
Ashley Curry, Ph.D., L.C.S.W.

Erikson Institute
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. June 2014, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
School of Social Service Administration
- M.S.W. May 2003, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL
School of Social Work
Mental Health Concentration
- B.S.W. May 1997, Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, MO
Department of Social Work, cum laude
Junior Year Abroad, University of Plymouth, Plymouth, England
Coursework in International Social Work Practice and Social Welfare Policy

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2014-present Erikson Institute, Chicago, IL
Dean of Students (2022-present)
Director, Online MSW Program (2020-2022)
Associate Clinical Professor (2020-present)
Assistant Clinical Professor (2014-2020)
- 2005-2014 University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, Chicago, IL
Instructor (2007-2014)
Teaching Assistant (2005-2009)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles:

- Curry, A. & Epley, P. (2021). Toward a reflection-centered model of social work education: Implications for enhanced practice. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*, 41(1), 57-76.
- Curry, A. & Epley, P. (2020). "It makes you a healthier professional:" The impact of reflective practice on clinicians' self-care. *Journal of Social Work Education*. DOI: 10.1080/10437797.2020.1817825
- Curry, A. (2020). Envisioning a reflective, relationship-based approach to termination in child welfare: The importance of thinking, feeling, and doing. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 117, 1-13.
- Curry, A. (2019). "If you can't be with this client for some years, don't do it:" Exploring the emotional and relational effects of turnover on youth in the child welfare system. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 99, 374-385.

Havlicek, J., Curry, A., & Villalpando, F. (2018). Youth participation in foster youth advisory boards: Perspectives of facilitators. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 84, 255-270.

Marsh, J.C., Angell, B., Andrews, C., Curry, A. (2012). Client provider relationship and treatment outcome: A systematic review of substance abuse, child welfare, and mental health services research. *Journal of the Society for Social Work Research*, 3(4), 233-267.

Manuscripts under review:

Curry, A. (revised and resubmitted). "The point right now is survival!" Exploring the unintended consequences of lateral turnover and other survivalist staffing strategies on child welfare workers and youth.

Manuscripts in preparation:

Curry, A., Barbre, J., & Epley, P. (in progress). "It's difficult but worth it!" Exploring the challenges and barriers to developing reflective practice capacities in graduate school. For submission to *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*.

Curry, A. (in progress). Getting a "vibe" about workers who "really care:" Exploring meaningful youth-worker relationships in child welfare. For submission to *Child and Family Social Work*.

Research reports:

Curry, A. & Epley, P. (2018). "*We're in a bubble of best practice!*" Exploring the development of reflective practice capacities among child development and social work graduate students. Executive summary & research report, Erikson Institute, Chicago, IL.

Rzepnicki, T.L., Johnson, P.R., Curry, A., Guerrero, E., Nguyen, H., Smagner, J. (2007). Child endangerment risk assessment protocol (CERAP) report. *In Office of the Inspector General, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, Report to the Governor and the General Assembly*. January.

MEDIA

Curry, A. (2020, October). *Who cares about...caseworker turnover?* Episode 2. Podcast: Who Cares About Research?

Curry, A. (2020, January). "*I don't want a new worker. Where's my old worker?*" *Relationship disruptions between young people and their child welfare professionals*. Episode 279. Podcast: inSocialWork (University at Buffalo School of Social Work).

PEER REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Curry, A., & Barbre, J. (2021, November; accepted but deferred due to global pandemic). *Exploring obstacles to developing reflective practice capacities in graduate school*. Annual Conference of the Council of Social Work Education.

Curry, A. (2020, July; accepted but deferred due to global pandemic). *Using reflective supervision seminars to enhance the reflective capacity of graduate students*. Annual International Interdisciplinary Conference on Clinical Supervision.

