

Laura Cadena Beard
Email address: lauradbeard@gmail.com

Education and Honors

University of Michigan

- MSW Candidate December 2009
Practice Area: Aging in Families and Society
Practice Methods: Community Organization and Interpersonal Practice

- Recipient of Geriatric Scholarship

Hope College

- BSW and Spanish Minor May 2008
 - Member of Spanish Honor Society, Social Work Honor Society, Dean's List.
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Employment

Student Assistant, Michigan Department of Transportation, Lansing MI May 2006-April 2009

- Eliminated the need for paper copies by scanning files to provide efficiency for all departments within MDOT.

Tutor, Upward Bound, Holland, MI

Oct. 2005-Apr. 2008

- Implemented goal setting, study habits, and time management for multicultural and at-risk high school students.

Activities Coordinator, Okemos, MI

Summer 2005

- Motivated two ADHD children in developing improved skills in mathematics, reading, entrepreneurial activities, and athletic training.
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Internships

MSW Intern, Alzheimer's Association, Southfield, MI

May 2009- Aug. 2009

- Created treatment plans, conducted assessments, facilitated support groups, and presented at educational trainings on Foundations of Dementia Care and End of Life Care.

MSW Intern, Michigan Office of Services to the Aging, Lansing, MI

Sept. 2008-Apr. 2009

- Completed a senior center survey, developed resources on cultural competency, and analyzed the current information system.

BSW Intern, Freedom Village, Holland, MI

Aug. 2007-Apr. 2008

- Conducted social assessments, administered geriatric depression scales, planned for discharges, practiced active listening, and various clinical work with the aging population within the setting of a skilled nursing facility.

ESL Teacher, Hope College Study Abroad, Puerto Escondido, México

May and June 2007

- Planned lessons and educated students and adults in the English language and participated in neighborhood development through Habitat for Humanity.
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Volunteer Experience

Alzheimer's Association, Lansing, MI

October 2009-Present

- Serve as helpline volunteer connecting families to resources.

Christians in Social Work Association, Ann Arbor, MI

Fall 2008-Spring 2009

- Discussed how faith intersects with the social work profession.

Social Work Organization (SWORG), Hope College, Holland, MI

Fall 2006-Spring 2008

- Raised awareness for cancer research and homelessness through participation in Relay for Life and the Point in Time Count.

Dance Marathon, Hope College, Holland, MI

Mar. 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008

- Participated in a fundraiser for Devos Children's hospital by dancing for twenty-four hours.

Mission Trip, Hope College Campus Ministries, Montego Bay, Jamaica Mar. 2006

- Renovated a school for the deaf, improving living conditions and quality of life for the students in Jamaica.

Bible Study Co-leader, Hope College Campus Ministries, Holland, MI Fall 2005-Spring 2008

- Facilitated a group of young women in developing their faith and provided mentorship on a frequent basis.

Additional Training/Conferences

Michigan Mental Health & Aging Conference, East Lansing, MI May 2009

Integrating Person-Centered Thinking into Practice, Lansing, MI Oct. 2008