

# LAURIE A. SPENIK

School of Social Work  
College of Health Professions  
The University of Akron  
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## EDUCATION

**Licensed Social Worker, State of Ohio (currently studying for LISW)**

**Master of Social Work, The University of Akron, Akron, OH.**

**Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, The University of Akron, Akron, OH.**

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**July 2016 - Present**

**Community Health Center**

**Mental Health / Chemical Dependency Counselor**

**838 Coburn, Akron, OH**

**Coordinator Touchstone Program for Women with co-occurring disorders - substance abuse and mental health**

Mental Health / Chemical Dependency Counselor - working with clients who are struggling with addictions, dual-diagnoses, and mental health stressors. Utilizing social work practices, such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, and strengths perspective, to increase a stronger level of functioning. Working with individuals, as well as groups, on coping skills, women's empowerment, anger management, relapse prevention, AoD education, and mindfulness skills.

**August 2015-May 2016**

**Summit County Children Services**

**Case Worker - Intern**

**264 S. Arlington, Akron, OH**

Intake services, Ongoing services, Legal department, Court Appearances, Family Team Meetings, Team Decision Meetings, Semi-Annual Reviews, Juvenile Rule 6 meetings, Home visits (alone and shadowing), SACWIS training, CAPMIS training, Activity Log, Family Interaction Center monitoring, Safety Assessment/ Investigation activity logs and implementation, Safety Plans, Care Center, Medical compliancy mandates, Foster care, Independent Living, Human Trafficking training, Disproportionality training, Risk factors in Child Welfare Training, Historical Trauma and Evidence-Based Treatment Strategies training , and Research in the Quality Improvement department.

**January 2014-May 2015**

**Victim Assistance Program**

**Crisis Advocate Intern and Volunteer**

**150 Furnace, Akron, OH**

Training in Akron Police Department's procedures, reports, and policies. Crisis intervention for families who lost loved ones through homicide, accidental, or other ways. Advocacy of victims of all crimes, such as domestic violence, homicide, harassment, burglary, suicide, traffic fatalities, infant deaths, assault, sexual assault, human trafficking, and suicide. Court advocacy; working with families who will need to give testimony, jury advocates, and victims of domestic violence who will see their perpetrator in court. Worked with the Domestic Relations courts, including procedures, training in temporary and permanent protection orders. Implemented a process for the advocates; to be more efficient in their processes. Volunteered at 2 of the Victim Assistance Program Mardi Gras Events.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**August 2016 - Present**

**The University of Akron**

**Part-time Instructor**

**School of Social Work**

**Akron, OH**

**Field Liaison 2018-Present**

Taught Research I for Undergraduate Bachelor of Social Work students. Managed a class of 25 students. Instruct students on Research I, which introduces students to the logic of scientific inquiry, the research process and the relationship between research and social work practice. Provide students with the knowledge to critically evaluate existing social work research, to guide them to understand the principles of process of evaluating practices; and to consider research issues regarding values and ethics within a social work frame of reference.

**August 2014-May 2016**

**The University of Akron**

**Graduate Assistant/ Instructor**

**School of Social Work**

**Akron, OH**

Assisted numerous professors in Research I, Practice Skills I, and Practice Skills Lab I, and worked directly with students to guide them on Research and Practice Skills. Taught Research I independently. Research I – Support Professor Dr. McCollister in classroom and grading. With increased support for the research process; APA guidelines, skills and abilities in research through social work practices. Social work Practice I and Skills Lab for Practice I. Support instructor Ms. Sette and Mr. Davis. Guiding students on social work practice skills, such as communicating, active listening, to ensure better outcomes in their field working with clients.

## **EDUCATION AND RESEARCH PRACTICES**

**August 2014-May 2016**

**The University of Akron**

**School of Social Work, Akron, OH**

Foundation, theories, human behavior, systems, social work policies, and the value of research practices. Concentration, Micro, crisis intervention, research, theories, micro, mezzo, and macro interventions and practices. Psychopathology, DSM-V diagnosis, licensure preparation courses.

**August 2009-December 2013**

**The University of Akron**

**Developmental and Industrial Psychology Department**

Areas of concentration; psychological tests and measures, developmental psychology, sociology, criminology, intro to legal practices, psychology of hate, abnormal psychology, research methods, psychology of small group behavior, industrial/organizational psychology, human relations, death and dying, diversity in American society, psychology and the legal system, and psychology of hate.

**August 2011-December 2013**

**The University of Akron Psychology Department**

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**

Supported Professor, Dr. Bisconti and Doctoral Student Ms. Walker in the research department. Implementing participants, from a research study, into SPSS, collecting, organizing and maintaining data from the participants. Organized the input and specificity of the data into SPSS.

The research study was approved by the IRB and the research conducted is a cross-sectional study to investigate the intersectionality of ageism, sexism, and racism in college-aged women, middle-aged women, and older women.

Supported Professor, Dr. Wessell and Doctoral Student Mr. Dinh, in the Industrial / Organizational Psychology department. Managed Human Participant Research database, conducted numerous experiments with undergraduate students. Collected data to support the STEM research project for multiple studies throughout the country.

The research study was approved by the IRB and the research conducted is to evaluate graduate student teaching performances outcomes, from an undergraduate students perspective, through a positive, negative, or a neutral independent variable.

Supported Dr. Wessell through translation / dictation of voice recordings of a focus group. The research study was approved by the IRB and was to gather information on what defines an ally for the LGBT community.

## **CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAININGS**

American Sign Language

Advocacy skills in Crime Victims training - 40 hours Victim Assistance Academy Training

Ohio Victims Compensation Training

Intensive training- Crisis interventions, homicide, rape, domestic violence, medical examiner, crime scene, death notifications, and Akron Children's Care Center.

Disproportionality training Summit County Children Services (SCCS)

Trauma Informed Therapist

SACWIS and CAPMIS training, HIPPA

Human Trafficking

EMDR - Eye Movement Desensitization reprocessing training

Certified as a National Victims Advocate - Training VAP Academy

MI trained - Motivational Interviewing intervention

## **Memberships**

National Association of Social Workers

Phi Alpha - National Social Work Honor Society

Secretary for Masters of Social Work Student Organization

Psi Chi - The International Psychology Honor Society

Phi Sigma Alpha - The Buchtel Arts and Science Collegiate Honor Society

Golden Key International Honor Society

UAkron Signers - American Sign Language Member

TIFCC- Member of the Summit County Trauma-informed Care Coalition