

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners

Application for Continuing Education Approval Organization

Section A: Organizational Information

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) - LA Chapter
Name of Organization
Meaghan Goldbeck; LA/MS Executive Director
Name of Director/President
P.O. Box 774 Chalmette, LA 70044
Mailing Address City/State Zip
122 E Damour St, Chalmette, LA 70043
Physical Address (if different from above) City/State Zip
504 1220-6100 / -
Telephone Fax
mgoldbeck@afsp.org www.afsp.org
Email Address Website

Organization applying for Continuing Education Approval Organization status must have a significant and continual affiliation with the social work profession. Please indicate that which applies:

Professional Social Work Organization Social Work Service Provider
 CSWE Accredited School of Social Work

Organization applying for Continuing Education Approval Organization must have three (3) letters of references from any combination of the following:

Professional Social Work Organization Social Work Service Provider
 CSWE Accredited School of Social Work

Section B: Continuing Education Program

Review and approval of continuing education applications from continuing education providers must be completed by a credentialed social worker. Identify the social worker assigned to administer this process for the organization.

Danita LeBlanc, MSW, LCSW-BACS#2859
Name/Social Work Degree/Social Work Credential
Board President
Relationship to Organization
5401 N. College Hill Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70808
Mailing Address City/State Zip
same
Physical Address (if different from above) City/State Zip
225 1335-4979 / -
Telephone Fax
danitaleblanc@cof.net
Email Address

Section C: Approval Guidelines, Process and Agreement

Protocol for receiving request for approval from education presenters:

- Organization will provide LABSWE Continuing Education Approval Application to education presenters upon request.
- LABSWE Continuing Education Approval Application may be mailed, faxed, sent electronically and/or published on Organization website.
- Organization will accept only LABSWE Continuing Education Approval Applications, completed in its entirety and accompanied by required documentation.

Process by which Organization will study and assess the proposed education offering:

- Organization will review application and supporting documentation to determine that it meets all standards and guidelines established in "Criteria for Approving Continuing Education Offerings" and "Guide for Assessment of Continuing Education."

As each organization is structured and staffed differently, organizations shall determine timeline for administering the continuing education program.

- Describe time limit set for making a decision on an educational offering's suitability:

Decisions on CEU applications will be made within 4 weeks of submission.

As each organization is structured and staffed differently, organizations shall determine their own fees, if any, charged for these services.

- Describe fees agency will charge to process Continuing Education Applications:

\$15⁰⁰ for 1-2 hrs
\$25⁰⁰ for 3-4 hrs.
\$50⁰⁰ for 1 day
\$100 for (2 or more days) conference

Section D: Authority

Submission of this signed application certifies that the Organization has studied the "Criteria for Approving Continuing Education Offerings" and "Guide for Assessment of Continuing Education," and determined that the Organization is prepared to assess continuing education opportunities by these guidelines on a timely bases; and has ample storage to maintain all continuing education records for a minimum of three years, and in accordance with Louisiana law. Organization understands that if approved, the organization will be given authority to pre-approve social work continuing education for three (3) years. After three (3) years, the organization shall reapply to the Board if interested in maintaining designation as a pre-approving body. Organization agrees to comply with scheduled LABSWE Continuing Education audits and submit a list of all approved programs to the board office for current collection period by July 15 of each year. Organization agrees to notify LABSWE within thirty (30) days if any information submitted on this application changes. Organization understands that approval is granted at the discretion of the Board and may be revoked if Organization is found to be out of compliance with any aspect of established guidelines.

This designation also designates the organization as an approved provider of continuing education. This designation will be authorized for three (3) years from the date LABSWE approves the application.



11/4/2024

Signature of Director/President

Date

Submit completed and signed application, along with three (3) reference letters, to:

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

For LABSWE office use only:

Application Received _____ Application Reviewed _____ Application Approved/Denied _____
Approval Expires _____

Revised 5/16

Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR



Michael Harrington, MBA, M
SECRETARY

State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Behavioral Health

September 4, 2024

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road
Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Re: Letter of Support for Continued Status as a Pre-Approval Organization for Mrs. Danita Leblanc, LCSW-BACS, with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention- Louisiana Chapter

Dear Members of the Board:

My name is Kimberly Catalon and I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker/ Program Manager employed with the Office of Behavioral Health. The purpose of my correspondence is to submit a formal letter of support for the continued status as a Pre-Approval Organization for Social Work Continuing Education, for Mrs. Danita Leblanc, LCSW-BACS, with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention- Louisiana Chapter (AFSP- LA).

It is my opinion that AFSP- LA- has and continues to demonstrate commitment to the profession by providing invaluable opportunities for social work professionals to access knowledge and growth in the area of suicide prevention.

By allowing AFSP- LA and Ms. Leblanc to maintain their status as a Pre-Approval Organization, the board would be granting continued access to a very valuable resource to social work professionals and students across the state.

If you should have any questions or would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to call me at 225-342-8962. I thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Catalon

Kimberly Catalon, MSW, LCSW
Juvenile Competency Program Manager
Child Forensic Services
Louisiana Department of Health- Office of Behavioral Health



College of Human Sciences & Education
School of Social Work

September 4, 2024

LABSWE
18550 Highland Rd., Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Dear LABSWE,

I am pleased to present this letter of support for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention under the leadership of the AFSP-LA Board President, Danita LeBlanc. The work of AFSP focuses on eliminating the loss of life from suicide by: delivering innovative prevention programs, educating the public, raising funds for suicide research and programs, and reaching out to those who have lost someone to suicide. AFSP strives to provide high quality trainings for mental health professionals, as well as, anyone that intersects with mental illness, addictive disorders and primary care services and prevention. Their unique focus and knowledge in the area of suicide will create a needed approver of high quality trainings for our workforce in Louisiana.

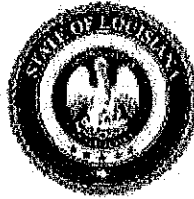
Danita LeBlanc has a demonstrated knowledge of the continuing education process and committed to insuring compliance with all aspects. Please contact my office if I can assist in providing additional information at tlilley@lsu.edu or #225-578-2133.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Traci Lilley".

Traci Lilley, LCSW-BACS, MSW
Associate Director and Director of Field Internships

Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR



Michael Harrington, MBA, MA
SECRETARY

State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

September 4, 2024

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Dear LA State Board of Social Work Examiners:

On behalf of the Bureau of Family Health, I am writing to express our support for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention/Louisiana Chapter as an approval organization for continuing education. As the director of maternal, child and family health public health programs for Louisiana—including Louisiana's Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, the Comprehensive Suicide Prevention Program, the Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative (LaPQC), and other programs to improve outcomes in the state—I understand that the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) is a national non-profit that works to prevent suicide by focusing on research, education, and advocacy to take action against this leading cause of death. LDH-Bureau of Family Health is fully committed to supporting these efforts, as suicide is a critical issue that impacts our community.

In Louisiana, the state Title V MCH Block Grant has evolved to support both core public health activities and newer work to understand and align efforts around emerging areas of concern. AFSP is dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide and engages in strategies such as funding scientific research, educating the public about mental health and suicide prevention, advocating for public policies in mental health and suicide prevention, and supporting survivors of suicide loss and those affected by suicide.

AFSP collaborates with organizations on increasing the skills and knowledge of social workers and clinicians around suicide assessment, intervention, and treatment of suicidality. Our Bureau works to elevate the strengths and voices of individuals, families, organizations, and communities to catalyze transformational change to improve population health and equity. One way we do this is by supporting local organizations. The Bureau of Family Health strongly recommends AFSP as an approval agency for continuing education of social workers for the LA State Board of Social Work Examiners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Zapata".

Amy Zapata, MPH
Director, Bureau of Family Health
State Administrator, Title V MCH Block Grant

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Application for Continuing Education Approval Organization

Section A: Organizational Information

National Hansen's Disease Program

Name of Organization

Kevin Tracy, Director Amy Flynn, Deputy Director

Name of Director/President

9181 Interline Ave

Baton Rouge, LA

70809

Mailing Address

9181 Interline Ave.

City/State

Baton Rouge, LA

Zip

70809

Physical Address (if different from above)

same

City/State

Zip _____ /

Telephone

Fax

225.756.3808

phone 225.588.7934

hrsa.gov/hansens-disease

Email Address

Ktracy@hrsa.gov or Aflynn@hrsa.gov

Website

Organization applying for *Continuing Education Approval Organization* status must have a significant and continual affiliation with the social work profession. Please indicate that which applies:

 Professional Social Work Organization Social Work Service Provider CSWE Accredited School of Social Work

Organization applying for Continuing Education Approval Organization must have three (3) letters of references from any combination of the following:

 Professional Social Work Organization Social Work Service Provider CSWE Accredited School of Social Work

Section B: Continuing Education Program

Review and approval of continuing education applications from continuing education providers must be completed by a credentialed social worker. Identify the social worker assigned to administer this process for the organization.