- Curry, A. (2018, January). *"I don't want a new worker. Where's my old worker?:" Relationship disruptions between young people and their child welfare professionals*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work Research, Washington, DC.
- Curry, A. & Epley, P. (2017, October). *Educating critically reflective social workers for work with children and families*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Council of Social Work Education, Dallas, TX.
- Epley, P. & Curry, A. (2017, October). *Developing reflective practitioners to better serve young children and families*. Paper presented at the Division of Early Childhood Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Portland, OR.
- Curry, A., Havlicek, J., & Peters, C. (2014, January). *Emerging adults in child welfare: Evidence from Illinois*. Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work Research, San Antonio, TX.
- Curry, A. (2014, January). *The effects of multiple professional relationship disruptions on young people nearing emancipation from foster care: A multi-perspective qualitative study*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work Research, San Antonio, TX.
- Marsh, J.C., Angell, B., Andrews, C.M., & Curry, A. (2012, January). *Impact of client-provider relationship on treatment outcomes: A systematic review of substance abuse, child welfare and mental health services research*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work Research, Washington, DC.
- Curry, A., Bickman, L., & Shirk, S. (2009, January). *Advances in the therapeutic relationship for children and adolescents*. Symposium: Off the couch and out of the clinic: Innovations in research on the therapeutic relationship in community-based settings. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work Research, New Orleans, LA.
- Samuels, G.M., & Curry, A. (2007, January). *Foster youth transitioning to adulthood: Interpretive findings from a multi-state mixed-method study*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work Research, San Francisco, CA.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Bromer, J., Curry, A., Ellis, M., & Changuan, E. (2018, September). *Relationship-based family child care provider support: Reflective practice*. Town Square, Webinar, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A. & Epley, P. (2018, March). *"It's difficult, but worth It!:" Exploring students' experiences of developing reflective practice capacities at Erikson*. Erikson Institute, Applied Child Development Seminar, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A. (2018, February). *Through a child's eyes: How to build meaningful relationships with children in your care*. Free Arts for Abused Children of Arizona, Keynote Address, Road to Resilience Partner Agency Conference, Phoenix, AZ.
- Curry, A. (2018, February). *Using reflective practice and reflective supervision to support clinicians doing relationship-based work*. Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital, Department of Psychiatry, Multidisciplinary Case Conference, Chicago, IL.

- Curry, A. & Epley, P. (2017, November). *Institutionalizing reflective practice principles in higher education*. Erikson Institute, Board of Trustees Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A., Havlicek, J., Brake, A., & Darrow, J. (2016, May). *Lived experience in the academy: Professional development panel*. University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, Doctoral Teaching Workshop, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A. (2016, March). *Enhancing MSW students' reflective capacities through reflective supervision*. Erikson Institute, MSW Supervisors' Field Liaison Training, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A. (2020-2014, September). *Crisis intervention and mental health emergencies 101*. Erikson Institute, MSW Students' Field Orientation Training, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A., Kittle, K., Schuurman, E., Summins, M. (2014, January; 2013, November). *From CANNOT to CAN-DO: Bridging new skills and knowledge to manage complex patient behaviors*. Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Nursing Grand Rounds & Nurse Residency Training, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A. (2013, August; 2012, August). *Consult liaison: The role of behavioral health on the medical floor*. Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Intern Training, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A. (2013, July; 2012, July; 2011, July; 2010, July). *Working with patients presenting with acute psychiatric conditions*. Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Department of Psychiatry, Resident Training, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A. (2010, October). *Understanding the proper use of petitions and certificates for patients requiring involuntary psychiatric hospitalization*. Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Department of Psychiatry, Nurse Training, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A., Jones, J., & Guerrero, E. (2008, November). *The joys and challenges of being an instructor*. University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, Doctoral Teaching Workshop, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A., Bird, J.D.P., Darrow, J., Patton, D., & Sacks, T. (2008, October). *Exploring opportunities and challenges for teaching assistants*. University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, Doctoral Teaching Workshop, Chicago, IL.
- Curry, A., Bird, J.D.P., Thurman, T., Blakey, J. (2008, May). *Exploring qualitative methods for social work researchers: Ethnography, case study, and grounded theory*. University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, Doctoral Theory Workshop, Chicago, IL.
- Samuels, G.M., & Curry, A. (2007, May). *Roots and branches of the family tree: Foster youth conceptualize family*. University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, Doctoral Theory Workshop, Chicago, IL.

COURSES

- 2014-2022 Erikson Institute, Chicago, IL
- *Conceptualized and Developed*
 - Foundations of Anti-Oppressive Reflective Practice
 - Proseminar II
 - Proseminar I (with multidisciplinary course development team)

- Working with Individuals, Families, and Groups II
 - *Taught*
 - Proseminar I & II
 - Working with Individuals, Families, and Groups I & II*
 - Biopsychosocial Problems*
 - Advanced Practice with Children, Adolescents, and Adults*
 - Generalist Reflective Practice Supervision Seminar I & II
 - Concentration Reflective Practice Supervision Seminar I & II
 - Child and Family Assessment*
 - Human Development I & II
- *significantly revised course

- 2005-2014 University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, Chicago, IL
- *Conceptualized and Developed*
 - Mental Health Emergencies: Assessment and Crisis Intervention
 - *Taught*
 - Mental Health Emergencies: Assessment and Crisis Intervention
 - Social Intervention: Direct Practice

RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2021-2022 *Erikson Institute Faculty Innovation Fund*
 Erikson Institute, Chicago, IL
Exploring the Importance of Youth-Worker Relationships in Child Welfare
 Award Amount: \$13, 485
- 2019-2020 *Erikson Institute Faculty Innovation Fund*
 Erikson Institute, Chicago, IL
Improving the Effects and Processes of Turnover in Child Welfare: Lessons Learned from Administrators, Workers, and Youth
 Award Amount: \$24, 650
- 2016-2018 *Erikson Institute Faculty Innovation Fund*, Erikson Institute, Chicago, IL
Developing Reflective Practice Capacities for Work with Children and Families (Phase I & II)
 (With Clinical Professor Pamela Epley)
 Award Amount: \$75, 215
- 2016-2017 Erikson Institute Faculty Innovation Fund, Erikson Institute, Chicago, IL
Envisioning Developmentally-Informed Case Managers in Child Welfare: A Pilot Study of Illinois (With Associate Professor Tonya Bibbs)
 Award Amount: \$52, 550
- Child's Perspective of Worker Turnover*
 Award Amount: \$3730

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2019-present Journal of Public Child Welfare (since 2020)
 Children and Youth Services Review (since 2019)
Ad hoc Reviewer

- 2014-present Erikson Institute, Chicago, IL
Chair, Online MSW Program Committee (2021-2022)
Chair, Online MSW Task Force (2020-2021)
Chair, Academic Programs Committee (2020-2022)
Co-chair, MSW Faculty Search Committee (2020-2022)
Faculty Chair, Social Justice Coalition Steering Committee (2016-2020)
Member, MSW Program Review Draft Team (2021-2022)
Co-lead, Comprehensive Exam Preparation Team (2019-2022)
Member, Child Development Curriculum Committee (2019-2022)
Member, MSW Program Committee (2014-2022)
Member, Doctoral Committee (2014-present)
Member, Faculty Council (2014-2022)
Member, Online MSW Task Force (2019-2020)
Member, Academic Programs Committee (2014-2020)
Member, Assessment Committee (2015-2017)
Member, Admissions Committee (2014-2017)
Member, Faculty Search Committee (2014-2017)
- 2016 Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), Annual Conference, Washington, DC
Co-Facilitator, Child and Adolescent Development Special Interest Group (SIG)
- 2010-2014 Loyola University Chicago, School of Social Work, Chicago, IL
Field Instructor
- 2005-2008 University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, Chicago, IL
Student Representative, Doctoral Committee (2005-2008)
Committee Member, Centennial Student Committee (2007)
Co-chair, Student Scholarship Conference Sub-committee (2007)
Consultant, Diversity/Multicultural Conference Sub-committee (2007)
- 2004-2006 National Association of Social Workers (NASW), *Illinois Chapter*
Secretary, Board of Directors (2004-2006)
Co-Chair, Diversity and Cultural Competence Committee (2004-2006)
Committee Member, Child Welfare Network (2004-2006)
Task Force Member, Media Task Force (2004-2006)
Chapter Delegate, National Delegate Assembly (2006)
- 2004-2005 National Network of Social Work Managers (NNSWM)
Contract Administrator (2005)
Committee Member, Conference Planning Committee (2004)

CLINICAL PRACTICE

- 2017-present *Consultant*
 Provide consultation and training to mental health and child welfare agencies.
- 2010-2014 *Clinical Therapist*
 Consult Liaison Psychiatry Team, Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center
 Managed the Consult Liaison (CL) service on the medical floors. Provided clinical assessments, brief supportive psychotherapy, and linkage to inpatient and outpatient treatment; developed safety and stabilization plans; collaborated with collaterals; and provided crisis intervention and

de-escalation to high risk and psychiatrically acute patients. Provided ongoing training and support to nurses and physicians about the needs of medical patients with comorbid psychological issues. Supervised and trained Master's level social work students and post-doctoral psychology fellow. Provided on-going support to team members on the topics of compassion fatigue, vicarious traumatization, and self-care after completing train-the-trainer course in 2011.

