

Laura van Dernoot Lipsky

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Direct Service Experience

Advocate

October 1998 - October 1999

The Northwest Network/AABL
Seattle, Washington

Provided support, advocacy, and education to lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered survivors of abuse. Led programming focused on women of color and on youth. Co-facilitated a weekly support group and provided community education on same sex violence. Generated writings and appropriate models for teaching about and understanding further the dynamics of violence in the lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities.

Social Worker

April 1995 - June 1999; January 1993 - June 1993

Harborview Hospital Emergency Trauma Center
Seattle, Washington

Interviewed and provided support to battered women and sexual assault victims. Conducted clinical assessments of and discharge planning for psychiatric patients. Provided trauma debriefing, emotional support and education to victims of trauma and their families and friends. Advocated for and provided resource and referral information to patients and community members.

Counselor/Community Advocate

April 1995 - June 1996

Consejo
Seattle, Washington

Provided community advocacy and counseling services to battered women and their children within the Latina communities. Responsibilities included crisis intervention, court accompaniment and support in both civil and criminal cases, assistance in accessing support from governmental and non-governmental agencies, education on issues surrounding domestic violence, sexual assault and trauma, and, provision of resource and referral information. Acted as the liaison for the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project and the Washington State Address Confidentiality Program. Provided individual counseling and support group facilitation. Support services were conducted in Spanish. Advocated for clients nationally and internationally.

Legal Advocate

October 1992 - June 1994

Snohomish County Center for Battered Women
Everett, Washington

Provided legal advocacy services to battered women and their children. Responsibilities included crisis intervention, court accompaniment and support in both civil and criminal cases, assistance in accessing support from governmental and non-governmental agencies, education on issues surrounding the legal system, domestic violence, sexual assault, trauma and its short and long term effects, assistance with the Washington State Address Confidentiality Program, and, provision of resource and referral information. Co-developed a critical incident/trauma debriefing protocol for staff. Advocated for clients nationally.

HIV/AIDS Educator and Outreach Worker

March 1995 - September 1995; June 1993 -

January 1994

*People of Color Against AIDS Network (POCAAN)
Seattle, Washington*

Provided advocacy, support and education to women in the sex trade industry through the "Girlfriends Talking" program. Provided HIV/AIDS education to community members through workshops and street outreach. Created and co-developed a candlelight vigil for women in the sex trade industry who have been murdered and other victims of violence.

Community Organizing Experience

Founder and Director

September 2003 - Present

Prescolar Alice Francis

Founded and continue to direct this Spanish language preschool, guided by a social and environmental justice curriculum. The only one of its kind in the Pacific Northwest, the school serves 24 families with children ranging in age from 2 - 5.

Coordinator

March 1997 - May 2001

*The Domestic Violence & Child Protective Services Project; King County Department of Public Health
Seattle, Washington*

Coordinated a collaborative project between the Domestic Violence field and Child Protective Services in King County. Oversaw local and national primary advisors and a local Advisory Group. Project responsibilities included local, national and bi-national research; local systems intervention, and county-wide evaluation with the goal of creating sustainable collaboration between Domestic Violence services and Child Protective Services, as well as related fields.

Leader

May 1995 - January 1997

*The Black Women's Alliance
Seattle, Washington*

Led programming on liberation and anti-oppression theory from a systematic oppression and peer counseling model. Courses included those for women of color, people of color who speak Spanish, and people of mixed heritage. Developed, led, and coordinated trainings on liberation and anti-oppression theory and community building. Responsibilities also included public relations.

Project Coordinator

September 1993 - June 1994

*Multi-Cultural Outreach Project for Battered Women and their Children
Snohomish County, Washington*

Created and coordinated an outreach project with battered women and their children in the Latino, African-American, Asian/Pacific Islander and Native American communities. Activities included performing a needs assessment in these communities and within the Snohomish County Center for Battered Women, providing trainings on domestic violence, co-developing and co-facilitating a Spanish-speaking support group for Latina women, providing culturally congruent education and literature to communities on domestic violence, and writing a report on the findings from the project including short and long-term recommendations for increasing the cultural competency of the Snohomish County Center for Battered Women.

Chair,

June 1993 - January 1994

Diversity Training and Coalition Building Committee*Washington Citizens for Fairness/Hands Off Washington
Seattle, Washington*

Worked to develop an anti-oppression training for members of Hands Off Washington. Participated in building alliances with members of various communities of color in an effort to work collaboratively towards the goals of Hands Off and the needs of these communities.

Member, Board of Directors

January 1992 - August 1992

*Pueblo Storyteller Preschool
Santa Barbara, California*

Assisted board with responsibilities related to running a school for homeless children. Developed a video for educational and fundraising purposes.

Writing Experience*Trauma Stewardship – an Everyday Guide to Caring for Self While Caring for Others*

Best-selling book; winner of an IPPY silver medal 2008

The Journal of Interpersonal Violence

April 1997 - December 2001

Review articles and make recommendations for select manuscripts submitted to the Journal of Interpersonal Violence.

The Multi-Cultural Outreach Project
for Battered Women and their Children

September 1993 - June 1994

Report includes the project's history, its goals, a needs assessment, interviews with members of the communities and service providers, findings, and short and long-term recommendations for the Snohomish County Center for Battered Women.

Language

Bilingual in conversational and written Spanish.

San Andrés Semetabaj, Guatemala

June 1994 - February 1995

Assisted in educating members of a local co-operative on leadership and communication skills.

Education

University of Washington, School of Social Work, Seattle, Washington

June 1994

Master of Social Work; Multi-Ethnic Practice concentration

University of California, Santa Barbara, California

June 1991

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology

References Available upon request.