Betsy Wilks, LCSW-BACS, ACSW, BCD and Florence Scarle, LCSW

Name/Social Work Degree/Social Work Credential

Clinical Branch Chief (Wilks) Social Worker (Scarle)

Relationship to Organization

9181 Interline Ave

Baton Rouge, LA

70809

Mailing Address

same

City/State

Zip

Physical Address (if different from above)

225.588.7934

City/State

Zip

/ 225.756.3823

Telephone

mwilks@hrsa.gov or fscarle@hrsa.gov

Fax

Email Address

Section C: Approval Guidelines, Process and Agreement

Protocol for receiving request for approval from education presenters:

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- Organization will accept only LABSWE Continuing Education Approval Applications, completed in its entirety and accompanied by required documentation.

Process by which Organization will study and assess the proposed education offering:

- Organization will review application and supporting documentation to determine that it meets all standards and guidelines established in "Criteria for Approving Continuing Education Offerings" and "Guide for Assessment of Continuing Education."

As each organization is structured and staffed differently, organizations shall determine timeline for administering the continuing education program.

- Describe time limit set for making a decision on an educational offering's suitability:

1. All educational offerings are initially sent to Education, Training, & Outreach Coordinator.
2. Coordinator sends SW offerings to internal review committee, which includes SW content experts (Clinical Branch Chief & Social Worker) who have 10 days to review and respond with approval/disapproval and recommended changes, if needed.
3. Author has 5 business days to make changes, if requested and return.
4. All outward facing presentations must then be sent to Health Systems Bureau Communications Office 30 days prior to presentation date for approval. If any changes recommended, these must be made and returned to communications office within 5 business days for final approval before presentation.

As each organization is structured and staffed differently, organizations shall determine their own fees, if any, charged for these services.

- Describe fees agency will charge to process Continuing Education Applications:

NHDP is a federal agency with the Mission of Treatment and Education about Hansen's Disease and the associated stigma. We provide education to patients, families, providers, and the public. There will not be a charge for the SW CEU's provided.

Section D: Authority

Submission of this signed application certifies that the Organization has studied the "Criteria for Approving Continuing Education Offerings" and "Guide for Assessment of Continuing Education," and determined that the Organization is prepared to assess continuing education opportunities by these guidelines on a timely bases; and has ample storage to maintain all continuing education records for a minimum of three years, and in accordance with Louisiana law. Organization understands that if approved, the organization will be given authority to pre-approve social work continuing education for three (3) years. After three (3) years, the organization shall reapply to the Board if interested in maintaining designation as a pre-approving body. Organization agrees to comply with scheduled LABSWE Continuing Education audits and submit a list of all approved programs to the board office for current collection period by July 15 of each year. Organization agrees to notify LABSWE within thirty (30) days if any information submitted on this application changes. Organization understands that approval is granted at the discretion of the Board and may be revoked if Organization is found to be out of compliance with any aspect of established guidelines.

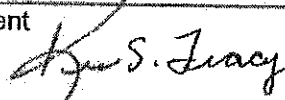
This designation also designates the organization as an approved provider of continuing education. This designation will be authorized for three (3) years from the date LABSWE approves the application.

Kevin Tracy -S

Digitally signed by Kevin Tracy -S
Date: 2024.08.21 15:45:39 -05'00'

08/21/2024

Signature of Director/President



Date

9/24/2024

Submit completed and signed application, along with three (3) reference letters, to:

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

For LABSWE office use only:

Application Received _____ Application Reviewed _____ Application Approved/Denied _____

Approval Expires _____

Revised 5/16



College of Human Sciences and Education
School of Social Work

October 11, 2024
Louisiana Board of Social Work Examiners (LABSWE)
18550 Highland Road Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Dear LABSWE Representative,

It is with great pleasure and confidence that I recommend Ms. Betsy Wilks to approve continuing education hours on behalf of HRSA's National Hansen's Disease Programs (NHDP). I have known Ms. Wilks in a professional capacity for over 20 years and I feel well qualified to assess her skills and knowledge in this area. Ms. Wilks currently serves as the Clinical Branch Chief of the NHDP and in that role, she is responsible for ensuring that patients with Hansen's Disease receive multidisciplinary, short-term and outpatient care, as well as providing ongoing training and education to health care professionals at the national level. Ms. Wilks' record includes over 30 years of clinical and teaching experience, and it is her ability to competently educate adult learners that I will address below.

Ms. Wilks served as the project manager, alongside me, for the LA-SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment), project, a SAMHSA-funded statewide training grant awarded to LSU. The LA-SBIRT Training-of-Trainer program, which was co-developed by Ms. Wilks and me, yielded 28 indigenous SBIRT experts, who facilitated 39 different professional and student trainings over the life of the grant. Between March of 2016 and June of 2018, the LA-SBIRT project provided state-of-the art training to 880 health professionals and 523 social work students (107.6% of project target) in 31 of 64 LA parishes. Please know that I would never have achieved what we accomplished, in such a brief amount time, without Ms. Wilks' extraordinary dedication, organization, efficiency, and communication and project management skills. Although Ms. Wilks has served in management positions for many years (e.g., Project AWARE Co-Director, State Clinical Operations Director, Tamber Health), I have firsthand knowledge about her abilities, having worked with her from LA-SBIRT project start-up in 2015, to project closure in 2018.

As we all know, Hansen's Disease ("leprosy") is an illness rife with misinformation and stigma for innumerable reasons, and it is an area where psychoeducation around integrated primary and behavioral health and the primacy of destigmatization is much needed. I can think of no better individual to provide education to other professionals than Ms. Wilks because of how she presents herself and the vast amount of experience she can apply to presentations when relaying the experiences of individual patients living with Hansen's Disease and their family members. In sum, Ms. Wilks is a superb educator and project manager, and I have every confidence that she will fulfill the Board's requirements for continuing education approval. Thank you, in advance, for any consideration you extend to allowing Ms. Wilks to approve continuing education on behalf of HRSA's NHDP, as this will greatly benefit the larger social work community.

Kindest Regards,

Catherine M. Lemieux, PhD, MSW, ACSW, LCSW-BACS
Margaret Champagne Womack Professor in Addictive Disorders
Louisiana State University
School of Social Work
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
clemieu@lsu.edu

Shelly Weaver, LCSW-BACS, ACHP-SW, APHSW-C

Social Worker Manager

The Hospice of Baton Rouge

Sweaver283@gmail.com

March 28th, 2024

To: Louisiana Board of Social Work

It is with pleasure that I recommend Florence Scarle, LCSW to approve continuing education hours at Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA), Health Systems Bureau, The National Hansen's Disease (Leprosy) Program. I have worked with Ms. Scarle, and have known her as a professional colleague for over sixteen years. I first worked with Ms. Scarle during my time at Baton Rouge General Medical Center when she was based in the Emergency Department. In this role, she addressed psychosocial needs and concerns with those facing serious illnesses in crisis and their families. Ms. Scarle then worked at The Hospice of Baton Rouge. In Florence, you have a social worker who possesses the skill set and professionalism consistent with the NASW's Code of Ethics.

Florence Scarle has an extensive background in Medical Social Work. Florence is highly reliable, dedicated and organized. She is always willing to offer her assistance and has an excellent rapport with her fellow coworkers, clients, and other community liaisons. Please accept my highest recommendation to allow Ms. Scarle to approve CEUs on behalf of Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA), Health Systems Bureau, The National Hansen's Disease (Leprosy) Program to benefit others.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shelly Weaver - BACS', written in a cursive style.

Shelly D. Weaver, LCSW-BACS, ACHP-SW, APHSW-C

Social Worker Manager

The Hospice of Baton Rouge

Office: (225) 767-4673

Cell: (225) 620-6824

Mary Mikell, LCSW
505 Dentation Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Louisiana Board of Social Work Examiners (LABSWE)
18550 Highland Road Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

November 22, 2024

Dear LABSWE Representative,

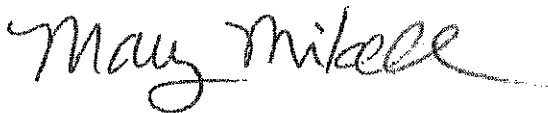
I am writing in support of the request from the National Hansen's Disease Program to offer CEU's for social workers attending their educational offerings.

As the chief of the social work department from 1986-1991, I saw the exceptional caliber of educational and training programs that the NHDH sponsors. The program is an internationally recognized and respected site for the diagnosis, treatment, and psychosocial care for people with Hansen's Disease (leprosy.)

The issues addressed through the social work educational seminars may include: physical and mental health self-care; family alienation; cross cultural response to HD; living with a chronic and misunderstood disease; stigma; accepting and responding to evolving physical challenges; integrating behavioral health into a multi-disciplinary team, universal screening, comprehensive biopsychosocial assessments and mutli-disciplinary care management. These are issues that certainly arise in a variety of other settings and situations, making these educational programs ripe for interest, discussion, and learning.

Again, I encourage this board's acceptance of the NHDH application to provide CEU's for social workers attending their educational programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Mikell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Mikell
LCSW #1900

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Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners

Application for Continuing Education Approval Organization

Section A: Organizational Information

Pro Renew Academy
Name of Organization

Donna W. Wimberly
Name of Director/President

528 Beck Miller Road Eunice, LA 70535
Mailing Address City/State Zip

Physical Address (if different from above) City/State Zip
337 1 580-5575 LA 70535

Telephone Fax

donnawwimberly@yahoo.com donna-wimberly-lcsw.cc-ge.com
Email Address Website

Organization applying for Continuing Education Approval Organization status must have a significant and continual affiliation with the social work profession. Please indicate that which applies:

- Professional Social Work Organization
- Social Work Service Provider
- CSWE Accredited School of Social Work

Organization applying for Continuing Education Approval Organization must have three (3) letters of references from any combination of the following:

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- Social Work Service Provider
- CSWE Accredited School of Social Work

Section B: Continuing Education Program

Review and approval of continuing education applications from continuing education providers must be completed by a credentialed social worker. Identify the social worker assigned to administer this process for the organization.

