

DEBORAH C. S. ROBINSON, MSW, LSW

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Licensed Social Worker and social work educator with extensive experience in higher education, practicum education administration, school social work, behavioral health leadership, community-based practice, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Expertise includes social work education, practicum coordination, student advising, accreditation reporting, program development, healthcare mediation, and workforce preparation. Dedicated to advancing educational opportunities and professional development for social work students while strengthening community and institutional partnerships.

Highlights of Contributions

- More than 35 years of professional social work experience.
 - More than 20 years of university teaching and field education leadership.
 - Director of the University of Pittsburgh Home and School Visitor/School Social Worker Program.
 - Coordinator of practicum education experiences for hundreds of social work students.
 - Leadership in Pennsylvania Department of Education certification reviews.
 - Longstanding service to the School of Social Work through committee leadership and governance.
 - Extensive community partnerships spanning healthcare, education, behavioral health, and social services.
 - Licensed Social Worker in Pennsylvania since 1997.
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EDUCATION

Master of Social Work (MSW)

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania | May 1989

Concentration: Community Organizing

Cluster: Poverty and Associated Problems

Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA)

Seton Hill College

Greensburg, Pennsylvania | May 1985

Major: Painting

Minor: Art History

Study Abroad

Lucca, Italy | May–July 1984

- Fresco painting
- Conversational Italian
- Studio art

International School of Manila

Manila, Philippines | April 1981

LICENSURE

Licensed Social Worker (LSW)

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

License Number: SW010694-L

Issued June 1997

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Practicum Assistant Professor & Director, Home and School Visitor/School Social Worker Program

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

August 2019–Present

Responsibilities include:

- Academic instruction and curriculum delivery
- Program administration and leadership
- Academic and field advising
- Practicum placement coordination
- Student support and retention initiatives
- Development of instructional and training materials
- Pennsylvania Department of Education certification oversight
- Accreditation and major review reporting

Field Education Coordinator & Director, Home and School Visitor/School Social Work Program

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

October 2012–August 2019

Responsibilities included:

- Administration of Home and School Visitor Program
- Student advising and certification oversight
- Field education coordination

- Development of community partnerships
- Field placement approval and monitoring
- Program conference planning and implementation

Adjunct Faculty

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work
2006–2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

Graduate Courses

MSW Generalist Methods

- Fall 2021
- Fall 2022
- Fall 2023
- Fall 2024

MSW Social Work in an Educational Setting

- Spring 2024
- Spring 2025
- Spring 2026

MSW Human Behavior: Children and Families at Risk

- Spring 2020
- Spring 2021
- Spring 2022

Foundation Integrative Field Seminar and Placement

- Fall 2012–Present

Undergraduate Courses

BASW Social Work with Individuals

- Fall 2019
- Fall 2020
- Fall 2024
- Fall 2025
- Fall 2026

Helping People Help Themselves

- 2006–2012
- 2014–2015

Generalist Perspective: Social Work with Individuals and Families

- 2007–2013

- 2016–2018

Professional Education

New Field Instructor Orientation

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

2012–Present

Develop and facilitate orientation and training sessions for new field instructors and community partners.

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATION

Director, Home and School Visitor/School Social Worker Program

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

Major responsibilities include:

- Program leadership and strategic planning
- Student recruitment and advising
- Certification oversight
- Practicum development
- Community partnership development
- Faculty collaboration
- Student success initiatives

Pennsylvania Department of Education Reporting

Home and School Visitor Certification

- Major Review Participation: 2016, 2021, 2026

School Social Worker Certification

- Major Review Participation: 2024, 2026

PRACTICUM EDUCATION LEADERSHIP

Field Education Coordinator

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

- Provided field advising for up to 100 students annually.
- Facilitated liaison seminars for approximately 35 students each semester.
- Developed and maintained agency partnerships.
- Evaluated and approved field placement sites.
- Supported field instructors and agency supervisors.
- Addressed student and agency concerns through collaborative problem-solving.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Consultant

UPMC Intermediation Program

June 2005–Present

- Facilitate patient-centered interventions.
- Assist patients, families, and healthcare providers in addressing concerns and improving communication.
- Promote collaborative problem-solving and conflict resolution within healthcare settings.

Administrator, Behavioral Health & Social Services

Primary Care Health Services, Inc.

June 1997–October 2012

- Directed behavioral health and social service programs across 13 service locations.
- Supervised 12 social service professionals.
- Oversaw perinatal, mental health, housing, senior services, and outreach programming.
- Led quality improvement initiatives and community partnerships.

Assistant Coordinator

Allegheny County Healthy Start Program

Primary Care Health Services, Inc.

July 1994–June 1997

- Managed implementation of a federally funded infant mortality reduction initiative.
- Coordinated multidisciplinary service delivery teams.
- Developed policies, procedures, and staff training initiatives.

Family Therapist

Alternative Program Associates

August 1993–July 1994

Social Worker

Primary Care Health Services, Inc.

April 1990–August 1993

Residential Advisor

Transitional Services, Inc.

September 1987–March 1990

STUDENT ADVISING & MENTORING

Academic Advising

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

- Advising of MSW students pursuing Home and School Visitor certification.
- Academic and career advising for BASW and MSW students.
- Field placement consultation and professional development support.

Field Instruction Supervision

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work
Field Instructor Faculty
1998–2012

- Supervised and evaluated BASW field students.
- Developed individualized field learning plans.
- Conducted field performance assessments.

GUEST LECTURES & INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Guest Lecturer

Washington & Jefferson College
September 4, 2018

CRS-247: Mediation Across Professions

Presentation Topic:

How Conflict Resolution Studies Can Be Applied Across Professional Fields

CONFERENCES & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING

Conference Coordinator

Home and School Visitor Program Annual Conferences

The Value of School Social Work

2013

- Approximately 75 participants

Trauma in a School Setting

2014

- Approximately 110 participants
- Responsibilities included:
- Conference development
 - Speaker coordination
 - Program planning
 - Participant recruitment
 - Event facilitation

PUBLICATIONS

Reicher, L., Hanbury, M., & Robinson, D. (1988).

Pittsburgh Residents Among Friends: A Handbook for Older Residents of the Eastside.

Eastside Alliance.

FIELD EDUCATION DURING MSW PROGRAM

MSW Intern

Mayor's Commission on Families

1988–1989

MSW Intern

Eastside Alliance

1987–1988

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

BASW Committee

2020–Present

MSW Committee

2015–Present

MSW Director Search Committee

2019–2020

Inclusion and Diversity Committee

2018–2020

Affirmative Action Committee

2016–2018

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Pennsylvania Association of School Social Work Personnel (PASSWP)

Member, 2013–Present

School Social Work Association of America

Associate Member, 2013–2014; 2024–Present

American Council for School Social Work

Associate Member, 2013–2014

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & BOARD SERVICE

Turtle Creek Valley Board of Directors

Board Member

2016–2020

Seton Hill University Alumni Association Board

Board Member

2009–2011

Rx Council of Western Pennsylvania

Board Member

1990–1993