

LAURIE A. WALKER
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EDUCATION

PhD Social Work, 2011

Graduate School of Social Work (GSSW), University of Denver, Denver, Colorado

Dissertation Topic: A mixed-methods study of resident readiness, engagement, and relocation during mixed-income redevelopment.

Advisor: Jean F. East, PhD

Master of Social Work, 2007

Community and Organizational Leadership, GSSW, University of Denver, Denver, Colorado

Bachelor of Science in Psychology, 1997

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado

Teaching Assistant: Social Psychology with Ross J. Loomis, PhD

TEACHING INTERESTS

Community & Organizational Practice

Community Psychology

Empowerment with Diverse Communities

Grant Writing

Human Development

Organizational Psychology

Personality Psychology

Research

Social Psychology

Social Welfare Policy

Social Work Generalist Practice

Sociology

Theory of Large Client Systems

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Community Based-Participatory Research

Community Development and Organizing

Community Readiness

Concentrated Urban Poverty

Education and Public Housing Reform

Policy Analysis and Evaluation

Practice Evaluation

Prevention

Psychology and Human Development

Sustainability

HONORS, COMPETATIVE FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

2010-2011 *Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant*, Housing & Urban Development, Wash., D.C.

2008-2011 *Golden Key International Honour Society*, University of Denver, Denver, Colorado

2008-2009 *Early Doctoral Student Research Grant*, Housing & Urban Development, Wash., D.C.

2007-2008 *Graduate Studies Doctoral Fellowship*, University of Denver, Denver, Colorado

2006-2011 *Phi Alpha Honor Society*, University of Denver, Denver, Colorado

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching Experience

University of Denver - Graduate School of Social Work Denver, Colorado

2007-Current *Adjunct Professor*

- Current Applied Practice Evaluation Research
- Current Methods for Evaluation Practice and Programs
- 2011 Social Welfare Policy
- 2010-Current Community Theories and Practice I and II
- 2010-Current Empowerment Practice with Diverse Communities
- 2009-Current Social Work Practice
- 2007-2011 Guest Lecturer - Community, Empowerment, Global Relations & Poverty in Mexico

Skills Demonstrated:

- Created assignments and syllabi
- Commanded knowledge of the subject areas
- Facilitated self-directed, independent learning for foundational and concentration curriculum
- Facilitated discussions and debates
- Managed disagreement and conflict
- Managed a range of student abilities, knowledge, learning styles, and special needs
- Incorporated technology and presentation options in teaching
- Evaluated learning, assigned grades, and assigned credit
- Provided constructive criticism
- Analyzed student learning difficulties and recommended action
- Evaluated teaching techniques and sought outside consultation on teaching style

Colorado College - American Cultural Studies Colorado Springs, Colorado

2007 *Guest Lecturer - Race, Ethnicity, & Immigration*

Skills Demonstrated:

- Lectured to undergraduate students in a field outside of social work
- Facilitated undergraduate discussion and learning

Iliff School of Theology Denver, Colorado

2006 *Guest Lecturer, Faithtrek - Social Justice Track on Youth Organizing*

Skills Demonstrated:

- Lectured to high school students
- Facilitated high school student discussion and learning

Research Experience

OMNI Institute

Denver, Colorado

2011-Current *Research Assistant*

Conducting a literature review to develop a System Facilitation Guide for a statewide Collaborative Management Program between child welfare, juvenile justice, educational, and health programs in order to reduce duplication and fragmentation of services, encourage cost sharing, and to improve the quality of services and family outcomes.

Skills Demonstrated:

- Summarized a large volume of information
- Conceptualized areas of knowledge
- Created education materials
- Worked on a team in a large nonprofit research focused organization

University of Denver - Graduate School of Social Work

Denver, Colorado

2006-2011 *Graduate Research Assistant*

2010-2011 A mixed-methods study of resident readiness, engagement, and relocation during mixed-income redevelopment.

