

Mary-Margaret Sweeney
115 S. Hawthorne Lane
Indianapolis, IN 46219
773.680.6440 / mmsweeney.sw@gmail.com

Education

Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL
December 2014

- Master of Social Work
- Specializations: Health
- 3.8 GPA

Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL
May 2010

- Bachelor of Arts, Social Justice Studies
- Minor, Women's and Gender Studies
- 3.8 GPA

Work Experience

Social Health Association of Indiana, Indianapolis, IN, 2015-Present: *Adolescent Health Educator & Social Media Manager*

- Implement medically accurate teen pregnancy, teen dating violence, sexual assault, & STI prevention curricula (Making a Difference!, Be Proud, Be Responsible) with 7th & 8th graders throughout the state of Indiana through a trauma-informed lens
- Data analysis of pre- & post-tests to gauge program efficacy
- Record keeping of demographic data for funding partners
- Facilitation of any student disclosures of abuse—connecting student to school services, conferencing with school social worker, & submitting a report with Department of Child Services
- Update & maintenance of SHA's social media

Exodus Refugee Immigration, Indianapolis, IN, 2014-2015: *Case Manager, Resettlement and Placement & Preferred Communities*

- Guided clients through their first 90 days in the US, providing cultural orientation, mental health assessment, school enrollment, application to Social Security, SNAP, TANF, RCA, & Medicaid
- Implemented protocol for the transition of clients to Healthy Indiana Plan 2.0
- Constant cross-cultural communication with clients through interpreters, basic English, and pictures
- Provided extended case management to clients with complex medical & co-morbid mental health needs, as well as survivors of human trafficking
- Handled immigration paperwork to attain legal permanent status for refugees
- Functioned as a referral to community resources, networking with agencies all over Central Indiana

Forma, Chicago, IL, 2014: *Program Manager*

- Designed & delivered trainings to community stakeholders on the issues of female genital cutting (FGC) & African refugee communities
- Brokered an agreement & acted as liaison with Rush University Medical Center's Program for Abdominal and Pelvic Health for expedited care for Forma clients experiencing health complications of FGC
- Developed standards and curricula for an "FGC-competency" training program, wherein Forma provided training & certification for hospitals & other healthcare settings, & sought community partners
- Coordinated pregnancy support & psycho-education groups

Master Level Internship Experience

RefugeeOne, Chicago, IL, 2013-2014: *Youth Program Intern*

- Medical advocacy for recently settled refugee families
- Designed and presented health and hygiene workshops for adolescent clients covering puberty, sexual abuse and consent, safe sex practices, and oral hygiene
- Administered biosychosocial mental health status screens to youth clients upon arrival and throughout their first year of participation in the Youth Program
- Assisted adolescent clients in applying for magnet schools & college scholarships

National Association of Social Workers-Illinois, Chicago IL, 2013: *Policy & Programming Intern*

- Planned & executed Board of Directors meetings
- Attended coalitions, task forces, & State Senate committees as a NASW-IL representative
- Compiled survey information to examine member retention and new member recruitment

- Engaged key entities in the planning phase of the 2013 NASW-IL Statewide Conference
- Launched a mentorship program pairing seasoned social workers with those entering the field

Volunteer Experience

Broadway Youth Center, Chicago IL, 2005-2007: *Volunteer*

- Performed HIV/STI testing and sex education for youth ages 14-24
- Primary demographic of LGBTQ+ youth
- Counseled clients through test results; facilitated connection with care team

National Association of Social Workers-Illinois Chapter, Committee on Diversity and Cultural Competence, Chicago, IL 2014-2015: *Volunteer committee member*

- Endeavored to create new state standards for Illinois social workers for mandated continuing education in cultural competency to maintain social work licensure

-Created & delivered a cultural competency continuing education workshop, & sought other professionals to do so

Impact 100 Greater Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN 2016: *Health & Wellness committee member*

- Worked in committee to vet applications for the \$100,000 grants awarded to a Central Indiana nonprofit
- Nominated a final contender from our committee to advance to the final round
- Participated in the giving circle on a scholarship awarded to young professionals who may not be able to participate financially, but bring insight into the nonprofit world

Presentations & Appearances

Women's Health Access in Indiana, Al Jazeera English. Forthcoming, July 2016 air date.

The Politics of Sex Education in the US. Invited guest lecturer, Feminist Philosophy undergraduate course. Roosevelt University 2016, Chicago, IL

Professional Feminism: Using Your Women's and Gender Studies Degree. Invited panelist. Roosevelt University Women's and Gender Studies program, 2016, Chicago, IL

Boundaries with Clients in the Work Place. Presentation at the 2015 Exodus Refugee Immigration Staff Retreat. 2015, Indianapolis, IN

The Life Ahead: Working with Refugee Children and Families. Presentation for Indianapolis Township School Liaisons, Children's Bureau, Inc. and Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department Child Abuse Unit.. 2015, Indianapolis, IN

Orientalism, Colonialism, and Problematic Western Feminist Engagement in Ending FGC. Invited guest lecturer, Feminist Philosophy undergraduate course. Roosevelt University 2014, Chicago, IL

Social Work with Refugees: The Mental and Physical Health Complications of FGC. Co-presenter, NASW-IL. 2014, Chicago IL (approved for continuing education units for IL social workers)

The Psychological and Medical Complications of Female Genital Mutilation. Presentation for surgical and physician staff at Rush University Medical Center's Program for Abdominal and Pelvic Health. 2014, Chicago, IL

Sex Education and Healthy Relationships. GirlForward, 2014, Chicago, IL

Publications

Sweeney, Mary-Margaret. (2015). Autoethnography, Feminist Social Work, & the Care of Clients with Rare Illnesses. *Praxis*, 14.

Sweeney, Mary-Margaret. (2006.) Black Pastel. *South Loop Review*, Volume 9.

Founder and writer of sexual health information Facebook page, "Mary-Margaret Sweeney, Writer, Sex Educator, Activist" and accompanying blog, An Old Page (www.anoldpage.com)

Staff writer, columnist, and editor, Social Justice Solutions. 2012-2014

Staff writer, columnist, and editor, UPChicago, 2010-2012

Various freelance publications with online magazines and literary journals including DIY Natural, Pluck Magazine, The Unlost, ChiDOGoan (now inactive), Singles GetLusty, National Association of Social Workers-Illinois Chapter

Certifications and Honors

-Certified Labor & Postpartum Doula (CD); Certified Childbirth Educator (CCE)

-Pending certification as a child and youth care work practitioner, professional level (CYC-P) (August 2016)

-2015 Indiana Youth Institute Development Grant to enable attendance at the 2015 National Sex Education Conference

-Fellow in the Journey Fellowship for New Professionals in Youth Work 2016

-Grant recipient to attend 2016 International Youth Conference in Vienna, Austria as a Journey Fellow

-Impact 100 2016 scholarship awardee
-CPR certified