

## Andrew Choens, MSW - Résumé

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### RECENT WORK EXPERIENCE:

#### Adjunct Professor

#### Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Albany, NY

Spring 2018 - Present

I teach two undergraduate data classes. These classes teach practical analytical skills, data management, and R programming.

1. "Intro To Data with R" introduces students to the R programming language. The class builds on the knowledge gained in their statistics course and introduces core R programming skills such as data import/management, single table data transformations (filter, group by) and linear/logistic regression.
2. Applied Public Health Data with R builds on the previous course. This course introduces relational data and practical project management skills. The class also introduces decision trees and random forests.

Both classes include readings and discussions which are "Beyond the Numbers". These discussions cover topics intended to broaden students understanding of the opportunities and risks of data in our society. Topics include HIPAA, privacy laws beyond HIPAA, sources of bias in data, ethics in analytics, etc.

#### Consultant/Analyst

#### NYSTEC

Albany, NY

January 2023 - Present

The New York State Technology Enterprise Corporation is a technology consulting firm which provides services and guidance for the Federal and state governments, as well as local government agencies in New England.

I work on the Medicaid System Innovation (MSI) team which provides services for the New York State Medicaid program. In addition to providing direct analytical and consultation services to the client, I help the MSI team improve internal processes, workflows, and outcomes. For example I am working on simplifying report generation and standardizing programming techniques across the team. I also mentor junior staff and provide support on new initiatives which existing staff may not have experience with such as NLP, machine learning, and AI.

#### Engineering Manager, Data

#### Charlie Health

Remote, USA

July 2022 - Present

Charlie Health is a mental health provider which delivers remote-first Intensive Outpatient Care (IOC) to youth and young adults.

I supervised the nascent data engineering team. We supported business operations by democratizing access to Charlie Health's data. We implemented a process to slowly transition the operations team from a workflow driven by Google Sheets, to more automated processes using Snowflake and BI tools such as Tableau. By providing automated access to the data and reporting, we gave the operations team the time they needed to actually lead the operation of the company.

#### Data Science and Engineering Leader

#### Acuitas Health

Troy, NY

September 2017 - June 2022

Acuitas was a population health services organization which helped primary care providers succeed in value based contracts with health insurance companies. As the leader of the Department of Data Science and Engineering I led the implementation of data-driven services and products. The team I led:

- developed a set of process and procedures for the development of high quality, validated, data deliverables including reports and statistical models
- hired a diverse team of analysts and data scientists

- trained the team in our process and procedures
- integrated our workflows with our Health Catalyst partners
- implemented technologies such as Posit Connect on top of the Health Catalyst ecosystem to provide consistent, reproduce results across a diverse range of data products

During my time with Acuitas, we integrated dozens of EHR, billing, and claims systems into a vendor neutral format which enabled us to provide data products to clients regardless of their internal tech stack. Notable data products provided include:

- Federal HEDIS reports and tooling to identify opportunities to improve HEDIS scores
- Models and reports to accurately assess patient HCC scores
- Tools to monitor provider efficiency
- Models to identify high-risk patients such as patients at risk of falling

Although I am proud of the accomplishments listed above, I am even more proud of the team culture we created. The time/cost pressures placed on the Acuitas team were immense. In spite of that reality, we developed a culture of teamwork and trust which helped us support each other through a pandemic and consistently deliver complex data products on aggressive timelines inside a broader climate which not as open or supportive.

#### **Healthcare Program Advisor**

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

Albany, NY

July 2017 - August 2017

PCG won the contract renewal from IPRO. In July all IPRO staff on the contract were moved to PCG to maintain continuity. I continued to report to the same DOH staff person and had the same responsibilities until I left in August.

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

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

Albany, NY

March 2014 - June 2017

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

#### **Policy Analyst**

**Hornby Zeller Associates**

Troy, NY

September 2007 - March 2014

Hornby Zeller Associates (HZA) was a consulting firm specializing in child welfare, elder care, juvenile justice, and mental health.

I was responsible for developing research hypotheses and methodologies and providing support and mentoring to junior staff. Other responsibilities include data collection, management and analysis of research data and dissemination of results.

I also initiated a transition from a workflow based on Access and SPSS to one based on Microsoft SQL Server and R which began the company's transition to reproducible reporting. The end result of this transition was improved accuracy and reduced timelines to report completion.

#### **Principal Investigator**

**Coalition for the Homeless**

Albany, NY

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.

## 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 and addressed other needs on a case-by-case basis.

### 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.

## 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

## REPORTING/PROGRAMMING SKILLS:

- **Data Analysis:** R, Python, Excel, SAS, SPSS
- **Database:** PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQL Server, Vertica, Snowflake
- **BI:** Posit Connect (SHINY), Tableau, Qlik, Excel
- **Reproducible Research/Reporting:**  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , Sweave, knitr, Org-Mode
- **IT:** Linux server/workstation administration

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$\text{\LaTeX}$ code for this document available at: <https://github.com/Choens/Resume/>