
Elizabeth V. Freeman

Education

MSW	1991, University of South Carolina, Masters in Social Work (summa cum laude honors)
BS	1990, Columbia College, Bachelor of Science (Social Work) (cum laude honors)
AA	1974, Legal/Professional Secretary, Columbia Junior College, (cum laude honors)

Professional Credentials and Certifications

LISW-CP & AP	SC Board of Social Work Examiners, July 1997
LMSW	SC Board of Social Work Examiners, July 1991

Honors and Awards

Juanita Evans Award for Contributions to the Advancement of School Mental Health, Center for School Mental Health, 2008
N.A.S.W. South Carolina Chapter, Central Unit, Social Worker of the Year, 2004
SAMHSA Administrator's Certificate of Merit for Improving and Expanding School Mental Health Programs, 2004
Outstanding Service and Dedication to Communities In Schools-SC Board Member, 2004
S.C. DMH Outstanding Employee of the Year Award-Administration Building, 2000
Building A Brighter Future Award, Communities In Schools-SC, 2000
S.C. Mental Health Commission Joseph J. Bevilacqua Award for Program Innovation-School Based MH Service Program, 1999
National Certification "Families and Schools Together" Trainer, FAST International, 1999 - 2005
Employee of the Year Award, Lexington County Community Mental Health Center, 1994
Order of the Purple Seal Academic Award, Columbia College, 1989
PTA Life Membership Award: Outstanding Achievement & Contributions, Claude A. Taylor Elementary School, 1988
Volunteer of the Year Award, Department of Youth Services, 1979

Present Position

Technical Assistant Specialist, American Institute for Research (AIR)

Current project includes the National Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention, in the fourth year of a five year contract, providing technical assistance to the Safe Schools Healthy Students Grant recipients, the goal to create a comprehensive program in which communities work together to promote safe and



healthy schools, implementing evidence based practices and school climates that promote safe, supportive and successful schools.

Areas of expertise include: Program Director of School MH Services (county and state); Infrastructure and Program Development; Coordination and Program Oversight related to contracts, budgets, staff and administration; Training and Technical Assistance (state and local programs); Establishing School Based Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, Health Promotion for School-aged Children, Community Development; Family Involvement; Collaboration with Community Agencies; Promoting Systems Change; Conference Development (state & local); Workshop Presenter (state, national and international), Grant Project Director, Grant Management, Grant Writing and Research (SAMHSA, OJJDP, MCHB, State Foundations, State Depts. of Education & Mental Health); Licensed Supervisor of Clinical and Advance Practice Social Work; Advanced Licensed Clinical Counselor; and Licensed Adoption Specialist; and currently provides technical assistance and supervision to six grantee sites across the USA in SSSH grant.

Professional Experience

Technical Assistant Specialist, Behavior Prevention and Promotion Center, Safe Schools Healthy Students Grant, American Institute for Research (AIR) (2008 – Present)

Provides technical assistance for eight Safe Schools Healthy Students grantee award sites, consultation with project directors, evaluators and community teams toward development of a comprehensive school and community-wide program that promotes safe and healthy school environments, provide assistance in project development, infrastructure, coordination of community teams, evidence-based programs and promising practices, assistance in the development of logic models, memorandums of agreements, contracts, budgets, evaluation, report reviews, consultation on mental health program development and sustainability of grant projects as related to program outcomes. This involves communicating directly with local school districts and community agencies and organizations; promoting partnerships with community and state level departments of education, health, mental health, alcohol and drug, law enforcement, family and advocacy organizations; partnership with the National Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention; Federal partners: Department of Education, Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration, and Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention and Federal Project Officers; National Evaluation Centers: GALLUP Consulting Group, Inc., RMC Research Corporation and Battelle Centers for Public Health Research and Evaluation, Social Science Research & Evaluation, Inc., and Communication Resource Center. Collaboration between the above organizations involves establishing good working relationships; promoting sustainment of evidence-based programs and assisting with the coordination of regional and national meetings.

Program Director, Community Based Alternatives to Psychiatric Treatment Facilities: Children's Demonstration Waiver Grant (Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services), SC Department of Mental Health (2007-2008)

Development of state program to serve children/youth with serious emotional disturbance to alternative community services to inpatient treatment. Developed infrastructure for



state-wide program development and began program implementation for a three-county pilot project.

