

My passion in life is to alleviate as much human suffering as possible. With research, dedication, and a collective decision-making team, I can bring about change. I want to help find solutions to the social problems we face daily. I have been doing social services volunteer work for the last ten years and now want to professionalize my efforts with a Masters degree in Social Work.

To date, I have earned an AA degree in Social Sciences with an emphasis in Human Services and Chemical Dependency Studies. I held a strong GPA of 3.99 for the Human Services and a 3.89 in Chemical Dependency and received an A for Practices in Human Services during my final semester at community college. But because I was unable to finish the entire 240 hours of work experience due to the passing of my mother, I received a failing grade for that class. I was still able to graduate from American River College with Highest Honors and a degree in The Individual and Society. Soon after, I was accepted to the University of California at Davis, and moved on to working towards a Bachelor in Science studying Sociology.

My work experience includes interacting with a wide range of people with cultural differences and those in the lowest socioeconomic group. From 2000-2007 I drove a school bus where I worked with severely disturbed children and those with physical disabilities. I drove a city bus for Regional Transit in Sacramento, then transitioned to working for the county of Sacramento providing human services for the poor, disabled and dying. I have also volunteered at Strategies for Change working with parents who had lost their children and were in the process of reunification. My favorite volunteer service was working at Quinn Cottages and Serna Village of Sacramento, where the residents were families seeking stable housing and reunification. Through Cottage Housing of Sacramento I was able to work with a highly diverse population who were chronically homeless and struggled with drug and alcohol dependency and mental health issues. I was able to offer supportive services to those who wanted to change their lives and were willing to do the footwork that it took. I was able to see how giving someone a hand up can affect the lives of an entire family and recreate a community of hope.

I believe that every child has the right to stable housing and a loving environment in which to grow. I support the promotion of children's health and safety and feel that the family should be the first ring of defense for a child. If that support system should fail, however, it is everyone's responsibility to step in and intervene on behalf of the child. With a Masters in Social Work I can bridge families with resources that can help stabilize their housing and help them to acquire the skills necessary to ensure and strengthen their existing family structure. People deserve access to help that is timely and effective.