

**BECKY L. THOMAS, LISW-S, MSW, ACSW**

The University of Akron  
College of Health Professions  
School of Social Work  
The Polsky Building, Room 415D  
Akron, Ohio 44325-8001  
Phone: 330-972-5682  
Fax: 330-972-5739  
Email: [bthomas@uakron.edu](mailto:bthomas@uakron.edu)

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Candidate, Course work completed and competencies/qualifier completed June, 2012  
Case Western Reserve University  
Mandel School of Applied Sciences, Cleveland, OH

MSW, Master of Social Work, May, 2004  
Joint Masters of Social Work Program  
Cleveland State University/University of Akron, Cleveland, OH

BA, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, December, 1998  
Baldwin Wallace, Berea, OH

**LICENSE**                      State of Ohio  
Licensed Independent Social Worker-Supervisor  
2007  
Ohio, # I0800089

**ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE:**

**The University of Akron – School of Social Work    Akron, OH    August, 2013 to Present**

*Lakewood Coordinator/Instructor*

*Coordinator*

- Actively recruit students to off-site campus
- Advise graduate social work students toward graduation
- Monitor the developmental opportunities in field placement when acting as a faculty liaison
- Deliver scholarly national and state presentations
- Effectively assist applicants through the application process
- Assist in review of applicants for graduate school
- Assist graduate students at Lakewood identify appropriate courses and electives
- Register graduate students at Lakewood for each semester courses

### *Field Coordination*

- Assist Field Coordinator to coordinate and optimize the field experience of graduate level social work students
- Work closely with field coordinator field instructors, faculty, students, and the community to ensure students have an optimal learning environment
- Identify and assist in revision and operationalizing the processes to ensure integration of field experiences into the social work program
- Participate in university and school committees
- Facilitate ongoing field orientation sessions for graduate students entering their field experiences
- Assist CBT Lead Instructor in assisting students in course obtain course appropriate field placement

### *Instructor*

- Develop relevant courses to strengthen and produce well-rounded social workers
- Work to identify scholarly writing opportunities to strengthen the evidence-based practice of social work as a profession
- Teach assigned courses using both effective and creative methods – see below table

### *Contract Professional Hiring Committee Chair*

- Review applicants to determine who met criteria to interview
- Developed and had interview questions approved by University HR and in compliance with EEO standards
- Coordinate interviews of qualified applicants
- Led interviews for qualified applicants
- Completed reference checks
- Worked with committee to outline applicant choices in rank order
- Submitted all necessary material to appropriate channels in compliance with hiring and EEO standards

### *Courses Currently Taught:*

UA SW SWK 7750:646

Fall 2016

UA SW 440 Social Work Practice I

Fall 2016

**Case Western Reserve University – Mandal School of Applied Social Sciences Cleveland, OH  
August 2010 to Present**

### *Adjunct Instructor*

- Continuously identify scholarly writing opportunities to strengthen the evidence-based practice of social work as a profession
- Effectively and creatively teach assigned courses

## TEACHING *History*

### *Courses Previously Taught:*

MSASS Research Methods in Social Work	SASS 426	Summer 2016
UA Advanced Standing Seminar	7750:650	Summer 2016
MSASS Research Methods in Social Work	SASS 426	Spring 2016
UA SW 675 Program Evaluation (Evaluations: 5.96 out of 6.0)		Spring 2016
UA SW 622 Research 1 (Evaluations: 5.8 out of 6.0)		Spring 2016
UA SW 685 Practice Family & Children (Evaluations: 5.9 out of 6.0)		Fall 2015
UA SW 400 Social Work Practice 1 (Evaluations: 5.8 out of 6.0)		Fall 2015
MSASS Research Methods in Social Work	SASS 426	Summer 2015
Advanced Standing Seminar (Evaluations: Instructor: 5.9/Department: 6.0)	7750:650	Summer 2015
Social Work Research Methods I (Evaluations: Instructor: 5.6/Department: 5.0)	7750:622	Spring 2015
Program Evaluation (Evaluations: Instructor: 6.98/Department: 5.0)	7750:675	Spring 2015
MSASS Research Methods in Social Work	SASS 426: 5926	Spring 2015
MSASS Research Methods in Social Work	SASS 426:2014	Summer 2015
Social Welfare and Policy I	SWK 7750:646 (6.5/7.0)	Fall, 2014
Social Work Practice with Families and Children	SWK 7750:685 (6.9/7.0)	Fall, 2014
Advanced Standing Seminar	7750:650	Summer 2014
Social Work Research Methods I	7750:622	Spring 2014
Program Evaluation	7750:675	Spring 2014
MSASS Research Methods in Social Work	SASS 426:2014	Summer 2014
MSASS Research Methods in Social Work	SASS 426:5878	Spring 2014
Social Work Research Methods I	7750:622	Fall, 2013
Social Work Practice with Families and Children	7750:685	Fall, 2013
Advanced Standing Seminar	7750:650	Summer 2013
Home Visits: Safety	7750: 480	Summer 2013 Intercession
Home Visits: Safety	7750: 693	Summer 2013 Intercession
MSASS Research Methods in Social Work	SASS 426:3556	Summer 2013

