

Curriculum Vitae - Victoria L. Beecher

CERTIFICATES & MEMBERSHIPS

Internationally Certified Alcohol & Drug Counsellor - (ICADC)
UK Professional Certification Board of Alcohol & Drug Counsellors
International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium

Member - EAGALA Equine Assisted Growth & Learning Association

FDAP - National Counsellor Accreditation Certificate

BACP - United Kingdom Register of Counsellors

WORK HISTORY

May 2007- Current:

Private Practice – 33 Thurloe Place, London SW72HQ

January 2006-April 2007:

Private Practice – 38 Kings Road, London SW3

September 2005-April 2006:

Part time MANAGER, SHARP, London
Management of the Counselling Team to ensure effective service provision.

September 2004 – August 2005:

CLINICAL MANAGER, Promis Recovery Centre, Pinnars Hill, Nonington, Kent CT15 4LL
Management of the Counselling Team to ensure effective service provision.

January 2004 – September 2004:

Community Drug & Alcohol Worker (Maternity cover) Substance Misusing Parent Project – KCA Thanet, Ramsgate, Kent.
Working on a pilot project with KCA and Social Services to provide interventions for substance users whose related behaviour has placed their child(ren) on the At-Risk Register or the Child Protection Register with Kent Social Services.

May 2000 – August 2003:

CLINICAL DIRECTOR, Verdun House, St. John, Barbados

Design, implement and manage a treatment and rehabilitation center. Based on the Minnesota model, but eclectically organized to take account of cultural and social milieu.

Design programme components, develop policies and treatment protocols, forms, handbooks. Hire, train and supervise clinical, administrative and housekeeping staff.

Develop service provision along the full continuum of care for addicted individuals and their families.

Liaise nationally and internationally with funding agencies and other treatment professionals.

Develop short and long term business plans with associated budgets; accounts and other administrative functions. Report to Board of Directors on all issues pertaining to the facility.

Apr 1999 – April 2000:

COUNSELLOR, Passages, 79 Court Street, Hamilton, Bermuda

Personally owned private counselling service, providing services in accordance with the twelve core functions established by the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC). Services for chemical dependency, codependency, ACOA issues, eating disorders, prevention and adolescent self-esteem development. Development and provision of nicotine cessation programmes.

Mar 1999 – October 2002:

COLUMNIST - Mid-Ocean News, Bermuda

Column entitled "Living & Learning", a weekly article based on addiction and recovery.

Aug 1998 - Mar 1999:

COUNSELLOR - Part time, Transitions, 79 Front Street, Hamilton, Bermuda

Provision of services in accordance with the twelve core functions established by the IC&RC. This position was part time and provided on private 'fee for service' arrangements. My caseload was with clients impact directly or indirectly by substance misuse, ACOA issues or Codependency. I facilitated Smoking Cessation Programmes and provided adolescent counselling.

Jan 1995 - Oct 1996:

COUNSELOR, Addiction Services, Victoria Street, Hamilton, Bermuda

Provision of services in accordance with the twelve core functions established by the ICRC within an outpatient clinic that also offered methadone detoxification services. As the sole female counsellor all the female clients and the Women's Group were placed on my caseload together with an equal share of the males attending our facility. Also responsible for the adolescent assessment and counselling.

Dec 1994 - Oct 1996:

COUNSELLOR - Part-time, Transitions, 79 Front Street, Hamilton, Bermuda
Provision of services in accordance with the twelve core functions established by the IC&RC. My caseload was individuals impacted directly or indirectly with chemical abuse. I offered specialized services to adolescents and I also co-facilitated a co-dependency group and an eating disorder group.

Aug 1990 - Aug 1993:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT to the President, Atlantic Corporate Management, 82 South Road, Warwick, Bermuda
Provision of corporate services to a large portfolio of local and international clients. Executive secretarial functions. Considerable accounting work including budget preparation, reconciliations and adjustments. Extensive computer skills.

Apr 1988 - Apr 1989:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT to the Sole Partner, Madeiros Law Offices, Reid Street, Hamilton, Bermuda
Executive secretarial functions, legal document drafting, etc

Apr 1983- Apr 1988:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT to the Chairman, Alexander Insurance Managers, Reid Street, Hamilton, Bermuda
Executive secretarial functions, personnel work, office management, accounting and computer

APPOINTMENTS

1998-1999 Member of Steering Committee - HEALING FAMILIES: To encourage community mobilisation for healing families from the impact of substance abuse

1998-1999 Member of the Implementation Committee and Chairman of the Sub-committee "Spirituality & Religious Beliefs" looking to implement suggested solutions to "Uproot Racism" in Bermuda following a recent forum hosted by the Human Rights Commission, CURE, National Association for Reconciliation and Amnesty International.

