

Tona Zwanziger, MS, LCSW

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EDUCATION:

Tulane University – Master of Science - DRLS (Disaster Resilience Leadership Sciences)

Tulane University – Master of Social Work with Certification in Disaster Mental Health & Trauma Studies

University of New Orleans – BA in Sociology

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

TULANE UNIVERSITY, DISASTER RESILIENCE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY (08/2017-present)

Program Manager

- Management: provide budgetary and logistical oversight of the Master of Science Academic Program
- Staff Instructor: for MSW, DRLS and undergraduate Trauma courses
- Student Affairs and Academic Advising: principal contact for students, degree audits and review of academic plans and career goals, liaison between students and administration, plan and facilitate Program Orientations and other course related and field events
- Administrative: prepare correspondence, plan events for students and faculty, understand and manage confidential information regarding student records and faculty contracts
- Curriculum and Class Delivery: coordinate schedules with Faculty/Adjunct Faculty and work with Registrar's Office to ensure successful delivery of Program courses and degree award/certification
- Student recruitment: participate in outreach to prospective students at incoming student orientation, during campus visits and at external student recruitment events

SOUTHERN PSYCHOLOGICAL SPECIALISTS (2022-present)

- LCSW: Provide psychotherapy and psychoeducational/skill building services for individuals presenting with emotional-psychological distress including depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, insomnia, substance abuse, trauma, PTSD, school and academic problems, DHD, cognitive, memory, and emotional problems from brain damage and diseases, psychological difficulties secondary to physical injury and pain and adjustment disorder associated with injury and/or life events.

JEFFERSON NEUROBEHAVIORAL GROUP (2016- 2022present)

- LCSW: Provide psychotherapy and psychoeducational/skill building services for individuals presenting with emotional-psychological distress including depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, insomnia, substance abuse, trauma, PTSD, school and

academic problems, DHD, cognitive, memory, and emotional problems from brain damage and diseases, psychological difficulties secondary to physical injury and pain and adjustment disorder associated with injury and/or life events.

TULANE UNIVERSITY, New Orleans, LA

Staff Instructor

- Instructor – “MSW Capstone”
- Instructor – “Disaster Mental Health Interventions”

Research and Teaching Assistant to Dr. Charles Figley, PhD (01/2015-12/2015)

- Research and Teaching Assistant for “Trauma Studies” course sequence

TULANE UNIVERSITY, New Orleans, LA (08/2015 – 12/2015)

- Research Assistant for Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GOMRI - Rand Corporation) to assess impact of damage to local area community following Deepwater Horizon oil spill
- Teaching Assistant for “Human Factors of Disasters”
- Guest Speaker – “Psychosocial and Behavioral Leadership Science”

TRINITY COUNSELING AND TRAINING CENTER, New Orleans, LA

Mental Health Practitioner – Field Practicum for MSW degree (01/2013-12/2014)

- Worked with adults, adolescents and children, using a variety of theoretical perspectives in individual, family and group therapy sessions with a specialization in Disaster Mental Health/Trauma.
- Conduct therapy sessions with individuals diagnosed with a variety of disorders including Adjustment Disorders, Anxiety and Depression, Bipolar Disorder, Cognitive Disorders, Borderline Personality Disorder, and ADHD plus others.
- Provide play therapy using both Directive and Non-Directive interventions and techniques.
- Organize and facilitate CBT groups specific to anxiety and depression.
- Develop and write treatment plans, process notes, and diagnostic summaries; Assign diagnoses and prepare for case consultation meetings; Conduct psychosocial assessments and screen for PTSD, anxiety, depression and suicide ideations.

MWH AMERICA’S/MWH Global (Engineering Firm), New Orleans, LA

Lead Administrator - New Orleans Recovery Program after Hurricane Katrina (06/2009-12/2012)

- Supervisor of 13 administrative support staff across 4 business programs; Facilitate all Team and office meetings; Conduct performance reviews; POC for other business offices and local management for personnel and human resources matters; Daily guidance and direction to administrative team, interviewing, hiring and training new employees; Scheduling and assigning work based on skill sets and capabilities.
- Facilitate events and meetings to build team cohesiveness and maintain diversity training hours.
- Create tracking logs for marketing efforts; Prepare project and marketing reports.
- Interpret and administer company/office policy programs and procedures for 112

employees, across three offices; Assure that direct reporting employees follow safe work practices; Maintain regular contact and correspondence with clients and Subcontractors;

- Coordinate and manage document control compliance.

GRACE OUTREACH CENTER, New Orleans, LA

CIT Substance Abuse Counselor (through DHH) (11/2008-06/2009)

- Work with LA Access to Recovery Program (LA-ATR) to provide individual, family and group counseling sessions for substance abuse clients Work primarily with low income probation and parole clients in the adult and juvenile court system; Provide services for Intense Outpatient and Outpatient Treatment;
- Work with other community social services offices to encourage the completion of a GED and assist with job search and interview preparations;
- Conduct group therapy sessions for anger management, family education, life skills training and substance abuse.

COMMUNITY BASED CORRECTIONS, New Orleans, LA

Operating Manager and Director of Operations (02/2007-09/2008)

- Assist with the start-up of the company, programs, and day-to-day operations to provide electronic monitoring of non-violent offenders as they were released by the New Orleans Courts.
- Enroll clients into a case management and GPS electronic monitoring system; Create compliance/non-compliance reports for review at court proceedings; Create and manage statistical reports for City Government and Drug Courts.
- Responsible for training employees on latest technology and software programs used.
- Create and maintain, with confidentiality, client and personnel files.
- Work with local community service organizations to provide additional services to clients such as GED and anger management classes, AA/substance abuse, parenting classes, job readiness and life skills training; Worked directly with local authorities and investigators to track and monitor non-compliant clients.