Social Work Practice in Health Services	7750:456		Spring 2013
Social Work Research Methods I	7750:622		Spring 2013
Advanced Standing Seminar	7750:650		Summer 2012
Home Visits: Safety	7750: 480		Summer 2012 Intercession
Home Visits: Community	7750: 480		Summer 2012 Intercession
Home Visits: Effective Assessments	7750: 480		Summer 2012 Intercession
Home Visits: Safety	7750: 693		Summer 2012 Intercession
Home Visits: Community	7750: 693		Summer 2012 Intercession
Home Visits: Effective Assessments	7750: 693		Summer 2012 Intercession
Introduction to Field Experience	7750:421		Spring 2012
Fundamentals of Research II (Two sections)	7750:623		Spring 2012
Human Behavior and the Social Environment I		7750:427	Fall 2011
Social Work Practice I	7750:401		Fall 2011
Social Work Practice I Skills Lab	7750:405		Fall 2011
Advanced Standing Seminar	7750:650		Summer 2011
Research Methods in Social Work	SASS 426		Summer 2011
Social Work Research II	7750:441		Spring 2011
Social Policy and Delivery	SASS 470		Fall 2010
Social Work Research Methods I	7750:622		Fall 2010
Advanced Standing Seminar	7750:650		Summer 2010
Social Work Practice I	7750:401		Spring 2010
Social Work Practice I Skills Lab	7750:405		Spring 2010
Social Work Practice I	7750:401		Fall 2009
Social Work Practice I Skills Lab	7750:405		Fall 2009
Advanced Standing Seminar	7750:650		Summer 2009
Diversity and Social Work	7750:270		Spring 2009
Social Work Practice IV	7750:404		Spring 2009

Social Work Practice I	7750:401	Fall 2008
Social Work Practice I Skills Lab	7750:405	Fall 2008
Advanced Standing Seminar	7750:650	Summer 2008
Social Work Human Behavior: Large Systems	7750:632	Spring 2008
Dynamics of Racism and Discrimination	7750:611	Fall 2007

### **PRIOR ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE:**

**Case Western Reserve University –University Hospitals Cleveland, OH September 2012 to September, 2015**

*Research Assistant* Principal Investigator: Dr.Sajatovic

- Interview participants of study examining a treatment for bi-polar diagnosis using structured interview outline
- Make follow up calls to schedule/re-schedule sessions with participants

**The University of Akron – School of Social Work Akron, OH August, 2011 to August, 2013**

*Visiting Instructor*

*Field Coordination*

- Assist Field Coordinator to coordinate and optimize the field experience of undergraduate and graduate level social work students
- Work closely with field instructors, faculty, students, and the community to ensure an optimal learning environment
- Create, manage, revise, and operationalize processes to ensure flawless integration of field experiences into the social work program
- Participate in committee representation on undergraduate & graduate level self-study committees; active participation in university, college, and school committees
- Facilitate and refine ongoing field orientation sessions for both undergraduate and graduate students entering their field experiences
- Participate in field instruction orientation sessions for social work practitioners new to field instruction

*Instructor*

- Effectively advise social work students toward graduation
- Effectively monitor the developmental opportunities in field placement when acting as a faculty liaison
- Actively participate in service to the university, college, school, and community

- Deliver scholarly national and state presentations
- Develop relevant courses to strengthen and produce well-rounded social workers
- Continuously identify scholarly writing opportunities to strengthen the evidence-based practice of social work as a profession
- Assist with recruiting of students to off site campus
- Effectively and creatively teach assigned courses

