

Kayte Thomas, MSW, LCSW
919-633-3372 kayte_thomas1@baylor.edu

EDUCATION

Baylor University – Waco, TX.
Doctor of Philosophy **expected May 2021**
Social Work - *Dissertation Topic: The Intersection of Social Work and Syrian Mothers with Refugee Status*

North Carolina State University – Raleigh, NC.
Advanced Standing Master of Social Work, summa cum laude **May 2013**
Social Work – *Capstone Project: A Program Evaluation of Rapid Employment Initiatives with Refugees*

Meredith College – Raleigh, NC.
Bachelor of Social Work, magna cum laude **May 2012**
Social Work, Religious and Ethical Studies minor

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, MEMBERSHIPS, AND CERTIFICATIONS

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) in North Carolina
Certified Clinical Trauma Professional
Member: NASW, NACSW, NBDPN, MIRCI, IAMAS
Resilience in Children exposed to Trauma, Disaster, and War *Certification* ~ University of Minnesota

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Trauma and Resiliency
Refugees
Mothers and Mothering
Global Maternal and Child Health
Domestic Violence and Abuse

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Clinical Supervisor **Oct 2018 – present**
Independent Contractor
Provide supervision for LCSW-As during the associate period while seeking licensure. I utilize an Interactional Model with a Holistic Approach when providing supervision. I strive to form a collaborative alliance with my supervisees while building upon their unique strengths to promote growth and learning. Heavily focused on ethics and trauma support.

EAP/STC Counselor **Apr 2015 – present**
Workplace Options, www.workplaceoptions.com
Provide short-term telephonic psychosocial assessments, referrals, and counseling for employees of numerous companies worldwide utilizing a solution-focused model. Issues addressed include addiction, financial strain, grief/loss, relationship problems, parenting, and workplace stress. Risk assessment and crisis intervention skills heavily utilized while providing proactive interventions for individuals experiencing abuse, domestic violence, or thoughts of self-harm. Member of the Corporate Social Responsibility Committee.

Intensive In Home Team Lead **Dec 2013 – Dec 2014**
The Aya Center, www.theayacenter.com
Responsible for coordinating and supervising a team of professionals to provide therapeutic CBT interventions to youth and their families with family preservation services designed to stabilize their lives and strengthen community supports. Completed clinical assessments and provided outpatient therapy as well. Actively supportive in several schools with behavioural interventions, 504 plans/IEP meetings, and coordinating CFT meetings. Implemented *Hope for Hearts*, a food outreach program at a local school for low income children experiencing food insecurity.

PCORI Reviewer/Mentor**Dec 2012 – present (as needed)**

Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute. www.pcori.org

Medical grant reviewer for PCORI to improve health care decisions with the new nationwide system under the Affordable Care Act. Specialties include Birth Defects, Rare Diseases, Mental Health, and Health Care Disparities. Provide guidance and mentorship to patient and stakeholder reviewers to ensure their knowledge and insight is well represented and communicated in their reviews and in in-person meetings.

Job Developer**June 2012 – Sept 2013**

Lutheran Services Carolinas, Raleigh, NC. www.lscarolinas.org

Responsible for job development and placement for refugee/asylee clientele in the Matching Grant/RAP programs, including preparation of reports and data tracking for the state. Heavily involved in community orientation and outreach, culturally competent practice, and advocacy for social justice. Occasional assistance in schools with creation of 504/IEP plans and other community needs. Additionally in charge of volunteer coordination and started a refugee mental health initiative.

Personal Support Specialist**Sept 2011 – Apr 2013**

The Arc of NC, Raleigh, NC. www.arcnc.org

Responsible for working collaboratively with youth/teen clients with developmental disabilities to reach their goals, while helping parents learn supportive skills as needed. Taught life skills and coping techniques to youth with disabilities/delays to help facilitate self-reliance and independence at home, school, and in the community.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**Adjunct Professor****Aug 2019 – present**

Baylor University, Waco, TX. www.baylor.edu

Academic instruction of social work curriculum accordance with syllabus and course design. Facilitate synchronous virtual classroom sessions. Maintain and evaluate records of student's academic performance with the grading systems of the Learning Management System (LMS) and university. Provides timely feedback on required assignments. Challenges students to broaden their view of the social work profession and application of skills learned during courses.

Field Supervisor**Aug 2014 – May 2015**

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC. www.ncsu.edu

Provided field supervision to North Carolina State University's MSW students participating in an international research course providing monitoring and evaluation services to Stop Hunger Now's partners in the Philippines.

PUBLICATIONS

Sacred Connections: Using faith-based narratives to create matricentric empowerment spaces for Syrian refugee women. *Social Work and Christianity*. Oct 2020.

Book Review: Seeking Refuge: On the Shores of the Global Crisis. Social Work and Christianity. Oct 2018.

Book review: Do funerals matter? The purposes and practices of death rituals in global perspective by William G. Hoy. Journal of Religion, Spirituality, and Aging. Sept 2017.

Insights from Parents about Caring for a Child with Birth Defects. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. Aug 2013.

PRESENTATIONS

“Sacred Connections” NACSW Virtual Convention, Virtual, November 2020.

“The BRIDGES Program: Building Refugees Initiatives to Develop Goals for Educational Success” The Twentieth International Conference on Diversity in Organizations, Communities & Nations, Virtual, June, 2020.

“Motherhood Lost: Maternal Separation in the Family Court System” Motherhood Initiative for Research and

Community Involvement (MIRCI) Conference, Toronto, Canada, April 2019.

