

LAURA JOYCE GELLER

EDUCATION

- **University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration**
2015-2017 (anticipated), A.M. clinical concentration, Advanced AODA program, GPA 3.92
- **Oberlin College**
2008-2012, B.A. environmental studies, Phi Beta Kappa, GPA 3.85

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Insight Behavioral Health Centers, Practicum Therapist
Addiction Recovery Comprehensive Help (ARCH) and Mood and Anxiety Program (MAP)
July 2015-Present

- Co-facilitate 3-hour group therapy sessions in Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT), Mindfulness-Based Sobriety, Relapse Prevention, and interpersonal process
- Provide individual therapy for caseload of patients with co-occurring disorders
- Create treatment plans and utilizations review materials for individual patients
- Receive extensive training in DBT, exposure response prevention, acceptance and commitment therapy, trauma-informed care, and eating disorder treatment

Housing Opportunities and Maintenance for the Elderly (H.O.M.E.), social work intern,
October 2015 to present

- Manage case work for residents, including assisting in home visits and advocating for resident needs
- Provide supportive therapy for residents with depression, anxiety, and substance use disorders
- Facilitate group activities and organize outings for residents of the Good Life Senior Residences
- Develop and publish blog posts featuring resident stories and experience
- Write resident case studies

Missouri Scholars Academy, resident assistant, June 2010 and June 2013

- Facilitated group sessions on personal and social dynamics with exceptional high school students
- Directed daily group discussions for participants to process their experience and growth
- Led courses on a variety of issues including mindfulness and compassion

MINDFULNESS TRAINING

Upaya Institute and Zen Center, path of service resident, July 2014 to July 2015

- Devoted hours to an intensive daily meditation practice (3-8 hours daily)
- Co-created regular council/group work sessions focused on interpersonal dynamics
- Served as manager and task supervisor for volunteers and residents
- Trained in contemplative service, compassionate action, and social engagement

Wat Tam Doi Tone Monastery, resident, Chiang Mai, Thailand, March to May 2014

- Practiced intensive meditation devoted to developing mindfulness and self-awareness
- Participated in monthly weeklong silent retreat including seated meditation for 8-10 hours daily

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The IPM Institute of North America, Sustainable Produce Initiative, team member, September 2012 to May 2013

- Compiled research for Whole Food Market's Responsibly Grown program
- Conducted in-depth analysis of organic and fair trade seals such as USDA Organic, Rainforest Alliance, Fair for Life
- Co-wrote environmental stewardship measures designed to track grower sustainability
- Tracked project spending and planned budget

Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Hazardous Waste Program, intern, summer 2012

- Drafted legislative proposals to increase funding for state hazardous waste programs
- Conducted phone interviews with state environmental protection agencies
- Researched state statutes and compiled report on funding sources

Oberlin College, Science Library, library assistant and reference librarian, 2008 to 2012

- Located research materials for undergraduate students and community members
- Set up research appointments between students and full-time library staff

Oberlin College, Department of Psychology and Environmental Studies, research assistant, January to May 2010

- Facilitated surveys and monitoring programs for the Oberlin students
- Analyzed data in order to extend its use to the wider great lakes region

**Oberlin College, Department of Environmental Studies, teaching assistant,
August to December 2009**

- Advised students in semester-long sustainability projects in the local community
- Met with community partners to develop new semester-long student projects
- Graded student papers and semester assessments

VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Volunteers for Community Development & Environmental Education, English language instructor, Hanoi, Vietnam, November 2013 to January 2014

- Taught classes for young Vietnamese professionals on English grammar and pronunciation
- Facilitated discussions on international politics, sustainable agriculture, meditation, and cross-cultural communication

Community GroundWorks, Youth Grow Local, farm intern, June and July 2013

- Interned on two different garden projects serving low-income elementary and middle school students
- Led farming, cooking, and garden art projects designed to connect kids with their natural environment
- Worked with students one-on-one to develop relationship skills

Kendal at Oberlin, resident event organizer, September to December 2010

- Volunteered in Kendal at Oberlin's nursing home facility, part of their graduated-care program
- Directed social events for senior residents such as cooking and music classes

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Phi Beta Kappa Member

John F. Oberlin Scholarship Award Winner

Missouri Top 100, nominee

Missouri Scholars Academy participant

High School Class President and Valedictorian, 2008

PROFESSIONAL STRENGTHS

Strong oral & written communication

Experience working with diverse populations

Daily mindfulness practice

Emphasis on integrated treatment for co-occurring disorders

Group facilitation skills

Curious and compassionate