

## Jennifer L. Axelson Curriculum Vitae

### EDUCATION

- 2008 – 2010**                      **Aurora University**, Aurora, Illinois; Master of Social Work, with concentration in School Social Work
- 2004 – 2006**                      **Northern Illinois University**; DeKalb, Illinois; Secondary Education Certification in the field of Family and Consumer Sciences
- 2000 – 2003**                      **Illinois State University**, Normal, Illinois; Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Sciences, concentration in human development and family relationships

### PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

- 2017 – Present**                      **Lifecare Innovations; Litigation Support Manager; Expert Lifecare Manager**
- Direct management of litigation support product lines and staff
  - Oversee, remain aware of, and/or participate in conversation with referral sources, product inquiries, and marketing efforts related to litigation support products
  - Conduct weekly staff meeting with litigation support team members
  - Creation, review and modification to litigation support policies and procedures to outline best practices and ensure adherence to ethical and clinical practice guidelines
  - Assign cases to litigation support team
  - Oversee development and final product of all litigation support work
  - Oversee, remain aware of, and/or participate in billing and collection efforts for litigation support products
  - Assess and develop Life Care Plans for individuals with catastrophic personal injury and special needs including chronic health conditions.
  - Provide expert witness deposition and courtroom testimony as required
  - Manage and/or remain aware of case budgets
  - Maintain Life Care Planning credentials
  - *Continuation of all tasks noted below for Clinical Manager and Expert Lifecare Manager*
- 2015 – 2017**                      **Lifecare Innovations; Clinical Manager, Expert Lifecare Manager**

- Creation, review and modification to companywide policies and procedures to outline best practices and ensure adherence to ethical and clinical practice guidelines.
- Direct management of clinical staff members working to complete Lifecare Management, Guardianship, property coordination, in-home companion and other related services.
- Completion and supervisory review of Lifecare Management reports and status update reports for court
- Provide semi-weekly direct review of caseload and education/guidance to Lifecare Management staff regarding care plan development/implementation, oversight of Associate Lifecare Management staff, and coordination of client needs/service providers
- Oversight of on-call staff training and implementation of services
- Review of client invoices related to services provided; coordinate accurate oversight of client budgets and bill processing
- Continual review of and information provision to staff regarding research related to community resources, medical care and entitlements
- Advocacy on behalf of clients to ensure their deserved attention and exemplary care from all service and medical providers
- *Continuation of all tasks noted below for Senior Lifecare Manager*

**2014 – 2015**

**Lifecare Innovations; Senior Lifecare Manager**

- Manage client reports/documentation
- Provide crisis intervention
- Supervise staff
- Participate in program development, marketing, business development, etc.
- At management's discretion may assist with inquiries per company policy
- *Continuation of all tasks noted for Lifecare Manager*

**2012 – 2014**

**Lifecare Innovations; Lifecare Manager**

- Conduct client assessments to develop care plans for new clients
- Develop, execute and modify complex care plans to ensure attention to care needs and coordination of treatment for clients living with challenging conditions including, but not limited to:
  - Dementia/ Cognitive Decline
  - Mental Health Issues
  - Addictions
  - Developmental Disability
  - Birth Injury

- Neurologic Conditions
- Medical and Physical complexities
- Spinal Abnormalities/Issues
- Chronic Pain
- Aging
- Dual Diagnoses
- Liaison for clients as an experienced guide and resource among family members, trust officers, doctors, attorneys, etc.
- Court attendance, at which status updates and crisis management for guardianship clients are conducted
- Create annual reports for court
- On-Call Lifecare Management duties
- Manage client budget
- Oversee financial management and participate in the completion of entitlement applications and document collection
- Supervise staff
- *Continuation of all tasks noted for Associate Lifecare Manager*

**2010 – 2012**

**Lifecare Innovations; Associate Lifecare Manager**

- Perform client-related tasks/projects for client/estate as directed by the LM/GRS
- Maintain client documentation and complete reports
- Research residential facilities for clients
- Coordinate property management services (i.e., client return/move to home residence, environmental safety inspections, etc.)
- Assist in financial management, audits, and management of entitlements
- Ensure all client needs are met
- Arrange services for clients through medical or other ancillary providers

**2009 – 2010**

**Meadowview Elementary School; School Social Work Intern**

- Provision of one-on-one and group therapy and social work services to elementary aged clients.
- Member of a team designing, creating, and implementing a new district class room (CHOICES) providing assistance to children coping with:
  - Emotional disturbance
  - Behavioral disturbance
  - Pediatric mental health issues
  - Learning disabilities
  - Dual diagnoses
- Coordination with education and administration staff to ensure a support plan and implementation team was in place for each client.

- Provided education and guidance to education staff in regards to modification of approach and classroom environment to improve client outcomes and attention in the classroom.
- Conducted biopsychosocial reviews for inclusion in Individualized Education Plans and related meetings.
- Utilization of Second Step & Caring School Communities - SEL component of RTI

**2008 – 2009**

**Communities in Schools; Social Work Intern**

- Provision of one-one-one therapy with junior high aged clients.
- Creation of care plans and status reviewed to outline work completed and goals for services.
- Participation in group supervisory meetings to review case studies and expand client services.
- Assessment of client needs and development of related care plan.

**2007 – 2008**

**Kensington School; Early Childhood Education Teacher**

- Curriculum development and implementation for classroom of early education students.
- Foster development in all areas (cognitive, physical, emotional) through implementation of teaching strategies through all learning styles and modalities to ensure optimum contact and absorption.
- Parent guidance and education related to child development and advancement of education and growth.
- Assessment of child growth and development; modification to education plan to meet individual student needs.