Primary Investigator

Predicted resident readiness for neighborhood level change intervention, resident involvement in neighborhood organizations, and resident reactions to evidence-based relocation planning. Quantitative findings were elaborated upon with qualitative data from residents.

Skills Demonstrated:

- Social science training in research methodology, survey design, qualitative and quantitative analysis, Geographic Information System analysis, and write up
- Worked with institutional review boards to satisfy criteria for protection of human subjects for all projects
- Developed research proposal and wrote funded grant (\$11,547)
- Negotiated and secured contract
- Generated hypotheses
- Framed questions
- Interpreted quantitative and qualitative empirical results
- Ran general statistics and qualitative analysis packages: SPSS, MPlus, and Atlas Ti
- Secured and analyzed consumer feedback
- Used descriptive, inferential and multivariate statistics
- Advocated for policies and regulations that engage neighborhood organizations and improve economic outcomes for public housing residents
- Handled the frequent and extensive critiquing, editing and rewriting of work

2008-2009

Collaboration in the Transit-Oriented Development of Housing and Urban Development Neighborhoods.

Primary Investigator

Qualitative program evaluation of a city, non-profit and resident collaboration, which led to collecting baseline measures of 387 resident driven quantitative surveys prior to the mixed-income redevelopment of a public housing neighborhood.

Skills Demonstrated:

- Designed research study
- Developed research proposal and wrote HUD's highest scoring funded grant in 2008 (\$14,999)
- Navigated a bureaucracy
- Networked with local, regional, and national organizations
- Coordinated research and evaluation project
- Recruited, supervised, evaluated, promoted, and terminated multi-lingual managers, supervisors, and staff
- Formulated and followed a direct work plan
- Developed policies and procedures
- Designed, improved, and critiqued questionnaires/measures
- Conducted surveys
- Analyzed data using qualitative and quantitative techniques
- Formulated policy recommendations
- Provided data and testimony for residents, practitioners, law and policy makers

2008-2009

Evaluation of Community Development Block Grant Funds for Policing.

Primary Investigator

Compared the results of a tough-on-crime Broken Windows approach with an approach focused on improving positive police/community contact and neighborhood physical infrastructure.

Skills Demonstrated:

- Designed/conducted needs assessments and program evaluation
- Multivariate regression analysis to test and confirm resident explanations of outsiders committing crimes during events and at specific locations
- Geographic Information System analysis of different arrest patterns for foot patrol days, as well as confirming outsiders committed crimes based on home addresses of arrestees

2008

Qualitative Study on the Use of Experts in Community Organizing.

Primary Investigator

Semi-structured interviews focused on empowerment, power, and disempowerment when advocacy professionals (researchers, lawyers, lobbyists, coalitions) were used in organizing work.

Skills Demonstrated:

- Qualitative study design, participant recruitment, conducted interviews, transcribed interviews, and analysis using Atlas Ti software

- 2007 Leaders in the Zone. Public Good Grant focused on youth organizing.
Research Assistant and Lead Facilitator
Skills Demonstrated:
- Recruited junior high and high school youth
 - Developed curriculum
 - Guided program
 - Ran focus groups
 - Oversaw research tasks including recorded interviews and pre/post tests
- 2007 Broken Windows Policing Program Evaluation.
Primary Investigator
Program evaluation of community policing intervention that used Denver Police Department data resulting in decreased major crime.
Skills Demonstrated:
- Located, reviewed, and summarized literature
 - Applied program evaluation and community-based participatory action research project experience and training
 - Critiqued and assessed data, articles and reports
 - Assessed and document intervention outcomes
 - Accessed and used government publications and data sets
 - Collected, cleaned, coded, interpreted, analyzed, and managed data
 - Created graphic presentations of data
- 2006 Neighborhood Explorers. Public Good Grant focused on civic engagement with children.
Research Assistant and Facilitator
Ran Photovoice curriculum resulting in youth action with measurable results from pre/post tests and focus groups at three sites.
Skills Demonstrated:
- Daily running of program in three neighborhoods (planning, co-facilitation, classroom management with K-3rd grade and 4th-6th grade)
 - Conducted structured and unstructured interviews with individual children and focus groups with children
 - Organized public action and neighborhood cleanup day to address neighborhood problems identified by children