2000 Appointed as Human Rights Commissioner – Hamilton Bermuda

2001-2003 Chairman – Treatment & Rehabilitation Sector of the Multi-Sectoral Working Group appointed by the Attorney General of Barbados to design and implement the Barbados Anti-Drug Plan.

Sept 2001 Appointed to a CARICOM Regional Working Group to design a drug demand reduction strategy for the Caribbean Region. (working group was subsequently disbanded)

Sept 2002 Appointed to a multi-sectoral working group to establish a response to the high number of individuals currently seeking long-term assistance at the homeless shelter of the National Assistance Board of Barbados

Oct 2002 Invited to participate as a member of the Select Committee to establish the Barbados Strategic Plan for Health 2002-2001

Jan 2003 Appointed to Task Force set up by the Ministry Of Health Barbados to "map" the location of national Sex Workers and to develop and deliver set of interventions for health service provision and exit strategies where appropriate.

Mar 2003 Appointed by Prime Minister's Office and HIV/AIDS Commission to a strategic planning group to prepare the Barbados application to the United Nations Global Fund for AID Tuberculosis & Malaria. Subsequently appointed by the Prime Minister's Office as Secretary to the Country Co-Ordinating Mechanism to manage the fund.

May 2003 Appointed to Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (OAS/CICAD) of the Organization of American States Task Force to draft a five-year regional drug demand reduction strategy and projects for the Caribbean. Chaired a two person team to develop the specific Treatment & Rehabilitation components.

June 2003 Appointed to OAS/CICAD Task Force established to develop guidelines for Latin America and the Caribbean on the organization of national drug treatment systems providing a continuum of care.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

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| 1971 – 1976 | Hatfield Girls Grammar School, Hatfield, Herts, England - 6 GCE "O" levels – English Literature, English Language, French, Maths, Biology, History |
| 1976 – 1977 | Marsden College, Kensington, London, England - GCE English "A" Level |
| 1977 – 1978 | St. James' Secretarial College - Secretarial Certificate |
| 1986 – 1993 | Queen's University/Maryland University & Bermuda College; various college courses for credit towards Bachelors Degree (approximately 60 credits earned) |
| 1993 – 1994 | Hazelden, Minnesota, USA - 13 month Chemical Dependency Counselor Training Program; 6 month internship at Hazelden Center for Youth & Families, Minnesota, USA |
| 2005-2007 | London School of Psychodrama, 106 Portland St. London - Diploma in Psychodrama |
| 2007-2008 | Imago Relationships - International Certification in Relationship Therapy |

COMMUNITY SERVICE

1989-1990 STAR – volunteer caring for individuals in final stages of AIDS and assisting in fund raising efforts

May 2004 Parent Governor – Sheldwich Primary CP School, Sheldwich, Faversham, Kent.

LECTURES PRESENTED

Bermuda 1995:

"Drug & Alcohol Abuse" - Youth to Youth prevention group

"Drug & Alcohol Abuse" - Prospect Primary School

"Drug & Alcohol Abuse" - 4 sessions, Sandys Secondary School

"Who is an addict & what are the substances of abuse" - Association of Bermuda Pharmacists

"The Pressures of Being a Girl- self esteem, addiction, eating disorders, sexual violence" - Bermuda High School for Girls

"Addiction & the Family" - Government of Bermuda, Department of Family Services

"Drug & Alcohol Abuse" - Religious Group

"Triumph Over Addiction" – Television Show - "Style Bermuda" with Carla Lacey

Minors:

1996 "Hallucinogenics & Marijuana" – Television Show - "Youth Talk" with Margaret Swift

"The Pressures of Being a Girl- self esteem, addiction, eating disorders, sexual violence" - Bermuda High School

"Drug & Alcohol Abuse in Bermuda" - Nurses Orientation Week, King Edward VII Hospital

1999 "The Real Deal about Drugs & Alcohol" - Pride Conference 1999

"What is Addiction? What is Codependency?" - Sonesta Beach Hotel Staff

"Bridging the Gap - Healing Families from the Impact of Substance Abuse" Healing Families Forum Track Topic: Families and Education

"From Addiction to Recovery - Moving From Negative to Postive Spirituality" The Bermuda National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai Faith

Barbados:

2001 "Drugs & Alcohol in Barbados" - Barbados Rotary West

"Substance Misuse and Your Work" - Social Work Associates Degree Programme Students

2002 "The Model of Treatment at Verdun House - utilising the community" - Barbados Rotary South

"Your Child and Drugs" - St. Gabriels Parent Teachers Association

"Good Morning Barbados" Television Show – 2 appearances to promote and educate the public about Verdun House

"This is a Community Problem - How we can help each other" Barbados Hotel & Tourism Authority (BHTA)
"We Can Help and So Can You" - BHTA Luxury Group
"Afternoon Delight" - Radio call in programme "The Intertwined Epidemics of HIV & Substance Abuse"

