

Curriculum Vitae
Jenna Powers, MSW
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EDUCATION

- DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.)** **Anticipated May 2021**
University of Connecticut School of Social Work - Hartford, CT
Dissertation (working title): Youth Participation in Child Welfare Decision-Making Processes: Exploring Maine's Youth Leadership Advisory Team
Dissertation Committee: Dr. Scott Harding (Chair), Dr. Kathryn Libal, and Dr. Katie Richards-Schuster (University of Michigan School of Social Work)
- MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (M.S.W.)** **May 2014**
University of New England - Portland, ME
Concentration: Organizational & Community Practice
- BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.)** **May 2009**
Warren Wilson College - Asheville, NC
Major: Outdoor Leadership (Adventure Education)

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Policies and services for young adults transitioning out of foster care; youth empowerment; political engagement; social, political, and economic justice; political social work; nonpartisan voter engagement; policy and program evaluation; community organizing

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

PUBLISHED PAPERS

1. Hylton, M., Smith, T. R., **Powers, J.**, Ostrander, J. & Lane, S. R. (2018). The Power of Three: Infusing voter engagement in lower level BSW courses. *Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work*, 23(1), 213-229.
2. Hill, K., Lane, S. R., **Powers, J.** & Smith, T. R. (2019). From the Empire State to the North Star State: Voter engagement in the 2016 election. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, 46(1), 91-111.
3. Lane, S. R., Hill, K., Ostrander, J., **Powers, J.**, Smith, T. R. & Hylton, M. (in press). Creating a culture of voting in direct and generalist practice: Training field instructors. *Advances in Social Work*, 19(1).
4. **Powers, J.**, & Fisher, R. (in press). Political social work. In E. Mullen (Ed.-in-Chief), *Oxford Bibliographies in Social Work*. New York: Oxford University Press.

IN PROCESS

1. Park, S. E., **Powers, J.**, Okpych, N. J., & Courtney, M. E. *Examining transition-age foster youths' participation in case-level decision-making processes: Predictors of youth roles in their transitional independent living plan (TILP) development*. To be submitted to the Children and Youth Services Review, Fall 2019.

2. **Powers, J., & Ulaszek, W.** *Transitioning youth at risk: A case study of an MSW field education project.* To be submitted to the Journal of Social Work Field Education, Fall 2019.
3. Hylton, M., **Powers, J.**, Lane, S., Ostrander, J., & Smith, T. R. *A voter engagement model.* To be submitted to the Journal of Social Work Field Education, Fall 2019.
4. **Powers, J.** *Toward an intersectional analysis of child welfare practice and legislation: Foster youth participation in policy-making.* To be submitted to the Journal of Progressive Human Services, Spring 2020.

PRESENTATIONS

NATIONAL PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

1. Park, S. E., **Powers, J.**, Okpych, N. J., & Courtney, M. E. (2019, November). *Co-production of foster youths' transition to adulthood: Predictors of transition-age foster youths' participation in their independent living plan development process.* The Association for Research on Non-Profit Organizations and Voluntary Action's Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.
2. **Powers, J.**, Smith, T. R., Lane, S. R., & Pritzker, S. R. (2019, October). *Continuing the political social work legacy of Nancy A. Humphreys.* The Council on Social Work Education's Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO.
3. Dodd, S., Felten, G. & **Powers, J.** (2019, January). *Reporting sexual violence to college officials: The impact of trust, connection and victimization on campus climate.* The Society for Social Work and Research's Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.
4. Ostrander, J., **Powers, J.**, Lane, S. & Smith, T. R. (2018, January). *Preparing social workers to run for office and careers in political settings.* The Society for Social Work and Research's Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.
5. Lane, S. R., Hylton, M., Ostrander, J., **Powers, J.** & Smith, T. R. (2017, October). *Voter engagement in social work field education: Toward equal opportunity and justice.* The Council on Social Work Education's Annual Program Meeting, Dallas, TX.
6. Melville, A., Dodd, S. & **Powers, J.** (2017, October). *Prevention efforts with young children: Understanding early trauma to address health gaps.* The Council on Social Work Education's Annual Program Meeting, Dallas, TX.
7. Hill, K., Lane, S. R. & **Powers, J.** (2017, June). *From the Empire State to the North Star State: Implementing and evaluating voter engagement in the undergraduate classroom.* The Policy Conference 2.0, St. Louis, MO.
8. Lane, S. R., Hylton, M. & **Powers, J.** (2017, May). *Voter engagement in BSW and MSW curriculum: Bridging the macro and micro divide.* Policy Conference 2.0, St. Louis, MO.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

1. **Powers, J.**, & Smith, T. R. (2018, March). *Voting and community health: Increasing turnout in Bridgeport through service delivery.* University of Connecticut School of Social Work Office of Research & Scholarship Exhibition, Hartford, CT.