Donna W. Wimberly, MSW, LCSW, BACS
Name/Social Work Degree/Social Work Credential

Director/President
Relationship to Organization

528 Beck Miller Road Eunice, LA 70535
Mailing Address City/State Zip

Physical Address (if different from above) City/State Zip
337 1 580-5575 LA 70535

Telephone Fax

donnawwimberly@yahoo.com
Email Address

Section C: Approval Guidelines, Process and Agreement

Protocol for receiving request for approval from education presenters:

- Organization will provide LABSWE Continuing Education Approval Application to education presenters upon request.
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Process by which Organization will study and assess the proposed education offering:

- Organization will review application and supporting documentation to determine that it meets all standards and guidelines established in "Criteria for Approving Continuing Education Offerings" and "Guide for Assessment of Continuing Education."

As each organization is structured and staffed differently, organizations shall determine timeline for administering the continuing education program.

- Describe time limit set for making a decision on an educational offering's suitability:

The organization commits to a maximum four-week timeframe for evaluating and deciding on the suitability of educational offerings. For organizations requiring quicker processing, an expedited review option is available with a timeframe not exceeding two weeks. This process ensures a thorough review while maintaining efficiency and compliance with LABSWE standards.

As each organization is structured and staffed differently, organizations shall determine their own fees, if any, charged for these services.

- Describe fees agency will charge to process Continuing Education Applications:

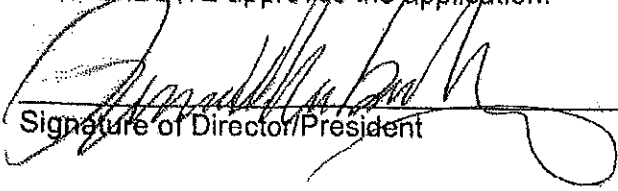
While fees do not guarantee approval, they support the review process, which upholds high-quality standards for approved programs. The following fee structure applies:

- \$50.00 – Single Educational Offering/Workshop Presented Once
- \$25.00 – Changes to an Educational Offering/Workshop (e.g., date, location, time, presenter, topic)
- \$75.00 – Single Educational Offering Presented Multiple Times (within one year; all dates must be included in the initial application)
- \$25.00 – Additional Expedited Review Fee
 - This fee is in addition to any of the above fees for expedited review requests (review completed within two weeks).

Section D: Authority

Submission of this signed application certifies that the Organization has studied the "Criteria for Approving Continuing Education Offerings" and "Guide for Assessment of Continuing Education," and determined that the Organization is prepared to assess continuing education opportunities by these guidelines on a timely bases; and has ample storage to maintain all continuing education records for a minimum of three years, and in accordance with Louisiana law. Organization understands that if approved, the organization will be given authority to pre-approve social work continuing education for three (3) years. After three (3) years, the organization shall reapply to the Board if interested in maintaining designation as a pre-approving body. Organization agrees to comply with scheduled LABSWE Continuing Education audits and submit a list of all approved programs to the board office for current collection period by July 15 of each year. Organization agrees to notify LABSWE within thirty (30) days if any information submitted on this application changes. Organization understands that approval is granted at the discretion of the Board and may be revoked if Organization is found to be out of compliance with any aspect of established guidelines.

This designation also designates the organization as an approved provider of continuing education. This designation will be authorized for three (3) years from the date LABSWE approves the application.


Signature of Director/President

11/21/24
Date

Submit completed and signed application, along with three (3) reference letters, to:

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

For LABSWE office use only:

Application Received _____ Application Reviewed _____ Application Approved/Denied _____

Approval Expires _____

Amy Dysart-Credeur, LCSW
Oceans Behavioral Hospital of Broussard
420 Albertson Parkway
Broussard, LA 70518
November 21, 2024

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Rd B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

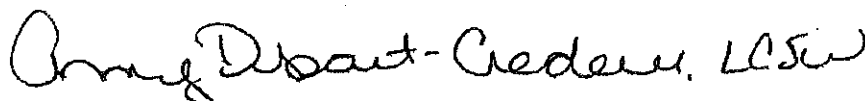
To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to recommend Donna Wimberly, LCSW as a CEU approval organization. I have had the pleasure of knowing Donna for the last 25 years, and the honor to work with her in various settings. She and I attended graduate school together at LSU and then worked side by side for 3 years at Louisiana State Penitentiary. I later supervised Donna as a PRN therapist at Pauline Faulk Centre and for the last 15 years have had the honor to participate in a peer social work group with her.

Donna is a tremendous example of Social Work in Action. She can truly do anything. I have watched her tackle various challenges over the years, within her agency work and her private practice, with compassion for her clients and ethically sound judgement. She is a fantastic resource to both her clients and her community, as well as an advocate to all she serves. She is a strong leader and a great asset to the field of social work. I believe Donna would make a phenomenal CEU presenter. The knowledge and skill she has to share with our profession of Social Workers is immense and invaluable. She is ethically sound, and I have no doubt she would be honest and ethical in her decisions regarding the approval of presentations.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Amy Dysart-Credeur, LCSW

Hospital CEO

(225) 270-0100

adysart@oceanshealthcare.com

Julie Price, LCSW-BACS
400 Greenway St.
Lake Charles, LA

Julesprice4@gmail.com
337-802-5487
November 25, 2024

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road
Suite B
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

Dear Members of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners,

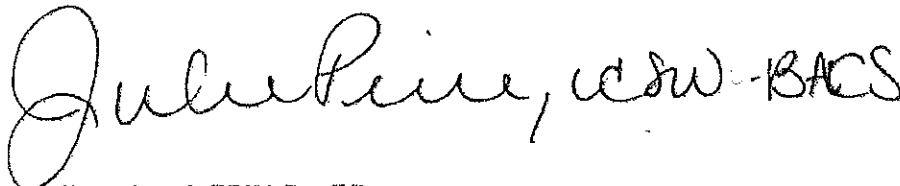
Please accept this letter of recommendation for Donna Wimberly in support of her application to become a Continuing Education Approval Organization. I have known Donna since we were graduate students together in 2003 and have maintained a professional relationship with her over the years. She has been a consistent colleague as we have consulted with one another throughout our careers in hospice, private practice with children and adolescents, and medical social work.

Throughout this time, Donna has exemplified high standards of ethics and professionalism in her practice. Her commitment to upholding the values and integrity of the social work profession is always consistent and she approaches every endeavor with diligence, thoughtfulness, and respect for ethical principles.

I am confident that Donna will uphold professionalism and our Social Work ethics as a Continuing Education Approval Organization.

Please feel free to contact me should you need any additional information.

Sincerely,



Julie Price, LCSW-BACS

Phyllis T. Babineaux
Licensed Clinical Social Worker
200 Dumas Justice Road
New Iberia, La. 70563
ptbabineaux@gmail.com
337-344-0645
November 25, 2024

Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road
Suite B
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

Dear Members of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners,

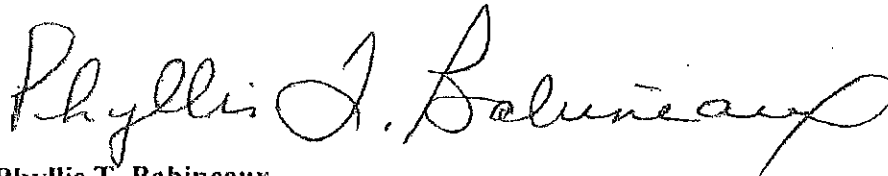
I am writing to recommend Donna Wimberly as a Continuing Education Approval Organization. I have known Donna since our graduate studies in 2003 and have had the opportunity to collaborate professionally with her over the past eight years.

Throughout our professional relationship, Donna has consistently demonstrated dedication to advancing the field of social work. Her ability to design and deliver educational programs that are both engaging and informative speaks to a level of ethical professionalism.

I have no doubt that Donna will uphold the highest standards as a Continuing Education Approval Organization, contributing to the professional development of social workers.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if further information is needed.

Sincerely,



Phyllis T. Babineaux
Licensed Clinical Social Worker

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*** * * * ***

Social Work

From: LABSWE Complaints
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 8:53 AM
To: Social Work
Subject: Contact Us Form Submitted

First Name: MaryAnne

Last Name: Candley

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Question:

Hello. I am an assistant professor in the social work department at Northwestern State University of Louisiana who has an undergraduate advisee that is not a citizen. She is not currently going through the process for citizenship due to the status of the Dream Act. She transferred into our department this semester from nursing due to their licensing requirements. She was told she would not be eligible for licensure. I am concerned, as I believe she will have the same problem with our licensing.

Does the Board have any guidelines for individuals seeking licensure who are neither an American citizen nor holds any type of visa? Also, if an individual has a visa, how does the Board view these applications? If there are any other aspects of this issue that I have failed to address, I'd appreciate if you could provide that information as well. Thank you.

