

RHONDA DINOVO, LMSW

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PERSONAL STRENGTHS AND ABILITIES

- Committed to the process of life-long learning, teaching, and continuous improvement
- Vision, mission, purpose and goal oriented with a strong ability to focus, follow through, and modify as needed
- Core values and actions are for the holistic well-being and social justice for all
- Unique ability to see positive potential and possibilities in all people and situations
- Strong organizational, management, and supervisory skills

LICENSURE

- Licensed Master Social Worker, License #12050

EDUCATION

- Masters of Social Work, emphasis on micro/clinical work, Ohio State University, graduated 1998
- Bachelor of Psychology, minor in Criminology, Ohio State University, graduated 1990

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Clinical Assistant Professor, College of Social Work
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
2015-Present**

- Chair, Health and Mental Health Specialization, MSW Program
- Member, MSW Curriculum Committee
- Clinical Assistant Professor
 - SOWK 722 Direct Social Work Practice, Individ., Families, and Groups (Fall 2017)
 - SOWK 724 Advanced Social Practice with Groups (Fall 2015, Fall 2016)
 - SOWK 731 Motivational Interviewing (Spring 2016, Summer 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Summer 2017, Spring 2018)
 - SOWK 768 Youth and Substance Use (Summer 2016, Spring 2017 in Korea, Summer 2017, Spring 2018)
 - SOWK 777 Advanced SW Theory in Health and Mental Health (Spring 2016, Summer 2017, Spring 2017, Spring 2018)
 - SOWK 779 Advanced SW Interventions in Health and Mental Health (Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018)
- Lead Instructor, USC COSW MSW Program
 - SOWK 778 Advanced Theory in HMH (Spring 2018)
 - SOWK 731 Motivational Interviewing (Spring 2016, Spring 2017)
 - SOWK 710 Foundations of Social Work Practice in Groups (Spring 2015)
 - SOWK 724 Advanced Social Work Practice with Groups (Fall 2014)
- Instructor, Study Abroad
 - International Social Work, Oranjestad, Aruba (Spring 2017)
 - Examining Social Justice, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, (Spring 2016)

- Social Problems/Social Work in Contemporary Vietnam, Hanoi, Vietnam, observer (Maymester 2014)
- Field Instructor, USC COSW MSW and BSW Program/LRADAC and WCPD
 - Total 32 students (Fall 2010-current)
- Adjunct Instructor, USC COSW MSW Program
 - SOWK 710 Foundations of Social Work Practice in Groups (Spring 2013, 2014)
 - SOWK 712 (J50) Human Behavior and the Social Environment I (Fall 2014)
 - SOWK 724 Advanced Social Work Practice with Groups (Fall 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014)
 - SOWK 725 Advanced Social Work Practice with Families (Spring 2012)
 - SOWK 726 Social Work Supervision (Summer 2014, Spring 2015)
 - SOWK 732 Organizations and Communities (Summer 2012)
 - SOWK 733 Administrative Skills (Summer 2013, Fall 2013)

Director, Substance Abuse Prevention and Education

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

2012-2015

- Oversee and supervise all substance abuse prevention staff and initiatives.
- Conduct ongoing assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of prevention strategies and practices.
- Oversee prevention and education for all students, staff and faculty on risk reduction techniques.
- Facilitate changes in risky behaviors and negative consequences associated with substance use through environmental prevention, coalition building, and policy change strategies.
- Develop, coordinate, and manage all prevention communication messages and campaigns throughout the Carolina community in order to influence and change culture.

Project Director, Rise Above It Drug Free Coalition

West Columbia Police Department, West Columbia., SC

2010-2012

- Recruited and collaborated with all sectors of the Lexington Two Community to implement the coalition's strategic plan under the guidelines of the Drug Free Communities Support Project and the SAMHSA Strategic Planning Framework.
- Strategic planning activities included comprehensive community wide assessment, capacity building, planning, implementation of environmental strategies, and evaluation of process and outcome indicators.

Prevention Specialist

LRADAC, Columbia, SC

2006-2010

- Recruited and collaborated with all sectors of the Lexington Two Community to conduct a comprehensive community wide needs assessment, prioritize strategic planning activities, and form the Rise Above It Coalition.
- Prepared the Rise Above It grant application for five years of funding from the Drug Free Community Support Program (grant award \$625,000).
- Coordinated Project ALERT, an evidence-based substance abuse prevention program for 600 adolescents per year.
- Coordinated the LRADAC STD/HIV/AIDS prevention and education program for 3000 adult and adolescent substance abusing clients per year.

