

# ELIZABETH L. HAMEL, MSW

BILINGUAL ENGLISH/SPANISH

liz.hamel@du.edu  
elizhamel@gmail.com

## EDUCATION

**Master of Social Work** (August 2008-June 2010)

**University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work (GSSW), Denver, CO**

*Leadership for Community and Organizational Practice Track*

- Social Work with Latinos/as Certificate

**Bachelor of Arts, Psychology and Spanish** (August 2003-May 2007)

**University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS**

- Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) Study Abroad Program, Seville, Spain (June 2006-July 2006)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Colorado Program Facilitator, Building Bridges, Denver, CO** (May 2014-Present)

- Completed Colorado Program Summer Intensive facilitator training
- Co-facilitated two week intensive program focused on transformational intercultural leadership and communication skills with young women from diverse backgrounds to address segregation in their high schools and communities
- Co-design and implement school year curriculum; Facilitate meetings, workshops with two school groups
- Support students in Change Project design and implementation in their home schools
- Build relationships and coordinate with participants, staff, co-facilitators, interns, and other partners

**Bilingual Leadership Development Consultant, The Denver Foundation, Denver, CO** (July 2013-Present)

*Education Department*

- Recruit, build relationships, and surface interests and concerns with diverse parents of two Aurora Middle Schools
- Organize with parents using a leadership development process based on social justice and grassroots change initiatives
- Collaborate with school administration and staff to build parent engagement capacity and coordinate logistics

*Resident Leadership Institute*

- Facilitated and support leadership and community organizing workshops with diverse resident-led groups during eight month institute

**Adjunct Faculty** (May 2013-Present)

**Graduate School of Social Work, University of Denver, Denver, CO**

*SOWK 4007: Community/Macro Social Work Theory and Practice*

*SOWK 4757: Social Work & Mexican Culture: An Intensive Practice and Spanish Immersion Course*

- Assistant for immersion trip to Mexico as part of the Graduate School of Social Work's Social Work with Latinos/as Certificate Program; Course conducted in Spanish

**Political Science Department, University of Colorado Denver, Denver, CO**

*PSCI 4002: Community Organizing and Community Development*

**Field Organizer, *Inequality for All*, Feature Documentary Film, Denver, CO** (September–November, 2013)

- Outreach and engagement with various community, student, union, and nonprofit groups in Denver metro area to promote documentary and connect the film to pre-existing local work
- Coordinate nonprofit screening events with theater, local organizations, and national film team
- Utilize social media strategies to multiply film impact and connect national outreach campaign to local level

**Bilingual Lead Organizer, Rights for All People (RAP), Aurora, CO** (June 2010-July 2013)

\*Promoted to Lead Organizer from Organizer in Spring 2012

- Coordinated organizing, civic engagement, and leadership development programs
- Managed, recruited, and supervised paid staff, student interns, and volunteers; Collaborated with various university

internship programs

- Developed immigrant community leaders and their allies to advocate for positive community change
- Designed and implemented strategic policy campaigns based on leaders' needs and decisions in collaboration with local, state, and national partners

*Campaigns included: Federal Immigration Reform; Breaking the Link between Immigration and Local Law Enforcement (Aurora Police Department); Melt the ICE/Stop Secure Communities; National Private Prison Divestment Campaign (Wells Fargo); RAP Membership and Listening Campaign; Yes to a Strong Colorado, No to Arizona Copycat Laws; Campaign to Unite Colorado (Repeal of Senate Bill 90); Engage Colorado 2012/Amendment 65; 2012 Voter Registration*

- As part of Management Team, systematized organizational team-building, professional development, conflict management, strategic planning, and program evaluation practices
  - Expanded organizational base of paid members and allies through relationship-building, recruitment, and retention
  - Planned, scheduled, facilitated, and trained others to implement Leadership Academy, workshops, and events for hundreds of participants
- Topics included: Know Your Rights; History of Immigration and Social Movements; Community Organizing Strategies; Grassroots Campaign Development; Private Prisons, Immigration, and Money; Political Education; How a Bill Becomes a Law; Direct Action; Leadership and Power; Relationship-Building; Civic Engagement Strategies*
- Created, implemented, and evaluated popular educational curricula for leadership development and community outreach purposes
  - Collaborated on fundraising and communications projects with colleagues, including annual holiday event with attendance of over 350 and other large events
  - Promoted organizational presence through social media strategies; Co-led winning "That Law is Jacked" social media campaign contest
  - Organized and coordinated group travel to conferences and trainings including national conference in Washington, DC
  - Represented organization in local, state, and national coalitions and collaborative projects
  - Developed and maintained effective data systems and reports utilizing Powerbase, the Voter Activation Network, and Microsoft Office

