Brent C. Simonds, MSW, LSW

Advocacy Coordinator Mid-Ohio Board for an Independent Living Environment 690 South High Street Columbus, Ohio 43206

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Education

The Ohio State UniversityColumbus, OHMaster of Social WorkJune 12, 2005

The Ohio State UniversityColumbus, OHBachelor of Science in Social WorkJune 13, 2004

Social Work Experience

Mid-Ohio Board for an Independent Living Environment (MOBILE)

Advocacy Coordinator

Columbus, OH August 2009 – Present

- Advocates for increased community accessibility for individuals with disabilities.
- Acts as agency liaison to various committees, boards and panels to advocate for disability issues.
- Works with businesses, local and state government in order to provide improved disability related services.
- Creates bi-weekly advocacy alerts in order to inform consumers of important policy information.
- Develops course materials to increase independent living skills for consumers.

Barrier Free Living, Inc. For People with Disabilities

New York, NY November 2006-July 2009

The Secret Garden (Non-Residential Domestic Violence Program)

Social Worker

- •Provided direct therapeutic counseling services
- •Acted as liaison between BFL and Kings County (Brooklyn) District Attorney's Office.
- •Coordinated and assigns clients referred from Brooklyn Family Justice Center (BFJ) and DA's Office.
- •Created bi-monthly educational materials to inform FJC & KCDA Staff about disabilities.
- •Presented trainings to outside agencies and their clients to educate community about disability & domestic violence.
- Provided staff and outside agencies with specific trainings on DV and Traumatic Brain Injury.

Freedom House (Residential Domestic Violence Shelter)

Social Worker

- Lead weekly domestic violence support groups.
- Conducted weekly individual counseling sessions with residents.
- Conducted weekly apartment inspections to assess for proper nutrition and safety of women and children in shelter.
- Assisted with emergency discharge or transfers of residents in emergencies.
- Performed phone screenings for potential residents.

Ohio State University Outpatient Rehabilitation

Social Worker Master's Practicum Columbus, OH August 2005 – November 2006 Sept. 2004 – June 2005

- Provided case management to disabled individuals.
- Coordinated services and community resources.
- Provided adjustment counseling to individuals with brain injury, stroke and other disabilities.
- Lead weekly brain injury group focused on substance abuse prevention and community re-entry.
- Lectured to medical and health professional students about disability, social concerns and accessibility needs.