2. Lane, S. R., Ostrander, J. & Powers, J. (2017, May). *Amplifying marginalized voices: Social worker's advocacy role with voter turnout*. The National Association of Social Workers Connecticut Chapter (NASW-CT) Annual Conference, Cromwell, CT.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

- University of New England School of Social Work – Biddeford, ME* **2019 - 2020**
Social Welfare Policy and Advocacy I & II (BSW; in-person)
- University of Connecticut School of Social Work – Hartford, CT* **2019 - 2020**
Analysis of Social Welfare Policy and Social Delivery Systems (MSW; online)
- University of Nevada, Reno School of Social Work - Reno, NV* **Fall 2018**
Practice and Program Evaluation (MSW; online)
- University of New England School of Social Work - Portland, ME* **2016 - 2018**
Social Welfare Policies and Programs I (MSW; online)
Social Welfare Policies and Programs II (MSW; online)

INVITED GUEST LECTURER

- University of New England School of Social Work (BSW) - Biddeford, ME* **Spring 2019**
Human Behavior and Social Work Theory (in-person); The Use Social Work Theory Within a Study of Maine's Youth Leadership Advisory Team
Social Welfare Policy and Advocacy (in-person); Maine's Youth Leadership Advisory Team: A Case for the Importance of Micro, Mezzo, and Macro in Social Work Practice
- University of New England School of Social Work (MSW) - Portland, ME* **2015 - 2016**
Program Development and Community Practice (in-person); Social Workers as Leaders Within the Political Arena
Grant Research and Proposal Writing (in-person); Leveraging Funders and Writing Grants
Social Welfare Policies and Programs (in-person); The Role of Social Workers and Their Clients in Creating Legislation
Community Organizing and Community Building (online); Filling a Gap: Developing Innovative Community-Based Programs

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant

2018 - 2020

University of Connecticut School of Social Work – Hartford, CT
California Youth Transitions to Adulthood Study (CalYOUTH)
PI: Nathanael Okpych, PhD

Conduct literature reviews; conceptualize research project; conduct and review data analyses; disseminate findings via manuscripts and conference presentations; participate in weekly meetings and collaborate with research team

- Graduate Research Assistant** **2018 - 2019**
University of Connecticut School of Social Work – Hartford, CT
Political Social Work; Community Organizing
PI: Robert Fisher, PhD
Conduct literature review; conduct historical and qualitative data analyses; conceptualize research project; disseminate findings via manuscripts and conference presentations
- Research Assistant** **2017 - 2019**
Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services – Hartford, CT
Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA): Transitioning Youth at Risk
PI: Wendy Ulaszek, PhD
Conduct interviews; create and distribute surveys; assist in designing of the study; analyze data (qualitative and quantitative); create reports; disseminate findings
- Research Assistant** **2018**
Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services – Hartford, CT
Connecticut Alcohol Compliance Study (ACS)
PI: Carol P. Meredith, MPA
Select representative sample of liquor retailers in CT: calculate sample size and create stratified list to be randomly checked for compliance of underage alcohol consumption laws
- Research Assistant** **2017**
Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services – Hartford, CT
Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI)
PI: Eleni Rodis, MS
Lead semi-structured focus groups; analyze data (qualitative and quantitative); create reports
- Graduate Research Assistant** **2016 - 2018**
University of Connecticut School of Social Work – Hartford, CT
Voting is Social Work: Agency-Based Voter Engagement
PI: Tanya Rhodes Smith, MSW
Conduct in-depth literature review of voting rights and voter turnout; conceptualize research projects; assist with grant-seeking and -writing; design paper and web-based surveys; administer surveys; maintain all research materials and data; analyze data in SPSS; train and supervise MSW interns and work study students with data entry and cleaning
- Graduate Research Assistant** **2016 - 2018**
University of Connecticut School of Social Work – Hartford, CT
An Evaluation Study of Social Work Attendees' Political Efficacy and Participation
PI: Tanya Rhodes Smith, MSW
Lead IRB and study material development; assist with training of study participants; review informed consent with participants; administer paper and online surveys nationally; maintain, organize, and coordinate all research materials and data; analyze data in SPSS; train and supervise MSW interns and work study students with data entry and cleaning

