

ALENA KEARNEY, Ph.D., LCSW

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I. EDUCATION

Ph.D. Human Sexuality Studies. Widener University. May 2019.

M.Ed. Human Sexuality Studies. Widener University. December 2011.

MSW Social Work. Widener University. August 2009.

BA Sociology. Immaculata University. June 2006.

II. CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Private Practice, Remote

Owner and Sole Proprietor, June 2019 – Present

- Provide telehealth services to adult residents of New Jersey and Pennsylvania (ages 18 and up), using a HIPAA-compliant, synchronous video platform
- Ensure that comprehensive, timely documentation is entered into the electronic health record, in accordance with the standards set forth by state licensing boards
- Experience working with individuals and couples
- Common presenting concerns: mood disorders; anxiety; grief, loss, and life transitions; PTSD/trauma; sexual abuse; compulsive/out-of-control sexual behavior; sexual dysfunction; infidelity; and LGBTQIA+ issues

Rutgers University Correctional Healthcare, Trenton, NJ

Gender Specialist, October 2023 – Present

- Provide individual and group therapy services to incarcerated persons (IPs) within the New Jersey Department of Corrections who identify as transgender or gender non-conforming
- Offer case consultation to staff members of University Correctional Healthcare and the New Jersey Department of Corrections
- Facilitate care conferences for IPs on caseload
- Develop individual and group therapy curricula for implementation as part of a pilot program

Rutgers University Correctional Healthcare, Trenton, NJ

Mental Health Clinician III, September 2013 – Present

- Provide group and individual therapy to adults who have been convicted of sex offenses using evidence-based, cognitive behavioral interventions
- Maintain collateral contacts (e.g., with parole officers) to ensure continuity of care
- Complete intakes with a focus on use of actuarial risk assessments (STATIC-99R, STABLE-2007, ACUTE-2007)
- Conduct special assessments (i.e., Living with Children) as directed by supervisor

Special Treatment Unit, Avenel, NJ

Assistant Social Work Supervisor, November 2012 – February 2015

- Fulfilled all duties associated with the Social Worker I position (see below)
- Mentored and trained individuals assigned to the Social Worker I position
- Participated in a workgroup of the New Jersey Statewide Wellness Committee:
 - Reviewed research related to the implementation of sexuality policies and educational programs in psychiatric facilities
 - Developed suggested best practices for the implementation of sexuality policies and educational programs in New Jersey psychiatric hospitals

Social Worker I, October 2011 – November 2012

- Provided group therapy to adults who were convicted of sex offenses and civilly committed to a secure psychiatric setting
- Facilitated psychoeducational modules (specialties: sexuality education, relationship skills)
- Maintained accurate documentation of client contacts, including progress notes and treatment plans
- Prepared reports related to discharge planning
- Conducted case management activities

Assessment & Treatment Alternatives, Philadelphia, PA

Outpatient Clinician, January 2010 – October 2011

- Provided group therapy to adults who were convicted of sex offenses using evidence-based, cognitive behavioral interventions
- Facilitated specialized groups in the following domains: introduction to treatment, technology-based offenses, maintenance track
- Provided individual therapy to offenders who presented with co-occurring issues (substance abuse concerns, intellectual disabilities, personality disorders, etc.)

Social Work Counseling Services, Chester, PA

Human Sexuality Intern, January 2010 – August 2010

- Provided individual and family therapy to adolescents and adults; common presenting issues included:

- o Anger management concerns
- o Grief and loss
- o Domestic violence/sexual health concerns

The Abramson Center for Jewish Life, North Wales, PA
Social Work Intern, September 2008 – May 2009

- Provided individual and family counseling to residents of a skilled nursing facility
 - o Adjustment to/functioning in long-term care
 - o End-of-life issues
- Participated in admission assessments, MDS assessments, and care conferences

Montgomery County Correctional Facility, Norristown, PA
Social Work Intern, September 2008 – May 2009

- Developed and implemented a weekly peer support group for older inmates
- Completed additional tasks under the supervision of facility personnel:
 - o Parole plans
 - o Mental health assessments, including MICA

Divine Providence Village, Springfield, PA
Social Work Intern, September 2007 – May 2008

- Provided individual and family counseling to women with intellectual disabilities
 - o Behavioral concerns
 - o Admission to residential facility
- Assisted with the development and implementation of a social skills group for six residents. Topics covered:
 - o Identity as women
 - o Building relationships
 - o Setting physical and emotional boundaries

Catholic Social Services, Philadelphia, PA
Social Work Technician I, June 2006 – August 2007

