

Curriculum Vitae

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Educational History:

- M.S. 2018, Rehabilitation Counseling – Clinical Mental Health Counseling; Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Blackwood, NJ
- Certificate 2015, Horticultural Therapy Certificate Program; Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ
- B.A. 2006, Psychology; Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ

Certifications:

Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (No. 00356279)
Horticultural Therapist – Registered (No. 95078)

Professional Appointments:

- 2019 – Present: Teaching Instructor.** Department of Plant Biology, Rutgers, The State University of Jersey. New Brunswick, NJ
- 2018 – 2019: Co-Adjunct.** Department of Plant Biology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. New Brunswick, NJ
- 2018 – Present: Associate Program Director.** Department of Plant Biology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. New Brunswick, NJ
- 2018 – 2018: Behavioral Health Consultant/Counseling Intern.** Virtua Primary Care – Tatem-Brown Family Practice Center. Voorhees, NJ
- 2017 – Present: Member, Board of Directors,** The American Horticultural Therapy Association
- 2017 – Present: Lecturer.** Department of Plant Biology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. New Brunswick, NJ
- 2017 – 2018: Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Intern.** New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Pleasantville, NJ
- 2016 – 2019: Horticulture Coordinator.** Douglass Developmental Disabilities Center. New Brunswick, NJ
- 2015 – 2016: Horticultural Therapy Intern.** Veterans Affairs New Jersey Health Care System. Lyons, NJ
- 2007 – 2017: Therapist.** Clinical Coordinator/Weekend Supervisor, Northbrook Behavioral Health Hospital (Formally Camden County Health Services Center). Blackwood, NJ

Honors and Awards:

- Rutgers University School of Health Professions Excellence in Clinical Performance Award (2018)

Teaching Experience:**Coursework:**

- **Introduction to Horticultural Therapy:** 11:776:225 – Introductory course in horticultural therapy and therapeutic skills (Sp. 2018, Sp. 2019, Sp. 2020)
- **Horticulture Therapy Techniques and Programming:** 11:776:325 – Program development and application of HT techniques to special populations (Sp. 2017, Sp. 2019, Sp. 2020)
- **People – Plant Relationships:** 11:015:432 – Overview of human issues in horticulture (Fa. 2017; Fa. 2018; Fa. 2019)
- **Special Problems in Plant Science – Horticultural Therapy Internship:** 11:776:475 – Supervised internship and fieldwork experience (Su. 2017, 8 students; Su. 2018, 3 students; Su. 2019, 5 students)
- **Horticultural Therapy Clinical Supervision:** Supervision of HT certificate program graduates post completion of the program for professional registration with the American Horticultural Therapy Association (2019, 7 students, 6 site placements; 2020, 6 students, 5 site placements)

Selected Guest Lectures:

- Use of Therapeutic Outdoor Green Space in Behavioral Health Programs; Rutgers Department of Landscape Architecture Common Lecture Series, 2020
- Behavior and Landscape: Design of outdoor spaces for the Rutgers Day School; Rutgers Department of Landscape Architecture Praxis Design Studio, 2020
- The Professional Practice of Horticultural Therapy: An Introduction; Rutgers Department of Kinesiology and Health, 2019

Curriculum/Program Development:

- On-line/hybrid Horticultural Therapy coursework development
- Horticultural Therapy internship and practical experience course development
- Vocational Evaluation, Horticultural Skills Training and Supported Employment Program development
- Horticultural Therapy Vocational Rehabilitation Internship and Practical Experience course development
- Horticultural Therapy Garden Skills Training Program at Rutgers Douglass Developmental Disabilities Center
- Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Minor Program Development
- Engagement/Management of Community Agencies with Active Internship Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) with Rutgers SEBS
- Engagement of Community Agencies currently in the process of developing an Internship Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Rutgers SEBS

Scholarship:

Grant Funding:

- Higher Education Challenge (HEC) Grant
Title: Horticultural Therapist Vocational Rehabilitation Education in Green Industry Skills Training for Individuals with Developmental Disorders
Role: Co-PI
Funding: \$150,000
Date: May 2020 – August 2023

Invited Workshops Topic/Presentations:

- Adaptive Indoor Therapeutic Gardening for Individuals Post Brain Tumor Surgery; Jersey Shore University Medical Center, 2019
- Grief, Loss, and Horticultural Therapy for Individuals Recovering from Stroke; JFK Neuroscience Institute Stroke & Neurovascular Center, 2019
- Adaptive Indoor Gardening for Individuals with Sensory Impairment/Sensory Loss; Resources for Independent Living, Burlington, NJ, 2019
- What's a HRSA BHWET Grant: Why Would My Rehabilitation Counseling Program be Interested?; National Counseling on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE), 2018
- Non-Violent Crisis Intervention; Northbrook Behavioral Health Hospital, 2017
- Horticultural Therapy in Clinical Mental Healthcare Settings; Northbrook Behavioral Health Hospital, 2016
- Workforce Development: Understanding Trauma Informed Care; Camden County Health Services Center, 2015

Interviews/Media Appearances:

- [How to handle work stress: Adding a Desk Plant Can Reduce Anxiety](#); NBCToday.com, 2020
- [8 Healthy Benefits of Indoor Plants, According to Horticulture Experts](#); Prevention.com, 2019
- [The Research Is In: Yes, Gardening Totally Counts as Exercise](#); Mindbodygreen.com, 2019

Service:

Professional:

- 2018 – Present: Team Leader, AHTA Professional Education Work Team
- 2017 – Present: Chair, AHTA Charles Lewis Excellence in Research Award
- 2017 – Present: Member, AHTA Certificate Program Review Board
- 2017 – 2018: Member, AHTA Professional Education Work Team
- 2017 – Present: Member, Board of Directors, The American Horticultural Therapy Association
- 2016 – Present: Horticultural Therapy Internship Supervisor

University:

- 2019 – Present: Member, Interdisciplinary Disability Minor working group
- 2019 – Rutgers SAS Major/Minor Fair HT recruitment booth
- 2019 – Rutgers Day HT education and recruitment booth
- 2019 – Present: Horticultural Therapy Internship MOU Development/Maintenance

Community:

- 2015 – 2016: Camden County Master Gardener Volunteer

Professional Development and Society Affiliations:

- American Horticultural Therapy Association
- Mid-Atlantic Horticultural Therapy Network
- National Rehabilitation Association
- American Counseling Association
- The Vocational Evaluation and Career Assessment Professionals Association