

## Andrew Choens, MSW - Resume

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26 Van Schoick Albany, NY 12208  
andy.choens@gmail.com (518) 275 - 5984

### Policy Analyst | Programmer | Social Worker

#### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Healthcare Program Research Advisor  
Albany, NY  
IPRO  
2014-03-01 - Current  
Health Homes and Health Plans are managed care interventions designed to reduce utilization (cost) and improve outcomes for New York State Medicaid members with complex medical needs. Program participants are provided with a care manager who provides comprehensive case management services. Services range from addressing the members' medical needs to basic living and social needs. The theory is that providing a comprehensive case management will result in improved medical and functional outcomes for complex cases.

Although the model is very promising; processes, outcomes and measurement are poorly understood. As an embedded consultant with the New York State Department of Health, I am responsible for leading a small team of analysts in developing an evaluation of Care Management in New York State and advising policy makers on how to best leverage these programs to improve the health of vulnerable New Yorkers.

Policy Analyst  
Troy, NY  
Hornby Zeller Associates  
September 2007 - Current  
Hornby Zeller Associates (HZA) is a consulting firm specializing in child welfare, elder care, juvenile justice and mental health. As a senior policy analyst, I was responsible for developing research hypotheses and methodology and providing support and mentoring for less experienced staff. Other responsibilities include data collection, structuring and analyzing data and disseminating 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 intern.
- Developed templates and processes making it easier to automate the production of complex reports, improving staff efficiency.
- Provided ongoing training and support for junior staff learning how to manage and structure administrative and research data in tools such as PostgreSQL, SQL Server, R and SPSS.
- Mentored junior staff in of research methods and application of statistical tests.
- Introduced the use of version control for analytic code resulting in more reliable, reproducible results.

*www.hornbyzeller.com*

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:

- Obtained IRB Approval.
- 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>.

*[www.coalitionforthehomeless.org](http://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org)*

**CLINICAL  
EXPERIENCE**

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Residential Habilitation Provider  | Catholic Charities            |
| Albany, NY   | 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   | Joseph's House & Shelter  |
| Troy, NY  | 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. |                           |

*<http://www.josephshousetroy.org>*

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Teen Leadership Program Director  | Ramapo for Children        |
| Rhinebeck, NY   | 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 using conference calls. Led multi-day canoe trips on Indian Lake. Led family / team building activities including low and high ropes facilitation. |                            |

*<http://www.ramapoforchildren.org/>*

**RESEARCH  
TOOLS**

**Data Analysis:** R, SPSS, Excel, Python  
**Data Management:** SQL Server, PostgreSQL, MySQL  
**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        |

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

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

Updated: 2015-02-03