

## EDUCATION

- June 2016  
(expected)                      University of Denver, Denver, CO  
Graduate School of Social Work (GSSW)  
Doctor of Philosophy  
*Dissertation:* “A Mindfulness-Based Intervention to Improve Family Functioning Among Child Welfare-Involved Families with Substance Use”  
*Committee:* Kimberly Bender, PhD (Chair); Jeffrey Jenson, PhD; Jennifer Bellamy, PhD; Eric Garland, PhD
- June 2010                              University of Denver, Denver, CO  
Graduate School of Professional Psychology  
Master of Arts, Forensic Psychology
- December 2007                      The College of Saint Rose, Albany, NY  
Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*  
Major: Psychology; Minor: Criminal Justice

## LICENCES/ CERTIFICATIONS

Licensed Professional Counselor, State of Colorado  
Certified Social Caseworker, State of Colorado  
Department of Corrections Approved Treatment Provider, State of Colorado  
Entry Level Domestic Violence Approved Treatment Provider, State of Colorado

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

My primary research interest includes the intersection between child maltreatment and substance use and the subsequent impacts on family functioning and child well-being. As a mixed methods researcher, my goal is to conduct research that aims to ameliorate child and family outcomes through interventions using mindfulness-based and trauma-focused frameworks. Additional research areas of interest include: the developmental, psychosocial, and neurobiological correlates of youth and caregivers exposed to trauma and stress; child and adolescent resiliency; and, the linkages between child abuse, animal cruelty, and intimate partner violence.

## TEACHING INTERESTS

Curriculum areas: social work research methods and program evaluation, law of family and children, integrated social work practice, child welfare policy and practice, clinical social work theory and practice, social work interventions

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2013-present    **Research Assistant** - National Institute on Drug Abuse Study (R34) RFA-DA-13-013,

Prevention and Health Promotion Interventions to Prevent Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Associated Physical and Psychological Health Problems in U.S. Military Personnel Veterans and their Families (1R34DA037005-01), Fort Carson, CO

*Principal Investigator:* Eric Garland, PhD

*Project:* Targeting Military Opioid Misuse through Mindfulness Oriented Recovery Enhancement

*Tasks:* Consent and enroll participants; conduct research assessments including structured psychiatric diagnostic interviews, validated self-report questionnaires, cognitive neuroscience tasks, and a psychophysiological measurement protocol; process psychophysiological and cognitive task data; assist with database design; enter and clean data.

- 2013-present **Research Assistant** – University of Denver, GSSW, Denver, CO  
*Mentor:* Kimberly Bender, PhD  
*Projects:* Multiple Victimization among Homeless Youth; Mindfulness Intervention for Homeless Youth  
*Tasks:* Enter and clean data; quantitative and qualitative data analysis, prepare manuscripts for publication.
- 2012-present **Research Assistant** - University of Denver, GSSW, Butler Institute for Families, Denver, CO  
*Principal Investigator:* Julie McCrae, PhD  
*Project:* Partnership in Early Childhood Education and Services (PIECES)  
*Tasks:* Enter and clean data; quantitative and qualitative data analysis; social network data analysis; conduct literature reviews; prepare manuscripts for publication; prepare annual research reports.
- 2013-2014 **Research Assistant** -University of Denver, GSSW, Denver, CO  
*Supervisor:* Johnny Kim, PhD  
*Project:* Oklahoma Partnership Initiative-2  
*Tasks:* Collaborated with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and certified substance abuse treatment providers to increase the well-being of, and improve the permanency outcomes for, children and their parents affected by substance abuse using evidenced-based interventions; prepared training materials for treatment providers.
- 2012-2014 **Research Assistant** - National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Study: University of Denver, GSSW; Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence Collaboration, Denver, CO  
*Principal Investigators:* Frank Ascione, PhD and James Herbert Williams, PhD  
*Project:* Children Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence: Mental Health Correlates of Concomitant Exposure to Animal Abuse  
*Tasks:* Entered and cleaned data; conducted statistical analysis; prepared abstracts for conference presentations; prepared manuscripts for publication.
- 2013 **Principal Investigator** - University of Denver, GSSW, Denver, CO  
*Mentor:* Julie Laser, PhD  
*Project:* Trauma-Related Symptomology among Child Welfare Workers: An Exploratory Study  
*Tasks:* Composed and submitted IRB protocol; conducted qualitative interviews with six

child welfare workers; transcribed interviews; conducted qualitative data analysis; prepared manuscript for publication.