MaryAnne Candley

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Social Work

Subject: FW: FW: Contact Us Form Submitted

Thanks Regina! We have so many off shore workers in our state. I would love for this to go before the board. I appreciate your quick response!

On Fri, Nov 15, 2024, 9:20 AM Social Work <socialwork@labswe.org> wrote:

Hi Sara,

Thank you for your email. This is a really great question. I'm not sure that our office staff can provide you with an answer. Your Louisiana license only authorizes you to provide services in Louisiana. I'm not sure what jurisdiction an off-shore rig would fall under (or if they are associated with a state). If you have professional liability insurance, you may consider checking with them. I can add your question to the next meeting agenda, but they will not meet again until December 6, 2024.

Sincerely,

Regina M. DeWitt
Administrative Assistant
Louisiana State Board of
Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
(225)756-3470, Option 4
Fax (225)756-3472

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-----Original Message-----

From: LABSWE Complaints <FileComplaint@labswe.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 5:49 PM
To: Social Work <socialwork@labswe.org>
Subject: Contact Us Form Submitted

First Name: Sara

Last Name: Darling

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Question:

Hi I'm a Louisiana LCSW that provides therapy through a remote platform. My question is can I see a client when he is off shore or does he need to physically be in Louisiana at the time of our sessions. This is someone I have seen twice (he was in Louisiana) so he is somewhat established. Thanks Sara Darling

Page
Break



Social Work

From: Mackenzie Smith <[REDACTED]@nsula.edu>
Sent: Monday, November 11, 2024 8:40 PM
To: Social Work
Cc: MaryAnne Candley
Subject: ASWB Licensing Concerns from a BSW student

Dear Member of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners,

My name is Mackenzie Smith, and I am currently a senior at Northwestern State University and am set to graduate in spring of 2025 with my bachelor's degree in social work. I am currently taking generalist practice with communities and organizations and my professor has tasked us with researching and learning the licensure requirements for the state and the different difficulties when gaining a license. I am reaching out to express my concerns about the LMSW exam and the passing rates in the state.

While looking at the exam rates for the state of Louisiana, it was shocking and discouraging. With graduating in May of 2025 and plans of attending graduate school to earn my MSW degree, the LMSW exam is in my near future. I am filled with fear of taking the exam and failing it. I am also discouraged seeing that most of the future social workers who are taking the exam are not passing. This causes me to be flooded with the thoughts of does not passing the exam make me a bad social worker and after earning both of my degrees and not passing the exam does that mean that I am not prepared to be a social worker. As a young white woman, I have a higher chance of passing the exam compared to my peers who are from different racial and age groups as me. It is hard for me see that my classmates, friends, and future social workers who are different race, age, and genders from me will have an even harder time passing the exam than I will.

As a future social worker, it is my job to advocate for myself and others. There needs to be changes made to the exam and more resources provided for those who are planning to take the exam. I believe the first step to change is offering affordable test preparation resources. All future social workers should have the same access to test prep. The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners offering a free or low-cost test prep course can help everyone in the state. The course would give those who cannot afford costly exam prep an equal chance at success. I also believe offering this course can help build a bigger community for the social workers in the state. The next step to change is ensuring that the questions and the answer choices on the exam are culturally inclusive and neutral. I believe a way to help ensure the exam is culturally inclusive and neutral can be done by asking practicing social workers of different races, genders, and ages to review the exam questions. This is a start to ensure that all future social workers who are taking the exam have an equal chance at success.

I would like to thank you for all the board does for social workers and future social workers in the state. Thank you for taking your time to read my email and I hope you take these ideas into consideration.

Thank you,

Mackenzie Smith

Northwestern State University

[REDACTED]

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Benita "Nita" Baucom, LCSW-BACS

November 29, 2024

Louisiana Board of Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Attn: Regina DeWitt

Dear Ms. DeWitt:

I am requesting approval to provide 6.5 hour Board Approved Initial BACS Workshops. I have been previously approved to provide these Workshops and am requesting additional dates in 2025.

The specific additional dates are:

March 14, 2025

May 9, 2025

September 12, 2025

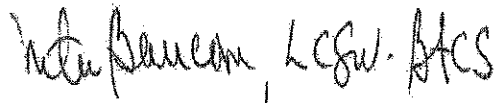
November 7, 2025

I have been a Social Worker for over 30 years working in various roles as clinician, supervisor, presenter, and program manager. Through those years, I have provided many in-services to enhance worker expertise and knowledge base. Additionally, I have provided many BACS Refresher courses as well as Initial BACS Workshops that have been well received. Below are my Agenda items.

If there is additional information you require, please contact me at nbaucom@nitabaucom.com or at 504-931-8784.

I appreciate you receiving this request and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Nita Baucom, LCSW-BACS
License # 3296

Benita "Nita" Baucom, LCSW-BACS

Agenda

6.5 hr BACS Initial Workshop

- 8:15 am Log on to video conference & Introductions
- 8:30 am Supervision models – From “No Model” model to Systems Approach model and everything in between.
- 9:30 am Theory and techniques of supervision – From supervisee learning needs, to supervision roles and competencies, to strategies for working through challenges.
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 am Record keeping – From knowing the forms to being comfortable with completing them.
- 12:15 pm LUNCH
- 12:45 pm Ethics – From definitions, to SW Ethics history and areas of concern, to SW client responsibilities.
- 3:15 pm Break
- 3:30 Multicultural issues – From exclusion to inclusion.
- 4:00 pm Evaluations and Certificates of Attendance

PAGE BREAK

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Social Work

From: LABSWE Complaints
Sent: Tuesday, November 5, 2024 10:40 AM
To: Social Work
Subject: Contact Us Form Submitted

First Name: Audrey

Last Name: Barton

Phone Number:

Email Address: audrey@beaconbehavioral.com

Question:

Hello, I had a question about my hours that go towards getting an LCSW. I accepted a job with Beacon Behavioral as an Intake Coordinator under a licensed LCSW-BACS Celeste Graham. My job description consists of referral management, screening forms for patients, voluntary admissions, and virtual assessments. I will be gaining both experience in clinical work as well as screenings with voluntary patients for admit to our five hospitals. Would this job count for all of my hours?

Thank you!

CENTRAL INTAKE COORDINATOR

TITLE **Central Intake Coordinator**

REPORTS TO **Director of Centralized Intake**

QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's Degree in Social Work or healthcare related field with 2+ years psychiatric experience required or Bachelor's Degree in Social Work or healthcare related field (Psychology, Social Work, Nursing, or Counseling) with 5+ years' experience required or 10+ years psychiatric health care experience.

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Support and implement the Mission, Vision, and Core Values of Beacon Behavioral Health.
2. Uphold and embody Beacon's 5 Commandments for Exceptional Customer Service.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

- Receives and manages inquiry calls, documents information in an accurate and timely manner to assure rapid response to referral sources and/or patients and the appropriate tracking of information occurs.
- Develops and maintains effective working relationships with referral sources, clients, and staff.
- Review patient information obtained during initial inquiry to determine necessity for level of care determination.
- Completes level of care screenings with individuals seeking mental health treatment in an efficient and time sensitive manner. The Intake Coordinator will facilitate face to face level of care determination with Patient Care Representatives within 24 hours of the inquiry or sooner as needed.
- Effectively communicates the scope of services offered by Beacon Behavioral Hospital demonstrating a base knowledge of services, regulatory requirements, accreditation rules, and reimbursements issues.

- Upon completion of level of care determination, prior to committing client to our services, the Intake Coordinator will communicate clinical findings to the Director of Nursing and financial issues to the Administrator who will inform the physician and obtain approval to schedule admission.
- If referral to community resources is recommended the Intake Coordinator will assist in referrals to the appropriate level of care.
- If/when admission to Beacon services is recommended and approved, this will be communicated to the client and/or caregiver, the Intake Coordinator will facilitate obtaining client's signatures on all necessary admission paperwork into the recommended services.
- Obtains consumer and physician feedback and inputs it into needed programs. Analyzes patient satisfaction and responds appropriately.
- Obtains pre-certification for services from insurance companies and maintains communication with the billing department as needed in regard to patient's payer sources.
- Maintains referral log and communicates referral information to the supervisor and Administrator in weekly meetings.
- Ensures all inquiry calls are correctly entered into electronic medical record, WellSky, at the time of the inquiry and with the appropriate disposition and follow up on all pending inquiries.
- Effectively communicates with IP facilities regarding correct census, available beds and pending admissions and completes/updates census reports.
- As directed by supervisor, participates in performance improvement plan which ensures important processes and activities are measured, assessed and improved upon.

The above statements are only meant to be a representative summary of the major duties and responsibilities performed by incumbents of this job. The incumbents may be requested to perform job related tasks other than those stated in this description.

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Subject: Request for LCSW Eligibility Confirmation and Remote Supervision Approval

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Dominique Williams, I am writing to formally request consideration of my current job role as a Program Manager 1A for the Louisiana Department of Health in the Medicaid Quality Improvement and Innovations Section. I believe this role falls within the scope of clinical social work duties required towards obtaining my LCSW license. In addition, I would like to request approval for remote supervision to obtain this licensure.

