

JESSICA T. FURMAN MSW RSW  
[JESSICA@MACKENZIECLINIC.CA](mailto:JESSICA@MACKENZIECLINIC.CA)

Tel: 905.508.1967

## **PROFILE**

Registered social worker with highly developed clinical and community experience in working with diverse populations, with specialized knowledge in children's mental health. Experience includes working with students, professionals, children, families, community agencies and organizations. Special skills include intake and assessment, counselling, individual, couple and group therapy. I have strong social and interpersonal skills that have been an asset to me while working with diverse populations across the globe.

### **Crescent School, Toronto** August 2021 – Present

- Lower and Middle School Social Worker providing mental health services and support to students grade 3-8
- Provides psychoeducational and group support in school and by zoom where appropriate
- Provides consultation and support to faculty, staff and families

### **Aisling Discoveries Child and Family Centre (Strides Toronto)**, September 2018 - Present

#### **Child and Family Counselling**

- Provides assessment, formulations, therapeutic intervention and skill building for children and families with a focus on children 0-12

#### **Priority Access for Child Welfare program**

- CBT focussed program/ intervention with families who have had incidents of physical discipline or physical violence with their children and are seeking change.

#### **Group Facilitation**

- Facilitator for various mental health programs including Here to Help, Facing your Fears and Caring Dads Program

### **International School of Helsingborg, Helsingborg Sweden**

#### **Substitute Teacher and Early Years Educator**, September-December 2016

- Supply teacher for students kindergarten through high school years
- Early years educator, working with children ages 3 and 4

### **Jewish Family and Child, Toronto Canada**

#### **Individual, Couple and Crisis Response**, Feb. 2009 – Aug. 2014, Dec. 2015 – Apr. 2016

- Provides programs services and resource information to community members of diverse backgrounds, race, religion, creed and socio-economic status living in York Region and the Greater Toronto Region
- Provides first contact to community members seeking service, as well as consultations to community professionals
- Provides clinical/therapeutic services to agency clients by phone and as "drop in" clients
- Carries a diverse caseload supporting individuals involved with agency's financial assistance program as well as providing counselling services to individuals and couples

#### **Group Facilitation**

- Facilitator with the "Here to Help Program", a parenting group for mothers and children exposed to domestic violence  
This Group ran in conjunction with the North York Women's Shelter, Catholic Family Services, Jamaican Family Service Association, and COSTI for new immigrants.
- Co-Facilitator with the "Homework Club", assisted with coordinating the homework club for children grades 3 and up
- Organized and facilitated "Koach Adventures" an outdoor therapy program for at risk youth

#### **School Social Work**

- Provided social work services including consultation with teachers, principals, guidance, parents and children.
- Provided in class support and individual support to students and their families
- Facilitated groups on healthy boundaries, relationships, self-esteem and social skills

### **Child Welfare Social Worker**

**Bartimaeus Inc.,** Oct. 2008 – July 2009

#### **Access Facilitator**

- Facilitated access visits between the non-custodial parent and child

### **The Children's Aid Society of Toronto**

**Child Protection Social Worker,** Feb. – Oct. 2008

- Serviced high needs families of diverse cultures and backgrounds
- Carried out investigations to assess for children's safety in their family homes and in the community while being responsible for on-going protection files
- Developed intervention plans for families to minimize risk and encourage strengths building
- Prepared cases for court and testified where required

### **Children's Aid Society of Haldimand and Norfolk**

**Child Protection Social Worker,** Oct. 2006 – Feb. 2008

- Performed 7-day investigations and carried ongoing child protection files
- Prepared cases for court and testified where required

## **EDUCATION**

**Master of Social Work,** Ryerson University; Sept. 2011- Aug. 2012

**Bachelor of Arts & Bachelor of Social Work,** McMaster University; Sept. 2002- Apr. 2006

- Bachelor of Arts, Labour Studies
- Recipient of the McMaster Social Science Honours Award, 2003

### **Student Practicum**

**Wellspring Westerkirk House at Sunnybrook Hospital,** Jan. – May 2012

**Reach Out Centre for Kids,** Sept. 2005 – Apr. 2006

**Community Resource Services; Advocacy and Job Connect Program,** Apr. – Jul. 2005

### **Certificates**

#### **Facing Your Fears**

- Certified group facilitator

#### **Caring Dads Program**

- Certified and licensed group facilitator

### **The Hincks Dellcrest Centre-Gail Appel Institute**

**Online Certificate Course: Working with Families and Children,** Mar. – June 2015

- Continuing education program in conjunction with the University of Toronto

**Narrative Therapy Certification,** Oct. 2013- May 2014

- Continuing education program in conjunction with the University of Toronto

### **Trainings**

"Anti Black Racism Training"

ASSIST Suicide prevention training

#### **OASW Trainings**

"Trauma Stewardship: A Workshop on the Fundamentals of Trauma and Vicarious Trauma"

"Standing up to Covid-19: Effective Stress-Inoculation and Resiliency-Enhancing Strategies"

"Working with Self-Injuring and Suicidal Adolescents: A Collaborative Strengths- Based Family Therapy Approach"

**The Hincks Dellcrest Centre-Gail Appel Institute**

"Narrative Therapy & Restorative Justice Approaches for Working with Effects of Trauma & Abuse"

"Front-Line Workers Trauma Assessments"

"Getting Started: The Foundation of Your Narrative Practices"

"Brief and Narrative Practices with Adolescents: Challenges of Engagement and Direction"