**Case Western Reserve University – Mandal School of Applied Social Sciences Cleveland, OH  
January 2011 to December 2011**

*Research Assistant* Principal Investigator: Dr. Lim

- Identified interested individuals to participate in study
- Work closely with PI to identify needs of study
- Managed dataset to reflect current status of identified participants
- Made follow up calls to interested participants
- Mailed out study questionnaires to interested participants

**Case Western Reserve University – Mandal School of Applied Social Sciences Cleveland, OH  
January 2011 to February 2012**

*Research Interviewer* Principal Investigator: Dr. Beigel

- Identified interested individuals to participate in study
- Work closely with PI to identify needs of study
- Interviewed participants of study using structured interview outline
- Made follow up calls to interested participants

**The University of Akron – School of Social Work Akron, OH August 2007 to August 2011**

*Adjunct Instructor*

- Continuously identify scholarly writing opportunities to strengthen the evidence-based practice of social work as a profession
- Effectively and creatively teach assigned courses

**SUBMITTED MANUSCRIPTS:**

Miller, D. B. & **Thomas, B.** *Psychosocial distress on health quality of life among men with cancer, Social Work Research, NASW.*

**MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS:**

## **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS:**

Career and Graduate School Information	<b>Kent, OH</b>	<b>May, 2016</b>
How to Effectively Educate Veteran Students who Return to College after Service, 2016 BPD Annual Conference	<b>Dallas, TX</b>	<b>March, 2016</b>
Safety in the Community Presentation	<b>Akron, OH</b>	<b>February, 2016</b>
Career and Graduate School Information Fair	<b>Kent, OH</b>	<b>February, 2016</b>
Career and Graduate School Information Presentation	<b>Kent, OH</b>	<b>May, 2015</b>
Meeting Students Where They Are, 2015 BPD Annual Conference	<b>Kansas City, MO</b>	<b>March, 2015</b>
Career and Graduate School Information Fair	<b>Kent, OH</b>	<b>February, 2015</b>
Career and Graduate School Information Fair	<b>Kent, OH</b>	<b>February, 2014</b>
Women Veterans: How to Effectively Meet their Needs, NASW Ohio Chapter, Region 2 (Akron Area)	<b>Akron, OH</b>	<b>November, 2013</b>
It's what we do: The relationship and student success, 2013 Impact and Effectiveness of Developmental Relationships, The Mentoring Institute at UNM	<b>Albuquerque, NM</b>	<b>October, 2013</b>
Worker Safety: Potential Dangers & Protective Measures: Safety for Elders and Staff, Summit Count Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition	<b>Akron, OH</b>	<b>September, 2013</b>
Personal Safety, NASW Ohio Chapter, Region 2 (Akron Area)	<b>Akron, OH</b>	<b>June, 2013</b>
Safety in the Community & Verbal De-Escalation, First Things First Cross Systems Training	<b>Akron, OH</b>	<b>April, 2013</b>

PhD Panel Presentation, National Association of Social Workers Conference  
**Columbus, OH      November, 2012**

Learn about the Role of Military Culture in everyday interactions, University of Akron, Diversity Week  
**Akron, OH      September, 2012**

Overview of Medical Social Work including Medicare and Medicaid  
**Akron, OH      October, 2012**

Spirituality and social support: How they influence quality of life in cancer patients, SSWR  
**Tampa, FL      January 2011**

African American and Caucasian women: Differences in spiritual and social support in experiencing cancer, SSWR  
**Tampa, FL      January 2011**

Health Care Act overview – What it means for us, University Hospitals, Social Workers & Other Healthcare Staff  
**Cleveland, OH      March 2010**

Health Care Reform Act, Case Western Reserve University – Mandal School of Applied Social Sciences MSASS, MSASS staff & students  
**Cleveland, OH      December, 2009**

**INVITED POSTER RESENTATIONS:**

Students helping students: The impact of social work on student wellness, Building Healthy Academic Communities Consortium  
**Columbus, OH      April 2013**

African American & Caucasian women: Differences in spiritual & social support in experiencing cancer (Poster session P2: P2-30), APOS 9th Annual Conference  
**Miami, FL      23-25 February 2012**

Spirituality & social support: How they influence quality of life in cancer patients (Poster session P2: P2-31), APOS 9th Annual Conference  
**Miami, FL      23-25 February 2012**