2007      **Principal Investigator** - The College of Saint Rose, Albany, NY  
Mentor: Nancy Dorr, PhD  
Project: Perceived Attitudes and Locus of Control Predicting Delinquent Behavior  
*Tasks:* Composed and submitted IRB protocol; administered questionnaires to participants; entered and cleaned data; analyzed data; composed final report.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

January 2015-present      University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work  
*Adjunct Professor*  
Methods for Evaluating Practice and Programs (3 credit hours)

July 2014      University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work  
*Adjunct Professor*  
Law of Family and Child (3 credit hours)

March 2014 -  
June 2014      University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work  
*Graduate Teaching Assistant* with Dr. Kimberly Bender  
Applied Practice Evaluation Research (3 credit hours)

January 2014 –  
March 2014      University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work  
*Graduate Teaching Assistant* with Dr. Kimberly Bender  
Methods for Evaluating Practice and Programs (3 credit hours)

September 2013 –  
November 2013      University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work  
*Graduate Teaching Assistant* with Dr. Johnny Kim  
Integrated Social Work Practice for Social Justice (3 credit hours, hybrid instruction)

## SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

2014 – 2015      University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work  
*Dean's Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, \$16,000 award*

2014      University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work  
*GSSW Online Initiative, \$1,000 stipend*  
Stipend awarded for assisting GSSW faculty and the DU office of Teaching and Learning in the transformation of the Integrated Social Work Practice for Social Justice course into an E-learning format

2012 – 2014      University of Denver, Graduate School of Social Work  
*Graduate Teaching Assistantship, \$16,000 annual award (plus full tuition waiver)*

2013      Council on Sexual Orientation and Gender Expression, Council on Social Work Education  
*Sexual Orientation and Gender Expression Scholarship Award*

- 2009 University of Denver, Graduate School of Professional Psychology  
*Psychology Merit Scholarship, \$10,000 award*
- 2005 – 2007 The College of Saint Rose  
*Student Athletic Soccer Scholarship, \$13,200 annual award*

## **PUBLICATIONS & MANUSCRIPTS**

### *Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles*

- Bender, K., **Brown, S. M.**, Thompson, S. J., Ferguson, K. M., & Langenderfer, L. (in press). Multiple victimizations before and after leaving home associated with PTSD, depression and substance use disorder among homeless youth. *Child Maltreatment*.
- Brown, S. M.**, Klein, S., & McCrae, J. S. (in press). Collaborative relationships and improved service coordination among child welfare and early childhood systems. *Child Welfare*.
- Brown, S. M.** (Spring 2014). Alignment of early childhood programs in Colorado: Review of a legislative response. *Perspectives on Social Work, 10*, 24-31.
- Kennedy, S., Kim, J. S., Tripodi, S. J., **Brown, S. M.**, & Gowdy, G. (2014). Does parent-child interaction therapy reduce future physical abuse?: A meta-analysis. *Research on Social Work Practice, 1*-10. doi: 10.1177/1049731514543024
- Yoder, J., & **Brown, S. M.** (2014). Challenges facing families of sexually abusive youth: What prevents service engagement? *Victims & Offenders: An International Journal of Evidence-Based Research, Policy, and Practice, 00*, 1-22. doi: 10.1080/15564886.2013.875969

### *Manuscripts Under Review*

- Bender, K. A., Begun, S., DePrince, A. P., Haffejee, B., **Brown, S. M.**, Hathaway, J., & Schau, N. (under review). Mindfulness intervention with homeless youth. *Journal of the Society for Social Work Research*.
- Brown, S. M.** (revise & resubmit). Surviving the system: Child welfare workers' perceptions of job-related stress, secondary trauma, and coping strategies. *The Qualitative Report*.
- Brown, S. M.**, Bender, K., & Begun, S. (under review). An exploratory factor analysis of coping strategies and relationship to depression among a sample of homeless youth. *Community Mental Health Journal*.
- Garland, E. L., **Brown, S. M.**, & Howard, M. O. (under review). Traumatic experiences and reduced alcohol self-efficacy among alcohol dependent inpatients: Attentional and autonomic mediators. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*.
- Garland, E. L., **Brown, S. M.**, & Howard, M. O. (under review). Thought suppression mediates the association between depressed mood and prescription opioid misuse among chronic pain patients. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*.

Langenderfer, L., Walls, N. E., Whitfield, D. L., **Brown, S. M.**, & Barrett, C. (under review). Partner violence among gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer youth: Associations among risk factors. *Partner Abuse*.

