

ARDEN O'DONNELL, MPH, MSW, LICSW

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Accomplished social worker with eight years clinical experience in a hospital setting and over 15 years experience in Palliative Care nationally and internationally.
- Research minded individual known for developing new models and quality improvement initiatives.
- Enthusiastic teacher and lecturer; outstanding communicator.
- Proven management and leadership experience; skilled at fostering relationships with people from diverse backgrounds.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| Lecturer | Smith College School for Social Work | 2013-present |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teaches “Introduction to Social Welfare Policy” first MSW students.• Developed and teaches a Clinical Practice elective in “Social Workers in Health Care”.• Consistently receive high marks from students in teacher commitment, diverse teaching style and humor!• Known for deep commitment to social justice; key presenter in Anti-Racism workshop focusing on how to incorporate anti-racism advocacy into clinical practice. | | |
| Research Coordinator | Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Cardiology Dept | 2014-2016 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Co-investigator for clinical trial “Pilot Study of a Focused Palliative Care Intervention for Recently Hospitalized High-Risk Patients with Heart Failure.”• Developed and maintain RedCAP database; provide primary support for data collection, organization of research and regulatory documentation.• Maintain and interpret quantitative and qualitative data and report findings to research team.• Provide clinical intervention around goals of care and end of life to patients in the study.• Coordinate day-to-day activities for clinical research protocol including screening and recruiting patients. | | |
| Palliative Care Social Worker | Brigham and Women’s Dana Farber Cancer Center | 2009-2014 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provided comprehensive palliative care assessments that addressed psychosocial needs and end-of-life issues.• Supported families who were dealing with patients’ illnesses through psychotherapy and advocacy.• Spearheaded educational program to teach end-of-life issues to clinical teams.• Assisted in the development and coordination of a new Cardiology Palliative Care Intervention for patients receiving advanced therapies and high risk transplants. | | |
| President | Coalition for Courage | 2006-present |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Founder of non-profit based in Zimbabwe that provides educational and psychosocial support for HIV orphans.• Evaluate qualitative data from focus groups to improve current and new programs.• Organize and oversee fundraising events, newsletter and website management. | | |
| Pediatric Palliative Care Social Work Fellow | Boston Children’s Hospital | 2008-2009 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active member of an interdisciplinary team supporting families of children with life-limiting illnesses.• Provided clinical support to children, families and siblings supporting them thorough adjustment to illness.• Coordinated meetings, helped families navigate and access hospital and community resources, wrote consults and performed other case management functions. | | |
| International Health Course Coordinator | Boston University School of Public Health | 2005-2006 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordinated academic certificate program for “<i>Managing Disasters and Complex Humanitarian Emergencies.</i>”• Developed marketing material and coordinated the recruitment and retention of international students.• Lectured in graduate level courses on grant writing, budgeting and project management. | | |

Development Coordinator	Center Global Health Development	2003-2005
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founding partner in development of the Lesotho Boston Health Alliance with William Bicknell, MD, MPH. • Responsible for project management and fiscal requirements of projects for USAID and US State Department. • Developed several evidence-based studies providing foundation for program development. • Coordinated and facilitated <i>Problem Solving for Better Health</i>; teaching project management skills to 250 participants. • Liaised with key ministerial contacts, stakeholders and donors to ensure success and sustainability of program. 		
Capacity Building Consultant/ Interim Director	Tsungirirai, Norton, Zimbabwe	2002-2003
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed 40 staff and coordinated the administration of 10 projects providing educational, psychosocial and nutritional support for 450 AIDS orphans. • Conducted organizational needs assessment and established innovative monitoring and evaluation mechanism. • Successfully developed an evidence based evaluation tool used as a USAID national evaluation instrument. • Lead grant writer; securing grants from UNICEF, Ireland AID, and NOVIB. 		
Program Coordinator- Special Projects	Boston Public Health Commission	2001-2002
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided technical support to four managers and twenty staff members through training coordination, event planning, grant writing and database development. • Designed and implemented staff development program to increase knowledge, develop new skills, increase staff communication and collaboration. • Assisted in the renovation and implementation of Boston AIDS Information Project website. 		