My current role falls under the Quality Improvement, Population Health, and Health Equity sector. This role intersects social work and healthcare management by emphasizing the importance of quality improvement, policy, and advocacy in enhancing the health of the Medicaid population. I assist via program management, policy innovation, Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) contract compliance, policy research, reporting, and data collection and analysis on health care quality measures for individuals enrolled in Medicaid.

In my role, I support the state Medicaid program through various responsibilities. Case management is done by reviewing and adjusting Health Equity Plans (HEPs) submitted from all MCOs. This improves the quality of care to individuals and maintain compliance requirements by following the The National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS Standards) and the MCOs contract requirements. I evaluate and contribute in developing policies to improve access to care, health outcomes, and cost efficiency for all populations by implementing quality improvement initiatives aimed at enhancing patient outcomes for Medicaid recipients. My role is crucial in providing feedback to the MCOs regarding their contracts, whether they are falling short in addressing certain disparities or not addressing subjects at all. This allows me to advocate for Medicaid members as they may not be able to for themselves in these spaces when these contracts are being made. I compile research on social determinants of health and emerging community health concerns to inform Medicaid programs. Upon completion, I then deliver the project status reports and status deliverables to the Quality Improvement and Innovations leadership and Louisiana Department of Health stakeholders. The Tableau Dashboard is used to convey all collected data from all subsidies to be published on the Medicaid website consisting of data from The Louisiana Health Insurance Survey (LHIS) Report.

The LHIS Special Report of Health Access Disparities states the differences in access to healthcare across all demographic groups. My responsibilities include collecting, reporting and analyzing healthcare data to monitor quality measures and ensure compliance with Medicaid contracts. This healthcare data is used to inform program improvements. Research, proposal and development of Medicaid population health programs that address population health disparities, social determinants of

health, health equity and other emerging community health concerns is a top priority of my role. Health Equity is at the focus of my duties.

I serve as the liaison between the Medicaid members and the Managed Care Organizations by building and maintaining strategic partnerships with various healthcare organizations, community agencies, and stakeholders to enhance service delivery and the improve access to care. Collaboration is essential to my role. I work closely with all the MCOs and collaborate with internal and external partners, along with local nonprofits. Medical providers, psychiatrists, social workers, and other medical professionals are a few common close allies in my role, to ensure that health equity is accessible to all individuals within Medicaid. The interdisciplinary collaboration keeps focus on the various therapeutic modalities to help clients navigate trauma, life stressors and other mental health challenges.

My team is currently collaborating with the Louisiana Center of Health Equity for their 2024 Health Summit focusing on equity, opportunity, and well-being for all. My role is to serve as the lead of hospitality management and set up the health equity section of the conference. This consists of collaboration with local organizations to address health disparities, challenges, and achievements in the realm of healthcare. I was tasked with applying for the Medicaid Primary Care Population-Based Payment Phase II Learning Collaborative under the Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) and my section was awarded approval into the Program. This program focuses on the initiative to collaborate with the CHCS, who continues to align with the focus on child and family health, delivery system of healthcare, and adults with social and mental health needs.

My active role involves participation in several key standing committees, including the Medical Advisory Committee (MAC), Health Equity Action Team (HEAT), Population Health Improvement Program (PIP), as well as subcommittees focused on Behavioral Health, Dental Care, and Health Equity. The MAC meetings are hosted by my section quarterly in person in downtown Baton Rouge. They consist of committee members from all disciplines to provide their expertise to the Medicaid program to better assist the members. There is an open forum for various discussions, along with pressing issues being addressed and an opportunity to establish new initiatives for Medicaid members.

I serve on the Behavioral Health Subcommittee as the Quality Improvement sections staff assistant representative. This committee addresses behavioral concerns within the Medicaid realm. I assist the Chair in coordinating the dates and times for monthly meetings, agendas, and subcommittee membership applications. While also maintaining an active membership list, drafting letters, assisting in meeting facilitation, and any other duties as needed by the Chair. Focusing on the Behavioral Health challenges that our Medicaid members face due to laws, policy changes, and various requirements is an essential component. This is a time where clinicians collaborate to focus on positive initiatives to enhance. I am also in charge of reviewing Ad Hoc reports for compliance, suggestions, and feedback prior to the Health Equity Action Team (HEAT) and Population Improvement Program (PIP) meetings. The Dental Care and

Health Equity subcommittees are similar in nature but focuses on those disciplines, while my duties remain the same for all.

Given the explanation of my current role, does my job qualify towards LCSW licensure?

I am requesting approval for remote supervision to fulfill the supervision requirements for LCSW licensure. Due to significant challenges posed by geographical distance, hours, and my current responsibilities. The geographic distance of 75 miles each way makes weekly one hour in-person meetings impractical, while my existing commitments limit my availability for on-site supervision. I currently reside in Baton Rouge, LA, while my preferred supervisor is in New Orleans, LA. Our supervision meetings would have to take place during business hours and with my current work schedule 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, this poses a huge challenge. A remote supervision arrangement would allow me to effectively continue to meet my work commitments while receiving the necessary guidance for my professional development. I believe this arrangement would provide the flexibility needed to balance my responsibilities and career goals, ensuring my success.

Thank you for considering my request. Please let me know if any more information is needed to reach a decision. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Dominique Williams, MSW, LMSW

Social Work

From: Dominique Williams <niquerenee14@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2024 10:53 AM
To: Social Work
Subject: Re: Request for LCSW Eligibility Confirmation and Remote Supervision Approval

Subject: Additional Information for Original Letter Request

Dear Regina,

I hope this message finds you well. Please find the additional information, as requested, to be included in my original letter request below.

All confidential information will be safeguarded using the "Google Workspace (Suite)" software, which is covered by my Supervisor, Megan Thiel, and is HIPAA-compliant. Google Workspace (formerly G Suite) offers various tools and features that enhance the security of its services, ensuring the protection of data. Below are some key security features of Google Workspace:

Data Encryption: Google Workspace uses TLS (Transport Layer Security) to encrypt emails and data in transit, and 256-bit AES encryption to protect data at rest in Google's data centers.

Two-Factor Authentication: This adds an extra layer of security by requiring a second form of identification, such as a mobile device or security key, in addition to the password.

Advanced Protection Program: This includes stronger authentication methods, such as hardware security keys, and protections against phishing and account hijacking.

Admin Controls and Management: Administrators can set security policies, manage user access, and monitor suspicious activity via the Admin Console. The Security Center alerts admins to potential risks such as unauthorized login attempts and data leakage.

Access and Data Control: Admins can limit access to data based on user location, device security, and IP address. Granular permissions ensure that only authorized users can access sensitive information.

Advanced Threat Protection (ATP): This feature uses machine learning to detect and block phishing attempts, malware, and other malicious emails. It also includes sandboxing for attachments and links.

Audit Logs and Reports: Detailed records of user activity, login attempts, and changes to data help admins identify potential security issues and maintain compliance with policies and regulations.

Compliance and Certifications: Google Workspace meets a wide range of industry standards, including ISO/IEC 27001, GDPR, HIPAA, and SOC 2 and SOC 3 certifications.

Data Loss Prevention (DLP): Admins can configure policies to prevent the accidental sharing of sensitive information, such as credit card numbers or social security numbers.

Incident Response: In the event of a security breach, Google provides dedicated support, detailed reporting, and real-time notifications to enable admins to act quickly.

Regarding the management of emergencies, all individuals will adhere to ethical guidelines and legal requirements when responding to critical situations. In the event of a clinical emergency, such as a client in immediate danger, I will follow established crisis intervention protocols, involving emergency services (e.g., 911, crisis hotlines) and consulting with my supervisor for guidance. My supervisor plays a vital role in ensuring that I follow the appropriate legal and ethical steps, and helps me reflect on my decision-making process.

After an emergency, my supervisor will review the situation to ensure ethical and professional standards were maintained, and will provide feedback for future improvements. This guidance is crucial in protecting my licensure and ensuring that my actions are aligned with ethical principles. Supervision is available during critical situations, including after-hours or weekends, with backup supervisors or peers ready to assist if my primary supervisor is unavailable. After each emergency, supervision will include a debriefing session to reflect on the response and discuss any potential improvements.

Below are the contact details for both my current and supervising supervisors:

Current Employer Supervisor Information:

Ingrid Fields
Ingrid.fields2@la.gov
(225) 342-5771

Supervising Supervisor Information: Megan Thiel, LCSW-BACS

License 9623
Meganthieltherapy@gmail.com
Mthiellcsw@gmail.com
(847) 912-3962

Could you please confirm whether this additional information will be added to my previous request, or should I resubmit the complete letter with these updates?

Thank you for your assistance.

Best regards,
Dominique Williams, LMSW

On Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at 11:49:17 AM CST, Dominique Williams <niquerenee14@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Regina,

Please ignore the previous email as it was sent prematurely prior to being completed. I will send the completed email in just a few.

Thank you.

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*** * * * ***

I am writing you to request virtual supervision. I was recently approved for virtual supervision for my previous employer, Humana. I have obtained a new Social Work position as a Remote Social Worker for Aetna beginning 9/30/2024. I am requesting approval for virtual supervision due to working remotely; my clinical supervisor is 60 miles from my home and would take at least 3 hours (2 hours for travel and 1 for supervision) weekly and I will not be able to take 3 hours off work to meet this requirement, if the supervision is in person. My supervisor, Joseph Bodenmiller, and I have had many sessions in-person since May of 2022, and now I currently only need 21 more hours of supervision to complete my LCSW. We are using a confidential platform to account for privacy and confidentiality and Hippa; the platform is <https://doxy.me/docjib>.

