

BRENDA JACOBSON

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Professional Experience:

Families in Transitions Services (FiTS)

Supervised Visitor

December 2020 – Present (part-time)

*Supervise visitations with families.

Self-Employed since 2010 to Present - www.kidsvisits.com

Parent Educator Services - Families and Counties in MN

*Teaching Parent Education Virtually, Observations, Education & Recommendations to Agencies & Families

ISD728 Elk River School District

Licensed Parent Educator in MN

March 2019 - Present

*Pre-K Parent Education, Home Visits & More

MN Department of Human Services – St. Paul

Mental Health Behavioral Aid Trainer

June 2007 – 2021 Program Ended-Lack of Funding

*Parent Team MHB Trainer for Professionals

Supreme Court of North Dakota

Parent Investigator/Guardian Ad litem

May 2009 – Present

*Child Advocate/Family Advocate

White Earth Nation Indian Mental Health

Mental Health Practitioner I (CTSS)

October 2016 – May 2017

*Provided Child Therapeutic Services & Supports Services

Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services – Fort Totten

Case Manager–Children in Foster Care

November 2014 - September 2015

*Safety & Placement for Foster Care Children

Youthworks – ND Supreme Court

Guardian Ad Litem – Juvenile Court (Four Counties)

April 2010 – October 2014

*Child Advocate – Best Interest of the child

Education:

Concordia College – Moorhead

*2002 – Licensed Parent Education

North Dakota State University – Fargo

*1999 - Child Development Associate Degree

*2003 - Bachelors in Child Development & Family Science

*2024 - Completing Master Certificate in Family Science

*2024 - Completing Masters: Child Development &

University of North Dakota State College

*2015 - Child Welfare/ Child Protection Course

Supreme Court of North Dakota

*2009 – Mediation (High Conflict Resolution)

*2009 – Parent Coordinator Certification

*2010 – Parent Investigator Certification

Minnesota Parent Leadership Network (MPLN) 501c3

*President and Secretary – ended due to funding loss

*MN Pacer took over with the similar mission/goals

Public speaking includes:

- *From Face-Off to Partnership March 2008; Duluth Minnesota Association for Children's Mental Health (MACHM) State Conference:*
- *Boggled: Families & Divorce March 2003 Fargo at Meritcare's Parents Fair;*
- *Domestic Violence Lecture at Rainbow Bridge, Moorhead, MN*
- *North Dakota Family Based Services Conference 2019 lecture on Grandparents raising Grandchildren.*

Executive Profile:

Past experiences educating different populations including parents in difficult situations, working with families in poverty, incarceration, court issues, divorce, separation, step-families, foster care, case management, mental health issues, families facing multiple stressors, and children in Trauma.

Worked with Bureau of Investigation (BIA) and attending multiple trainings offered by the Spirit Lake Tribe in North Dakota that focused on families, children, and Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). Additional court proceedings including family preservation, social services-Risk Assessments for children, Applied Suicide Intervention Skill (ASIST) Training, foster care placement, early intervention practices, case management, culture training and additional support resources around families.

Qualified:

- *Parents Forever Class Curriculum - Divorce Class in MN and in ND*
- *Stepfamilies Curriculum, Grandparents raising Grandchildren Curriculum*
- *Dr. Walsh's "Just Say No Curriculum"*
- *MN Jail curriculum "Parenting Inside & Out"*
- *Prevent Train Reinforce for Young Children (PTRYC) based on the Pyramid model focused on challenging behaviors curriculum*
- *Creative Curriculum, Teaching Strategies Gold, and LANA Curriculum.*

Other Trainings:

- *Guidelines for Permanency and Parent Preservation training in North Dakota 2013*
- *Parent Aid Case training from Social Services North Dakota 2013*
- *Pathfinder Services in North Dakota trainings regarding foster care and foster care placement with high need children and situations.*
- *Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) training 2014 & 2015 updates*
- *Behavioral Health & Children and Family Services Conference, training on behavioral health and child welfare professionals in North Dakota focused on families, social services and the court system - attended multiple years.*
- *University of North Dakota (UND) Children and Family Services Training Center Conference - several years including UND mediation program.*
- *Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition (MIWSAC) training in 2016 - conference training on families and abuse.*
- *Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Conference including additional trainings regarding families, divorce, interviewing and court issues.*
- *Minnesota Association For Family and Early Education (MNAFEE) multiple years*
- *Minnesota Association for Children's Mental Health Conference (MACMH) several years*
- *North Dakota Supreme Court seminars related to families and parent investigation - including topics: best interest of the child training, working with different populations including LGBTQ communities/clients, interviewing children and adults, Indian Child Welfare (ICWA), custody investigator, co-parenting, adverse childhood experiences, drug testing, trauma informed, advanced issues in child custody, ethics and confidentiality.*