

Cindy Blank-Edelman, LMHC

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Counseling Experience

Clinical Expertise and Interests

- ♦ Trauma
- ♦ Sexual orientation and gender identity
- ♦ Couples and relationships of all kinds
- ♦ Body image and eating disorders
- ♦ Spirituality and religion
- ♦ Domestic violence
- ♦ Parenting
- ♦ Disability and chronic illness
- ♦ Communication skills
- ♦ Interpersonal difficulties and inflexible personality traits

Fenway Health (Boston, MA)

Psychotherapist (4/02–present)

- ♦ Provide psychotherapy to individuals and couples.
- ♦ Assess new clients, write extensive intake evaluations, do case presentations.
- ♦ Led Fenway Forum training workshops for students on Bisexuality, Counseling Clients with Disabilities, Counseling Clients on Body Image Issues.

Violence Recovery Program, Fenway Health (Boston, MA)

Counselor and Victim Advocate (4/02–5/05)

- ♦ Provided individual counseling for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender victims of hate crimes, bias, police harassment, sexual assault, and domestic violence. Assessed and screened potential clients.
- ♦ Advocated for clients within the criminal justice system. Accompanied clients to court.
- ♦ Created curriculum for Trauma Education Group and led group for two years. Co-led Domestic Violence Recovery Group. Initiated and led “Relationships and Recovery” sessions for substance abuse groups.
- ♦ Provided frequent consultation to psychotherapists on domestic violence cases.
- ♦ Served as clinical supervisor for graduate Counselor Interns for three years.
- ♦ Developed and led training workshops for counseling students, mental health department staff, court advocates, domestic violence programs, and a national conference.

RESPOND, Inc. (Somerville, MA)

Counselor for survivors of domestic violence (1/00–3/02)

- ♦ Provided individual and group counseling for battered women. Counseled hotline callers on domestic violence issues. Assisted clients with safety planning and shelter placement in crisis situations. Provided crisis counseling during regular 24-hour emergency back-up shifts using cell phone and pager system.
- ♦ Advocated for clients on housing, employment, public assistance, and health care issues. Accompanied clients to court.
- ♦ Created and led psychoeducational group on domestic violence issues and support group on Healthy Relationships for women with drug and alcohol addictions.
- ♦ Co-led support groups for children who have witnessed domestic violence.
- ♦ Served as clinical supervisor for a graduate counseling intern.
- ♦ Led training workshops on same-sex domestic violence, basic counseling skills, setting limits with children, understanding diversity, and disability rights.
- ♦ Did disability access assessment for the organization; recommended access improvements.
- ♦ Coordinated childcare volunteer program; trained and supervised childcare volunteers.

Fenway High School (Boston, MA)

Counselor Intern (8/98–6/99)

- ♦ Counseled students in individual sessions and in crisis situations. Mediated student conflicts. Facilitated meetings between teachers and students. Participated in parent-teacher conferences and family meetings.
- ♦ Served as co-Advisor for a class of ninth grade students. Led weekly community-building exercises. Advised students on academic concerns and personal problems.
- ♦ Served as Advisor for the Gay/Straight Alliance, facilitated Girls’ Group, and co-led Relationships Group.

Newbury College Center for Counseling and Health Education (Brookline, MA)

Counselor Intern (8/97–5/98)

- ◆ Provided individual counseling for college students from diverse backgrounds.
- ◆ Created, organized and led psychoeducational workshops on a variety of topics, including stress management, disability rights, body image, team-building, and racism and cultural sensitivity.
- ◆ Initiated and implemented campus-wide screenings for depression and anxiety disorders.

English High School (Jamaica Plain, MA)

Counselor in Training (1/97–6/97)

- ◆ Provided individual counseling and case management for students.
- ◆ Co-led support group for girls on anger management, communication skills, and personal growth.

St. Patrick's Shelter for Women (Somerville, MA)

Shelter Care Worker (1/90–3/92)

- ◆ Provided crisis counseling, support, and conflict mediation for homeless women.
- ◆ Assessed and screened guests for admission to shelter, did intake interviews.

Other Experience

Project on Women and Disability (Boston, MA)

Director (6/94–10/95); *Community Coordinator* (11/92–6/94)

- ◆ Administered all programs and projects, including support groups and speakers' bureau.
- ◆ Organized first statewide conference for women with disabilities in Massachusetts.
- ◆ Researched and developed resource guide on pregnancy and parenting for disabled women.
- ◆ Provided support, information and referrals to people with disabilities.
- ◆ Oversaw all fundraising and development efforts with foundations, major donors, and members. Wrote grant proposals. Doubled organization's funding base and annual budget.

One Generation After (Brookline, MA)

Program Development Coordinator (2/90–9/91)

- ◆ Directed all programs and operations.
- ◆ Established and supervised all aspects of volunteer program.
- ◆ Created and produced bimonthly newsletter; wrote press releases and designed publicity.

Education and Honors

Gestalt Institute of New England

Graduate of two-year clinical training program in Gestalt therapy (5/05)

Graduate group for ongoing training and supervision (9/05–5/08)

Lesley College (Cambridge, MA)

Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (5/99). *Licensed as Mental Health Counselor* (12/03)

- ◆ Commencement Speaker for Graduate School of Arts and Social Sciences in 1999
- ◆ Specialization in School and Community Counseling
- ◆ Advanced Provisional Certification in School Guidance, Grades 5–12
- ◆ Community Service Award

Brandeis University (Waltham, MA)

Bachelor of Arts (5/89)

- ◆ Magna cum laude
- ◆ Phi Beta Kappa
- ◆ Highest Honors in English and American Literature
- ◆ Highest Honors in Philosophy
- ◆ Hyman Rosen Memorial Prize for Excellence in Academics and Jewish Community Service