# SHERI OMENS KELFER, LCSW, BCD

1988

University of Southern California

#### Master of Social Work

■ Mental Health Concentration

Education

California State University, Northridge

#### **Bachelor of Arts**

- Child Development/Child Mental Health Specialist
- Graduated with Cum Laude honors

Professional Licenses 2004

1986

Los Angeles, California

**Board Certified Diplomat** 

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1990 Los Angeles, California

**Licensed Clinical Social Worker** LCS 15221

# Professional Experience

1989 - Present

Kelfer and Associates, Inc.

Encino, California

# Clinical Social Worker/Child Development Specialist/Psychotherapist

■ Provide individual, family, couple, and group therapy with children, adolescents, and adults. Present workshops/seminars and consult for parents, professionals, and paraprofessionals. Supervise registered associate clinical social workers. Perform assessments and short-term treatment for EAP. Produce and distribute newsletter for parents. Interviewed on 97.1 FM and KFI AM. Focus areas include play therapy, parenting skills, trauma, school problems, and issues such as sexual, physical and emotional abuse, separation/divorce, chronic illness, and life transitions.

1998 - Present

University of Southern California

LA, California

### **Adjunct Professor**

■ Teach Practice I (SOWK 543), Practice II (SOWK 545), Clinical Practice in Mental Health Settings – Children (SOWK 645) in the Mental Health Concentration, Advanced Clinical Theory and Practice with Children and Adolescents (SOWK 601) and Advanced Clinical Theory and Practice with Families (SOWK 602) in the Children and Family Concentration), Play Therapy with Children and Adolescents (SOWK 675), and Adult Psychopathology (SOWK 612) in the Graduate School of Social Work. Impart clinical social work knowledge while students learn theory, practice theory and practical techniques. Assigned as Lead professor for SOWK 602 and SOWK 645. Contribute to committees and curriculum development. Interviewed and lectured for the Virtual Academic Center. Created, teach and lead faculty for on-line Play Therapy course in the Virtual Academic Center.

1994 - 2000 Options House Hollywood, California

# **Clinical Director**

Designed and implemented counseling and behavioral programs for crisis shelter and long-term residential facility for adolescents. Supervised and coordinated with Program Directors, psychology and social work interns. Organized and presented in-service training for multi-disciplinary team. Lead weekly clinical case conference. Collaborated with team and provided clinical insight for training manual to assist adults, who work with at-risk youth, identify characteristics and prevent runaway behavior. Educated LAPD regarding interactions with homeless youth. Provided field instruction for USC and CSULB, graduate schools of social work.

1989 - 1992 SFV Child Guidance Clinic Northridge, California

## **Psychiatric Social Worker/Coordinator**

Northpoint Day Treatment

■ Accountable for the management of severely emotionally disturbed children and their multi-disciplinary treatment team. Provided individual, family, and group therapy to children, adolescents and their families. Coordinated services with social workers, probation officers, and foster parents. Performed intakes and crisis intervention. Supervised social work and psychology interns. Responsible for quality assurance of documentation.

1988 - 1989 Aviva Center Hollywood, California

#### **Psychiatric Social Worker/Therapist**

■ Responsible for the case management of severely emotionally disturbed adolescent girls in residential placement. Treated clients using individual, family, and group modalities. Consulted with a multi-disciplinary team to design and

implement treatment plans. Co-facilitated a sexual molestation and family loss group. Liasoned between adolescents and their county workers.

# Professional Activities

# 1991-present Provide training, seminars and workshops

- "The Whys and Hows of Children's Behavior"
- "Surviving Adolescence"
- "Temper Tantrums"
- "Becoming Parents"
- "Identifying and Helping Children With Special Needs"
- "Play Therapy" (USC Virtual Academic Center-2011)
- "Group Therapy with Children" (USC Virtual Academic Center-2011)
- "Working with Children with Disruptive Behavior Disorders" (USC Virtual Academic Center-2011)
- "Fears and Phobias in Children and Adolescents Effective Assessment and Treatment" (Cross Country Education-2008)
- "Trends in Social Work Practice" (USC-2005)
- "Group Work with Children" (El Nido Family Services-2004)
- "Sexual Abuse: What Educators Need to Know" (University of Judaism—2004)
- "Civil Rights and Social Work" (USC-2004)
- "Clinical Application of Crisis/Trauma Work with Individuals" (USC-2002)
- "Separation/Divorce/Blended Families" (University of Judaism–2000)
- "Working with the Traumatized Adolescent" (Aviva Center–2000)
- "Working With Adolescents" (Del Amo Hospital-1999)
- "Mental Health Issues of High Risk Youth" (Children's Hospital, LA–1999)
- "Working with Children" (USC–1999)
- "Maintaining Professional Boundaries" (Children's Hospital, L -1999)
- "Risk Management with Children and Adolescents" (USC 1998)
- "Phobias vs. Fears: How to Assess and Provide Treatment"
- "Self-esteem"
- "Sleeping Through the Night"
- "Post Traumatic Stress"
- "Moral Development in Children"
- "Living with IBD" (Crohn's and Colitis Foundatio -1993)
- "Using Psychoanalytic and Behavioral Family Therapy When Treating Severely Emotionally Disturbed Children" (SFV Child Guidance Clinic-1991)

#### 1988-present

Participated in conferences/seminars on "Trauma," "Domestic Violence," "Couples Counseling", "Sexual Abuse Trauma", "Neurobiology and Attachment," "Making Managers into Leaders", "Brief Therapy", "Legal/Ethical Issues", "Post Abortion Healing", "HIV/AIDS", "Play Therapy with Latino Children, Adolescents and their Families", "Stabilization Techniques for Borderline Behavior", "Adolescent Suicide", "Sexual Abuse", "Solution-oriented Therapy", "Ethical Issues", "The Correlation between Sexual Abuse and Eating Disorders", "Childhood Trauma: Memory and Treatment", "Substance Abuse", "Prevention & Management of Assaultive Behavior Among Clients", "Child Abuse", "Social Workers as Middle Managers", "Critical Issues of Adolescence", "Anxiety", "Trauma", etc.

2009 AcademicKeys Who's Who in Social Sciences Higher Education (WWSSHE)

2007 Designed and created www.guidelines4life.com - Helpful information for parents, children,

adolescents, educators, etc.

2005 Participated in Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity for William S. Hart School District

2000 Interviewed on **KFI AM**, "The Ted Rall" show.

2000 "Temper Tantrums" article **published** in Los Angeles Family Magazine.

1996-2000 Adjunct Professor for CSULB, graduate school of social work.

1996-2000 Field Instructor for USC, graduate school of social work.

1999 Wrote "Helping Parents Understand Temper Tantrums" - published in CSCSW "Clinical Update"

1998 Wrote and distributed "Surviving Adolescence" article.
1998 Selected as an Outstanding Young Woman of America.
1998 Interviewed on KFI AM, "The Debra Rich" show.
1997 Interviewed on 97.1 FM, "The Sunday Edition".
1997 Participated in field instruction seminar (sowk 692).
1995 Wrote and distributed "Temper Tantrums" article.
1995-96 Member of the Board of Trustees for Options House.

1994 Wrote and distributed "Why Children Do The Things They Do-Ages Birth to 11" article.

1993-1995 Provided clinical services for Los Angeles Child Development Center.

**Professional Associations** 

- Society for Clinical Social Workers
- National Association of Social Workers
- San Fernando Valley Child Abuse Council