Thanks for your consideration in this matter.

Angela Abel, LMSW

Regina Dewitt

From: Abel, Angela < >
Sent: Friday, November 1, 2024 9:54 AM
To: Regina Dewitt
Subject: RE: Virtual Supervision Request

We will be utilizing <https://doxy.me/docijb> link which is end to end encrypted and will ensure that both supervisor and supervisee are in a location that is private and will adhere to confidentially per HIPAA requirements. If an emergency arises, Social Worker will reach out to supervisor, Joseph Bodenmiller, who will be available if a consult is needed due to a crisis/emergency.

Angela Abel
Social Worker

Remote, LA



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From: Regina Dewitt <rdewitt@labswe.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2024 8:13 AM
To: Abel, Angela < >
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Virtual Supervision Request

**** External Email - Use Caution ****

Hi Angela,

Thank you for your email. Please provide the following information:

- provide security information from the company regarding program/software,
- explain how confidential information will be protected, and explain how emergencies will be handled.

Thank you,

Regina M. DeWitt
Administrative Assistant
Louisiana State Board of
Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
(225)756-3470, Option 3

Page
Break





ORLEANS PUBLIC DEFENDERS

2601 TULANE AVENUE – SUITE 700 • NEW ORLEANS, LA 70119
TELEPHONE: (504) 821-8101 • FAX: (504) 821-5285 • WWW.OPDLA.ORG

November 3, 2024

To: Louisiana Board of Social Work Examiners

RE: Requesting approval for remote LCSW supervision

I am in the process of having a secondary supervisor approved in order to stay on track with my LCSW supervision hours. Pursuant to L.A.C.46:XXV.501(H), we hope that the Board shall consider my request to meet with #5385 Lisa Williams, LCSW-BACS for remote supervision weekly. Ms. Williams resides almost 90 minutes away from my address. Ms. Williams and I will use telehealth via HIPAA-compliant encrypted software. We will not use names or use any identifying information when discussing clients and their cases.

Additionally, if an emergency arises, we will promptly reschedule the session within the same week.

Please reach out if you have any other questions. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Davidsson, LMSW, #17605
New Orleans, LA

Page
Break



Hi Nicole,

Thank you for your email. Please provide the requested information:

- . demonstrate undue hardship, disability or travel time *provide actual milage between you and your potential supervisor
- . provide security information from the company regarding program/software,
- . explain how confidential information will be protected, and explain how emergencies will be handled.

Sincerely,

Regina M. DeWitt
Administrative Assistant
Louisiana State Board of
Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
(225)756-3470, Option 4
Fax (225)756-3472

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-----Original Message-----

From: Nicole King <nicoleking@socialwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 6:15 PM
To: Social Work <socialwork@labswe.org>
Subject: Request for virtual supervision

To whom it may concern,

My name is Nicole King, license number 17377, and I am requesting permission to complete virtual supervision toward my clinical license. I am a medical social worker and it has been difficult to find an appropriate LCSW-BACS with the experience to provide supervision in this specific field of social work. It will be a hardship for me to travel weekly for in person supervision as I have only found available supervisors in Baton Rouge, however I currently reside and work in Mandeville. I am requesting to be supervised by Sarah carbo, license 14266.

Thank you for your consideration,
Nicole king

Social Work

Subject: FW: Request for virtual supervision

From: Nicole King
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 10:08 AM
To: Social Work <socialwork@labswe.org>
Subject: Re: Request for virtual supervision

Good morning,

Travel time from my home to supervisor's office is approximately 80.5 miles or 1 hour and 22 minutes one way. The travel time to supervision and home would equal 161 miles and approximately 164 minutes total on a weekly basis. I cannot travel that distance to complete supervision requirements and continue to fulfill my full time job duties.

We will be utilizing google meet for supervision. The following information was sent to me from my supervisor regarding this application:

Google Meet Info

Google Meet offers a number of privacy features to protect user data, including:

- **Encryption:** Google Meet uses end-to-end encryption to protect audio and video messages, so only the sender and receiver can see and hear the content. Google Drive encrypts recordings at rest.
- **No user attention tracking:** Google Meet doesn't have software or features to track user attention.
- **No data storage unless recorded:** Google doesn't store video, audio, or chat data unless a participant starts a recording.
- **Independent verification:** Google Meet and other Google products undergo regular third-party verification of their privacy and security.
- **Download Your Data:** Users can download meeting invites, call recordings, polls, and Q&A.

For emergencies, my supervisor will be available via phone as well as in person if needed. Please let me know if you need any additional information,

Thank you,
Nicole King

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 23, 2024, at 2:25 PM, Social Work <socialwork@labswe.org> wrote:

Page Break



> From: briyonna lewis <
> Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:29 AM
> To: Social Work <socialwork@labswe.org>
> Subject: Inquiry on supervision

>
> Greetings. I am Briyonna Lewis, a school social worker for Jefferson Parish and a member of the on-call RHD Metro Crisis Response Team. I am reaching out to ask if I can continue supervision virtually from Mr. Andrew Wilson, LCSW BACS based out of Shreveport. I have been having a difficult time finding a supervisor due to financial and/or scheduling reasons, and being a single mother of 3 young children including a two-month-old infant is one of the main causes of my rigidity in these matters. I was highly recommended to seek supervision from Mr. Wilson, LCSW-BACS and after researching and speaking to him, I understand why and hope I can continue my professional growth with him as my supervisor.

>
> Thank you for your time and consideration, Briyonna Lewis, LMSW 15571

Social Work

Subject: FW: Inquiry on supervision

-----Original Message-----

From: briyonna lewis
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 12:49 PM
To: Social Work <socialwork@labswe.org>
Subject: Re: Inquiry on supervision

Greetings. Great questions. I intend to use the same method I use as a crisis evaluator for the Metro Crisis Response Team by using the extra room in my home that I am able to lock while during session or using my personal office at Douglass Elementary (1400 P Long Ave, Gretna, LA70053). Regarding confidentiality and handling emergencies, Mr. Wilson expressed that he has a paid zoom account that has systems in place where information shared is safe, and I will be provided my own unique ID and passcode. Mr. Wilson stated he provides his phone number to supervisee in case of emergencies.

Respectfully,

On Thu, Nov 14, 2024 at 11:19 AM Social Work <socialwork@labswe.org> wrote:

>

> Hi Briyonna,

>>>

> Thank you for your email. Please provide the following information:

>

> provide security information from the company regarding

> program/software, explain how confidential information will be protected, and explain how emergencies will be handled.

>

> Thank you,

>>

> Regina M. DeWitt

>> Administrative Assistant

> Louisiana State Board of

> Social Work Examiners

> 18550 Highland Road, Suite B

> Baton Rouge, LA 70809

> (225)756-3470, Option 4

> Fax (225)756-3472

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Social Work

From: Abigail Meza <
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 9:06 AM
To: Social Work
Subject: Re: Request for Approval of Virtual Supervision Hours

Dear Louisiana State Board of Social Work,

My name is Abigail Meza, MSW, LMSW, and I am writing to formally request approval for group supervision hours to be conducted virtually. While I understand the importance of in-person supervision and intend to maintain that for individual sessions, conducting group supervision virtually will allow my supervisor to effectively manage her responsibilities across a broader geographic area without compromising the quality of supervision.

Demonstration of Undue Travel Time

My current supervisor and I both work remotely, and she will soon begin supervising additional LMSWs who reside across the state. Due to the geographical distances involved and the logistics of coordinating in-person meetings for all supervisees, it will be challenging for her to conduct all supervision in person. The distances from Shreveport to these locations are as follows:

- **Shreveport to Baton Rouge:** 250 miles (approximately 4 hours by car)
- **Shreveport to Alexandria:** 125 miles (approximately 2 hours by car)
- **Shreveport to Monroe:** 100 miles (approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes by car)

Requiring all supervision sessions to occur in person would impose significant travel time and logistical challenges for my supervisor, given the geographic spread of her supervisees.

Security Information for Microsoft Teams

We propose using **Microsoft Teams** for virtual group supervision. Microsoft Teams complies with **Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)** standards, offering features such as:

- End-to-end encryption for calls and messages
- Secure data transmission and storage
- Role-based access control and permissions
- Multi-factor authentication for all users

Protection of Confidential Information

To safeguard confidentiality during virtual supervision:

- Sessions will be held in private, secure locations by all participants.
- Participants will use personal or work devices secured with strong passwords.
- No session recordings will be made without prior consent from all participants.
- Case discussions will use de-identified information to the greatest extent possible.

Handling Emergencies

In the event of an emergency during a virtual supervision session:

- Each participant's emergency contact information and physical location will be collected before sessions begin.

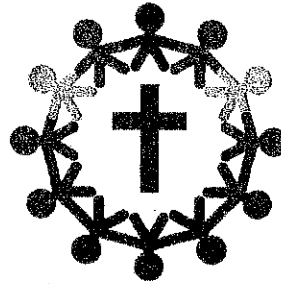
- My supervisor will follow established protocols for crisis management, including contacting local emergency services if necessary.

