State of Alaska)
- License in Clinical Social Work (2018)

TRAININGS

- Batterer's Intervention Program Training (2013)
- Trauma Stewards Training (2013, 2014)
- Child Maltreatment Conference (2010, 2012, 2014, 2016)
- Mindfulness and Mediation Training (2016)
- Leadership for Middle Managers (2017)
- Strengthening Families Training (2018)
- Substance Abuse Training (2018)
- Traditional Healing Practices (2018)

