BENO.SUSAN@GMAIL.COM (203) 895-0758

#### PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Licensed Clinical Social Worker with 15 years of social work experience in medical and mental health settings, working with diverse populations in health care, outpatient, and nonprofit settings.

## **EDUCATION**

Master of Social Work May 2008

Southern Connecticut State University

Concentration: Clinical, Children and Families

Research Project: An Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Group Therapy with a Social Skills Focus in Increasing Self-Esteem in Children, Within the Context of an Extended Day Treatment Program

Bachelor of Arts May 2004

Taylor University, Social Work

**Graduated Cum Laude** 

Senior Comprehensive Project: 2004 Market Study, Grace House for Transition and Recovery. Prepared for Affordable Housing Corporation

#### **EXPERIENCE**

### Yale New Haven Health/Smilow Cancer Hospital. • New Haven, CT

Clinical Social Worker October 2017 - Present

- Developing comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment responsive to patient needs, primarily working in the outpatient oncology setting
- Serving as a member of the Social Work Clinical Effectiveness Committee, which serves to develop departmental competency trainings and review departmental policies and procedures
- Tracking and reporting the distribution of grant funds awarded for patient support program
- o Providing information, consultation and professional support to interdisciplinary team members
- Utilizing clinical skills to provide individual, family, and group psychosocial interventions to patients and their caregivers
- Assessing safety for patients and families and providing crisis intervention
- Assisting patients and families to navigate and understand insurance benefits

### Cancer Care, Inc. • Norwalk, CT

Clinical Supervisor

November 2015-October 2017

- Supervised and coordinated all work activities of professional staff, support staff, and MSW interns for the Connecticut regional office
- Worked alongside administrative and grant writing staff to provide support in the presentation, review, and delivery of grants for the Connecticut regional office
- o Evaluated staff performance and productivity through weekly supervision and annual review
- Performed quality assurance tasks through call-monitoring of tele-health system and clinical case review
- Cultivated community partnerships to identify service delivery needs, gaps and trends and develop programming to meet these needs
- Represented the organization at community health events, professional conferences and committees

### Cancer Care, Inc. • Norwalk, CT

Children's Program Coordinator/Oncology Social Worker

April 2015-November 2015

- Conducted assessment of client psychosocial needs and referral to resources including counseling and support groups, financial assistance, educational programs and publications
- Provided supportive counseling to cancer patients and their families, including children
- Answered calls through the organization's Care-line and assisted callers with information and clinical intervention as needed
- Developed workshops and programs in collaboration with community providers to provide education and support for children and families that are affected by cancer

# Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center • Derby, CT

Child First Mental Health and Developmental Clinician

March 2013-March 2015

- Provided intensive, home-based mental health intervention with young children and their parents using relational, parent-child dyadic psychotherapy
- Completed mental health and developmental assessment and consultation within early care providers
- o Identified family service needs and referral to community providers

## Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center • Derby, CT

Per-Diem Clinician

December 2012-March 2013

- Provided evaluation, diagnosis, and psychotherapy treatment for children and their families in an outpatient mental health setting
- Provided services to children with a wide range of mental health disorders including autism, trauma, mood disorder and behavioral issues

#### Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families • Brooklyn, NY

Mental Health/Crisis Intervention Supervisor

June 2010- August 2012

- o Assisted Director in formulation of program goals and managing day-to-day operation of department
- o Coordinated and implemented agency's mental health program at four agency sites
- Provided supervision of mental health, crisis intervention, and substance abuse staff for the foster care program
- Monitored job performance of departmental staff through routine supervision and annual evaluation,
  implementing corrective action plans when required
- Collaborated with community mental health providers regarding the evaluation, treatment, referrals and provision of services for clients

#### Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families • Brooklyn, NY

Mental Health Specialist

October 2008 – May 2010

- Performed comprehensive mental health evaluations of children entering foster care and yearly followup evaluations
- Developed individualized services plans to meet the specific emotional, behavioral, and social needs of clients
- o Provided 24-hour crisis intervention services to children and foster parents served by the agency.
- o Conducted home visits to evaluate the mental health needs of children identified to be in crisis and provide appropriate intervention and support in the foster home
- Provided psycho-education and support including workshop presentations to agency staff and foster parents around mental health diagnoses and child development

#### Mid Fairfield Child Guidance Center • Fairfield CT

Graduate Student Intern

September 2007- May 2008

- Conducted individual, family, and group therapy to children and adolescents with a range of psychiatric presentations
- Provided individual and group treatment within a milieu intensive outpatient program
- Assisted in leading group therapy for at-risk adolescent girls

#### St. Francis Home for Children • New Haven, CT

Intake Coordinator

June 2005 - November 2005

- Coordinated the referral and admission process for children requesting services for three of the agency's programs
- o Facilitated initial interview sessions for all potential clients
- o Completed weekly and monthly census reports for the executive committee and clinical department

## Westport Health Care Center • Westport, CT

**Director of Admissions and Marketing** 

July 2004-April2005

- Coordinated all admissions to the skilled nursing facility with hospital care coordinators and families
- Verified insurance and obtained initial authorizations for incoming residents
- o Conducted tours of the facility to potential clients and families.
- Developed and implemented marketing strategies for the facility
- Assisted social worker with care coordination and discharge planning

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

Connecticut Social Work Oncology Group, Board of Directors (2016-Present)

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAININGS

## **Meaning Centered Psychotherapy**

2018 - Meaning Centered Psychotherapy: 2-day intensive training through Memorial Slone Kettering Cancer Center

### Fordham University - Graduate School of Social Service

2016-2017 - Seminar in Field Instruction (SIFI)

### Rutgers School of Social Work - Office of Continuing Education

2016 – Core Issues in Clinical Supervision, Models and Techniques of Clinical Supervision, Managing Differences and Difficult Supervisees, Legal and Ethical Issues in Clinical Supervision

#### **Hospice Foundation of America**

2016- Managing Conflict/Finding Meaning - Supporting Families at End of Life

#### **PESI**

2015- Advanced Mindfulness Techniques for Clients (6 hours)

#### **Child First**

2014-2015 – Trauma-Focused Child Parent Psychotherapy Training and Clinical Consultation

### **Ackerman Institute for the Family**

2010-2011 - Foundations in Family Therapy (90 hours)

2010-2011 – Live Clinical Supervision (120 hours)

#### The Incredible Years: Parent, Teachers and Children Training Series

January 2010 – Child Group Leader Training (21 hours)

December 2009 – Parent Group Leader Training (21 hours)