Program Director, School-Based Mental Health Services, SC Department of Mental Health (1996 – 2007)

Developed state infrastructure to provide mental health services in over 50% of SC schools; provided training for MH professionals, community development, consultation with local school districts, and professional development programs; collaboration with state agencies, non-profit and advocacy organizations and departments of education, health, social service, drug/alcohol, juvenile justice and hospital and insurance associations; project director for various state and federal grants: MCHB Public Academic Partnership Grant 1996-1999; OJJDP Violence Prevention Grants 1998-2001, 2001-2005, 2005-2007; and SAMHSA Grant 2001- 2006; and Blue Cross Blue Shield SC Foundation Rural Development Grant to place Mental Health Counselors and School Nurses in SC schools; and Consultant/State Advisory Board Member to SC Recipients of Safe Schools Healthy Students Grants (1999 – 2007).

Employment History

- 2008 – Present** Technical Assistant Specialist, American Institute For Research
- 2007 – 2008** Program Director: Community Based Alternatives to Residential Treatment Facilities: Children’s Demonstration Waiver Grant, SC Dept. Mental Health
- 1996 – 2007** Director: School Based MH Services, SC Dept. of MH Program
- 1997 – Present** Lexington Baptist Counseling Center: Clinical Counselor. PT / Evenings
- 1996 - 1999** Adjunct Faculty Member, Columbia College & Midlands Technical College
- 1993 – 1996** School MH Services Program Coordinator / Supervisor and School MH Counselor, Lexington County Community Mental Health Center
- 1991 – 1993** Assistant Program Developer, Children Unlimited, Inc., Post Adoption Program
- 1990 – 1991** M.S.W. Social Work Intern, Richland School District One: Horrell Hill ES Self-Contained Classroom, SED Unit, Family & Child Development Program, and Grant Writer for Target 2000 funds for Self-Contained Classroom
- 1989 – 1990** BSW Social Work Intern, Palmetto Senior Care, Elderly Health and Mental Health Family Support Program
- 1978 – 1981** School Administrative Secretary, Lexington School District Two, B-C No. 1 Grammar ES
- 1974 – 1977** Court Reporter/Legal Secretary, Richland County Courthouse
- 1977 – 1978** Freelance Court Reporter, Self-Employed October
- 1974 – Present** Notary Public for South Carolina

Professional Affiliations

National Association of Social Workers, 1990 – Present
PRTF Waiver Children’s Demonstration Grant Writing / Program Development/TA & Training Committees, 2006–2007
S.C. Social Work Interagency Licensure Committee, Facilitator, 2007-2008
National School Mental Health Assistance Conference Committee, 2003-2004
S.C. Foster Care Independent Living Skills Advisory Council, 2004-2007
S. C. Department of Education:
SC Interagency School Health Workgroup 2004-2007
SC Truancy Advisory Council 2004-2007
Counseling Services in Schools Task Force 2003-2004
Truancy & Violence Prevention in Schools Executive Committee, 2003-2007
Violence Prevention Safe School Planning Task Force, 2000-2005
S.C. Advisory Board for Students with Disabilities 1996-1999
S.C. Shared Agenda Call To Action Committee, SC Federation of Families, 2004-2008
S.C. Suicide Prevention Task Force, 2003-2005
Governor’s WRAP-AROUND Services Review Committee, SC Continuum of Care, 2004-2007
Governor’s Coalition for Prevention Committee, 2001-2002
Governor’s Front End Children’s Services Committee, 2000-2001
Governor’s State Health Improvement Plan Committee, 2000-2003
Interagency After-School Alliance Committee, 2000-2003
NAMI-SC Fragmentation of Children’s Services Committee, 2000-2001
Communities In Schools -SC, Board Member & Grant Partner, 1999-2004
Communities In Schools - SC, Chair: Program & Evaluation Committee, October 1998-2004
SC Law Enforcement Conference Planning Committee, 2000-2004
S. C. Schools of Promise Committee, 1998-1999
Safe Schools Healthy Students Grant Advisory Committee: School Districts [Anderson 5, Charleston, Lexington/Richland #5, Richland #1, Clarendon School District, Horry School District] 1999-2008
School-Based Services Training Director, SC Department of Mental Health, 1999-2007
School-Based Services Training Committee, University of SC, 1994-2002
S. C. Healthy Schools Infrastructure Project Committee/Advisory Council, CDC 1996-2007
Families and Schools Together Program (F.A. S. T.) State Chair/National Trainer, 1999-2005
Safe Futures Violence Prevention Task Force, September 1997-1999
Rape Crisis Network Advisory Committee, Abuse Prevention, 1994-1995
Lexington II School Adult Ed. Parent/Foster Care Trainer, 1995-1996
SC NASW Symposium Planning Committee & Workshop Presentations, 1992-2007
SC Department of Mental Health: Division of Children Services Annual Conference, 1996-2008
Coordinator of Birchwood Project/Dept. of Youth Services, 1979-1981
PTA Executive Committee Member, 1982-88