RELATED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Community

Northeast Denver Housing Center (NDHC)

Denver, Colorado

2010-Current *Community Organizing Supervisor*

Skills Demonstrated:

- Recruited NDHC to become a MOP affiliate
- Guided the hiring, orientation, training, and implementation of community organizing affordable housing residents in the Whittier neighborhood

- Served as liaison between staff and management
- Led staff development: identified training preferences/needs and provided training
- Motivated and directed staff performance
- Set agendas, organized, and ran meetings
- Assessed risk, liability, and legal issues

Metro Organizations for People (MOP) – Sun Valley Coalition
2007-Current *Community Organizer*

Denver, Colorado

Skills Demonstrated:

- Organized the lowest-income neighborhood in the state
- Identified multi-lingual local community leaders and engaged in leadership training
- Fostered a commitment among organizations and individuals to improve the community
- Developed community, neighborhood and social networks to collaborate with groups like the neighborhood associations, religious institutions, recreation programs, schools, and service providers
- Facilitated the shaping of a vision for the community
- Managed conflict among community groups
- Built consensus with community coalitions, grassroots groups, and collaborations
- Established a plan with incremental goals that can sustain a long-term collaborative effort
- Provided technical assistance and training to neighborhood and community groups
- Analyzed and interpreted statutes, regulations, policies, and programs
- Located, explained, and applied relevant statistical data
- Identified tactics to influence local media, public hearings, and elections
- Partnered with local experts to fund and develop a 3-D model of a contested light rail station resulting in changes made to the final construction
- Worked effectively within a local political system resulting in over \$2 million of investments in street lights, halo cameras, and sidewalks
- Created open communication between residents and outside groups like funders, government, and media resulting in extensive stories, videos and photos by the Denver Post, Rocky Mountain News, KGNU Radio, Univision, Colorado Statesman, and Channel 4 News
- Secured financing and political support for a peer visit to Portland, Oregon to discuss public transit, urban revitalization, and redevelopment of public housing with City of Denver employees
- Secured promised Laundromat within the Denver Housing Authority property
- Hired and supervised youth organizers, Geographic Information System, technology support, and AmeriCorps volunteers
- Provided research data on comprehensive school reform
- Updated website, sent e-alerts, and prepared newsletters

- Wrote within a variety of styles such as grants, academic, persuasive, promotional, and technical including executive summaries, reports, supervisory and treatment plans, brochures, newsletters, letters, journal articles, and op-ed pieces

University of Denver – Bridge Project
2005-2006 *Intern*

Denver, Colorado

Skills Demonstrated:

- Site management after school programming for elementary through college aged youth
- Ran programming in a youth community organizing
- Ran girls groups
- Case management and family support for grade school through high school youth

University of Denver, Colorado State University, & University of Northern Colorado
1998-2007 *Campus Minister and Denver Urban Project Staff at Sun Valley Youth Center*

Skills Demonstrated:

- Recruited, guided and monitored volunteers to live and work in Colorado's lowest-income neighborhood
- Secured team funding via individual donor and funded grant strategies
- Functioned as a part of a multidisciplinary team
- Identified, trained, mentored and supported multicultural student leaders
- Curriculum development and teaching on privilege, oppression, race, class, gender, social justice, and international community development
- Facilitated groups
- Evaluated practice
- Identified group dynamics
- Managed crises
- Tied immediate work, problems and solutions to long-term vision
- Worked with undergraduate and graduate students, as well as university faculty

Clinical

Turning Point Center for Family and Youth Development
2003-2005 *Case Manager and On-Call Support*

Fort Collins, Colorado

Skills Demonstrated:

- Understood the individual in context
- Built effective client relationships to develop life skills and coping skills in residential treatment context
- Provided case management
- Led a treatment team by managing permanency planning and communication with clients (youth and family), providers, and managers of services
- Identified outcome measures
- Intervened with angry, violent and suicidal clients