GRANTS AND AWARDS

DEAN'S FUND SCHOLARSHIP (\$3,000 total) <i>University of Connecticut School of Social Work - Hartford, CT</i>	2016, 2017
VICKI AND MICHAEL KONOVER SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,500 total) <i>University of Connecticut School of Social Work - Hartford, CT</i>	2016, 2017
CENTER RESEARCH ACTIVATION GRANT (\$5,000) <i>University of Connecticut School of Social Work - Hartford, CT</i>	2016
EDUCATION COLLABORATION GRANT (\$5,000) <i>University of New England - Portland, ME</i>	2014
GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION GRANT (\$200) <i>University of New England - Portland, ME</i>	2014

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

OFF-SITE FIELD SUPERVISOR <i>University of Nevada, Reno School of Social Work - Reno, NV</i> Provide field supervision for student in the Online MSW Program via video conference, telephone, and email; assist student with the development and completion of their Field Learning Plans (summer and fall semesters); provide additional support as needed	Summer - Fall 2019
OFF-SITE FIELD SUPERVISOR <i>University of Nevada, Reno School of Social Work - Reno, NV</i> Facilitate one hour of weekly supervision for a group of MSW (online and campus) students participating in the Nevada Policy Practice Academy; provide additional support as needed	Spring 2019
ACADEMIC ADVISOR <i>University of New England School of Social Work - Portland, ME</i> Support online MSW students with their academics and professional development	2016 - 2017
SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR <i>University of New England School of Social Work - Portland, ME</i> Coordinate CSWE reaffirmation/accreditation efforts; attend national recruitment events; supervise Graduate Assistants	2015 - 2016
COORDINATOR <i>Northern New England Campaign School for Social Workers - Portland, ME</i> Secure funding for the training; organize speakers and trainers; support the transition of leadership to the NASW Maine Executive Director	2014 - 2016
CO-FOUNDER and CO-DIRECTOR <i>New Leaders Council Maine Chapter - Portland, ME</i> Network with community members and organizations; recruit a diverse and cohesive class of emerging progressive leaders; lead weekend trainings	2014 - 2015
STUDENT AND FACULTY SUPPORT SPECIALIST <i>University of New England School of Social Work - Portland, ME</i> Advise current and prospective students; actively participate on committees (Admissions, Orientation, Curriculum, and Program Assessment)	2014 - 2015

RELATED EXPERIENCE

GRADUATE ASSISTANT <i>University of New England School of Social Work - Portland, ME</i> Assist professors with classroom preparation and research projects	2013 - 2014
GRADUATE SOCIAL WORK INTERN <i>Muskie School of Public Service - Portland, ME</i> Engage foster care youth and alumna in program development and policy change	2013 - 2014
GRADUATE ASSISTANT <i>Fordham University School of Social Work - New York, NY</i> Assist professors with classroom technology	2012 - 2013
GRADUATE SOCIAL WORK INTERN <i>Lawyers for Children - New York, NY</i> Work with youth in foster care to advocate for their rights	2012 - 2013

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

RESEARCH COMMITTEE <i>Nancy A. Humphreys Institute for Political Social Work - Hartford, CT</i>	2018 - Present
DOCTORAL COMMITTEE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE (ELECTED) <i>University of Connecticut School of Social Work - Hartford, CT</i>	2016 - Present
ADVISORY BOARD CO-CHAIR <i>New Leaders Council Maine Chapter Advisory Board – Portland, ME</i>	2015 - 2016

ADDITIONAL TRAININGS

<i>Writing for Publication Seminars (Monthly)</i> University of Connecticut, School of Social Work Doctoral Program	Spring 2019
<i>Grant Writing Workshop: Strategic Approaches to Grant Seeking and Project Design</i> University of Connecticut, Office of the Vice President of Research (OVPR)	Fall 2018
<i>Teaching Seminar (Monthly)</i> University of Connecticut, School of Social Work Doctoral Program	2016 - 2018
<i>Professional Development Seminar (Monthly)</i> University of Connecticut, School of Social Work Doctoral Program	2016 - 2018
<i>Advanced Qualitative Research Methods with Deborah Padgett</i> University of Connecticut, School of Social Work Office of Research and Scholarship	Spring 2017
<i>NIH Grant Writing Workshop</i> University of Connecticut, School of Social Work Office of Research and Scholarship	Fall 2016
<i>Theory Construction with Jim Jaccard</i> University of Connecticut, School of Social Work Office of Research and Scholarship	Fall 2016

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Research on Non-Profit Organizations and Voluntary Action	2019
Society for Social Work Research	2017 - Present
Influencing Social Policy	2017 - Present
Council on Social Work Education	2016 - Present
National Association of Social Workers	2016 - Present