

Megan Cortez MA, LCSW

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Licensed Clinical Social Worker (Colorado) License # 09923301

Social worker with strong brief therapeutic skills applied to people in crisis or a high level of distress. Proven ability to work well with multidisciplinary teams. Experience in crisis intervention, substance abuse, suicide assessment, and advocating for clients. Very knowledgeable about available resources and programs in the Denver Metro area and surrounding counties for people who lack insurance or are experiencing financial hardship.

Professional Experience

Adjunct Professor in the Graduate School of Social Work

University of Denver

- *Courses:* Clinical Social Work Theory

Adjunct Sociology Professor 08/2013

Community College of Denver

- *Courses:* Introduction to Sociology and Sociology of Deviant Behavior

Assessment and Referral Specialist 09/13- to present

Exempla Saint Joseph Hospital

- Conduct full psychosocial assessment, suicide/risk assessment, substance abuse assessment and utilize brief therapeutic techniques as needed for patients coming into the emergency department in crisis. Following the assessment, disposition will be facilitated. This often requires M-1 holds, emergency substance abuse commitment, inpatient psychiatric admission, substance abuse detox, or outpatient resources.
- In addition, as a behavioral health specialist we are often needed on the medical floors to help assist with behavioral health recommendations. This often requires communication with a multidisciplinary team of doctors, case managers, RNs, and security.

Crisis Clinician 01/11 - 01/14

Metro Crisis Services

- Providing in the moment crisis intervention, suicide/risk assessment, acute therapeutic interventions and referrals/resources to outpatient services. Metro Crisis Services takes crisis calls for the Suicide Hotline, Southeast Mental Health, CoAccess and Metro Crisis Services.
- Collaborate with community support services to ensure the safety of callers as needed.

Assessment and Referral Specialist Intern 12/09- 05/10

Exempla Saint Joseph Hospital

- Same as above

Case and Care Coordinator Intern 8/09 - 6/10

Kaiser Permanente

- Providing care management and utilization management for Medicaid members managed by Kaiser Permanente. To reduce high utilization of hospital services frequent communication would be attempted to provide community resources, funds/grants, and support as needed. This service was long-term with the hope to reduce over utilization of medical services in the community.

Intern 8-08 to 5-09

The Bridge Project

- Co-facilitating a girls group with 8 adolescent girls to improve self-esteem, as well as facilitating a group for both adolescent girls and boys to improve positive relationship building.
- Facilitated and helped plan everyday programming for students participating with this afterschool program.

Counselor Jan 08 to July 08

Beacon Center Residential Adolescent Treatment Center

- Managing everyday programming for adolescent boys required to be in residential treatment due to legal charges or because of DHS.

Education

- University of Denver (May 2010)
Masters of Social Work
- University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (May 2007)
Master of Arts, Sociology
- University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (December 2006)
Bachelor of Arts, Sociology
*Minor in women's studies