Clinical Counselor

Licking County Alcoholism Prevention Program

1997-2001

- Provided face to face, one on one as well as group counseling and education for individuals, couples, and families.
- Education topics included, but were not limited to drug and alcohol addiction prevention, DUI prevention, and marriage counseling.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Journal Article

- Iachini, A., Frey, A., Lee, J., **DiNovo, R.**, Lutz, A., *Integrating Evidence-Based Practice into Social Work Field Education: A Case Example of a University-Community Partnership Field Practicum Designed to Promote the Development of Graduate Social Work Students' Motivational Interviewing and EBP Skills*, Journal of Social Work Education, 2016

Presentations

- **DiNovo, R.** & Norman, J., *WC Outreach, Mental Illness: An Officer's Response.*, SC Criminal Justice Academy, Columbia, SC, November, 2017
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Advanced Practice with Groups: Ethical Considerations for Practitioners*, Merge Counseling and Coaching, Orangeburg, South Carolina, July 2017
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Utilizing Cognitive Behavior Therapies with Substance Use Disordered Populations*, Merge Counseling and Coaching, Orangeburg, South Carolina, May 2017
- **DiNovo, R.** & Chehoski, B., *MI in the Real World.*, Annual SC NASW Spring Symposium, Columbia, SC, March 2017
- **DiNovo, R.** & Norman, J., *Helping the Helper: Reducing Service Calls through Screening and Referral.*, Annual SC NASW Spring Symposium, Columbia, SC March 2017
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Motivational Interviewing: Style, Spirit and Process*, Palmetto Association for Children and Families, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, February 2017
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Students Taking Initiative and Responsibility: An Evidence Based Intervention and Treatment Approach for Youth*, Guest Lecturer, Seoul, Korea, January 2017
- **DiNovo, R.**, *MI Style, Spirit, and Technique*, Transitions, Columbia, South Carolina, December 2016
- **DiNovo, R.**, Farber, N., Mitchell, M., Penney, P., *Essential and Neglected: Transforming Classroom Learning Through Relationship*, Council on Social Work Education Annual Conference, Atlanta, November 2016
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Understanding Health and Mental Health Services: A Continuum of Care*, Guest Lecturer for Students from India, USC, COSW, November 2016
- **DiNovo, R.**, Anderson-Brown, A., *Advanced Motivational Interviewing*, Merge Counseling and Coaching, Orangeburg, June 2016
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Motivational Interviewing: Preparing the Client for Change, Part II*, PASOs, Charleston, May 2016
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Motivational Interviewing for Group Settings*, LRADAC, Columbia, SC, October, 2015
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Capacity building and developing effective community coalitions*, Annual Conference for South Carolina Alliance for Health and Education, Myrtle Beach, SC, November, 2014.
- Green, C. & **DiNovo, R.**, *Alcohol and Substance Abuse Initiatives, Clemson and USC*, annual health summit for Southeast region health educators and prevention directors, USC's Healthy Campus Summit 2014, Columbia, SC, October, 2014.
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Motivational Interviewing, Preparing Clients for Change*, Second Tuesday Series Workshop for social workers, Columbia, SC, September, 2014.
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Comprehensive Community Assessment*, Utilizing the Strategic Prevention Framework to assess need, resources, and political will in communities, Everfi Annual Research Summit, national workshop break out session for university substance abuse prevention directors, Boston, MA, August, 2014.
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Partnering for a Prevention-Oriented Campus*, Annual Conference for Southeast regional Housing and Conduct Administrators, Student of Concern Teams and Academic Integrity professionals, Southeast Student Conduct Institute, Columbia, SC, June, 2014.
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Shifting Gears: Changing from Individual to Environmental Approaches*, focus group with National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Boston, MA, December, 2013.

- **DiNovo, R.**, *Engaging students. Motivating change. Creating responsible citizens.*, The ATIXA/SCOPE Joint National Conference for national members of The School and College Organization for Prevention Educators, Orlando, FL, October, 2013.
- **Dinovo, R & Wierzbicki, A.**, *Environmental Observation in Off Premise Retail Establishments*, Annual national conference that explores research, application and practice to promote positive outcomes in community, state and federal environment, National Prevention Network, Pittsburgh, PA, September, 2012.
- **DiNovo, R.**, *Alcohol and Other Drugs and HIV: The Connection-* Assisting substance abusing clients in preventing the spread of STIs/HIV, Annual training for South Carolina clinicians treating substance abusing clients, LRADAC, Columbia, SC, 2010-2014.

RESEARCH

- *Service to Science Evaluation Project*, Evaluation of Intervention to Reduce over service of alcohol, 2013-2014
- *Time for Change Research Project*, An Evidence-Based Approach to Crime Prevention and Environmental Change 2014-2015

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Two Thumbs Up Award, Office of Student Disability Services, University of South Carolina, 2017
- Phi Alpha National Honor Society for Social Work, Honorary Membership Award, 2016
- Fraternity and Sorority Life/Order of Omega, Office of Substance Abuse Prevention and Education Campus/Community Partnership Award, 2013
- USC's Division of Student Affairs & Academic Support, New Staff Member of the Year Award, Mid to Senior Level, 2013
- Leadership Lexington County, Award of Achievement for contributions of time, treasure and talent in the ongoing mission of community progress and the responsibility of leadership, 2013
- Rise Above It Community Coalition, Award for hard work and dedicated service, 2012
- South Carolina Association of Prevention Professionals and Advocates, Jan Oglietti Rising Star Prevention Professional for Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Prevention Award, 2009