

## Andrew Choens, MSW - Resume

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### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Healthcare Program Research Advisor  
(Embedded with New York State  
Department of Health)  
Albany, NY

I PRO

March 2014 - Current

Embedded consultant with the New York State Department of Health. I am responsible for leading a team of analysts in evaluating care management in New York State and advising policy makers on how use these programs to improve the health of vulnerable New Yorkers. This includes working with external evaluators and internal stakeholders to understand and improve the delivery of care management services.

Evaluation responsibilities include Care Management programs administered by the Medicaid Managed Care Plans (plan-led) and Health Homes. Plan-led care management programs are an intervention for people with moderately complex health care needs who may have higher than average utilization of emergency and inpatient services. Health Homes are a more intensive care management program for enrollees with highly complex health care needs. Health Home enrollees have a history of high utilization of emergency, high-cost services. Health Homes provide continuous, integrated health care services to improve participants health and well-being while reducing unnecessary utilization of inpatient and emergency department services.

#### Accomplishments:

- Monitored Emergency Department, Inpatient, and Primary Care utilization of Medicaid enrollees who agreed to receive care management services.
- Monitored HEDIS quality metrics as listed in New York States SPA.
- Developed a novel methodology to measure pre-post enrollee utilization.
- Redesigned the Health Home - Care Management Assessment Reporting Tool.
- Developed the Titanic Introduction To R workshops to introduce DOH research scientists to the R programming language.

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  
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.

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.

**RESEARCH  
TOOLS**

**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

**EDUCATION**

Master of Social Work	The State University of New York	Albany, NY
	at Albany	2007
Bachelor of International Affairs	Georgia Institute of Technology	Atlanta, GA
		2002

Updated: 2016-11-13

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

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