

Sergio Rodriguez
142 Judwin Avenue, New Haven, CT 06515
H# 203-389-7770, C# 203-410-9519 sergio.rodriguez58@yahoo.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

New Haven Public Schools, New Haven, CT- Restorative Coach

02/18-5/23

- Ensure collaboration and coordination with the points of contact for the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) under the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- Create and coordinate processes for all notifications, records and other necessary data regarding homeless youth, children placed in out of home care and/or moved in the foster care system, who are entitled to receive their education within or by the NHPS district
- Support NHPS in developing a tracking system designed to facilitate all necessary requirements for enrollment of students into the NHPS, i.e., transfer records, immunization and medical records, IEP and Section 504 plans. Assist in expediting the transfer of this information (from SDE, when appropriate) through developing a collaboration of key community partners to assist in expediting the children's placement in a classroom; to include coordination of transportation, as necessary
- Identify needs and coordinate training sessions in collaboration with Youth Family and Community Engagement (YFCE) Department to NHPS staff on topics addressing the needs of the McKinney Vento students and children in foster care
- Coordinate all recommendations for trainings for youth and their families who are unaccompanied homeless, homeless undocumented youth and students in foster care as well as their foster parents
- Design and present to NHPS administration a Case Management Support model for both youths in foster and homeless youth and assist with the implementation approved by the NHPS administration through staff trainings
- Verify the identification of unaccompanied minors; working with YFCE to develop activities and events that improve and expand partnerships and the safety net with both the community providers and the community residents as resources.
- Collaborate with Parent Engagement and Dropout Prevention Coordinators and other appropriate NHPS staff to ensure services aligned with ESSA and McKinney Vento
- Maintain liaison with CSDE and implement any new technology and tracking tools to enhance the compliance with these Federal funding sources

Connecticut Department of Education, Hartford, CT - Educational Manager

12/13 - 6/17

- Coordinated statewide educational surrogate program for youth in custody of DCF
- State point-of-contact for the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for children in foster-care (1622 youth)
- Developed and maintained statewide liaison relationships between State Department of Education (DOE) and Department of Children and Families (DCF) including hiring, supervision and assignment of educational surrogates to all foster youth
- State DOE representative to CT Council of Developmental Disabilities
- State DOE representative to DCF Surrogate Parent Advisory Committee
- State coordinator and staffed statewide committee for CT College Campaign Application Plan (700 students submitted over 3500 college applications)

Career Resources Inc., Bridgeport, CT – Re-entry Employment Specialist

10/08 – 12/13

- Developed Individual Employment Plan (IEP): identifying strengths and any barriers to employment and job retention; planning activities to achieve necessary education, training and/or employment
- Used Department of Corrections and other assessment instruments to administer and interpret interest inventories and skills assessments and provide correlative case management
- Facilitated and designed workshops to explain the job search and career counseling process to applicants seeking WLA- funded placement training assistance
- Established relationships with area businesses to identify and expand employment opportunities for clients with follow up to placement

Hope VI Project, New Haven, CT – Community Services Manager

7/06 – 11/07

- Coordinated community-based services for residents in federally assisted housing
- Developed RFP process for the Monterey Place Endowment Fund
- Assisted and supported the Elm Haven Tenants Resident Council
- Established youth services for youth residing in low income public housing
- Established tutoring and mentoring partnerships for youth who needed educational supports
- Developed additional funding to support services for residents at Monterey Place

Rodriguez Associates 2000, New Haven, CT - President/Founder

7/01 – 7/06

Primary contract with the Bridgeport Partnership for Children (DCF funded initiative thru Federal Dollars) to coordinate, organize and staff a 30 agency collaborative, focusing on the recruitment of foster and adoptive parents. I developed, designed and implemented strategies to enhance their recruitment efforts.

Training Areas of Expertise:

- Training of trainers in Adults Working with Youth
- Communication skills; Alcohol, Tobacco, and other Drugs of Abuse Prevention Awareness; Team Building; Peer Resistance Skill-building.
- Board and staff development, community organizing
- Diversity Training
- Computer school oversight for TANF/WIA students
- Navigating the educational systems

Fighting Back/City of New Haven, CT – Substance Abuse Coordinator

9/93 – 6-01

- As both the Deputy Director and Interim Director, monitored and maintained the project budget providing budget revisions and modification during my tenure. (FB Budget \$3Mil/5 yrs.)
- Developed, coordinated, organized, and facilitated creative partnerships with local, and regional social service health and substance abuse treatment/prevention organizations; representing City of New Haven in many national presentations
- Responsible for coordinating, obtaining and developing relevant training for all levels of the community; including workplace drug free policies for City of New Haven
- Serve as liaison with other City Departments and community organizations, institutions, and initiatives and supervised 8 Fighting Back staff and 6 part-time volunteers
- Co-hosted a local cable access television show called “Street Beat” focused on the substance abuse issues impacting residents of New Haven, Hamden and West Haven

Urban League – Hudson County, Jersey City, NJ – Senior VP, Program Director

12/83 – 8/93

- In the absence of the President and CEO kept the Board of Directors informed on the conditions and operations of the agency
- Monitored and evaluated outcomes of services provided by 14 contracts funded by Federal, State, City, and County governments and supervised staff
- Represented organization at various local, state and federal committees and consortia

C.U.R.A ., Newark, NJ – Director, Inpatient Services, Treatment Coordinator

6/79 – 12/83

- Served as the Director and Operations Officer of the only 12-18 mo. drug-free Spanish speaking residential program in the mainland of the US
- Maintained fiscal management of residential operations budget

EDUCATION BSW Program Candidate Adelphi University – SCSU enrollment pending

CURRENT AND PRIOR PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Immediate Past President of HELO (National League of Cities Hispanic Elected Local Officials)
- Chairman, New Haven Democracy Fund (**Current 2020**)
- National League of Cities, Board of Directors, Vice Chair of NLC Advisory Council
- Member of the Human Development Steering Committee for the National League of Cities
- Member of the National League of Cities Immigration Task Force
- Board Member of National Association of Latino Elected Officials
- President and Vice President -APT Foundation Board of Directors
- Alderman for the 26th Ward, City of New Haven (5 terms)
- Commissioner, Substance Abuse Commission, City of New Haven
- Board Member- CT Association of Foster and Adoptive Parents
- Diversity Trainer- Dreamcatchers LLC- State Dept. of Environmental Protection Employees
- Course Instructor- Springfield College – Human Services Program
- CT Licensed Foster Parent for 10 years, 35+ children (2000-2010)
- Connecticut Hispanic Addiction Commission
- Department of Public Health and Addiction Services Substance Abuse Advisory Council
- NJ Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor Certification Board (previously NJ certified Drug Counselor)
- Faculty Member New England School of Addiction Studies
- Connecticut Addiction Advisory Council (CAAC)
- City of New Haven Youth Advisory Council
- Member of the South Central Behavioral Health Network (**Current 2020**)
- South Central Connecticut Regional Action Council (**Current 2020**)
- **Co-founder of ‘r kids, Inc.**
- Chairman, City of New Haven Substance Abuse Commission
- President, Board of Directors, Citizens’ Television, New Haven
- Board Member, State of NJ -Counselor Certification Board
- Hudson County Ryan White Commission
- Youth Service Commission of New Jersey
- Connecticut Hispanic Democratic Caucus (**Current 2020**)