This approach ensures both accessibility and adherence to ethical and professional standards for supervision. Please let me know if further information or documentation is needed. Thank you for your consideration of this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Abigail Meza, MSW, LMSW

Abigail Meza, MSW, LMSW

Foster Care & Adoption Specialist, Shreveport Region
Connect1Child, A Ministry of Louisiana Baptist Children's Home
(318)469-5248
ameza@lbch.org



From: Social Work <socialwork@labswe.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 2:16 PM
To: Abigail Meza <AMEza@lbch.org>
Subject: RE: Request for Approval of Virtual Supervision Hours

Hi Abigail,

Thank you for your email. Please provide the following information:

- demonstrate undue hardship, disability or travel time- if you are requesting due to distance, please provide milage.
- provide security information from the company regarding program/software
- explain how confidential information will be protected, and explain how emergencies will be handled.

Thank you,

Regina M. DeWitt
Administrative Assistant
Louisiana State Board of
Social Work Examiners
18550 Highland Road, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
(225)756-3470, Option 4
Fax (225)756-3472

This message is for the named person(s) only. It may contain confidential, proprietary or legally privileged information. No confidentiality or privilege is waived or lost by any transmission error. If you receive this message in error, please immediately delete it and all copies of it from your system, destroy any hard copies of it and notify the sender. You must not, directly or indirectly, use, disclose, distribute, print, or copy any part of this message if you are not the intended recipient.

From: Abigail Meza <AMEza@lbch.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:54 PM

Page Break



Regina Dewitt

Alexis Vanderclass,
LMSL

From: Alexis Faith
Sent: Friday, November 29, 2024 5:47 PM
To: Regina Dewitt
Cc: Social Work
Subject: Letter to the Board -- per virtual supervision request, 12/6/24 meeting

Dear Board Members,

In pursuit of the Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) designation, I write to ask that you please consider this formal request to forego the requirement of in-person supervision hours and to grant me approval for virtual supervision.

There are several important factors that have prompted my request:

1. **Single Parent Responsibilities:** As a single mother of two young children with no child support, the costs associated with childcare for in-person supervision would impose a financial burden on my household.
2. **Geographic Limitations:** I reside in a remote area in the Bayou, and the only LCSW-BACS supervisor I have identified in my region exclusively offers virtual supervision. The nearest LCSW-BACS supervisors are located over an hour's drive away in the New Orleans area, which presents challenges due to distance.
3. **Driving Concerns:** Having grown up and lived as a subway-rider for over 35 years in New York City, I am a new driver and have yet to gain comfort with navigating major highways. At present, I rely on Uber for transportation across significant distances, expenses for which sustainable as a long-term solution.
4. **Availability of Supervision:** I have reached out to several LCSW-BACS supervisors within over an hour's radius, but most have indicated they are unable to accommodate additional supervisees in their current schedules. I have, however, found one supervisor, William K. Lieder, LCSW-BACS #4575, who says he is able to integrate me into his schedule. Mr. Lieder has over 25 years of experience working with adolescent clientele, which aligns closely with my current caseload at Magnolia Family Services, where 90% of my clients are adolescents and children.

I respectfully request the Board's consideration to allow me to proceed with virtual supervision from the commencement of my hours until completion, under the guidance of Mr. William K. Lieder, LCSW-BACS. His office is located at: 4000 ... , New Orleans, LA ... Furthermore, the platform utilized by Mr. Lieder, "Simple Practice," is a HIPAA-compliant, virtual program that ensures the protection of sensitive personal health information. This system employs robust security measures, including 128-bit secure socket layer encryption and secure backup procedures. In case of emergencies, Mr. Lieder may be reached promptly by cell phone, and I also have access to three experienced LPC-S supervisors at my agency of employment who are available to assist with emergencies and related matters.

Please know that I appreciate your time and efforts regarding this request and thank you for your consideration of my circumstances.

Yours sincerely and respectfully,
Alexis Vanderlass LMSW #18618

Thibodaux, LA

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Subject: Request for Amendment of Supervision and Employment Hours

Dear Members of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Ashley Durr, and I am currently employed as an inpatient social worker at Overton Brooks VA Medical Center. I successfully passed my LMSW examination on November 2, 2022, and commenced my clinical supervision under Amanda Smith, LCSW, BACS, on December 19, 2022. I am writing to seek clarification and request an amendment regarding the period of time lost from January 26, 2024, to September 5, 2024, due to an incomplete contract that was not finalized within 60 days of my new employment.

On November 1, 2024, I was informed by Sara Banks, Licensing Analyst 2, that my application contained an incomplete contract, specifically concerning the employment verification step. In response, I reached out to both my clinical supervisor and my previous work supervisor to request the completion of the requisite documentation.

As stipulated in the Employment Verification guidance provided by the Certemy site, "An employment verification form must be submitted for each place where the social worker is employed in Louisiana after receiving the MSW degree." In accordance with this guideline, I concluded my previous employment on January 25, 2024, and commenced my position at Overton Brooks VA Medical Center on March 25, 2024. I included my work supervisor, Dr. David Breedlove, in the Employment Verification form submitted under an existing contract on April 24, 2024.

However, I was subsequently advised by Sarah Banks to remove the employment verification that referenced both Dr. David Breedlove and Amanda Smith, as it was determined that a new contract was required due to my new employment. At the time, neither my current BACS supervisor nor I were aware that a new contract was necessary.

Upon reviewing the supervision guidelines on the LABSWE website and obtaining clarification from Sarah Banks, I now recognize the necessity for a new contract. Accordingly, I submitted the new contract on November 6, 2024. I respectfully request that the period of time lost be amended from January 26, 2024, to September 5, 2024, to reflect January 26, 2024, to March 24, 2024. Furthermore, I kindly request credit for both supervision hours and employment hours from March 25, 2024, to October 10, 2024, as I was working 40 hours per week and received 28 clinical supervision hours during that timeframe. The hours I am requesting to apply towards the 3000 employment hours would be 1,120 and 28 clinical hours. Additionally, I am seeking an extension of my supervision from October 10, 2024, to December 10, 2024, to account for the two-month period in which there was no evidence of employment. I have submitted an Application for LCSW Supervision and Supervision Contract 2 to facilitate this extension.

I fully understand the importance of adhering to LABSWE's supervision guidelines and other related matters concerning social work licensure. Thank you for your attention to this matter and your continued assistance.

Sincerely,
Ashley Durr
Inpatient Social Worker
Overton Brooks VA Medical Center

To: Louisiana Social Work Board of Social Work Examiners

From: Amanda Smith, LCSW, BACS

Subject: Clinical Supervision Documentation for Ashley Durr

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to provide a formal account regarding the clinical supervision I provided to Ms. Ashley Durr from December 12, 2022, to October 10, 2024. Ms. Durr commenced her supervision while employed at Volunteers of America on December 19, 2022, and concluded her employment with that organization on January 25, 2024.

During the subsequent period of unemployment, from January 26, 2024, to March 24, 2024, I provided Ms. Durr with eight hours of clinical supervision, which I applied towards her required 96 hours of supervision. I completed the necessary documentation during this time; however, Ms. Durr was subsequently informed by Ms. Sara Banks, Licensing Analyst 2, that a contract associated with her supervision was incomplete in the system. Mrs. Sara Banks, also notified Ms. Durr while unemployment from January 26, 2024, to March 24, 2024 supervision could not be provided.

Ms. Durr began her new employment at Overton Brooks VA Medical Center on March 25, 2024. On April 24, 2024, I assisted her in updating her LCSW application to include Mr. David Breedlove in the Professional Experience Verification Record. Unfortunately, I was not aware that a new contract needed to be established within 60 days of her employment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Amanda Smith, LCSW

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11/6/2024

To the LABSWE Board and Staff,

My name is Haley Kraus, an LMSW professional since August 18th, 2021, employed by Children's Hospital New Orleans in various departments- full time THRIVE Wellness Program, PRN Audrey Hepburn CARE Center & New Orleans Children Advocacy Center (prior full time employment), PRN for the behavioral health unit, and a human trafficking care coordinator PRN. I am writing to request that the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners consider accepting the supervision hours I have completed towards obtaining my clinical license with my primary LCSW BACS Jane Brewer over the course of 18 months. Unfortunately, due to miscommunication, technology challenges with the Certemy website, and lack of completion of paperwork by my primary BACS supervisor, the supervision contract 2 was not completed until October 1st, 2024. I am asking the board to please reconsider my case. Below, I further outlined my employment process and supervision.

- **Beginning of October 2022-** I began my clinical supervision with my primary BACS supervisor, Jane Brewer. At this time, I was employed by Metro Center for Community Advocacy and contracted to work within the New Orleans's Children Advocacy Center full time as a case manager. My primary BACS supervisor is employed with Metro Center for Community Advocacy. During this time, I was under the impression that the paperwork necessary to begin supervision was completed.
- **End of October 2022-** I transitioned to a full time position for Children's Hospital within the Thrive Kids Wellness Program as an Early Intervention Specialist social worker. At that time, I was unaware that we had to update our supervision contracts due to the change of my secondary supervisor from Metro Center for Community Advocacy to Laura Potts- Children's Hospital Thrive Kids Manager. My clinical supervisor, Jane Brewer, was aware of the employment change; thus, I continued to complete supervision with Jane Brewer, LCSW-BACS.
- Due to life changes and circumstances, I paused supervision until March of 2023.