UH SERVICES GROUP, LLC, Metairie, LA

Director of Operations – Disaster Recovery after hurricane Katrina (02/2006-2015)

- Managed employees and subcontractors for multiple construction and service-related projects.
- Develop business plans and write bid proposals using excel, power point and design specific software; Processed applications for company certifications; Managed all accounts receivable and payable; Monitored and tracked all marketing efforts and potential project opportunities for the company
- Create tracking logs for marketing efforts; Prepare project and marketing reports.
- Interpret and administer company/office policy programs and procedures for employees,
- Supervisor of office and field staff for two offices; Facilitate all Team and office meetings; Conduct performance reviews; POC for other business offices and local management for personnel and human resources matters; Daily guidance and direction to administrative team, interviewing, hiring and training new employees; Scheduling and assigning work based on skill sets and capabilities.

- Facilitate events and meetings to build team cohesiveness and maintain diversity training hours.

MILITARY EXPERIENCE:

UNITED STATES ARMY (National Guard)

Combat Field Medic – Sergeant – 10 years (04/1992-04/2002)

- Set up field hospital operations; Responded to medical emergencies in a field hospital environment using training in CPR, nuclear, biological, and chemical situations; Provide emergency medical treatment to other soldiers to include dehydration, on the job injuries, combat/military fatigue and other medical treatments.
- Provided rescue and recovery missions with hurricane evacuations and following hurricane activity;
- Activated to Honduras and Belize following hurricanes to provide disaster recovery and activated for hurricane readiness in the local New Orleans Area.
- Honorably discharged after 10 years of service.

SPECIALIZED TRAINING:

National Incident Management System, FEMA and the Emergency Management Institute, 2/2015

Emergency Support Function – ESF #6, FEMA and the Emergency Management Institute, 2/2015

Emergency Support Function – ESF #8, FEMA and the Emergency Management Institute, 2/2015

Are You Ready? – Citizen Preparedness, FEMA and the Emergency Management Institute, 2/2015

National Response Framework, FEMA and the Emergency Management Institute, 5/2014.

Intro to Incident Command System, FEMA and the Emergency Management Institute, 5/2014.

Hurricane Preparedness Training, given by Dr. Jane Parker, Director of the Institute for Psychosocial Health, Tulane University, 6/2014.

Humanity in the Midst of War, Introduction to International Humanitarian Law, Seminar given by the American Red Cross, Tulane University, 2/2014.

Advanced Mindfulness, The Art and Science of Self-Compassion, Seminar given by Tim Desmond, LMFT, and PESI, Inc., 11/2014.

Trauma Focused CBT, online certification through Medical University of South Carolina, 12/2014.

Play Therapy – 10 session certificate, given by LSU Health Sciences Center, 09/2014-05/2014

Darkness 2 Light Training, given by Child Advocacy Services, 2014.

Motivational Interviewing Skills Training, given by Dr. Stephen W. Phillipi, Jr., Ph.D., LCSW and LSU Health New Orleans - School of Public Health and Tulane University, 6/2014.

Psychotropic Medication Education Training for Mental Health Practitioners, given by Tulane University, 9/2014

Sexual Abuse Treatment Training, given by Michele Louviere, LMFT and Celebration Hope Center

Treating Trauma with EMDR, given by EMDRIA Board of Directors, New Orleans LA, 1/2014.

Understanding Self Injury as a Trauma Response Training, given by Dawn Diermann Treigle, MSW, LCSW and River Oaks Hospital and The New Orleans Institute, 2/2014.

Family Therapy Training, given by Dr. Justin Levitov, Ph.D, 2/2014.

US Army National Guard - Sergeant (Combat Field Medic), 04/1992-04/2002.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES HELD:

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)

CERTIFICATIONS:

Disaster Mental Health and Trauma Studies – Tulane University

Trauma Focused CBT, online certification through Medical University of South Carolina, 12/2014

AWARDS/ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

Tulane 34 Award – Tulane University

Phi Alpha Honor's Society – Tulane University

Significant Contribution to Global Research in Disaster Resilience – Tulane University

Dean's List – University of New Orleans

Sociology National Honor's Society – University of New Orleans
Academic Excellence for Experimental Research and Design in Psychology – University
of New Orleans

PUBLICATIONS/RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Zwanziger, T., Anderson, C., Lewis, J., Ferreira, R., & Figley, C. (2017). *Resilience and Knowledge of PTSD Symptoms in Military Spouses*. *Traumatology*, 23 (1), 43-48.
doi:10.1037/trm0000093

Research and Teaching Assistant Tulane University, Disaster Resilience Leadership
Academy and Tulane School of Social Work - MSW, (01/2015-12/2016)

Research Assistant for Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GOMRI - Rand
Corporation) to assess impact of damage to Louisiana local area communities
following Deepwater Horizon oil spill (01/2014-12/2015)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

NASW – National Association of Social Workers, Member, Dec. 2013 to present

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

Louisiana SPCA

New Orleans City Park Clean Up Krewe

Community Based Corrections, assisted clients with GED prep, job applications, resumes
and job interview prep, (2007-2008)

Girl Scouts Louisiana East, Girl Scout Troop Leader (2011 to 2015)