Communication, decision making, and health-related quality of life in Chinese- and Korean-American breast cancer survivors (Poster session 1: P1-71), APOS 9th Annual Conference  
**Miami, FL      23-25 February 2012**



## **SERVICE**

2013 to present      *Reviewer* – for Sage Publications for various textbooks/books related to social worker specifically child welfare  
2012                      *Student Reviewer* – for *Perspectives on Social Work Journal*

## **SCHOOL ASSIGNMENTS/COMMITTEES**

2014 to present *Member* – Veterans’ Steering Committee, The University of Akron  
2012 to present *Joint Chair* – MSW Curriculum Committee  
2012                      *Member* - Interprofessional Education (IPE) Committee

## **AWARDS and CERTIFICATES**

Michigan Center for African American Aging (MCUAAAR) fellow  
Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW) certified

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

*Member in Good Standing*      National Association of Social Workers (NASW)  
*Member in Good Standing*      Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage & Family Therapist Board

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Department of Veterans’ Affairs (VA), Home Based Care Program, Cleveland, OH**  
**October 2008 – August 2011**

*Clinical Social Worker*

- Assisted home bound veterans with various needs maintain in their homes as long as possible without going into a more intensive care setting
- Participated in weekly interdisciplinary meetings
- Conducted psycho-assessments, cognitive and depressive screenings and other safety screenings as needed
- Assisted in coordinating care of veterans with team psychologist
- Served as field instructor to MSW level social work students
- Advocated and coordinated linkages with appropriate VA and community service providers/agencies as needed by clients
- Provided psycho-education to veterans and/or caregivers on various topics.
- Collaborated with treatment team members to ensure continuity of care and timely service delivery

**Lorain County Children Services (LCCS), Family Based Care Department, Lorain, OH**  
**November 2005 – October 2008**

*Supervisor, Foster Homes*

- Direct supervision of staff of 7
- Ensured licensed foster homes and foster/adoptive homes remained in compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations
- Completed performance evaluations on staff;
- Held monthly departmental meetings
- Revised and assisted in development of procedures to ensure continued compliance with current legislation
- Identified new trainers to utilize
- Served on two committees that reviewed need of agency to obtain and/or maintain custody of children as well as to develop appropriate treatment options for children involved with multiple agencies
- Trained interested individuals to become licensed foster/adoptive caregivers

**Cuyahoga County Department of Children & Family Services, Cleveland, OH**  
**August 2001 – November 2005**

*Senior Training Officer*

- Identified new trainers to utilize
- Served on statewide Child Welfare program Evaluation Committee to evaluate training program for child welfare staff
- Assisted in organizing and managing training for licensed foster/adoptive parents through agency
- Developed and trained curriculum on federal and state legislation for workers in child protective service (CPS) agency

**Cuyahoga Community College/Center for Health Affairs, Cleveland, OH**  
**November 2000 – August 2001**

*Mentor Coordinator (Grant Funded position)/Instructor*  
*Part Time Faculty: Jan. 01 - Aug. 01*

- Developed and trained program participants on cultural diversity in the workplace and coordinated training for staff
- Identified and developed agreements with organizations around greater Cleveland to participate in a grant funded program educating welfare recipients to obtain job skills in form of certificate training program in hospitality/service work area
- Monitored program participants for up to six months after completion of training through start of new employment

**Early Start Program – Murtis H. Taylor Multi-Service Center, Cleveland, OH**  
**September 2000 – November 2000**

*Early Start Case Manager*

- Maintained caseload of families
- Enrolled qualified families into federal and state early childhood programs
- Completed weekly home visits on families
- Monitored child development through use of standardized child development tools
- Completed monthly reports to review progress and enrollment of families in program

**Cleveland Christian Home, Cleveland, OH**

**August 1999 – August 2000**

*Unit Supervisor*

- Ensured state ratio maintained for staff to child in residential facility
- Ensured staff received necessary training to remain in compliance with state law
- Assisted in facilitation of identified treatment plans of residents
- Participated in multidisciplinary team meetings on weekly basis

**Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland CEOGC: Head Start Program:**  
**Louis Stokes Center, Cleveland, OH**

**December 1994 – August 1999**

*Family Service Worker/Acting Site Administrator* (February 1998 – August 1999)

- Maintained caseload of 70+ families
- Ensured enrolled families remained qualified to remain part of federal and state early childhood programs