

Curriculum Vitae

Email: Debbie.Jennings@pisd.edu

OBJECTIVE: To seek opportunities in which I can fully utilize my skills in the public school system through assessment, program development, teaching, and training while making a significant contribution to the success of my organization.

EDUCATION: Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX
Bachelor of Science/Psychology
May 1978

University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX
Master of Arts/Psychology
August 1980

Texas Woman's University
Doctorate in School Psychology
December 2005

WORK EXPERIENCE:

**July 1999 to Present Plano Independent School District
Licensed Specialist in School Psychology**

Job Duties include:

- (1) assessment for eligibility for special education placement
- (2) provide specialty assessment services in the areas of Autism for Pre-school age children; Neuropsychological assessment, and assessment for Serious Emotional Disturbance.
 - Number of Autism assessments conducted - approximately 400
- (3) provide consultation for behavior management issues in the classroom;
- (4) provide ongoing consultation as needed

Specific Training Related to Autism:

1. Asperger's Disorder & Autism: Advances in Understanding and Interventions – 4/14/2009
2. Intervention: Evidence- Based Behavioral Strategies for Individual Students – 12/12/2008
3. Autism Evaluation Methods: Targeting Children with High-Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorders – 11/20/2008
4. Doctoral Internship focused on Autism Assessment and Intervention – 2004-2005 School Year

**10/96 - 6/97: Dallas County Juvenile Detention Center, 2600 Lone Star Drive
Dallas, TX 75212
Unit IV Manager**

Responsible for managing a unit that comprised the intake process for all juveniles entering the facility, the care of all property brought in by new intakes, the court hearing process for those juveniles, the transportation department, and visitation of all parents, attorneys and other professionals. Job duties included: (1) managing 30 people, which included 3 unit supervisors, and covered 3 shifts of employees; (2) setting up weekly work schedules; (3) evaluating each employee; (4) hiring and terminating employees; (5) providing direct training to all employees; (6) writing new policies and procedures for the two departments included in Unit IV; (7) maintaining a rotating call schedule; (8) attending manager's meetings; (9) meeting with Unit IV staff on a monthly basis.

Accomplishments:

- (1) Wrote the first comprehensive Policy and Procedures Manual for the Transportation Department, with subsequent implementation.
- (2) Re-Wrote and implemented a comprehensive operations manual for the intake and property management of Unit IV.
- (3) Re-organized Detention Hearings into a more structured, less disruptive process where juveniles were removed from a heavy traffic area into a room closer to the courtroom, attorneys and probation officers were required to sign in to see their clients, and re-staffed to ensure an efficient flow of juveniles into and out of the courtroom. As a result of this change, the court hearing process was reduced by an average length of 1 hour and the number of security breaches was reduced significantly.
- (4) Developed the rotating manager on-call schedule to utilize the time of managers more efficiently.

**2/85 to 10/96 Dallas County Juvenile Detention Center, 2600 Lone Star Drive,
Dallas, TX 75212
Program Director**

Responsible for creating, implementing, and managing a program that positively impacts 200 residents and 200 staff of a 24 hour, maximum security facility. Job duties included: (1) managing foundation education for the last 10 years; (2) managing and developing Federal. Supplemental Education through the Chapter I grant; (3) creating and integrating multicultural programs that represent the cultures of residents and staff, (4) interfacing with metroplex arts programs to provide a wide range of cultural experiences for residents; (5) recruiting, training, developing and supervising community volunteers; (6) managing and developing a federal education budget (Chapter I & 11); (7) designing and implementing a comprehensive training package for all employees, including management; (8) represent the Juvenile Department through community networking, public speaking, and statewide training of other juvenile facility employees; (9) recruit and nurture community donors to assist in meeting the specialized needs of residents; (10) serve as a member of community task forces related to juvenile issues (e.g., Dallas ISD Gang Task

Force, Catholic Diocese Urban Youth Task Force, Young Audiences Arts Board)

Accomplishments: To be discussed in an interview if requested.

1994 to 1999 Dallas MHMR Center Dallas, TX
Psychological Consultant - Full Time effective October 1997

Job Duties include: (1) Providing individual counseling for consumers in ICF/MR homes and HCS homes; (2) providing group counseling for consumers in HCS homes; (3) providing eligibility determination assessments and court ordered assessments for consumers referred to Dallas MHMR; (4) providing appropriate training to the staff of the consumers served.

Adjunct Activities:

Adjunct Faculty in Psychology (9 years) - Richland College

- Developed online courses in Developmental Psychology and Human Sexuality
- Teach online courses and campus based course in Developmental Psychology, Human Sexuality, and Introduction to Psychology
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Adjunct Faculty for the Graduate School of Psychology (1.5 Years) – University of Phoenix

- Teach online courses in Lifespan Development

Adjunct Faculty for the Graduate School of Psychology (Beginning June 2011) – Argosy University

- Teach blended courses and campus based course in the department of Forensic Psychology and Educational psychology
- Program Coordinator of Forensic Psychology Department – Master's Program

Adjunct Faculty for Texas A&M – Commerce (Beginning August 2013)

- Teach in the Undergraduate Psychology program – History and Systems of Psychology
- Teach in the Graduate Psychology program – Developmental Psychopathology

Other Activities:

Parent Representative on the Board of Directors
SER Child Development Center

Board Member/Volunteer Chairman for the Dallas Children's Museum

Advisory Board Member/Secretary for the Foster Grandparents Association of Greater Dallas

Urban Youth Task Force - Diocese of Dallas

Member of the Dallas Task Force on Youth Gangs

Consultant for the Volunteers of America
two groups of developmentally delayed sex offenders

5 group homes for individuals with mental retardation

Board President - North Texas Kids Services
Founder/Director for Kids Exchange

References:

Kellie Gray-Smith, Ph.D.
Coordinator for Special Education Services
Plano Independent School District

Cindy Maroney Lawrence, Ph.D.
Director for Special Education Services
Sherman Independent School District

Lila Belitz, MSSW
Coordinator for Special Education Services
Plano Independent School District

Cindy Castaneda
Professor of Government
(Previous Dean of my department at Richland College)
Eastfield College

Andrew Tubbs
Dean of Adjunct Faculty Services
Richland College