

Professional Summary

Certified Peer Support Specialist and Veteran advocate with more than seven years of experience in trauma-informed peer support, behavioral health training, VA benefits navigation, community outreach, and recovery services. Experienced in group facilitation, curriculum development, interdisciplinary collaboration, client advocacy, and community resource navigation. Associate of Arts in Social Work candidate and Spring 2027 Bachelor of Social Work applicant.

Core Competencies

Trauma-Informed Peer Support
Veteran Advocacy
Group Facilitation
VA Benefits Navigation
Service Documentation
Motivational Interviewing

Recovery-Oriented Practice
Resource Navigation and Referrals
Curriculum Development and Training
Interdisciplinary Collaboration
Culturally Responsive Communication
Strengths-Based Practice

Social Work & Related Experience

Calm Waters Counseling

Boise, ID

05/28/2025 to Present

Certified Peer Support Specialist (CPSS)

- Provide trauma-informed, recovery-oriented peer support using lived experience to encourage hope, resilience, client engagement, and self-directed recovery.
- Collaborate with multidisciplinary treatment teams while supporting client-defined recovery goals, treatment engagement, and appropriate peer-support boundaries.
- Maintain accurate service documentation and connect clients with behavioral health, housing, employment, education, and other community resources.

New Mission | newmissionidaho.org

Boise, ID

04/12/2024 to Present

Founder and Veterans Advocate, Volunteer

- Develop collaborative partnerships with Veteran-serving organizations to expand access to programs, services, and community resources.
- Facilitate peer support groups and outreach activities that strengthen connection, resilience, and community among Veterans.
- Provide resource navigation, advocacy, and referrals to benefits, behavioral health, housing, employment, and educational services.

Family Advocates

Boise, ID

01/29/2026 to 05/05/2026

Social Work Service-Learning Student

- Completed 16.5 hours of supervised social work service-learning in a nonprofit child- and family-serving agency.
- Supported classroom activities, observation, and program operations while promoting a safe, respectful, and structured environment.
- Developed practical understanding of nonprofit social services, mandated professional boundaries, culturally responsive communication, trauma-informed care, and community resource referral processes.

Dee Adkins – Resume

Disabled American Veterans

Boise, ID

06/15/2019 to 02/15/2025

Veterans Service Officer, Volunteer (Chapter Service Officer, District Service Officer)

- Assisted Veterans and eligible survivors in the United States and abroad with VA disability, survivor benefits, and related support services.
- Interviewed claimants, compiled supporting evidence, and prepared initial VA disability and survivor-benefit claims.
- Educated Veterans and families about VA processes and connected them with appropriate community resources.

Office of Peer Recovery and Engagement (OPRE)

Santa Fe, NM

06/15/2020 to 11/01/2024

Certified Peer Support Worker (CPSW), Training Facilitator, Contract

- Facilitated New Mexico's state-approved 40-hour Certified Peer Support Worker certification course in both in-person and virtual formats.
- Mentored trainees preparing for certification and employment in the behavioral health workforce.
- Developed and updated curriculum in coordination with OPRE and the New Mexico Behavioral Health Services Division.

Forward Flag

Albuquerque, NM

06/15/2019 to 09/15/2022

Certified Peer Support Worker (CPSW)/Veterans Endorsement Training (VET) Trainer, Contract

- Provided trauma-informed peer support and resource navigation for Veterans.
- Delivered a 16-hour continuing education program to prepare behavioral health providers to effectively serve Veteran clients.
- Designed, developed, and maintained training materials to ensure current, evidence-informed instruction.

U.S. Army

Fort Lewis, WA

10/15/1989 to 11/26/1995

Combat Infantryman, Corporal (E-4P), 11B2P

- Served in Operation Desert Storm and conducted tactical and security operations in high-stress, cross-cultural environments.
- Developed leadership, crisis-response, teamwork, resilience, and sound judgment under pressure.

Education

College of Western Idaho

Nampa, ID

Associate of Arts in Social Work, Expected December 2026

GPA: 3.39

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Professional Certifications

- Certified Peer Support Specialist (CPSS), Idaho Division of Behavioral Health, Active
- Certified Family Support Specialist (CFSS), Idaho Division of Behavioral Health, Active

Professional Affiliations

- 2011 to Present Disabled American Veterans
- 2022 to Present National Association of Social Workers