“Recognizing and Coping with Trauma Response during Custody Battles” 12th Annual Battered Mother’s Custody Conference, Albany, NY, May 2016.

“Parents as Partners to Raise Awareness on the Impact of Birth Defects” NBDPN Annual Meeting, Arlington, VA. Oct 2015.

“Birth Defects Aren’t as Rare as You Think” Scope Radio joint interview with Dr. Marcia Feldkamp. Hosted by Dr. Kirtly Jones. Feb, 2015.

“The Parent Advocate Experience” NBDPN 17th Annual Meeting, Virtual, July 2014.

“National Birth Defects Action Coalition: Moving Forward” NBDPN 17th Annual Meeting, Virtual , June 2014.

“Raising Birth Defects Awareness” NBDPN Annual Meeting, Arlington, VA. Feb 2013.

“Communication of Diagnoses and Mental Health Ramifications in Parents of Children with Birth Defects” NBDPN Annual Meeting, Arlington, VA. Feb 2012.

“Emotional Ramifications of Gastroschisis on Parents: Helping Doctors Understand the Parent Experience” Best Care for Neonates: International Gastroschisis Workshop. Barcelona, Spain. Oct 2010

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Technical Expert

Apr 2016 – Aug 2019

Medicaid Innovation Accelerator Program (IAP)

Substance Use Disorder, Beneficiaries with Complex Needs, and Physical-Mental Health Integration panel.

Assisted with developing a total of 8 new measures for three Medicaid populations (those who have complex needs and elevated use of high-cost services, SUDs, or conditions requiring integrated PMH services).

Founding Member

Oct 2015 – present

NC Rare Disease Coalition

Assist the North Carolina Advisory Council on Rare Diseases in identifying issues of importance to the rare disease community that can be addressed through public policy. Serve as a conduit for communication and advocacy on behalf of rare disease stakeholders. Ensure rare disease is a public health priority

Founding Member

Jan 2012- Sept 2017

Parent Advisory Group, National Birth Defects Prevention Network

One of five parents on the NBDPN’s first Parent Advisory Group, working in conjunction with the CDC, March of Dimes, and health departments to promote birth defects and rare disease awareness.

Director of Patient Advocacy/Medical Liaison and Board Member

Apr 2010-2015

Avery’s Angels Gastroschisis Foundation, Raleigh, NC. www.averysangels.org

Founding member of the only nonprofit in the U.S. providing support for individuals with gastroschisis and their families throughout the lifespan. In charge of international outreach, coordinating research with clinicians, nonprofit consultation and training, fundraising/marketing, and event coordination. Conference representative and key speaker both nationally and internationally. Responsible for writing the proclamation template which has declared July 30 as Gastroschisis Awareness Day worldwide and completing comprehensive FAQs for reference. Gastroschisis advocate/outreach since 2005.

FUNDED GRANTS

National PTA’s 2015 Take Your Family to School Grant

\$1K grant written for Dillard Drive Elementary School to promote family engagement strategies proven to mitigate the risks of high school dropout. Activities funded include a Parent-Led Career Fair, NC State Experiment Night, and a bilingual resource guide for families.

North Carolina State University's 2013 EEED Seed Grant

\$10K grant written for the MSW class of 2014 to conduct their monitoring and evaluation research in partnership with Stop Hunger Now and visit the Dominican Republic. Grant was designed to promote international outreach within NCSU's social work department and increase collaboration with community partners while allowing graduate students to travel as part of their scholastic experience.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Creator of the BRIDGES program, a collegiate mentorship engagement model designed to remove barriers to attending higher education for refugee students. First implemented at Wake Tech Community College in Raleigh, NC. In the Spring 2020 semester.

Peer reviewer for *Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology*. April 2019.

Peer reviewer for *Journal of Social Work and Christianity*. Aug 2017 and Sept 2019.

Refugee Women's Wellness Workshop coordinator. Raleigh, NC. June 2016.

Grant writer and professional consultant to the Raleigh Immigrant Community. 2015 – present.

NBDPN-PAG representative to the Friends of NCBDDD meeting in Washington DC, on the "Saving Babies" workgroup. Created national plan for strengthening the network, empowering families, and reclaiming congressional funding for birth defects programs with the #1in33thatisme program. Nov 2014.

Creator of Hope Charter Elementary School's *Hope for Hearts*, a food program providing low income students with regular distributions of food to ensure they are fed over the weekends. 2014.

Co-creator of "On the Day I was Born" PSA and NBDPN's "Common, Costly, Critical" campaign – 2013-14.

North Carolina district meeting coordinator for Congressional outreach to discuss the CDC-Funded Birth Defects Tracking System as well as critical funding needs for CDC birth defects activities, 2013-14.

Peer reviewer for the *British Journal of Education, Society and Behavioural Science* and *British Journal of Medicine and Medical Research*, 2013.

Cultural Orientation Class instructor for refugees at North Carolina State University, 2013.

Recurrent guest lecturer at North Carolina State University's MSW program (SW 500: Advanced Practice, SW 505: Social Justice, and SW 512: Advanced Research), 2013-14.

Patient Advocate Fellow at the 48th Annual Drug Information Agency Meeting: Philadelphia, PA. Jun 2012.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Emerging Scholar Award, 2020

Global Genes Champion of Hope Nominee, 2015

Telly Award for "On the Day I Was Born" PSA, 2013

EMERGE Scholar, 2013

National Birth Defects Prevention and Education Award, 2013

Social Work Professional Development award, 2012