**Bilingual Organizational Educator and Researcher, The Conflict Center, Denver, CO** (September 2009-May 2010)

- Instructed conflict and anger management classes for youth at risk and their parents and guardians
- Coordinated Reading for Peace volunteer program in collaboration with schools; Designed and implemented volunteer trainings and social events
- Reviewed existing literature and best practices on cultural competency and conflict styles
- Independently designed, implemented, and analyzed inclusivity program evaluation instrument specifically for The Conflict Center's Spanish speaking program participants
- Participated in agency inclusiveness and cultural competency committee
- Constructed grant proposals
- Promoted agency services through community outreach and participated in professional trainings

**Special Education Paraprofessional, Olathe Public Schools, Olathe, KS** (June 2009-July 2009)

- Assisted high school students in extended year special education program; Collaborated with other educators
- Tracked students' progress on daily academic and social skills goals

**Home Based Therapist, Catholic Charities, Denver, CO** (August 2008-May 2009)

- Independently implemented therapeutic interventions with families: Topics included mental health, family relationships, and child abuse
- Collaborated on cases with therapists, caseworkers, and other professionals
- Designed, adapted, and evaluated treatment plans
- Completed all proper documentation including critical incident report related to child abuse
- Created community resource guide for Spanish speaking clients

- Autism Education Paraprofessional, Lawrence Public Schools, Lawrence, KS** (May 2007-July 2007)
- Instructed several children academically and socially on a one-on-one basis in an autism classroom environment
  - Tracked daily progress of students
  - Partnered with other educators to work with individual strengths of each student

## RESEARCH

---

- Bilingual Lead Organizer, Rights for All People, Aurora, CO** (June 2010-July 2013)
- Performed ongoing program evaluation as Lead Organizer and member of Management Team
  - Collected and analyzed testimonies regarding racial profiling and immigration in the Denver metro area
  - Researched and analyzed immigration and law enforcement policy and its impacts on local communities

- Bilingual Organizational Educator and Researcher, The Conflict Center, Denver, CO** (September 2009-June 2010)
- Reviewed existing literature and best practices on cultural competency and conflict styles
  - Independently designed inclusivity program evaluation instrument specifically for The Conflict Center's Spanish speaking program participants and implemented evaluation in Spanish
  - Created statistics database to analyze collected data with PASW/SPSS software; Compiled and interpreted results

- Graduate Student, University of Denver, Denver, CO** (April 2009-June 2010)
- Graduate Research Coursework*
- "Research Methods and Design"
  - "Policy Development and Analysis"
  - "Methods for Evaluation Practice/Programs"
  - "Applied Practice Evaluation Research"

- Psychology Research Assistant, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS** (August 2005-May 2006)
- Clinical Child Psychology Department*
- Researched and reported subject matter to research group
  - Conducted interviews using standardized test measures to gather data about abused and maltreated children
- Social Psychology Department*
- Executed cognitive dissonance study with doctoral student
  - Independently instructed, monitored, and debriefed subjects of experiment

## SERVICE

---

- Troupe Member, Romero Theater Troupe, Denver, CO** (September 2013-Present)
- Social Justice through Organic Theater*

- Racial Justice Hotline Volunteer, Colorado Progressive Coalition, Denver, CO** (June 2013-Present)
- Respond to hotline callers and perform call intakes regarding racial profiling and abuse incidents
  - Attend trainings and Hotline Committee meetings

- Member, 9 to 5 Colorado, National Association of Working Women, Denver, CO** (February 2012-Present)
- Winning Justice for Working Women*

- Table Captain, Colorado Progressive Coalition, Denver, CO** (October-December 2012)
- Annual Breakfast Fundraiser*

**Co-Leader, Multicultural Social Justice Student Organization, GSSW, University of Denver** (August 2009-May 2010)

- Revived student organization at the Graduate School of Social Work
- Engaged graduate students in dialogue and action
- Planned and facilitated meetings and events including Hunger Banquet and a trip to the School of the Americas Annual National Protest

