

# SAMANTHA ROSE AKERS, MSW

## HEALTHY TEEN NETWORK

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## SKILLS & SUBJECT AREA EXPERTISE

Samantha Akers is a committed professional who is dedicated to advancing justice through collaboration, education, and co-creation. She has experience providing training and technical assistance to healthcare and social service providers, educating adult facilitators of sexual health curricula, and facilitating comprehensive sex education programs to young people. Ms. Akers also has expertise facilitating comprehensive sexual health education to young people.

## EDUCATION

### WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS, ST. LOUIS, MO

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK, THE BROWN SCHOOL, 2021

- Concentration in Children, Youth and Families
- Coursework specialization in Sexual Health and Education

### UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA, CEDAR FALLS, IA

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK, 2020

- Minors: Mental Health; Communication Studies

### SEOUL WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY, SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

STUDY ABROAD, 2019

- Completed coursework in conversational Korean, and International Studies

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### PROJECT COORDINATOR

HEALTHY TEEN NETWORK, BALTIMORE, MD

2021 - PRESENT

Coordinate trainings, parent and caregiver programming, and Youth Advisory Council activities for federally-funded projects. Responsibilities include coordination of training events, contributing to the development of instructional designs and resources, co-facilitation of meetings and events, and supporting project managers to evaluate activities.

- Collaborates and monitors activities with project partners such as Planned Parenthood of Maryland, Baltimore City Health Department, and Health Departments in six rural Maryland counties: Allegany County, Washington County, Somerset County, Dorchester County, Worcester County, and Wicomico County.

### MSW PRACTICUM STUDENT

MISSOURI ASSOCIATION FOR INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH, ST. LOUIS, MO

MAY 2021 – AUGUST 2021

Worked with 14 board members as well as organizational members to provide resources, events and information to infant and early childhood mental health professionals from across the state of Missouri.

- Facilitated meetings and organized implementation of goals for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee as well as the Outreach and Advocacy Committee.
- Disseminated information via social media and email blasts to stakeholders across the state.



### **MSW PRACTICUM STUDENT**

GIRLS IN THE KNOW, ST. LOUIS, MO  
JANUARY 2021 - MAY 2021

Facilitated educational and empowerment sessions on puberty, body image, and safety for young people aged 9-12.

- Assessed programming and curriculum to facilitate the creation and implementation of inclusive curriculum.
- Collaborated with and aided in administrative work for the St. Louis Regional Coalition for Digital Equity and Inclusion.

### **CO-CREATOR/CO-FACILITATOR**

KNOWLEDGE IS PLEASURE, VIRTUAL COURSE  
AUGUST 2020 – DECEMBER 2020

Developed content on sexual health information for a course designed to help adults explore their relationships with their body, partners, and pleasure.

- Organized and facilitated a class of 10 adults in a weekly 2-hour Zoom session format.

### **BSW PRACTICUM STUDENT**

GONGNEUNG YOUTH CULTURE INFORMATION CENTER, SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA  
MARCH 2019 – JUNE 2019

Executed programing for children and adolescents aged 5-15 centered around English language learning

- Facilitated meetings and organized implementation of goals for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee as well as the Outreach and Advocacy Committee.
- Disseminated information via social media and email blasts to stakeholders across the state.

### **BSW PRACTICUM STUDENT**

TOGETHER FOR YOUTH, WATERLOO, IA  
MAY 2021 – AUGUST 2021

Assisted in coordination and execution of adolescent sexual health services.

- Facilitated and planned programming for Young Parents Together, a support and education group for young people who are pregnant and/or parenting.
- Provided sexual health education sessions to health classes at middle and high schools, as well as collaborated with school based health clinics to provide STI and pregnancy testing, birth control, and other individual consultations.
- Communicated professionally with partners, stakeholders and participants through social media and the Annual Report to demonstrate the importance of sexual health education and accessible services for adolescents.

## **SERVICE**

### **BIG SISTER**

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF METRO ATLANTA  
NOVEMBER 2022-PRESENT

Serves as mentor for a middle school student by helping with school projects, providing support, and building a relationship based on communication and trust.

### **MEMBER**

BROWN SCHOOL ALLIANCE FOR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE  
SEPTEMBER 2020-MAY 2021

Attended and assisted in planning conversations for students around sexual and reproductive topics such as the intersections of mental health and sexuality, COVID and Libido, safety during kink and more.

### **2019-2020 PRESIDENT, MEMBER**

BEST BUDDIES OF NORTHERN IOWA, CEDAR FALLS, IA  
2016-2020

Planned and executed events for 30 community members and college students to advocate for inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



## TRAININGS & PRESENTATIONS

- Sedivy, V., **Akers, S.** (2021, November 1). Power Through Choices. A virtual training of facilitators (TOF) for Planned Parenthood of Mar Monte and South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice.
- Akers, S.** (2022, January 24). Power Through Choices. A virtual training of facilitators (TOF) for Planned Parenthood of Mar Monte, Inside Out Youth Services, and South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice.
- Akers, S.** & Chilcoat, D. (2022, February 4). Positive prevention plus. A virtual training of educators (TOE) for Somerset County Public Schools, Somerset County Health Department, and Girls, Inc. Washington.
- Akers, S.** (2022, February 18). Your Sex Ed Starter Kit. A virtual training of facilitators (TOF) for Baltimore City Public Schools.
- Chilcoat, D., & **Akers, S.** (2022, March 4). U Choose Healthy Adolescents and Teens. A virtual training of facilitators (TOF) for Baltimore City Health Department.
- Chilcoat, D., & **Akers, S.** (2022, March 7). Positive prevention plus. A virtual training of educators (TOE) for Wicomico County facilitators.
- Akers, S.** (2022, May 13). Delivering Exceptional Sex Ed: A Discussion with City School Students. A virtual panel for Baltimore City Public Schools teachers.
- Chilcoat, D., & **Akers, S.** (2022, June 17). U Choose Healthy Adolescents and Teens. A virtual training of facilitators (TOF) for Baltimore City Health Department.
- Akers, S.** & Cowser, M. (2022, October 18). Like, Subscribe, and Share: Making Social Media Click with Youth. A workshop for attendees of the Healthy Teen Network Annual Conference in Miami, FL.
- Piper, M., & **Akers, S.** (2022, December 5). Power Through Choices. A virtual training of facilitators (TOF) for Baltimore City Health Department and South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice.
- Akers, S.** (2023, January 20). U Choose Healthy Adolescents and Teens. A virtual training of facilitators (TOF) for Baltimore City Health Department.
- Akers, S.** & Chilcoat, D. (2023, January 23). Rights, Respect, Responsibility. A virtual training of facilitators (TOF) for Baltimore City Public Schools.
- Akers, S.** & Chilcoat, D. (2023, February 3). Seventeen Days. A virtual training of facilitators (TOF) for Coppin State University Peer Educators.
- Akers, S.** & Cowser, M. (2023, March 8). Like, Subscribe, and Share: Making Social Media Click with Youth. A workshop for attendees of the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.
- Akers, S.** (2023, April 21). Let's Talk About It: A Student Panel Discussion on Healthy Relationships, Sexuality, Life-Skills, Self-Management, and Health Promotion. A virtual panel for Baltimore City Public Schools teachers.
- Sedivy, V., **Akers, S.** (2023, May 16). Making Proud Choices and Be Proud Be Responsible. A virtual training of trainers (TOT) for Pennsylvania PREP and Ohio PREP Grantees.