McCrae, J. S., **Brown, S. M.**, & Groneman, S. (under review). Collaboration and service coordination between Head Start and child welfare. *Children Youth & Services Review*.

McDonald, S., Dmitrieva, J., Hageman, T., Hartman, C., **Brown, S. M.**, Williams, J. H., Ascione, F., & Graham-Bermann, S. (under review). The predictive impact of witnessing animal abuse on internalizing and externalizing behavior problems among children exposed to intimate partner violence. *Violence & Victims*.

### **Book Chapters**

Bender, K., **Brown, S. M.**, & Springer, D. W. (in press). Treatment planning with adolescents: ADHD case application. In K. Corcoran (Ed.), *Social workers' desk reference*, 3rd Ed. New York: Oxford University Press.

Kim, J. S., & **Brown, S. M.** (2014). School violence. In E. J. Mullen (Ed.), *Oxford Bibliographies in Social Work*. New York: Oxford University Press.

### **PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

**Brown, S. M.**, & Bender, K. A. (July, 2015). *Mental health outcomes associated with multiple childhood abuses and multiple street victimizations among homeless youth*. Paper accepted for presentation at the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, Boston, MA.

**Brown, S. M.** (2015, April). *Integrating mindfulness into trauma-informed care to improve family functioning and child mental health among child welfare-involved families*. Paper accepted for presentation at the Colorado Child and Adolescent Mental Health Coalition, Fort Collins, CO.

Begun, S., Bender, K. A., **Brown, S. M.**, Thompson, S., & Ferguson, K. M. (2015, January). *Self-efficacy versus social connectedness among homeless youth: Prioritizing approaches to service provision in a time of limited agency resources*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

**Brown, S. M.**, & Garland, E. L. (2015, January). *Alcohol dependence among trauma-exposed individuals: Pathways between traumatic incidences, alcohol use, attentional and autonomic processes, and self-efficacy*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

**Brown, S. M.**, Bender, K. A., Begun, S., Ferguson, K. M., & Thompson, S. (2015, January). *Direct and indirect indicators of street victimization among homeless youth*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

Kennedy, S. C., Kim, J. S., Tripodi, S. J., & **Brown, S. M.** (2015, January). *Does parent-child interaction therapy reduce future physical abuse? A meta-analysis*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

**Brown, S. M.**, Klein, S., & McCrae, J. S. (2014, October). *Using social network analysis to evaluate*

*child welfare-early childhood partnerships*. Paper presented at the annual Council on Social Work Education conference, Tampa, FL.

Kim, J. S., Franklin, C., & **Brown, S. M.** (2014, October). *Understanding emotional change in SFBT: Implications for social work education and practice*. Paper presented at the annual Council on Social Work Education conference, Tampa, FL.

Lechuga-Pena, S., **Brown, S. M.**, Begun, S., & Klawetter, S. (2014, October). *Examining social work students' experiences and understanding of positionality in field settings*. Paper presented at the annual Council on Social Work Education conference, Tampa, FL.

Bender, K., **Brown, S. M.**, Langenderfer, L., Thompson, S., & Ferguson, K. (2014, January). *Prevalence and outcomes of childhood poly-victimization among homeless youth*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, San Antonio, TX.

McDonald, S. E., Williams, J. H., Ascione, F., & **Brown, S. M.** (2014, January). *Anxiety, depression, and posttraumatic stress among youth exposed to intimate partner violence: The impact of witnessing animal cruelty*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work Research, San Antonio, TX.

**Brown, S. M.**, McDonald, S. E., Ascione, F. R., & Williams, J. H. (2013, November). *Socioemotional difficulties among children exposed to intimate partner violence and animal abuse*. Paper presented at the annual Council on Social Work Education conference, Dallas, TX.

Langenderfer, L. N., Whitfield, D., & **Brown, S. M.** (2013, November). *Correlates of partner violence among LGBTQ youth: Does risk beget risk?* Paper presented at the annual Council on Social Work Education conference, Dallas, TX.

Begun, S., **Brown, S. M.**, Klawetter, S., Lechuga-Pena, S., & Whitfield, D. (2013, August). *Isn't it ironic? Grappling with higher education's perpetuation of privilege, power, and oppression differentials*. Workshop presented at the Pedagogy of Privilege Conference, Denver, CO.

McDonald, S. E., **Brown, S. M.**, Ascione, F., & Williams, J. H. (2013, July). *Children exposed to intimate partner violence and concomitant animal cruelty*. Paper presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the International Society of Anthrozoology, Chicago, IL.

