

Jessica A. Pryce, Ph.D., MSW

Curriculum Vitae

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Director, Florida Institute for Child Welfare, FSU CSW, Tallahassee, Florida.
- Previous Deputy Director of the New York Social Work Consortium, Univ. at Albany, NY.
- Previous Child Placement Specialist, Migration and Refugee Services, USCCB, Washington, DC.
- Previous Child Protective Investigator, Department of Children and Families, Tallahassee, FL.
- Researcher in Social Identity and Work Commitment, Child Welfare Workforce Retention/Turnover, Child Welfare Training and Educational Partnerships, Supervision/Leadership and Professional Development.
- Direct experience managing partnerships and collaborations at local, state and national level.
- Previously provided Technical Assistance to the Administration for Children and Families' Professional Development Program in New York, NY.

SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(2018) Department of Children and Families; Predictive Analytics – Chronicity Pilot Implementation, *Principal Investigator*

- Currently overseeing the design and implementation of Chronicity Pilot for the Department of Children and Families.
- Pilot consists of Predictive Analytic modeling which focuses on likelihood that perpetrator will re-abuse.

(2017) Children's Home Society, Workforce Innovation: Case Aim Evaluation, *Principal Investigator*

- Led the development of the evaluation design
- Led team of 5 researchers who collected data from two sites in Seminole and Orange Co. Florida.
- Built data analytic design of data from the Florida Safe Family Network.
- Develop survey tool in Qualtrics for qualitative data collection.
- Data analysis done in SPSS and Nvivo software systems.

(2016) New York Statewide Level-3 evaluation project examining two child welfare training models of Forensic Interviewing Best Practices, *Principal Investigator*

- Developed information gathering tool which assessed the transfer of skills in a Forensic Interview as well as created a self-report survey for each participant. The main tool is an observational checklist completed by an outside observer. Each skill on checklist is undergirded by a competency comprised of a combination of KSAs.
- Collaborated with 10 county executives and commissioners on this project. Consulted with each on strategies for mobilizing staff to take responsibility for their transfer of learning.
- Organized and analyzed data through online software system, Qualtrics.
- Prepared report for the Office of Children and Family Services.

(2016) New York Child Welfare Racial Disparity and Social Work Curriculum Project, *Principal Investigator*

- Designed a Comparative Case Study-Qualitative Study.
- Developed interview and focus group protocol for data collection.

- Organized and coded data using online software, ATLAS.TI.
- Prepared report for the Office of Children and Family Services.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Florida State University

2017-present Tallahassee, FL

Executive Director, The Florida Institute for Child Welfare

The Florida Institute for Child Welfare seeks to promote safety, permanency, and well-being among the children and families of Florida that are involved with the child welfare system. To accomplish this mission, the Institute will sponsor and support interdisciplinary research projects and program evaluation initiatives that will contribute to a dynamic knowledge base relevant for enhancing Florida's child welfare outcomes. The Institute will collaborate with community agencies across all sectors and other important organizations in order to translate relevant knowledge generated through ecologically-valid research, policy analysis, and program evaluation. This will be best achieved through the design and implementation of developmentally-targeted and trauma-informed strategies for children and families involved in the child welfare system.

Deputy Director, New York State Social Work Consortium

2015-2016 Albany, NY

The Social Work Education Consortium was established in 2000 as a formal partnership between the Office of Children and Family Services, Bureau of Training, the New York State Deans' Association, the social work education community and local social services, designed to impact the child welfare workforce. Sixteen graduate and 28 undergraduate social work programs participate in the Consortium, along with 57 county social service districts and NYC's Administration for Children's Services.

In this leadership position, I was responsible for overseeing funds allocated by the state which were used to professionalize and support the New York State Child Welfare Workforce. I directly supervised 6 employees around the completion of program deliverables. I also assisted the Director of the program with budget development and helped in decision making regarding budget modifications and expenditure variances.

- Supervised staff and managed Consortium operations in Director's absence.
- Led the search committee during the process of hiring a Senior Educational Specialist for the Consortium.
- Managed administrative staff reimbursement processes for independent contractors, tuition reimbursement and training programs.
- Approved all requests for tuition for child welfare caseworkers who went back to school in order to garner more advanced skills and knowledge.
- Collaborated with directors and commissioners from each county (52 counties in NY) to establish a relationship which assists in the program implementation and evaluation. These collaborations were important as my job was to ensure the local districts' needs were met and goals achieved.

Adjunct Professor, University at Albany

2015-2016 Albany, NY

- Taught *Trauma-Informed Child Welfare* Course: Advanced Clinical students.
- Prepared and facilitated class lectures and discussion around child welfare case studies.
- Assigned tasks that measured the course competencies and objectives.