- Worked with several client populations including: males and females ages 12-25, youth charged as adults for violent crimes, emancipating youth, and clients with high mental health needs
- Implemented evidence-based addictions counseling, motivational interviewing, cognitive behavioral, dialectical behavioral, and existential therapy techniques
- Provided court testimony
- Initiated, developed and co-facilitated a cultural competency training for staff and managers
- Provided clinical input in weekly assessment and medication monitoring meetings with consulting psychologist

Youth SAFE
1998-1999

Fort Collins, Colorado

Milieu Staff

Skills Demonstrated:

- Facilitated a therapeutic environment for 12-18 year old male and female youth in a residential treatment center
- Used effective interpersonal communication and interviewing skills: active listening, reframing, reflecting, attending, and open-ended questions

PUBLICATONS

Walker, Laurie A. (2011). A mixed-methods study of resident readiness, engagement, and relocation during mixed-income redevelopment. Prepared for the Office of University Partnerships and Housing and Urban Development. Available from the University Partnerships Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 6091, Rockville, MD 20849 phone (800) 245-2691, fax (301)519-5767, or TDD (800) 843-2209.

Walker, Laurie A. (2009). Collaboration in the Transit-Oriented Development of Housing and Urban Development Neighborhoods. Prepared for the Office of University Partnerships and Housing and Urban Development. Available from the University Partnerships Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 6091, Rockville, MD 20849 phone (800) 245-2691, fax (301) 519-5767, or TDD (800) 843-2209.

PRESENTATIONS

Peer Reviewed

2011 *Society for Social Work Research, National Conference*

Collaboration in the Transit-Oriented Development of HUD Neighborhoods

Skills Demonstrated:

- Prepared an informative, educational poster presentation social work researchers
- Summarized qualitative, descriptive, univariate and multivariate data

Invited

2010 *Housing & Urban Development - Office of University Partnerships, National Conference*

Collaboration in the Transit-Oriented Development of HUD Neighborhoods

Skills Demonstrated:

- Prepared an informative, educational poster presentation for community development practitioners

2009 *Denver Housing Authority, Annual Conference for Resident Counsel Leaders*
Assessing and Meeting the Needs of the Community.

Skills Demonstrated:

- Conducted informative, educational presentation for public housing resident leaders
- Training to assess needs through community organizing and surveys, choosing issues, researching solutions and who can help, making asks, as well as follow up and evaluation

UNIVERSITY AND CIVIC SERVICE

2010-Current *Graduate School of Social Work PhD Advisory Council*, Student Representative

2006-2007 *Queer Equality Alliance*, Member

2005-2007 *Multicultural Social Justice Organization*, Student Leader

AFFILIATIONS

2008-Current *Association for Community Organization Social Administration*

2008-Current *Council on Social Work Education*

2008-Current *Society for Social Work Research*

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

2010 *Teaching and the New Media*, Center for Teaching and Learning

2009 *New Faculty Orientation*, Center for Teaching and Learning

2009 *Evidence Based Practice Conference*

2007 *White Privilege Conference*

2004–2007 *Colorado Addictions Counselor*, CAC I

2006 *Earth Force – Youth and School Based Community Organizing*

2004 *Restorative Justice*, Certified Circle Facilitator

2003 *Urban Project Directors Training*, Mexico City, Mexico

1997 *Global Service Project*, Varanasi, India

REFERENCES

Academic Teaching, Research, and Community Service

Jean East, PhD
Associate Dean
University of Denver - Graduate School of Social Work
2148 South High Street
Denver, Colorado 80208
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Susan Manning, PhD
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Community Practice

Mike Kromrey, MSW
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Metro Organizations for People
1980 Dahlia Street
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Clinical Practice

Wendy Lee, LCSW
Boys' Residential Program Director
Turning Point
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Fort Collins, Colorado 80525
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970-221-0999