

Gwen (Gwyneth) Austin

Curriculum Vitae

Personal Details

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POSTAL ADDRESS:

PO BOX 25064,
AUCKLAND 1740.

Nationality: New Zealand and British citizen.

Career Summary

Dates: July 2010 to present.

Employer: Self Employed

Position: Independent Social Work Consultant and Professional Supervisor.

Responsibilities:

- Provision of external supervision to social workers, social work supervisors and managers, mediators and other related professionals
- Provision of group supervision to support workers, middle managers and care professionals
- Provision of mentoring services including individualised observation of practice and provision of immediate feedback
- Training and facilitation of workshops
- Project work, including independent reviews, auditing, policy work and working with organisations to enhance professional capabilities and confidence
- Undertaking Family Court Reports

Dates; April 2005 to June 2010:

Employer; Barnardos New Zealand, Auckland.

Position: Manager, Social Work Services Unit, Auckland

Responsibilities;

- Strategically leading social work teams in high risk work
- Representing Barnardos and building key relationships with stakeholders across sectors
- Business risk assessment and management
- Ensuring service continuity and development

Dates; September 1997 to March 2005:

Employer; Adoption Services and Information Unit Child Youth and Family, Auckland.

Position: Social Work Supervisor.

Responsibilities;

- Developing systems to ensure best professional practice and service delivery to the clients.
- The provision of clinical supervision and professional development plans to social workers.
- Managing inter and intra-agency relationships.
- Developing, managing and reviewing quality assurance and data collection systems.

Dates: February 1997
Employer: University of Hong Kong
Position: Visiting Lecturer

Responsibilities:

- Teaching experienced practitioners on the Masters in Social Science in "Integrative Work with Young People in Trouble" Programme.
- Teaching third year Social Work undergraduates.
- Running day workshops for practice teachers and practitioners from the Department of Social Welfare and the Department of Corrections.

Dates: October 1994 – June 1997,
Employer: School for Policy Studies, Bristol University, England.
Position: Practice Learning Co-ordinator

Responsibilities:

- All aspects of practice placement co-ordination, finding placements, liaison with agencies.
- Facilitating and teaching study groups and individual tutoring.
- Lecturing and research.
- Representing university on committees.
- Training of practice teachers.
- Development of national and international links, for exchange of ideas and practices and possible student exchanges.

Qualifications

- "O" Levels; English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Biology, Physics with Chemistry, Religious Knowledge, History and Art. June 1970.
CSE French. June 1970.
- "A" Levels; Sociology grade A, Economics grade B. June 1972.
- B.A. (Hons) Sociology Upper Second. June 1975.
- B.Phil. in Social Work and C.Q. S.W. June 1983.
- Practice Teacher Award. June 1993.
- Advanced Award in Social Work (specialising in Education and Training). Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work (C.C.E.T.S.W.) July 1997.

Professional Highlights and Transferable Skills

- Achieving a high degree of understanding, and cooperation: with other colleagues, across agencies and professions, to obtain best outcomes for clients.
- Working within different cultural contexts and countries, settings and environments.
- Very experienced and skilled as a practitioner, manager, mentor and practice teacher with excellent conflict management skills whilst maintaining organisations and individual's wellbeing.

- Navigating fear and anxiety, managing risk, reviewing practice/policies by using strong analytical and conceptual skills within a non-judgmental and empowering approach that motivates others.
- Has a commitment to multi-cultural, bicultural, anti-racist and anti-discriminatory policy, theory and practice.
- Maintains professional integrity and commitment to consistently maintaining and improving standards which having the tenacity to make difficult and sometimes unpopular decisions.

Professional membership

Registered Social Worker with a full practicing certificate under the Social Work Registration Act (03).

Full member of the Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Social Workers.

Brief summary of employment before 1994.

- May 1992 - October 1994. Home Office Training Unit, Bristol, England. Specialist practice teacher/probation officer;
- February 1990 - May 1992. Avon Probation Service, Field Probation Officer,
- July 1987 - February 1990. Avon Probation Service. Seconded probation officer, HMP Bristol
- December 1983 - July 1987. Gloucester Probation Service, England. Field Probation Officer.
- January 1980 - August 1981. "New Careers Project", (an alternative to prison scheme) Bristol, Deputy Director and Acting Director.
- March 78 - December 1979. St. Elizabeth's, Richmond Fellowship Hostel, Bristol, England. Assistant Warden

Major Conferences and Training Attended in the last 7years.

- August 2013. Supervision; building strengths and developing competencies. 2 days. Auckland.
- November 2012. Child Abuse and Neglect, Professor David Howe. 1 day seminar. Auckland.
- August 2010. The integrative approach to cross culture practice. Dr Tsang. 1 day. Auckland.
- March 2009. Australian New Zealand Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abuse Conference, "Responses to sexual abuse: safeguarding human rights". Sydney. 3 days.
- 2009. Media Training, 1 day course. Auckland.
- April 2009. "Can we teach these kids to dance? Evolving and implementing development treatment model. Kevin Creeden. Safe. Auckland, 1 day.
- December 2008. Using Outcome Feedback to Improve Effectiveness. Auckland, 1 day.
- November 2008 "Looking forward" Building Resilience in Children and Young People, .Mike Ungar. Auckland, 1 day.
- April 2008. Child Law Conference. Lexus Nexis Professional Development, 2 days. Auckland.
- March 2008. Key Findings in Family Violence Prevention and Strategies for the workplace. Brainwave Trust 1 day. Auckland.
- July 2007. University of New Hampshire, Boston. International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference. 3 days

References.

Available on request