

Amy Lopez, LCSW
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Education

University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work PhD Candidate	Denver, CO	2009-present
University of Denver Master of Social Work	Denver, CO	June 2000
Regis University B.A. Communication Arts and Spanish	Denver, CO	May 1997 graduated magna cum laude

Professional Experience

Clinical Social Worker, University of Colorado Hospital Denver, CO 2005-2010

- *Conducted initial mental health assessments for patients in the Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic
- *Provided ongoing individual, couples, family and group therapy for patients ranging infant to geriatric
- *Presented cases to the attending doctor for review and consultation
- *Assisted doctors in the clinic locate and access appropriate community resources
- *Coordinated with outside agencies to ensure appropriate continuity of care
- *Co-facilitated and managed the medication group
- *Analyzed clinic database and oversaw a planning committee to improve clinic operations
- *Taught, managed and facilitated the Dialectical Behavioral Therapy program
- *Supervised Psychiatry Residents and Social Work Interns on therapy cases and therapeutic techniques

Therapist, Denver Department of Human Services Family Crisis Center Denver, CO 2001-2005

- *Conducted initial mental health assessments for residents ages 6-17 to determine diagnosis, treatment and placement needs
- *Provided individual, group and family therapy to resident youth
- *Wrote treatment plans and monitored progress in treatment
- *Maintained records required by Colorado Department of Human Services Residential Treatment Center regulations and assisted with CDHS audits and visits
- *Conducted emergency mental health assessments, completed mental health holds and facilitated hospitalization
- *Created and implemented a training program for milieu staff on issues related to the youth in placement
- *Created and implemented a Progressive Discipline and a Reward Level System for resident youth
- *Coordinated psychiatric evaluations and follow up
- *Debriefed with staff and children after emergency situations
- *Provided clinical supervision and training to milieu staff and clinicians seeking professional licensure
- *Supervised daily activities of therapeutic milieu of the Residential Treatment Program
- *Provided behavioral interventions for children with emotional and/or behavioral difficulties
- *Created and facilitated daily therapeutic groups to children living at the Family Crisis Center ages 5-14
- *Provided emergency intervention and/or created safety plans for resident children
- *Worked with parents and foster parents to create transition plans to move child from RTC care
- *Hired, trained and supervised staff to work with children 0-14

Child Protection Caseworker , Denver Department of Human Services Denver, CO 1999-2001

- *Maintained ongoing caseload of 15-17 monolingual Spanish speaking families
- *Investigated reports of child abuse and neglect and assessed family situations for safety, risk and placement decisions
- *Located and placed children in foster placements
- *Wrote and monitored treatment plans
- *Accessed culturally sensitive resources for monolingual Spanish speaking families
- *Provided intensive, in-home therapy services to families being reunited
- *Wrote court reports and provided expert testimony in court

Family Case Manager, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, Denver, CO 1997-1999

- *Provided case management services for 150+ families living in the emergency overflow shelter
- *Conducted intakes and assessments for 1500+ homeless families needing immediate shelter
- *Located short term and permanent placement for families, including shelter and housing

*Provided crisis counseling for mental health, substance abuse and family violence emergencies

Contract Work and Internship Experience

Clinical Supervisor Denver, CO 6/2007 – present

*Provide Clinical Supervision for counselors seeking licensure

Mental Health Specialist, 18th District Juvenile Assessment Center Englewood, CO 2/2005 – 7/2005

*Conducted safety, risk and psychosocial assessments for youth involved in the legal system

*Wrote reports for court, probation and schools

*Provided assessment, evaluation and recommendations for Mental Health Emergencies

Therapist, Bridges Family Services Denver, CO 6/2004-12/2004

*Provided supervision and family therapy for families involved in high conflict divorce and custody cases

Mental Health Worker, CCH at Valdez Denver, CO 1999-2000

*Monitored and administered medication to chronically mentally ill persons

*Provided crisis intervention for mental health emergencies

*Helped residents access community resources

Licensure and Certifications

*Licensed Clinical Social Worker May 2003 – current

*Credentialed for Hospital Privileges February 2006- present

*Dialectical Behavioral Therapy October 2006

*Treating the Difficult Adolescent October 2004

*Therapeutic Crisis Intervention June 2001

*Child Protection CORE certification April 2001

*Conflict Resolution and Mediation Certificate February 2000

Research and Evaluation Experience

*Jefferson Center for Mental Health Virtual Clubhouse Project October 2010-present

Evaluate use and efficacy of on-line interventions

*Group Facilitator, Healthy Adolescent Relationship Project March 2010- present

Facilitate intervention group for demonstration of effects of manualized treatment program

*Graduate Research Assistant, The Bridge Project September 2009-present

Collect and manage data to determine effectiveness of afterschool intervention.