- **March 2023-** I began weekly supervision sessions with my primary BACS supervisor, Jane Brewer. At this time, my belief was that our sessions were in compliance with the board.
- **March of 2024-** I added a secondary BACS supervisor to my Certemy for group supervision- Tameka Jasmine. Due to challenges with Certemy, I emailed the board on March 28th requesting to change the email address attached to my account.
- **March 28th 2024-** I noticed I was unable to view my contract with Jane Brewer on my Certemy account. Upon noticing the discrepancy, I contacted LABSWE, Certemy, and Jane Brewer. Per LABSWE instructions, I resent an invitation to Jane to complete a supervision contract 2.
- **End of March 2024-May 2024-** Tameka and I were corresponding with Certemy Help Desk to ensure the contract steps were completed and in compliance with the board.
- **April 2024-** I followed up with Jane, my primary BACS supervisor, to ensure she received and accepted the invitation for the contract. She stated she accepted the invitation.
- **May 30th 2024-** From March to May, Tameka and I were corresponding with Certemy Help Desk to ensure the contract steps were completed and in compliance with the board. Over email correspondence with Certemy's help department and Tameka, I completed the supervision contract 2 and received approval confirmation by the board for the contract on May 30th for Tameka Jasmine LCSW-BACS.
- **July 29th 2024-** I followed up on July 29th asking if the Certemy issues were fixed with my primary BACS supervisor- Jane. She stated "yes except their message to review but I sent an email for help. I am current on all hours."
- **August 27th 2024-** I checked back in with my supervisor about my hours in Certemy. Jane stated "sorry another wrinkle with certemy! I followed their advice and switched email addresses and submitted hours through 6/28. Sent email to them for HELP:"

In September of 2024, I completed 75 hours of clinical supervision and planned to take my LCSW test early. I checked my LCSW supervision log to ensure the hours inputted reflected the log I had. When logging into Certemy, I noticed my hours did not look right on the computer. Upon bringing this to the attention of both supervisors, Jane stated she would reach out to Certemy and Tameka advised me to contact the board myself.

- **September 6th:** I emailed LABSWE and Jane asking for LABSWE to help assist Jane Brewer and I on the proper action needed to correct my Certemy supervision log. On September 6th, Sara responded back stating there was an issue with the supervision contract. She advised me to complete the initial contract with Jane Brewer and write a letter to the board requesting approval of hours lost.

At this point in time, I had completed 75 hours of supervision not knowing the supervision contract issue was unresolved. Jane Brewer and I worked to complete the necessary steps outlined in her email to ensure compliance with the board.

- **September 7th:** I asked Sara for additional clarification on the supervision contract 2 steps due to it stating on my end the contract was still incomplete.
- **September 25th:** Sara responded on September 25th with additional instructions. On September 25th, I completed the instructions given and received an email stating "Credential Step was verified and the step final review for the supervision contract 2 was verified.
- **October 1st:** I checked my Certemy account and noticed my contract for Jane Brewer was not finalized whereas my contract for Tameka Jasmine was. I reached out again to Sara via email and phone. Sara informed Jane and I that Jane needed to complete an additional step. During this time, Jane completed the final step for the contract to appear finalized on my Certemy.

In conclusion, I am asking for the board to accept my hours completed prior to these contracts being completed from 03/03/2023 to 9/06/2024 due to technical difficulties with Certemy, and miscommunication between Certemy, my supervisor, and myself. Over the past two years, I financially have invested money and time to completing

my LCSW Licensure. Unfortunately, I was unaware of the issues with my supervision contract until recently when I did everything I could to rectify the situation. I struggled to understand the Certemy website due to lack of clear instructions and a non-user-friendly platform. As soon as I realized there was an issue, I followed proper protocol to resolve the issue. I watched the LABSWE website and re-read supervision requirements to ensure compliance moving forward. Via phone call, Sara Banks was very helpful and provided me with step-by-step directions on how to inform my supervisor of the needed steps to finalize the contract. Prior to this guidance, my supervisor and I worked diligently with Certemy and LABSWE to resolve this issue once it was brought to our attention there was a problem.

With the information presented and attachments of correspondence below, I would greatly appreciate the board's reconsideration to accept the hours completed thus far to ensure I obtain my clinical license by the end of the 2024 year. I have attached a letter written by my clinician Supervisor, Jane Brewer LCSW-BACS, outlining her struggles with Certemy, her due diligence to rectify the situation, and her support of my supervision hours. As a social worker, I employ you to consider my case for appeal. Thank you for taking the time to read and discuss this letter.

Sincerely,

Haley Kraus, LMSW

(225)-405-5030, haley.kraus98@gmail.com

**Below I have attached a letter of support from my primary clinical BACS supervisor-
Jane Brewer.**

Mary S Jane Brewer LCSW BACS

80

Metairie, LA 70001

Phone:

Fax: 5

TO: the LABSWE Board and Staff

Regarding: Haley Kraus LMSW

Dear Board and Staff,

I am writing regarding Ms. Kraus's request to the Board to consider accepting the supervision hours that she and I have completed toward obtaining her LCSW under my supervision over the past 18 months. Unfortunately, as Ms. Kraus will outline in her letter to you, due to miscommunications; trouble with the Certemy website; and, lack of sufficient information as how to complete certain paperwork, the submitted hours of supervision from March 3, 2023 may be deemed unacceptable. Ms. Kraus is asking the Board to approve the hours from 3/3/2023 until the present.

I would like to explain in more detail how we got to this point. I wish to state that I have been providing LCSW supervision to LMSWs for over 18 years without any major supervisory problems. However, since the Certemy platform has been in place, a number of "glitches" have occurred along with miscommunications. This is not unique to my experience which I am certain you are well aware. I have entered all dates and completed the required documentation of licensee sessions into the Certemy website as directed. I believe that I "accepted" the initial invitation indicating acceptance of the goals listed on the website. Around the end of June of this year, when entering dates of supervision, I mistakenly tapped "confirm log" rather than "close window" which resulted in me being "locked out" and unable to enter additional dates of supervision. I contacted Certemy who recommended I open my supervisory sessions under a different email address. I did this. However, what may have happened by doing this is that I needed to "Accept" a new invitation. I did receive an email from the board "to complete a form". I did open that email but was directed to complete the final evaluation form. I did not do this because we had not completed the required number of supervisory sessions. I called the board but do not remember

who I spoke to but was referred back to Certemy to resolve what was considered a technical problem.

Certemy indicated that I should continue entering the additional sessions using the new email address even though it stated that "the number of hours entered was met". Certemy had to be manually corrected so that I could enter "add hours". All seemed to be in order at this time. Neither I nor M. Kraus received any emails or other communications from Certemy or the board indicating a problem until recently when Ms. Kraus spoke to Ms. Banks, LABSWE staff. Ms. Kraus has outlined in details and with attachments to her letter, what were the problems and that all the hours of supervision that have been entered in either email addresses may be void. Upon receiving Ms. Banks' email directing me to accept the invitation, I did so.

Ms. Kraus and I have followed the directives that Ms. Banks outlined in subsequent emails

I hope the information contained in this letter as well as Ms. Krause's appeal letter will clarify that no ill intent was meant but that numerous problems with the Certemy platform lead to this situation I have never encountered such a large number of problems with Certemy in all the years of providing supervision. No complaints about me have been lodged by supervisees.

Should you need additional information from me please feel free to contact me via the phone number listed above or at either email addresses:]

Thank you for your time and consideration.



Mary Jane Brewer LCSW
BACS

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Dear LABSWE Board:

I am writing to petition LABSWE to accept my hours of employment 3000/contract along with my 79 supervision hours completed during my employment with Northshore Technical College. I worked at the college for 5 years in the same role however, I did submit the required request for completion however I did not follow-up to make sure the contracts were completed. There was a huge transition as my direct supervisor did pass away. I am currently 10 hours away from completing supervision and currently applying to test early for the LCSW. It was brought to my attention that I was missing contracts. I wish that Certemy would have alerted me sooner. If you all review Certemy, you will see that the request was sent at the appropriate time even after my supervisor passed away.

Currently I have a new job at St. Tammany Parish School Board and I am waiting for the Certemy to complete verification as I completed the request before the 60 days.

Thanks in advance,

Renee Ridgley, LMSW

214-450-4582

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Regina Dewitt

From: Savannah Woolford <
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 8:24 AM
To: Emily DeAngelo; Regina Dewitt
Subject: Home Study Report Question

Good Morning,

I hope this email finds you well! I had a question that I hope I can get some clarification on. My work told me yesterday that I need to help our recruiter by writing her home studies for her. I want to make sure I am covering myself before I begin and that this is allowed.

From my understanding, I will NOT be present in the home studies interviews and instead be given 2-3 recordings of the different interviews and then it will be up to me to scribe it and create a home study report of such.

Is this allowed? I just want to make sure because I will not be present nor ever meet the individual in person.

Thank you so much in advance and have a blessed day!

--



SAVANNAH BUMGARDNER

Registered Social Worker



317



West Monroe, LA 71291