- 2006-2016 *Clinical Therapist (on-call registry)*
Emergency Room Crisis Team, Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center
Assessed patients presenting to emergency room at Level 1 trauma center with psychiatric emergencies (suicide risk, violence risk, acute psychosis/mania), psychological distress (depression, anxiety), social issues (child abuse, elder abuse, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, substance abuse), and comorbid medical and mental health issues. Collaborated with attending physician, facilitated admission to appropriate level of care, provided brief supportive psychotherapy, created safety and stabilizations plans, and provided referrals and psycho-educational resources. Provided emotional support to patients' families admitted for life threatening emergencies. Supervised doctoral-level psychology externs and MSW interns.
- 2004 *Therapist*
Social Work p.r.n., Oak Park, IL
Conducted diagnostic assessments, provided crisis intervention, and made referrals for children, adolescents, adults, and families in a psychiatric emergency room at a behavioral health hospital.
- 2003-2005 *Therapist*
PEER Services, Inc., Evanston, IL
Provided psychotherapy to adults within an outpatient substance abuse treatment center. Conducted diagnostic assessments and comprehensive drug and alcohol evaluations; formulated treatment plans; provided crisis intervention; and made referrals to inpatient treatment providers.
- 2003-2005 *Networking Coordinator*
Social Work p.r.n., Oak Park, IL
Coordinated professional development programs for social workers including continuing education workshops/trainings, individual and group clinical supervision programs, and staff cohesion and networking events. Conducted needs assessments and other research projects to determine staffing needs; expanded staffing, training, supervisory, and consultative resources to social work agencies in the greater Chicagoland area; attended conferences, job fairs and exhibits; facilitated informational sessions for prospective staff; and provided community outreach to employers, professional social work organizations, and schools of social work.
- 2002-2003 *Case Manager/Job Coach*
The Marriott Foundation, Chicago, IL
Provided case management, job placement, and employment training to young adults with disabilities placed in a job readiness program.
- 2001-2003 *MSW Intern*
Josselyn Center for Mental Health, Northfield, IL
This 2-year advanced clinical field placement provided a structured psychotherapy training program including didactic seminars, 4 hours/week group psychotherapeutic instruction, and 2 hours/week individual clinical supervision at a community mental health center. Provided psychotherapy to children, adolescents, adults, and families; conducted diagnostic assessments; provided crisis intervention; and participated in multidisciplinary treatment team staffings.

- 2000-2001 *BSW Administrator*
Social Work p.r.n., Oak Park, IL
Oversaw administrative functions of professional social work company.
- 1999-2000 *Lead Clinical Care Coordinator & Crisis Intervention Trainer*
Hallmark Behavioral Health Center, Kansas City, MO
Oversaw case management department within a long-term residential treatment center for adolescents with significant emotional and behavioral problems. Supervised and trained case managers; assisted the Executive Team with developing and implementing programmatic improvements for JCAHO; chaired an on-going Performance Improvement (PI) team for the reduction of seclusions and therapeutic holds; and trained staff in crisis intervention and de-escalation techniques while serving as the organization's Certified SPMCI (Safe Physical Management Crisis Intervention) Trainer. Provided informal counseling, case management, crisis intervention, and support to adolescents and their families; coordinated multidisciplinary treatment plans; and facilitated psycho-educational and skill-building groups.
- 1998-2000 *Independent Living Skills Trainer*
Department of Youth Services, Division of Family Services, Kansas City, MO
Taught a weekly independent living skills course to young adults, ages 16-21; presented materials, facilitated discussion, led activities, and graded assignments.
- 1997-1999 *Program Coordinator*
Samuel G. Smith Family Services, Inc., Kansas City, MO
Oversaw mentoring and family support program of a community-based child and family service agency. Interviewed, hired, and trained mentors/family support workers; assigned caseload; organized in-service trainings; facilitated weekly staffings; monitored documentation; and provided mentoring and family support to children and adolescents in state care. Designed, implemented, and oversaw BRIDGES Transitional Living Program. Provided case management, one-on-one assistance and 24-hour on-call crisis counseling to female youth, ages 17-20, in scattered site apartments; assisted youth in accessing community resources; and facilitated training workshops and weekly support groups. Assisted staff in developing and implementing M-PACT (Mentoring Positive Allies for Change Today) pilot program in an alternative high school which promoted conflict resolution, leadership, and peer-mentoring.
- 1997-1998 *Adolescent Recovery Advisor*
Adolescent Center for Treatment, Olathe, KS
Provided crisis counseling, milieu support, and facilitated educational and skill-building groups to adolescents in an inpatient substance abuse treatment facility.
- 1997 *BSW Intern*
Department of Family Services (DFS), Field Practicum, Marshall, MO
Completed assessments and treatment plans for children and families in state care. Shadowed children service workers on hotline investigations and home visits; shadowed Family Preservation Specialists during in-home sessions; and co-facilitated psycho-educational and support groups for children and parents.
- 1995 *BSW Intern*
Survival Adult Abuse, Inc., Field Observation, Warrensburg, MO
Participated in therapeutic groups and educational training workshops and provided support to residents at a domestic violence shelter.