

BETHANY GALBRAITH BA, MSW (Candidate)

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HIGHLIGHTS OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Over eight years of combined professional and practicum experience working with older adults and their families, with a strong focus on quality, person-centred care for individuals living with dementia.
- Advanced knowledge and practical experience with fostering supportive relationships with people with dementia throughout the progression of the disease.
- Coordinated and participated in interdisciplinary care conferences for people living in long term care and their families, and writing the corresponding progress notes.
- Strong communication skills (written and verbal) to establish cooperative professional relationships within a team and to establish rapport with clients.
- Dynamic leader with the proven ability to supervise volunteers and students within long term care and community-based settings.
- Extensive experience working in long term care, resulting in a comprehensive knowledge of the policies and legislation related to these homes.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dementia Support Counsellor (8-month contract)

April 2014 – present

Alzheimer Society of Waterloo-Wellington, Kitchener, Ontario

- Assess the social, emotional and educational needs of persons with dementia and their care partners; collaborating with these clients to develop and implement person-centred plans of care.
- Provide supportive counselling to persons with dementia and their care partners throughout the progression of the disease.
- Complete referrals to Alzheimer Society programs and other community-based support services.

Information, Support and Education Intern (practicum)

September 2013 – April 2014

Alzheimer Society of Canada, Toronto, Ontario

- Participate in the development and dissemination of dementia-specific resources for people with dementia, their families, healthcare professionals and the public.
- Partnering with champions in the field of gerontology, including the Ontario Long Term Care Association and Extencicare, to conduct both quantitative and qualitative research on the role of social workers in the delivery of psychosocial care in long term care homes across Canada.
- Communicate effectively when responding to enquiry emails from individuals with dementia and family caregivers regarding challenging issues related to dementia; providing supportive counselling, resources and referrals to their local Alzheimer Society for ongoing support and resources.

Admissions Coordinator Intern (practicum)

January 2013 - May 2013

Salvation Army Isabel & Arthur Meighen Manor Long Term Care Home, Toronto, Ontario

- Worked in collaboration with CCAC to coordinate the waitlist and to assess needs related to admissions and discharges.
- Coordinated and assisted in the facilitation of interdisciplinary team care conferences.
- Further advanced knowledge of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint).

Emergency Food Hamper Program Intake Worker

August 2011 – August 2012

House of Friendship, Kitchener, Ontario

- Provided practical support and community referrals to individuals and families experiencing food insecurities.
- Acted as an advocate for individuals experiencing barriers to other community services.

Recreation Program Aide

June 2008 – August 2011

Parkwood Mennonite Home, Waterloo, Ontario

- Developed and implemented person-centred activities for individuals living with middle to advance stages of dementia and other chronic health conditions within a secure unit.
- Directly supervised volunteers and students involved in the long term care home's bus outings, activities and special events.
- Worked collaboratively within an interdisciplinary team to ensure the delivery of quality holistic care, making adjustments to programs and activities to ensure that the changing needs of residents were being met.

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**Master of Social Work (Candidate April 2014)**

2012–2014

University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario

- Collaborative Graduate Program in Aging, Palliative & Supportive Care Across the Life Course and a specialization in gerontology
- Courses in dementia care, policy and law related to the rights of older adults
- Currently conducting a systematic review of the literature on intergenerational programming for individuals living with dementia to be submitted to an academic journal.

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)

January 2014

*Living Works, Toronto, Ontario***Dementia Care Training Program & UFirst!**

November 2013

*Alzheimer Society of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario***Money Matters Workshop**

February 2013

Wellspring Downtown Toronto, Toronto, Ontario

- Training program focused on income replacement options

Honours Social Development Studies Degree

2008 – 2012

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario

- Concentration in social work, psychology and sociology

First Aid and CPR Training

November 2011

*Red Cross, Kitchener, Ontario***Gentle Persuasive Approaches in Dementia Care Certificate**

June 2011

*Parkwood Mennonite Home, Waterloo, Ontario***Recreation & Leisure Services Diploma Program**

2006 – 2008

Conestoga College, Kitchener, Ontario

- Concentration in community development, volunteer management and program planning

Other Relevant Experience**Assisted Living Centre Relief Worker***March 2008 – September 2008**Elmira District Community Living, Elmira, Ontario***Interim Life Enrichment Coordinator***June 2006 – August 2006**Terrace on the Square, Waterloo, Ontario***Receptionist***September 2004 – March 2008**Terrace on the Square, Waterloo, Ontario*