

## Andrew Choens, MSW - Résumé

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### **Analytics/DATA SCIENCE EXPERIENCE:**

#### **Adjunct Professor**

#### **Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences**

Albany, NY

Spring 2018 - Present

I teach a sophomore level course titled “Intro to Data”. This course teaches undergraduate students how to answer questions using data. The course uses R to enable students to import, manage, and learn from a wide variety of data sets.

#### **Data Science and Engineering Leader**

#### **Acuitas Health**

Troy, NY

September 2017 - Present

Acuitas is a population health services organization which helps independent primary care providers succeed in value based contracts. I supervise the Department of Data Science and Engineering (DDSE). DDSE is responsible for the entire analytics stack. On the engineering side we are responsible for all of the ETL processes which feed into our data warehouse. On the analytics side, we are responsible for interpreting the data, answering provider questions, and developing statistical and machine learning models which can help our providers improve care for patients.

#### **Healthcare Program Advisor**

#### **PCG Staffing Solutions Organization - New York State Department of Health**

Albany, NY

July 2017 - August 2017

Embedded consultant with the New York State Department of Health. Supervise the evaluation of the State’s diverse care management programs. Includes working with external program evaluators and internal stakeholders to understand the impact and effectiveness of care management programs and how to improve them.

Responsibilities include care management programs administered by the Medicaid Managed Care Plans and Health Homes. Care management programs are an administrative (case management) intervention for people with complex health care needs and high utilization of emergency and inpatient services. Care management programs provide integrated, supportive, and preventative health care services intended to improve participants’ health and well-being while reducing the unnecessary utilization of inpatient and emergency department services.

#### **Accomplishments:**

- Monitor Emergency Department, Inpatient, and Primary Care utilization of Medicaid enrollees who agreed to receive care management services. Includes program improvement and pre-post analyses.
- Supervise the development and reporting of HEDIS quality metrics as listed in New York State’s SPA to State Agency Partners, Health Homes and CMS.
- Redesigned the Care Management Assessment Reporting Tool: [HH CMART3 Specifications \(PDF\)](#).
- Developing data-warehouse structure and ETL tools to combine care management data from a number of different data sources.
- Peer Leader - Epidemiology and Biostatistics Community of Practice (EBCoP). Developed the [Titanic Introduction To R](#) workshops to introduce DOH research scientists to the R programming language. Manage other Learning Pathways workshops.

#### **Healthcare Program Research Manager**

#### **IPRO (Island Peer Review Organization) - New York State Department of Health**

Albany, NY

March 2014 - June 2017

Transferred from IPRO to PCG in July because PCG outbid IPRO for the contract renewal. The change

in employer and job title are misleading. I continue to report to the same DOH staff person and have the same responsibilities.

### **Policy Analyst**

Troy, NY

**Hornby Zeller Associates**

September 2007 - March 2014

Hornby Zeller Associates (HZA) is a consulting firm specializing in child welfare, elder care, juvenile justice, and mental health. As a policy analyst, I was responsible for developing research hypotheses and methodologies. I was also responsible for providing support and mentoring to less experienced staff. Other responsibilities include data collection, management and analysis of research data and dissemination of results.

Example projects:

- Program / Systems Evaluation: Arkansas (IV-E Waiver), West Virginia (Jacob's Law), Alaska (Mental Health Beneficiary Program)
- Time Study: Virginia, Westchester County, Wisconsin
- Accounting & Title IV-E Funding: Wisconsin, Georgia, Mississippi

Accomplishments:

- Started an internship program and supervised two interns.
- Developed templates and processes to automate the production of reports.
- Provided staff training & support for PostgreSQL, SQL Server, R, and SPSS.
- Mentored junior staff in of research methods and application of statistical tests.
- Introduced version control resulting in more reliable, reproducible results.

### **Principal Investigator**

Albany, NY

**Coalition for the Homeless**

September 2006 - June 2007

Principal Investigator for an exploratory research project which established the existence of homeless men and women with borderline intellectual functioning in New York State homeless shelters.

Accomplishments:

- Demonstrated the validity of the Mini Mental Status Exam to identify homeless adults with borderline intellectual functioning.
- Recruited, trained, and supervised a team of BSW students.
- Interviewed over 150 homeless New Yorkers. Successfully identified homeless adults with a historical diagnosis of borderline intellectual functioning.
- Presented results to the Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities<sup>1</sup>.

## **CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCE:**

### **Residential Habilitation Provider**

Albany, NY

**Catholic Charities**

October 2005 - September 2007

Delivered in-home services to Albany residents with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities. Services included family support, socialization skills, and crisis counseling.

### **Advocate / Case Manager**

Troy, NY

**Joseph's House & Shelter**

September 2005 - May 2006

Worked with homeless guests to find housing and income in the form of jobs or social services such as SSD. Addressed other needs on a case-by-case basis. Developed a Guest Satisfaction Survey for the shelter. Surveyed guests in the shelter during the winter of 2005 - 2006.

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<sup>1</sup>Now called the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities.

**Teen Leadership Program Director**

Rhinebeck, NY

**Ramapo for Children**

June 2003 - September 2005

Supervised an outdoor experiential program for teens with developmental disabilities and mental health diagnoses. Responsibilities included staff supervision and program development. Implemented a unique peer support program for high-risk teens using conference calls. Led multi-day canoe trips on Indian Lake in the Adirondacks. Facilitated team building activities including low and high ropes facilitation.

**SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE:**

- **Data Analysis:** R, Python, SAS, SPSS, Excel
- **Data Management:** PostgreSQL, MySQL, Vertica, SQL Server, Access
- **Reproducible Research:** L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Sweave, knitr, Org-Mode

**RECENT PRESENTATIONS:**

- **Health Analytics Summit (HAS):** **Advanced Analytics for Medical Practices: Value-Based Care in the New Normal**
- **R In Epidemiology:** **Connecting Primary Care Providers to their own data**

The above presentations are both available on Youtube and the links work in a digital version of this PDF.

**EDUCATION:**

Master of Social Work

The State University of New York at Albany

Albany, NY 2007

Bachelor of International Affairs

Georgia Institute of Technology

Atlanta, GA 2002

Updated: December 16, 2021

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>Xcode for this document available at: <https://github.com/Choens/Resume/>