- 2003** Law & Order Commission - to outline new ideas for community mobilisation to effectively impact crime and recidivism.
"Your Child and Drugs" - Lester Vaughn Secondary School Parent Teacher's Association
"Good Morning Barbados" Television Show – appearance to promote and educate the public about Verdun House
"Addiction in Barbados" - Drug Awareness Month Panel Discussion
United Kingdom
"Substance Misuse in Social Work Environment" - training session for final year DipSW students. – Christ Church, Canterbury
"Substance Misuse" – 2 presentations to 14 & 15 year olds at Bishops Stortford College.
"Alcohol Misuse & Your Child – to the parents of Bishops Stortford College students.

CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING

- Apr 12-16 1993** HAZELDEN, CENTER CITY, Minnesota, USA
Aspects of Chemical Dependency - 30hrs
- Jun 5-10 1994** RUTGERS UNIVERSITY - ADV SCHOOL OF ALCOHOL & DRUG STUDIES
Body Centered Psychotherapy - 20hrs - P. Burke PhD
Creative Counseling - 20 hours - Patricia Potter-Effron MA
- Jul 20-22 1994** HAZELDEN, CENTER CITY, Minnesota, USA
Peer Empowerment Training - 30hrs
- Oct 21 1994** CORNERSTONE RECOVERY SERVICES, Minnesota, USA
Angry all the Time - 6hrs - Ronald Potter Effron, PhD
- Oct 27-29 1994** NATIONAL PREVENTION CONFERENCE, Minnesota, USA
Violence Prevention - 14hrs
- Oct 31 1994** CONFERENCE ON DUAL & MULTIPLE ADDICTIONS
CD, Eating Disorders & Self Injurious Behaviours - 7hrs
Karen Emonson, MA, LP, LSW, CCDC-R
- Apr 20-24 1995** AMERICAN SOCIETY OF GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY & PSYCHODRAMA -
53RD ANNUAL MEETING - 28hrs
The Basics of method, role playing, & psychodramatic technique - Adam Blatner, MD TEP & Fellow ASGPP
Drama Games With Addicts & ACOA's - Tian Dayton, PhD
Psychodramatic Approaches to Body Image in the Treatment of Eating Disorders - Monica Callahan, PhD, TEP
Psychodrama & the 12 Steps – Louise Lipman, CSW, CP & Laverne

Washington MSW, CAC
Rebels with a Cause - Psychodrama/Sociodrama with Adolescents
Self & Community - An Interpersonal Dyad for Overcoming Addiction - S. Parrish
Multi Family Psychotherapy In Adolescent Inpatient Treatment - Thomas Treadwell
Spirit Supporting Community - John Raven Mosher, MA TEP

- Jun 26-30 1995** NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE, Cape Cod, USA
"Reviving Ophelia: Saving the Selves of Adolescent Girls" - 15hrs - Dr. Mary Pipher, PhD
- Aug 28 1996** HAZELDEN, CENTER CITY, Minnesota, USA
Professional Ethics - Current Issues - 3hrs - G Schoener CCDC-R
- Sep 18 1996** HAZELDEN, CENTER CITY, Minnesota, USA
Professional Ethics & Boundaries - 3hrs - G Schoener CCDC-R
- July 25 1997** HAZELDEN, CENTER CITY, Minnesota, USA
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder - 4.8hrs
- July 26 1997** HAZELDEN, CENTER CITY, Minnesota, USA
Anti-Depressants & Chemically Dependent Client - 4.2hrs
- Aug 10-14 1997** HAZELDEN CENTER FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES, Minnesota, USA
Professional in Residence - Parent Programme - 20hrs
- Sept 18th 1997** HAZELDEN, CENTER CITY, Minnesota, USA
Ethical Issues for Chemical Dependency Providers - 3hrs
- Sept 1997** HAZELDEN, CENTER CITY, Minnesota, USA
Ethical Issues for Chemical Dependency Providers- 3hrs
- Oct 1998** BERMUDA COLLEGE - BDA ADDICTION CERTIFICATION BOARD
Theoretical Models - 10hrs
- 28-29 Jan 1999** BERMUDA COLLEGE - BDA ADDICTION CERTIFICATION BOARD
Ethical Decision Making for Professionals - 10hrs
- May 1-7 1999** THE MEADOWS INSTITUTE, WICKENBURG ARIZONA
Post Induction Therapy for Codependence Treatment - 33hrs - Pia Mellody
- Dec 6 - Jan 7 2000** NEW ENGLAND ADDICTION TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER
In-depth Study of the Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions- 10hrs
- Dec 20-Jan 2000** NEW ENGLAND ADDICTION TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER
Living Life on Life's Terms: Integrating Spirituality into the Therapeutic Process with Addicted Adults - 10hrs - Patricia Burke, PhD
- Jun 6-Jul6 2000** NEW ENGLAND ADDICTION TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER Linking

