Dr. Romona Smith-Battle

WORK HISTORY:
(Full Time)

2009 – Present Prologue Inc.
Director of Child Welfare

- Identify, develop, and implement and monitor preventive and interventive programs and services that focus on reducing barriers to our clients' successful community integration/reintegration.
- Identify and monitor the implementation of appropriate strategies that meet the diverse psycho social/clinical support needs of the program's participants.
- Develop and utilize an ongoing Quality Assurance Protocol that serves to maintain a quality level of services for youth and their families.
- Develop protocols for safety and violence prevention, and technical assistance for their implementation.
- Supervise clinical and support service staff, and assist with budget development, management, grants administration, and genera program operations.
- Provide administrative and comprehensive clinical support services for residents of the agency's Transitional Living Program (TLP) and the educational/vocational programs.
- Monitor medication regimens and respond to non - compliance issues.
- Develop assessment protocols and crisis management and safety plans and monitor their implementation
- Develop and maintain collaborative relationships with mental health professionals, probation/parole officers, social workers/case managers, and community based programs
- Develop and implement professional development activities for agency's staff.

1996 - 2008 Westside Holistic Family Services
Program Director - Westside Alternative High School

- Provided overall program administration and collaboration for educational/vocational, clinical/social support services, and other day to day operations, and
- Analyzed problems, issues, and concerns, and formulated appropriate alternatives and solutions
- Coordinated and monitored the development and implementation of gifted, general education, remedial, career pathway/vocational educational, behavior management, and community and political leadership programs for traditional and non-traditional learners
- Coordinated and monitored the development and implementation of student centered instructional strategies
- Planned, organized, and coordinated the management functions and activities for new and continuing educational and psycho/social programs and initiatives for students
- Supervised instructional and psycho/social support service supervisors and coordinators
- Developed and implemented professional development activities for faculty, program administrators, and support, office, and other adjunct staff

- Assisted with grant writing and preparation of program budget and approved expenditures and allocations of monetary and other resources
- Chaired and monitored school improvement and quality assurance activities
- Developed, implemented, and updated protocols to maintain State Recognition and North Central Accreditation status

1993 – 1996 Westside Holistic Family Services
Program Director - Specialized Counseling

- Provided oversight and clinical supervision for adolescent counseling program
- Provided individual, group, and family counseling
- Identified and utilized various assessment tools to determine treatment plan, methodologies, and overall scope of service
- Coordinated client testing, linkage plans, other case management services

1991 – 1993 Chicago Read Mental Health Central Rehabilitation and Educational Services
Clinical Educational Coordinator

- Provided academic/vocational instruction for clients
- Developed academic/vocational instructional protocols for clients
- Prepared clients for employment i.e., resume preparation, interviewing, job seeking, and life skills.
- Coordinated client testing, and linkage plans.
- Provided individual and group counseling
- Modified operational techniques in response to client's needs

1979 – 1991 Chicago Read Mental Health Central Rehabilitation and Educational Services
Lead Teacher

- Provided academic instruction in English and Math
- Supervised Instructional staff
- Assisted with the development and implementation of Alternative and
- Individual Educational Plans for Special Population Students.

(Part-Time)

1979 – 2008 Chicago City Colleges –
Instructor
Adult Learning Skills Program

1990 – 1993 Northern Illinois University
Assistant Professor
Educational Foundations Department

1991 – 1996 College of Dupage
Instructor
Adult and Continuing Education Program

1995 – 2007 RLS Comprehensive Services Inc.
Clinical Supervisor

EDUCATIONAL/TECHNICAL TRAINING

1994 – 1996 National Lewis University Evanston, IL
Psychology Program

1991 Northern Illinois University Dekalb, IL
Doctoral Degree - Education

1988 Northern Illinois University Dekalb, IL
Masters Degree – Education

1979 University of Illinois Chicago, IL
Bachelors Degree – Criminal Justice

ACCOMPLISHMENTS, CERTIFICATIONS, AND LICENSURES

2011 Certified Child Welfare Specialist (DCFS)

2003 Certified Cognitive Behavioral Therapist

2003 Doctoral Addictions Counselor Endorsement

1997 State of Illinois Type 75 (Educational Administration) Certification

1997 International Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor

1996 State of Illinois (LCPC) Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor

1995 National (CCJS) Certified Criminal Justice Specialist

1995 State of Illinois (IAODAPCA) Certified Advanced Alcohol and Other Substance Abuse Counselor (CAADC)

1991 Author of Patient Perspectives on Rehabilitation and Educational Services Provided by Chicago Read Mental Health Facility".

October 5, 2012

Dr. Romona L. Smith- Battle
[redacted]

Illinois Department of Public Health
122 S. Michigan Avenue, Suite 2009
Chicago, IL 60603
Dph.hhrecruiter@illinois.gov

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in response to a recent job application announcement- Director of Illinois Violence Prevention Authority. I am highly interested in this position, and I believe my education, professional experience, and commitment to the field of social services meet your qualifications.

Over the past 25 years, I have held administrative positions in the field of education and social support services. I have worked very closely with individuals (youth and adults) whose social and cultural realities created major barriers to their becoming productive members of their communities and society at large.

During my 15 year career at Westside Holistic Family Services, I assisted with the development of a grant that eventually funded a comprehensive educational and social support service program for youth (16-21) and their families. I was appointed Director of that program in 1993, and spent the next 15 years functioning in that capacity. During my tenure, I designed and supervised a comprehensive educational service which also various programs made a significant impact on the reduction of violence within the school. They also significantly contributed to creating a positive school culture and climate.

Westside provided educational and support services for more than 500 at risk youth and their families per year. Ninety percent of the youth had multiple risk factors, including gang violence and other risky behaviors. I was often recognized by the agency's senior administration, board of directors, school district, program funders, and other key players for my ability to design and oversee the implementation of a rigorous and quality curriculum. I was frequently acknowledged for bringing in additional funding to support programs that addressed, reduced, and often times eliminated the social and cultural barriers to our students' academic success.

In 2008, I accepted a position (Director of Child Welfare) at Prologue, Inc. Prologue is a Community Based Organization that has under its umbrella, five accredited educational programs, a residential facility for DCFS wards, a Youth Build, HIV Counseling and Prevention, and a Female Ex-Offender Program for teenage girls. My duties and responsibilities have been broad, however, the main focus was geared toward overseeing and providing leadership for a program whose primary goal was to increase our youth's abilities to be successful in his/her educational and social endeavors.

I am a very organized individual with excellent communication skills. I am also available to travel and can be very flexible in my commitment to the duties and responsibilities of the position I believe that I would serve with energy and the level of quality that this position requires.

Attached is a copy of my resume for your review and consideration. I can be reached at [redacted] or [redacted]

Sincerely,

Dr. Romona Smith-Battle