Adjunct Research Professor, University of Maryland

2013-2015 Baltimore, MD

- Taught *Research Methods* course to students in MSW program.
- Prepared lectures each week and provided tools that measured students' research capacity.

Child Placement Specialist, Migration and Refugee Services**2013-2014 Washington, DC**

Migration and Refugee Services provides community based family reunification services to

unaccompanied children who are in immigration proceedings. With support from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, MRS through its national network of more than 200 social service agencies, provides a necessary safety net for families who have been separated by migration. The MRS network provides home assessments and post-release services to strengthen recently reunified families and help them integrate into local communities.

As a child placement specialist, it was my responsibility to provide consultation and TA to foster care providers who were welcoming UAC's into their home.

- Collected relevant referral information, clinically assessing information provided, and coordinating case consultations for placement considerations. Communicated with external entities, including federal government, ORR shelter staff, attorneys, and community members during referral and placement process.
- Maintained informed record of complex mental health/trauma, medical, safety, and juvenile justice issues that impact children who are referred for foster care placement. Tracked referral and placement timeframes for UAC foster care.
- Collaborated with Processing Operations staff on overseas refugee minor cases. Organized statistics and creates reports to funders (i.e. ORR/DCS Quarterly Report).
- Substantially reduced the interruption of foster care placements by providing support and timely services and resources to foster care providers across the country.

Research Assistant to Dr. Joan Zlotnik, NASW Social Policy Institute**2012-2013 Washington, DC**

The Social Policy Institute examines issues that relate to professional social workers, including how to serve people who have multiple or complex needs and how public agencies and other structures deliver health and human services.

- Appraised child welfare and social policy literature regarding Title IV-E Policy Funding.
- Updated survey instrument to gather information on recent implementation of funding in social work education programs.
- Led the psychometric testing (content and face validity) of the instrument.
- Distributed the instrument online to social work education programs in U.S.
- Coded data and documented trends in results and responses.
- Traveled to professional conferences disseminating results.

Graduate Research Assistant, Howard University**2010-2012 Washington, DC**

- Contributed to collaborative research projects and provided administrative support for professor's research courses.
- Responsible for reading and comprehending reports and other social science literature. Conducted data cleaning, analysis and computations.
- Led the writing of research reports and prepared for publication.

Child Protective Investigator, Department of Children and Families**2008-2010 Tallahassee, FL**

As a child protective investigator it was my responsibility to investigate child maltreatment allegations that were reported to the Florida Abuse Hotline.

- Collected information through interviews with the children, parents, relatives, neighbors, and other parties associated with the case.
- Conducted initial/ongoing child Present and Impending Danger assessments.
- Developed Present Danger Plans and assigned safety plans for any identified threats and interventions.

- Arranged emergency placement for any child that could not safely remain in the home.
- Communicated with state attorney, law enforcement, child protection team and other required individuals as appropriate.
- Prepared appropriate reports/documentation in coordination with Children's Legal Services and provided testimony in court.
- Maintained thorough documentation in the client records/appropriate information system(s) and maintained organized client files.
- Provided case consultation for complex cases to other CPIs to assure appropriateness, clarity, quality, and thoroughness.
- Implemented morale boosting initiative to co-workers to enhance organizational environment and culture.

TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS

- Dismantling Racial Inequity: National Child Welfare Workforce Institute, June 2018
- Symposium on Race and Poverty: Translating Knowledge into Action. New York University, McSilver Institute for Poverty, Policy and Research. December 2, 2016.
- Child Welfare Policy Priority Think-tank; Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy October 2015.
- Veterans Policy Symposium, National Association and Social Workers in collaboration with University of Southern California. Hosted by National Association of Social Workers, Jun 12-13, 2013.
- Test Construction Workshop, Soleman Abu- Bader (Instructor). Hosted by Howard University, May 20-24, 2014.
- Advanced Quantitative Analysis Workshop, Soleman Abu-Bader (Instructor). Hosted by Howard University, May 27-31, 2014.

PUBLICATIONS

Pryce, J., Lee, W., Sellati, E., Park, D. McCarthy, M., & Owens, G. (2018). *A Case Study in Public Child Welfare: Promising Practices that Lower Racial Disparity in Foster Care Placement*. Journal of Public Child Welfare. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15548732.2018.1467354>

Pryce, J. & Briar-Lawson, K. (2016). *Child Welfare Reform*. St. Paul, MN: Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare, University, Minnesota.

Zlotnik, J.L., & Pryce, J. (2014). *Status of the Use of Title IV-E Funding in BSW and MSW Programs*. Journal of Public Child Welfare, 7(4), 430-446.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Pryce, J. (In Progress). An Empirical Examination of Title IV-E Education and Training on Organizational commitment and Career commitment to Public Child Welfare.