**Bilingual International Community Volunteer, Fundación AFOS, Córdoba, Argentina** (April 2008-June 2008)

- Assisted local community members with rural neighborhood after-school program
- Worked with local teachers at rural school for children with disabilities
- Completed Spanish lessons

**Volunteer Crisis Counselor and Interviewer, Headquarters, Lawrence, KS** (September 2006-February 2008)

- Completed 110 hours of training in suicide and crisis counseling skills and over 400 hours of 24-hour crisis hotline service
- Implemented service evaluations with hotline clients
- Interviewed potential volunteer counselors and served on selection committee

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Participant, *Introductory Restorative Practices Workshops*, ReSolutionaries, Aurora, CO** (August-December 2014)
- **Trainee, *Weeklong Facilitation Training*, Building Bridges, Denver, CO** (May-June 2014)
- **Panelist and Action Captain, *National People's Action Annual Conference*, Washington, DC** (May 2012; April 2013)
- **Committee Member, *Programs, Outreach and Affecting Change Committee*, Aurora Human Rights Center, Aurora, CO** (February 2013-July 2013)
- **Panelist, *Community Organizing Panel: Empowerment Practice with Diverse Communities Course*, Graduate School of Social Work, University of Denver** (February 2013)
- **Trainee, *Powerbase Training*, Progressive Technology Project, Minnesota** (October 2012)
- **Team Leader, *Engage Colorado*, Project of the Colorado C3 Roundtable, Denver, CO** (August-November 2012)
- **Graduate, *National Weeklong Leadership Training*, National People's Action, Indiana** (August 2012)
- **Co-Facilitator, *Summer Meltdown Documenting Abuses Workshop*, Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition, Denver, CO** (July 2012)
- **Participant, *Building Resilience to Secondary Trauma Workshop*, Denver Coalition for Integration, Denver, CO** (April 2012)
- **Moderator, *The State of Colorado: What's For Sale, Privatization of Prisons Forum*, Rights for All People and 9to5 Association of Working Women, Aurora, CO** (April 2012)
- **Committee Member, *Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition Political Advocacy Team*, Denver, CO** (February-August 2012)
- **Management Team Member, *Rights for All People*, Denver, CO** (January 2012-July 2013)
- **Participant, *Securing our Rights National Conference*, Rights Working Group, San Francisco, CA** (December 2011)
- **Participant, *National Immigrant Integration Conference*, Seattle, WA** (October 2011)
- **Presenter, *Statewide Assembly*, Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition, Estes Park, CO** (October 2011)
- **Presenter and Participant, *National Private Prison Divestment Campaign Strategy Session*, Enlace International, Denver, CO** (August 2011; August 2012)
- **Trainee, *Grassroots Fundraising Project Training*, Colorado Community Organizing Collaborative, Denver, CO** (June 2011)
- **Trainee, *Human Rights Training*, Rights Working Group, Washington, DC** (March 2011)
- **Field Instructor and Intern Supervisor, *Rights for All People*, Aurora, CO** (August 2010-July 2013)
- **Trainer and Facilitator, *Know Your Rights Workshops*, Rights for All People, Denver Metro Area, CO** (August 2010-July 2013)

- **Trainee**, *Camp Wellstone: Working on a Campaign Track*, Wellstone, New York, NY (July 2010)
- **Presenter**, *Pedagogy of Privilege Conference*, University of Denver (June 2009)
- **Volunteer and Participant**, *Diversity Summit on Inclusive Excellence*, University of Denver (May 2009; April 2010)
- **Participant**, *Annual Women's Conference*, University of Denver (March 2009)
- **Diversity Dialogue Group Participant**, *Voices of Discovery*, University of Denver (January 2009)
- **Volunteer and Participant**, *National Creating Change Conference for LGBT Equality*, Denver, CO (January 2009)

## **SPECIALIZED SKILLS AND INTEREST AREAS**

---

- Spanish Fluency, Written and Spoken
- Popular Education and Curricula Development
- Transformational Leadership Development
- Grassroots Community Organizing
- Voter Engagement
- Legislative Advocacy
- Immigration Policy
- Latin American History and Social Movements
- Intercultural Communication
- Conflict Management and Direct Communication
- Hiring and Supervision of Student Interns, Staff, and Volunteers
- Inclusiveness and Diversity
- Team Building Activities
- Event Planning
- Social Media
- Crisis Counseling
- Microsoft Office
- Data Systems including the Voter Activation Network Database and Powerbase

## **REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

---