*Poster Presentation to Joint Commission Hospital Organization September 2008

Presented statistics regarding clinic operations, specifically access to care.

* Dialectical Behavioral Therapy in Bipolar Disorder May 2006 – September 2009

Provide individual and group treatment for a research project regarding the efficacy of DBT with bipolar patients.

*Daycare Needs of Homeless Mothers and Children March 2000

Developed a needs assessment for the parents using a daycare center associated with a transitional housing project.

*Conflict Resolution and Mediation training for Elementary Students March 1995

Undergraduate research assistant in teaching social skills and conflict resolution skills to determine if skills decrease fighting, referrals and pro-social behaviors

Teaching/Training Experience

Faculty Appointments:

Clinical Instructor, University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine 2010- present

Instructor, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Medicine 2006-2010

Courses Taught:

Child Welfare Policy and Practice University of Denver September 2010- November 2011

*Teaching Practicum – worked with professor to:

Develop syllabus and assignments

Teach weekly sessions related to child welfare policies

Grade papers and provided feedback for learning

Psychiatry Clinical Skills **University of Colorado Denver, School of Medicine** **April 2008-present**

- *Co-facilitated small group discussions regarding weekly topics
- *Supervised medical student patient interviews
- *Reviewed and graded weekly written evaluations

Dialectical Behavioral Therapy **University of Colorado Denver, School of Medicine** **May 2006 – September 2009**

- *Resident Seminar at University of Colorado Hospital Health Sciences Center Department of Psychiatry
- *Taught weekly lessons on practice of DBT and provided consultation on difficult cases

Child Welfare and Psychiatry **University of Colorado Denver, School of Medicine** **May 2006 – present**

- *Resident Seminar at University of Colorado Hospital Health Sciences Center Department of Psychiatry
- *Developed program for child psychiatrists on issues related to the legal and procedural aspects of the child welfare system

Denver Human Services Residential Treatment Center Milieu Staff Training and Curriculum: **July 2001-July 2005**

- *Developed and implemented a series of seminars for RTC milieu staff including topics such as:
 - *Effects of Abuse and Neglect on Development
 - *Attachment Theory and Effects of Separation
 - *Policy and Practice in Child Welfare
 - *Techniques of Behavior Modification
 - *Developmentally Appropriate Activities and Discipline
 - *Strengths Based Practice with Children and Families
 - *Adolescent Development
 - *Responding to Oppositional Behaviors
 - * Progressive Discipline within a Milieu setting
 - *Authority and Affection - Parenting Styles in a Milieu
 - *Psychotropic Medication
 - *Mental Health Diagnoses and Treatment in Children and Adolescents
 - *Managing Vicarious Trauma

Publications

*Lopez, A., Yager, J & Feinstein, R.E. (2009). Medical futility and psychiatry: Hospice care as a last resort in the treatment of refractory anorexia nervosa. *International Journal of Eating Disorders*, 43(4), 372-377. DOI: 10.1002/eat.20701

-Article chosen by MDLinx as July 2009 article of the month for psychiatry.

*Lopez, A. (2009). Moral residue: Difficult ethical choices in the treatment of refractory anorexia nervosa. *Clinical Social Work Journal*, 38(2), 236-239. DOI: 10.1007/s10615-009-0230-4.

*Lopez, A. (2010). The search for a middle ground. *Reflections: Narratives for Professional Helping*, 16(1), 39-45.

*Bender, K., Brisson, D., Jenson, J., Forrest-Bank, S., Lopez, A., & Yoder, J. (in press). Challenges and Strategies for Conducting Program-Based Research in After-School Settings. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*.

Volunteer Work

- *Mental Health Association of Colorado Pro Bono Volunteer Program 2006 – present
 - Provide Clinical Supervision to therapists in Pro Bono Sites
 - Trained Interpreters to Translate for Mental Health Evaluations
 - Helped to Create a Mental Health Screening Tool for Transitional Housing Program
 - Conducted Mental Health Screenings at Health Fairs for the Uninsured