- Coordinated all aspects of the agency's SWAN (Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network) program, including:
 - o Recruitment and training of families willing to adopt children with special emotional, behavioral, and/or physical needs;
 - o Completion of homestudies and child profiles
 - o Completion of child preparation services for eligible clients
 - o Supervision of post-placement and finalization processes; crisis intervention as indicated
 - o Submission of agency billing to the prime contractor in a timely and accurate manner

Family Service of Chester County, West Chester, PA
Case Management Intern, September 2004 – May 2005

- Provided case management services to individuals living with and affected by HIV/AIDS (primarily intake, documentation, and referral)

III. TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Rowan College at Burlington County, Mount Laurel, NJ
Adjunct Instructor, January 2016 – May 2020

- Classes taught:
 - o Human Sexuality (PSY-203)
 - o Principles of Sociology (SOC-101)
- Experience and formal training in online/remote education
- Results of student evaluations available upon request

IV. SCHOLARSHIP

PUBLICATIONS:

Kearney, A.N. (2019). Sexologists' perceptions of sex positivity: A critical discourse analysis. *ProQuest Dissertations Publishing*.

Kearney, A.N. (2015). Special topic: Sex positivity. In B. Satterly & T. Ingersoll (eds.) *Sexuality Concepts for Social Workers and Human Service Professionals*, pp. 310-315. San Diego: Cognella.

PRESENTATIONS:

Presenter: "Supervising LGBT Youth Who Engage in Sexually Abusive Behaviors." *New Jersey Office of Probation Services*. Virtual/live workshop (September 2023).

Presenter: "Information About Gender Diversity and Suggestions for Working with Transgender Individuals Who Sexually Offend." *Rutgers Health CSL/PSL Program Staff Meeting*. Virtual/live workshop (November 2022).

Presenter: "Sexual Slavery." *Gender and World Societies (History 0824), Temple University*. Ambler, PA (October 2022).

Co-Presenter: "Healthy Sexuality." *New Jersey Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers*. Virtual/live workshop (October 2021).

Co-Presenter: “NJDOE Celebrates International Non-Binary Day.” *New Jersey Department of Labor Office of Diversity and Compliance*. Virtual/recorded (June 2021).

Presenter: “Sexologists’ Perceptions of Sex Positivity: Themes from a Critical Discourse Analysis.” *63rd Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality*. Virtual/brief communication (November 2020).

Presenter: “Holidays, Stress, COVID-19, and You: Practical Strategies for Surviving and Thriving.” *The Parsippany-Troy Hills Public Library System*. Virtual/live workshop (October 2020).

Presenter: “Coping with Stress During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” *The Parsippany-Troy Hills Public Library System*. Virtual/recorded (April 2020). Available on YouTube.

Presenter: “Sexual Slavery.” *The Global Crisis (History 0865)*, Temple University. Philadelphia, PA (November 2019).

Presenter: “Understanding Human Trafficking in the United States.” *Global Slavery (History 0861)*, Temple University. Philadelphia, PA (April 2019).

Co-Presenter: “There’s Plenty of Work on the Dark Side: Careers in Treating Sex Offenders.” *Widener University 7th Annual Careers in Sexuality Conference*. Chester, PA (October 2014).

Presenter: “Normality Revisited: Using Our Knowledge of Healthy Sexuality to Assess Fantasies and Behaviors in Our Residents.” *Special Treatment Unit Clinical Supervision*. Avenel, NJ (November 2012).

Presenter: “Reaching Out to Family Members of Adult Sex Offenders: A Proposed Model of Therapeutic Engagement.” *54th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality*. Houston, TX (November 2011).

Co-Presenter: “Say What?: An Exploration of Erotic Transference/Countertransference in the Therapeutic Relationship.” *Widener University Sexuality Symposium*. Chester, PA (April 2010).

HONORS/AWARDS:

2009 inductee, Phi Alpha (national social work honor society)

2008 fellowship recipient, Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education

V. SERVICE

BPO Elks, West Shore Lodge #2257

Elks National Foundation Grants Coordinator, June 2013 – June 2014

- Worked collaboratively with members of lodge committees to identify potential projects for grant funding
- Prepared and submitted grant proposals to the Elks National Foundation

Human Sexuality Student Organization of Widener University, Chester, PA
Conference Chair, January 2011 – December 2011

- Provided human sexuality students with detailed information about relevant educational opportunities (regional, national, and international)
- Facilitated connections between human sexuality students and members of professional communities

VI. LICENSURE/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT)

Licensed Clinical Social Worker

- New Jersey – license #44SC05650400
- Pennsylvania – license #CW021713