**2006 – 2007**

**South Elgin High School; Family and Consumer Science Teacher**

- Teacher of high school aged students in the courses of Child Development (multiple levels) and meal preparation and nutrition.
- Fostered education and development of students wishing to learn to become teachers in the future.
- Create and oversee implementation of early education curriculum to preschool students by high school students.
- Acquisition of needed resources for preschool and child development classroom.
- Acquisition of needed resources for meal preparation and nutrition classroom.
- Mentorship and guidance to students related to education and personal needs.
- Assessment of student status for signs of excellence and need – modification of teaching approach to meet needs.

- Referral for additional services from trained support professionals when needed to ensure ample support was in place to foster optimum growth in each student.

**2003 – 2004**

**Breaking Free, Inc.; Project X Coordinator**

- Creation of educational materials (presentation, brochure, etc.) outlining the important components of youth location, purchase and use of ecstasy and club drugs.
- Provision of educational programming to service providers who are regularly in contact with the youth population on the topic of ecstasy and club drugs.
- Coordination and implementation of suspension-alternative program with troubled youth and their parents.

**2003**

**Head Start, Family Resource Advisor Intern**

- Review of student demographics and decipher areas of needs and geographic location.
- Research of student and family resources within geographic location identified.
- Creation of materials to provide resources located near students and their parents.

**RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2018** International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals (IARP) Illinois Annual Conference
- 2018** Case Management Society of America National Conference
- 2017** SEAK – “How to Excel At Your Expert Witness Deposition”
- 2017** 2017 Life Care Planning Summit
- 2017** FIG Services, Inc. - Certified Life Care Planner Training Course
- 2010-2015** School Services Personnel Type 73 Certification

**PRESENTATIONS/LECTURES**

**2015-Present Lectures Given By Jennifer Axelson:**

- **“Unmasked and Unsafe: The Hidden Perils of Discharge”** – presented at the Case Management Society of America “Each One, Teach One” Conference, January 2019
- **“Too Many Cooks in the Kitchen: When the Patient and Decision Maker are Two Different People”** – presented at the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals (IARP) Illinois 2018 Annual Conference

- **“The Fine Line Between Incompetence and Poor Judgment”** – presented to nurses and senior living facility administrators.
- **“The Positive Effects of Cognitive Stimulation in Case Management”** – presented to social workers and counselors in the fields of case management and guardianship.
- **“Cultural Competence in Care Management”** – presented to social workers and counselors in the fields of case management and guardianship.
- **“Cultural Competence in Case Management for Latino Clients”** – presented to social workers and counselors in the fields of case management and guardianship.
- **“Ethics and Managing Risk in Case Management”** – presented to social workers and counselors in the fields of case management and guardianship.
- **“Special Needs Trusts: The Legal and Practical Aspects”** – co-presented to a group of attorneys and trust officers in the fields of probate law and trust management.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Axelson, Jennifer** and Martha Kern. The Purpose-Driven Senior: How Baby Boomers Might Change Senior Care Communities, *Lifecare Innovations Newsletter*, July, 2018.

**Axelson, Jennifer** and Martha Kern. Transitional Trauma: Senior Stress in Response to a Move, *Lifecare Innovations Newsletter*, June, 2018.

**Axelson, Jennifer** and Martha Kern. An Elephant in the Room: Seniors and Alcohol Consumption, *Lifecare Innovations Newsletter*, April, 2018.

**Axelson, Jennifer** and Martha Kern. The Adult Child/Aging Parent Relationship: Minefields, Misunderstandings and Methods for Improvement, *Lifecare Innovations Newsletter*, November, 2017.

**Axelson, Jennifer** and Martha Kern. The Benefits and Drawbacks of Age Segregation: Should Seniors Live Apart from The Rest of Us?, *Lifecare Innovations Newsletter*, October, 2017.

**Axelson, Jennifer** and Kern, Martha. The Secrets They Keep: The Innermost Fears, Facts and Feelings Seniors Don't Share and How to Address Them, *Lifecare Innovations Newsletter*, August, 2017.

**Axelson, Jennifer** and Kern, Martha. Informal Caregiving: The Real Costs, Risks and Considerations, *Lifecare Innovations Newsletter*, July, 2017.

**Axelson, Jennifer** and Kern, Martha. The Young and the Restless: Youthful Residents Housed in Senior Communities, *Lifecare Innovations Newsletter*, June, 2017.

**Axelson, Jennifer** and Kern, Martha. The Special Offender: When Psychiatric Issues Undermine Judgment And Lead To Crime, *Lifecare Innovations Newsletter*, April 2017.

**Axelson, Jennifer** and Kern, Martha. Senior Care in 2030: What Trends and Demographics Tell Us About the Future, *Lifecare Innovations Newsletter*, March 2017.

**Redmond, J.** (2009) The spirituality component of health for first nations people. Illinois Society for Clinical Social Work, Winter 2010, pp. 10 - 11.

## **PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION**

Certified Life Care Planner  
Certified Case Manager  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Member of the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals (National and Illinois Chapter)

Member of the Case Management Society of America (National and Chicago Chapter)

- Board of Directors, Chicago Chapter
- Education Committee, Chicago Chapter

Illinois Health Care Coalition

Member of the Illinois Guardianship Association

National Alliance on Mental Illness