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Impacting Understanding of Prognosis: Result from a social worker led clinical trial in patients with heart failure.*** Hospice and Palliative Care Social Workers Conference. February 2017
- Social Worker or Grim Reaper? Eliciting patient preferences for end of life care in heart failure patients.*** Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care. October 29th, 2016
- Urgent need for alignment for patient's desire for information.*** HFSA Annual Scientific Meeting, September 17-20, 2016.
- The LVAD's are coming, the LVAD's are coming!*** AAHPM Conference. 2015
- Putting the "I" back in QI.*** AAHPM Conference. 2015
- Caring for one of our own.*** Brigham and Women's Hospital Schwartz Rounds. 2014
- Panel Presenter: Complex family dynamics.*** HMS Bioethics Lecture Series. 2013
- The role of trauma at end of life.*** Brigham and Women's Hospital Schwartz Rounds. 2012
- Addiction and Palliative Care.*** AAHPM Conference. 2011
- Case Presentation:*** Harvard Medical School Palliative Care Faculty Rounds. 2010, 2011, 2012
- What is "best interest?" Caring for a child with Trisomy 18.*** AAHPM Conference. 2009
- Children, war and trauma: one child's story.*** Grand Rounds. Cambridge Hospital. 2007
- ARVs and African economies: Treatment for HIV/AIDS.*** African Studies Assoc. Conference. 2005

TEACHING

- Advanced care planning discussions for heart failure.*** Training series for Cardiology Fellows. 2014, 2015
- Supporting children when their parent is dying.*** Social Work Residents. 2012- present
- Communication skills at end of life.*** Lead lecturer. First year residency training. 2010 -present
- Grant writing and budgeting.*** Lecturer. Boston University School of Public Health. 2004- present
- Energy Medicine and personal growth.*** Lead Teacher. Rhys Thomas Institute for Energy Medicine. 2012- present
- Inspiring others to act.*** Lecturer. Brandeis University. 2006, 2008, 2010

PUBLICATIONS

- "Family Dynamics at end of life"** Chapter in Abraham, Janet L. A. *A physician's guide to pain and symptom management in cancer patients.* JHU Press, 2014.
- "Advanced care planning: Care to plan in advance".** Co authored with Stevenson L. *JCHF.* 2015;3(2):122-126.
- "Why give?"** and other articles in *Coalition for Courage Newsletter.* 2006- present

Spotlight on AIDS orphans *The ARCH Project Center for International Health*. July 2002.
HIV disease in children *Research Initiative and Treatment Action*. July 1999.
HIV and wasting *Research Initiative and Treatment Action*. August 1998.
Adult day care: Psychoneuroimmunology and holistic care. *Houston Voice*. July 1995.

COMMITTEES/ OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Curriculum Developer and Lead Teacher. Rhys Thomas School of Energy Medicine. 2012-present
Ethics Committee Member. Brigham and Women's Hospital. 2011-present
Social Work Advisory Board. Brigham and Women's Hospital. 2010-2014
Clinical Social Worker Emergency Department. Brigham and Women's Hospital. 2009-2012
Reiki Master. Kripalu. 2009
Foster Parent. Department of Children and Families. 2004- present (current adoptive parent)

RECOGNITIONS

Partners in Excellence Award Individual Award: Leadership and Innovation. BWH 2012
Nominee: Martha Byron Burke Excellence in Social Work Award. BWH 2012
Foster Parent Advocate. *Department of Children and Families*. 2007
Rex Fendall Award for Excellence in Writing: Finalist-. Boston University. 2002
Winner of JSI International Public Health Leadership Award. Boston University. 2002

EDUCATION/ LICENSURE

Licensed Clinical Social Worker: License # 116567
Energy Medicine Practitioner. Rhys Thomas School of Energy Medicine. 2012
Master's Social Work. Smith College School for Social Work. 2008
Thesis: Strengthening the Capacity of Helping Professionals to Provide Psychosocial Support to Communities Affected by Armed Conflict: The Evaluation of One Program
Masters in International Public Health. Boston University. Boston, MA. 2002
Thesis: *AIDS in Africa: Operational Field Trial in the distribution of ARV Therapy.*
Bachelor of Arts. Mount Holyoke College. South Hadley, MA. 1997
Major: Neuroscience. **Minor:** AIDS Studies