Pryce, J., & Lee, W. (In Progress). Strategies in Reduction of Racial Disparity in Foster Care Decisions: Blind Removal Meetings.

Pryce, J. (In Progress). The Florida Institute for Child Welfare: Florida's Child Welfare Reform 2014 to Now. Prepared for: Research on Social Work Practice; Bruce Thyer, Editor.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Pryce, J. (2018). "Racial Disparity within Child Welfare Removal Decisions: Case Study on County-level Practice." *Dismantling Racial Inequity Webinar Series*. Hosted by: National Child Welfare Workforce Institute. June 2018.

Pryce, J. (2018). "A Case Study in Public Child Welfare: Promising Practices that Lower Racial Disparity in Foster Care Placement." National Child Welfare Workforce Institute: Webinar, Dismantling Racial Inequity: June 2018.

Pryce, J. & Lee, W. (2018). "A Case Study in Public Child Welfare: Promising Practices that Lower Racial Disparity in Foster Care Placement." Paper accepted to the International Conference on Working with Involuntary Clients, Prato, Italy. May 2018.

Pryce, J. & Lee, W. (2018). "A Case Study in Public Child Welfare: Community Level Strategies that Lower Racial Disparity in Child Welfare Decision-Making." Paper presented at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) 21th Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., January 2018.

Pryce, J. (2017). Recommendations for Child Welfare Workforce Sustainability. Florida House of Representatives. Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee. Tallahassee Florida, October 25, 2017.

Pryce, J. (2017). How Socio-Economic, Ethnic and Cultural Issues Impact the Effectiveness of Clinical Interventions. Florida Council for Community Mental Health Annual Conference, Orlando Florida, August 16-19, 2017.

Pryce, J. (2017) University and Agency Partnerships: Research and Policy Considerations. Department of Children and Families: Academic Partner Summit, Daytona Beach Florida, July 13-14, 2017.

Pryce, J. (2016). An Empirical Examination of Title IV-E Training on Organizational and Career Commitment to Public Child Welfare. Joint World Conference on Social Work. Seoul, South Korea.

Pryce, J. (2015). An Empirical Examination of Title IV-E Training on Organizational and Career Commitment to Public Child Welfare. Accepted. Council on Social Work Education Conference, Denver, CO, October 14-18.

Pryce, J., (2015). An Empirical Examination of Title IV-E Training on Organizational and Career Commitment to Public Child Welfare. Accepted. Title IV-E Roundtable, St. Paul, MN June 3-6.

Pryce, J., (2015). An Empirical Examination of Title IV-E Training on Organizational and Career Commitment to Public Child Welfare. Accepted. Network of Social Work Management Conference, Washington, DC June 3-6.

Zlotnik, J., & **Pryce, J. (2014).** Status of the Use of Title IV-E Funding in BSW and MSW Programs. Poster Presentation at the National Association for Social Workers Conference, Washington DC.

Pryce, J. (2014). An Examination of Race and Title IV-E Training on Organizational Commitment in PCW. Presented at the Research to Practice Institute, Boston Massachusetts.

Zlotnik, J., & **Pryce, J. (2014).** Status of the Use of Title IV-E Funding in BSW and MSW Programs. Presented at The Social Work Management Conference, Boston Massachusetts.

Zlotnik, J., & **Pryce, J. (2013).** Status of the Use of Title IV-E Funding in BSW and MSW Programs.

Poster Presentation at the annual Council of Social Work Education Conference, Dallas Texas.

Pryce, J. (2013). Status of the Use of Title IV-E Funding in BSW and MSW Programs. Presented at the Inaugural Black PHD Network Conference, Philadelphia Pennsylvania.

Zlotnik, J., & **Pryce, J.** (2013). Status of the Use of Title IV-E Funding in BSW and MSW Programs. Presented at the Annual Title IV-E Roundtable, Galveston Texas.

Zlotnik, J., & **Pryce, J.** (2012). Status of the Use of Title IV-E Funding in BSW and MSW Programs. Presented at the annual Society of Social Work Research Conference, San Diego California.

Edwards, H., **Pryce, J.**, & Jones, G. (2011). Beliefs, Evidence, and Political Context in Federal Child Welfare Policy Making. Presented at the 57th Annual Program Meeting – CSWE Conference, Atlanta Georgia.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts -- Sociology and Criminology

Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL

Master of Social Work – Specialization, Child Welfare

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

Doctor of Philosophy -- Social Work

Howard University, Washington, DC

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society of Research and Child Development, 2012-present

National Association of Social Workers, 2009-present

Society of Social Work Research, 2012-present

Council of Social Work Education, 2011-present

Network of Social Work Management, 2014-present

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Member, Planning Committee, Annual Mayor's Children's Summit (May 2018)

Member, Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. (2018-2020) Appointment by Mayor of Tallahassee.