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# Kim Pawley Helfgott

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## Education

- M.A. 1982, Vermont College of Norwich University, Art Therapy  
B.A. 1980, State University of New York, College of Arts and Sciences at Geneseo, Psychology and Art Studio

## Professional Experience (1982–Present)

### **Child Welfare Resource Specialist, Technical Assistance Partnership for Child and Family Mental Health, American Institutes for Research (AIR) (2007–Present)**

Provided technical assistance and training to System of Care communities under an intra-agency agreement with the Center for Mental Health Services and the Children’s Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Coordinated opportunities to share strategies, tools, and resources for addressing the mental health needs of children, youth and families at risk of, or involved in the child welfare system. Facilitated peer to peer networking and communities of practice, coordinated conference presentations and Webinars, and developed publications on improving child welfare access to mental health services and strengthening collaboration with child welfare service delivery system.

### **Deputy Director, Child Welfare Information Gateway, ICF International (2002–2007)**

Managed information clearinghouse services under contract with the Children’s Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Coordinated national initiatives to develop and disseminate information on effective services and improved service delivery in child abuse and neglect prevention, child welfare, and adoption. Coordinated strategic planning and conducted focus groups to assess information needs of the child welfare field. Coordinated the development of print products, Web sites and Web-based services for evaluating programs, identifying evidence-based practices, and enhancing peer to peer networking.

### **Director, Program Services, Volunteers of America National Office (1997–2002)**

Coordinated networking opportunities among program directors of community based services and programs for children, youth and families. Coordinated training, technical assistance, conferences and teleconferences on innovations and promising practices in human service delivery. Developed publications on effective Volunteers of America programs. Led national training for replicating a program model for promoting youth development in low income housing communities.

### **Director, Human Resource Development, National Assembly of Human Service Organizations/National Collaboration for Youth (1993–1997)**

Coordinated networking opportunities among national human service and youth development organizations. Facilitated meetings and forums on topics of common interest to senior staff in national human service organizations. Developed a wide variety of publications on issues and trends in the human service sector. Coordinated research and development of products to promote positive youth development and engaging youth in leadership opportunities.

### **Project Director, Child Welfare League of America (1989–1993)**

Developed and directed a national *Program Exchange* for identifying, evaluating, categorizing and disseminating information on innovative and effective programs and management practices in all areas of child welfare. Coordinated national initiative to recruit and retain child welfare staff



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and developed and instituted an annual award program for recognizing exemplary child welfare employees and foster parents.

**Child and Youth Counselor and Family Specialist. School for Contemporary Education (1987–1989)**

Counselor emotionally disturbed children, youth and their families in a special education school.

**Expressive Art Therapist, Psychiatric Institute of Washington (1986–1987)**

Provided individual and group art therapy for children and youth in an inpatient psychiatric hospital.

**Coordinator, Creative Art Therapy Department, Convalescent Hospital for Children (1982–1986)**

Directed creative art therapy programs (drama, art, music) and provided individual, group and family art therapy for seriously emotionally disturbed children, youth and their families in residential, day treatment and outpatient mental health agency.

### **Selected Publications**

Child Welfare Information Gateway (2007–2008). *Promoting Healthy Families in Your Community—A Resource Packet*. Developed in partnership with 30 National Child Abuse prevention organizations and received award of excellence from ACF, HHS.

Child Welfare Information Gateway. (2006). *Strengthening Tribal-State Relations in Child Welfare*. Developed in partnership with National Indian Child Welfare Association.

Child Welfare Information Gateway (2006). *Addressing the Needs of Young Children in Child Welfare: Part C-Early Intervention Services*. Developed in partnership with Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children.

Volunteers of America (1998). *Bright Futures: A Guidebook for Promoting Positive Youth Development*.

### **Selected Professional Presentations**

Helfgott, K, McInturf, J. Ackerson, A. (2007 August). *Preparing for the Worst: Strengthening Systems to Cope with Disasters*. Workshop at the Summer 2007 National System of Care meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Helfgott, K. (2008). *Making it a Reality: Parents as Partners in Child Welfare*. National Affinity Group conference calls for System of Care grantee communities.

Helfgott, K. (2006). *Evaluating the Effectiveness of Child Abuse Prevention Programs*. Workshop for Kansas Governors Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, Wichita, KS and Children's Bureau State and Tribes meeting, Washington, DC.

Helfgott, K. and Greenburg, S. (2004–2005). *Developing and Sustaining Child Abuse Prevention Programs in Tough Times*, workshop at Family Support American national conference, Chicago, IL, 15th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, Boston, MA, Child Welfare League of America Western Regional Conference, Pasadena, CA.

Helfgott, K. and Webster, S. (2004). *Lessons Learned: Addressing Risk in Unsubstantiated Cases*. Workshop at Chadwick Center for Children National Conference, San Diego, CA, Child Welfare League of America National Conference, Washington, DC.