

PATRICIA DIGBY
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EDUCATION

Master of Social Work, University of Southern Mississippi
Graduation Date: May 1989 GPA 3.62

Bachelor of Business Administration, University of Mississippi
Graduation Date: May 1981. GPA: 3.15

EXPERIENCE

MSW Field Education Director and BSW Instructor, University of Mississippi

Fall 2017 to present.

- Instructed the following courses: Introduction to Social Work; Child Welfare Policy; Human Behavior I, II; Social Work Practice II, III, IV. MSW Field Instruction and Seminar. Classes consisted of classroom and online curriculum.

Training Director, University of Mississippi.

Child Welfare Training Academy, July 2015 to March 2018

- Supervise six Training Specialist, and Administrative staff.
- Manage on-going training for Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services' staff across the state.
- Provide training and curriculum development and review of on-going training.
- Assist Program Director with budget and scope of services of multi-million dollar grant.
- Licensed Master Social Worker-#MS0431

Education and Training Specialist I, University of Mississippi,

Child Welfare Training Academy, March 2012 to July 2015.

- Provided pre-service and on-going training to child welfare professionals.
- Managed multiple projects with adult learners.
- Developed and evaluated competency-based training curriculum.
- Researched topics and reviewed curriculum.
- Monitored MDCPS child Welfare policies.
- Revised and implemented necessary training curriculum adjustments based on strategic reviews.

Division Director, Southern Christian Services to Children and Youth, Inc., June 1996 to March 2012.

- Directed a non-profit statewide special needs adoption program, post adoption support program and therapeutic foster care program. Met licensing standards for state and mental health.
- Supervised three Adoption Specialists and four Therapeutic Foster Care Specialists, seven Permanency Specialists and one recruiter (from Dave Thomas Foundation) to offer recruitment, training, placement and supervision activities.
- Supervised Parent Educator/Supporter staff who worked directly with parents of children who had severe special needs, such as prenatal alcohol exposure.
- Achieved over 400 adoption placements of children with special needs and 30-50 annual placements in therapeutic foster care.
- Developed Mississippi's federal post adoption program with services that included, but were not limited to: crisis intervention, training for adoptive parents and mental health professionals, respite, case management, quarterly newsletter, hotline, etc.
- Administered Development Associate program that organized and completed fund raising activities.
- Led grant development, annual fund raising events and donor participation initiatives.
- Managed a multi-million dollar budget of 2.1 million
- Enacted work through Adopt-Us-Kids for Hurricane Relief on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and other areas in South MS affected by Hurricane Katrina and Rita.

Program Director, Southern Christian Services to Children and Youth, Inc., Therapeutic Girls Home, December 1992 to June 1996.

- Developed and established Harden House Therapeutic Home for Girls, a mental health certified, therapeutic girls' home.
- Hired, trained and supervised all personnel of the girls' home.
- Managed strategy for meeting state licensing, mental health certification and accreditation standards.
- Established and enacted fund raising for the facility.
- Led grant development and implementation from conception through fruition.

Adoption Specialist, Mississippi Department of Human Services, March 1990 to December 1992.

- Recruited and trained prospective adoptive families.
- Placed and supervised children in adoptive placements.
- Evaluated and assessed special needs of children freed for adoption.

Protective Service Worker, Itawamba County Department of Human Services, Child Services Division, September 1985 to March 1990.

- Investigated referrals of child and adult abuse/neglect.
- Provided services for prevention of potential abuse or neglect and services to foster children.

Adjunct Instructor, Itawamba Community College, August 1995 to May 2012.

- Instructed Social Work, Sociology and Marriage and Family Relationships classes to community college students

TRAINING

Certified PATH (Parents as Tender Healers) instructor – 2002 to present
 Lookin' to the Future Conference – 1992 through 2017
 MS Conference on Social Welfare – Ethics – 2017
 National Association of Social Workers – Ethics - 2017
 APHSA Training and Presentation, – 2015
 3-5-7 Model Adoption Preparation – 2013
 Adoption Competency Therapist Training – 2010

Curriculum Development and Training: Lifebook, Substance Abuse in the Family
 Lasting Permanency; Preventing Maltreatment, Disruption and Dissolution, Adoption
 Competency, Licensure Competency, Online Curricula

ACTIVITIES:

North American Council on Adoptable Children
 Child Welfare League of America
 National Association of Social Workers
 American Red Cross Board Member
 Congressional Adoption Angel Award recipient
 Region III Mental Health Commissioner
 Indigenous Outreach International – Ethiopia Mission Trip

PUBLICATIONS:

Fisher, A., Lee, N.Y., Digby, P., & Allen, S. (2021). BSW Student's Descriptions of their Experience of and Learning from an Experiential Exercise on Interpersonal Violence: An Exploration. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*. 41(3), 290-313. doi: 10.1080/08841233.2021.1926402

AWARDS:

Congressional Adoption Angel Award Recipient – 2012
 Pilot Club Community Service Award – 2010

REFERENCES:

Available upon request