Substance Abuse to Interpersonal Violence - 10hrs

- Oct 22-25 2000** U.S. HARM REDUCTION COALITION
Harm Reduction Conference – 30hrs
- April 2001** NEW ENGLAND ADDICTION TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER
Managing Ethical Dilemmas & Risk-Management Issues - 8hrs
- May 2001** CLOUDS HOUSE, Wiltshire, UK
21-25 Interpersonal Group Therapy in Addiction Treatment – 12.5hrs
May 28-Jun 1 01 Cognitive Analytic Therapy in Addiction Treatment – 12.5hrs
- Feb 18-22 2002** NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE
Angry and Aggressive Behaviour – a Lifespan Treatment Approach– 15hrs –Dr. Donald Meichenbaum PhD
- Jul 22-26 2002** CLOUDS HOUSE, Wiltshire, UK
Family Systems theory & Family Work with Addicted Populations – 25hrs
- Aug 25-29 2003** NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE, New Hampshire, USA
Blended Model of Clinical Supervision –25hrs - David Powell PhD
- Jan 22 2004** KENT COUNCIL ON ADDICTION (KCA), Faversham, Kent.
Child Protection – 6 hrs
- Mar 10 2004** Crack Cocaine Awareness – 6hrs
- Mar 19 2004** Risk Assessment – 6hrs
- Apr 21-22 2004** Safer Injecting – Blood Borne Virus’s – 12 hrs
- May 19-20 2004** Harm Reduction – Blood Borne Virus’s– 12 hrs
- June 17 2004** Managing Difficult Situations – 6 hrs
- July 5 2004** Diversity & Discrimination Training – 6 hrs
- Dec 5 2004** LABAN’S ADDICTION SPECIFIC TRAINING
Ethics – 6 Hrs
- Jun 2005** EAGALA Level 1 Equine Psychotherapy Certificate – 30 Hrs
- Feb 2006** THE FEDERATION, London - Diversity Training - 6 Hrs
- Feb 2006** THE CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY CENTRE, London Borderline Personality Disorder – 6 hours
- Apr 2006** AT HEALTH CARE CE, USA
Pathological Gambling & Alcohol Use Disorder – 1 hour
Pathological Gambling: Assessment & Treatment - 1 hour

- Feb 2007** AT HEALTH CARE CE, USA
 Ethical Issues with Fees, Billing & Collections - 1 hour
 Nine Ethical Values of Master Therapists – 1 hour
 Privacy of Victims’ Counseling Communications – 1 hour
 Borderline Personality Disorder – 3 hours
- Feb 2007** THE DISTANCE LEARNING CENTER FOR ADDICTION STUDIES
 Hepatitis C – Information for Counselors – 3 hours
- Nov 2007** THE EPONA CENTRE, Arizona, USA
 Equine Archetypes for Self-Discovery Workshop - 12hrs
 Black Horse Wisdom Workshop - 42 hrs
- Nov 2007** IMAGO RELATIONSHIPS INTERNATIONAL
 Nov 8-11 2007 – 32 hours
 Feb 21-24 2008 – 32 hours
 May 15-18 2008 – 32 hours
- Feb 2008** US JOURNAL TRAINING, INC
 Ultimate Strategy for Transforming Toxic Shame into Self-Discoveries &
 Spiritual Calling Pt 1 – 4 hrs.
- May 2008** EAGALA Level 2 Equine Psychotherapy Certificate – 24 Hrs
- Nov 2008** IMAGO RELATIONSHIP INTERNATIONAL: 1 day Advanced training – 8 hrs
- Jan 2009** DISTANCE LEARNING CENTER FOR ADDICTION STUDIES
 Counsellor Ethics – Ethical Counselors – 3 hrs
 HIV/AIDS & Other Sexually Transmitted Diseases – 3 hrs
- May 2009** ADDICTION RECOVERY FOUNDATION & UKPCBADDC
 6th UK/European Symposium on Addictive Disorders – 9 HRS
- Feb 2010** BRITISH PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, London
 Teaching Clients to use Mindfulness Skills – 6 hrs
- Mar 2010** BROWN UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR ADDICTION STUDIES
 Distance Learning Programme
 Mindfulness in Addiction Counselling – 8 hrs, Dr. Patricia Burke

Future training pending

- April 2010** Institute of Counselling – University of the West of Scotland
 Certificate in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy – six months SCQF level 8
- Sep 2010** CBT Workshop at Beck Institute USA with Judith S Beck, Leslie Sokol & Aaron T
 Beck (confirmation of attendance pending)
- Centre for Mindfulness Research & Practice, Bangor University
 8 Week mindfulness based course.