McDonald, S. E., **Brown, S. M.**, Ascione, F. R., & Williams, J. H. (2013, April). *Mental health and behavioral correlates of children exposed to intimate partner violence and concomitant animal abuse*. Paper presented at the International Veterinary Social Work Conference, Knoxville, TN.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

June 2009 –  
August 2013

A.B. Counseling, Lakewood, CO

*Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse Counselor/ Victim Advocate*

- Provided one-on-one assessment, consultation, and short-term intervention for adults with psychological and behavioral health issues. Assessments include: Rating Adult Problems Scales (RAPS), Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI), Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory (MCMI), Spousal Assault Risk Assessment Guide (SARA), and the Domestic Violence Risk and

Needs Assessment (DVRNA)

- Provided individual and group therapy as well as case management interventions
- Developed treatment and discharge planning with a multidisciplinary team
- Provided substance abuse prevention, screening, and intervention services through therapy and monitored sobriety
- Served as an advocate for victim's of domestic violence

July 2011 –  
August 2012

Arapahoe County Department of Human Services, Aurora, CO  
*Social Caseworker*

- Conducted ongoing assessment of safety and risk
- Provided case management on an ongoing or crisis basis for children and their parents who are experiencing severe problems in the parent-child relationship
- Supervised placement of children and coordinated parent/child visits
- Evaluated and assessed family needs for services
- Developed long term case plans that are appropriate to the children and family
- Made collateral contacts with community resources that include law enforcement, medical personnel, and substance abuse and mental health providers
- Attended court hearings, testified in court hearings as necessary, and wrote reports for judicial reviews

May 2009 –  
August 2009

The Children's Hospital, Aurora, CO  
*Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute Intern*

- Assisted with the development of educational programs to inform patients, families, and the community about public health
- Participated in meetings that support the health and safety of children
- Recognized issues relating to patient safety and provided appropriate resources to patients and their families

September 2008 –  
May 2009

Denver Juvenile Justice and Family Justice (TASC), Denver, CO  
*Case Management Intern*

- Provided case management interventions for adolescents and their families involved in the criminal justice system
- Provided group therapy
- Provided one-on-one assessments that included the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI-2), the Substance Use Survey (SUS), and the Adolescent Self Assessment Profile (ASAP II)
- Educated adolescents and their families about the appropriate treatment and necessary resources for individual's with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders

## **SERVICE AND COMMITTEE WORK**

2014 – present      Invited Reviewer, *Mindfulness*

2014 – present      Invited Reviewer, *Victims & Offenders*

2013 – present      Invited Reviewer, *Perspectives on Social Work*

2011                      Arapahoe County Department of Human Services, Denver, CO  
*Adoption Support Group Volunteer*

2008 – 2009              University of Denver, Denver, CO  
*AmeriCorps Volunteer*

2006 – 2007              The College of Saint Rose Psi Chi Chapter, Albany, NY  
*Student President and Representative*

## **TRAINING**

### ***Research Training***

Structural Equation Modeling, University of Denver  
Denver, CO – May 16, 2014

fMRI Data Analyses, University of Denver  
Denver, CO – September – November 2013

Propensity Score Matching, Butler Institute for Families, University of Denver  
Denver, CO – June 17-18, 2013

### ***Clinical Training***

Civil Justice for Victims of Crime in Colorado  
Denver, CO – June 14, 2012

Secondary Trauma for Clinical Caseworkers  
Aurora, CO – February 16, 2012

Differential Response: Family Assessment Response  
Denver, CO – November 2011

Signs of Safety Training  
Denver, CO – September 2011

Specialized Interviewing Skills for Children  
Denver, CO – September 2011

Working with Latino Families  
Denver, CO – August 2011

Colorado Caseworker Training Academy  
Denver, CO – July through August 2011

8<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Offender Training  
Keystone, CO – September 2010

Women Defendants of Domestic Violence: Evaluation, Treatment Issues and Treatment Interventions  
Evergreen, CO – August 2010

Domestic Violence Child Custody Cases Workshop  
Denver, CO – August 2010

Offender Levels of Treatment and Competencies  
Denver, CO – July 2010

Domestic Violence Risk and Needs Assessment  
Denver, CO – April 2010

Spousal Assault Risk Assessment  
Denver, CO – April 2010

Colorado Traumatic Brain Injury - Practice in Mind: Connecting TBI Research and Practice  
Denver, CO – April 2009

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 2013 – present | Society for Social Work and Research                   |
| 2014 – present | American Association of University Women               |
| 2014 – present | American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children |