Publications

Journal articles

- Freeman, Elizabeth V. (2011). School mental health sustainability: Funding strategies to build sustainable school mental health programs: Series 1-4; Washington, DC. Technical Assistance Partnership for Child and Family Mental Health at <http://www.tapartnership.org/content/education/default.php>
- Freeman, E. V., 2011, “School Mental Health Sustainability Guide for SS/HS Project Directors: Strategies to Build Sustainable School Mental Health Programs”, developed in partnership with The National Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention for Safe Schools Healthy Students grantees, published on national website located at <http://sshs.promoteprevent.org/publications/prevention-briefs/school-mental-health-sustainability-guide-sshs-project-directors-stra>
- Freeman, E.V., 2004, “School-Based Mental Health Programs: The South Carolina Experience”, Chapter, *Advances in School-Based Mental Health Interventions: Best Practices and Program Models* (Kristen E. Robinson, Ph.D., editor) published by Civic Research Institute.
- Freeman, E.V., 1999, *School-Based Mental Health Services: A Look at Three CIS Communities*; FACTS YOU CAN USE, Volume 3, Number 1, Spring; OJJDP, US Dept. of Justice
- Freeman, E.V., 1999 – 2007, *FOCUS On Mental Health Issues: School-Based Mental Health Services*, “Going Where the Children Are”, SC Department of Mental Health

Books and book chapters

- Freeman, E.V., 2003, Chapter published in *Report on Emotional & Behavioral Disorders in Youth*, Volume 3, No. 4, Pages 92-94, 104-105, Fall 2003
- Motes, P.S., Melton, G., Smith, L., & Freeman, B., 1996, *Developing Comprehensive School-Based Mental Health Services: A guidebook for community mental health centers* Revisions by SC DMH School-Based Program Director & Team 1999, Revision No. 1 (Freeman, E.V., Griffin, J., Rubin, M.) 2003, Revision No. 2 (Freeman, E.V., Chilton, M.) 2004, Revision No. 3 (Freeman, E.V., Taylor, M., Craft, M.L., Rubin, M.) 2006, Revision No. 4 (Freeman, E.V., Craft, M.L., Dailey, J.)
- Freeman, E.V., Johnson, L.K., Gintoli, G. 2003, *School-Based Services in the Context of System of Care Development: Building Bridges between the Home, School & Community*, Data Matters: An Evaluation Newsletter, Spring/Summer, Special Issue #6.
- Adelman, Taylor, Weist, Adelsheim, Freeman, Kapp, Lahti, and Mawn, 1999, *MH in Schools: A Federal Initiative*. *Journal of Children Services: Social Policy, Research, and Practice*, 2(2), 99-119.

Professional Presentations

- Freeman, E. V., Thorngren, M., (2012, October) *Ideas from the Field: Building Comprehensive School Mental Health Programs Through Creative Collaborative Partnerships*; CSMH 17th Annual Conference
- Freeman, E. V., (2012, October) *Ideas from the Field: Building Comprehensive School Mental Health Programs Through Creative Collaborative Partnerships*; International Child & Adolescent Conference XVI
- Freeman, E. V., Cameron, P., (2012, Sept. 23-25) TA Consultants for Louisiana State Team, SAMHSA's 2012 State Policy Academy on Preventing Mental and Substance Use Disorders in Children and Youth, Gaithersburg, MD
- Freeman, E. V., Grabill, D., (2012, July) *Schools as Partners in Systems of Care: Approaches to Building and Sustaining School-based Mental Health Supports and Programs*; Georgetown Training Institutes System of Care Conference
- Freeman, E. V., Wells, K., (2012, April) *Sustaining School Mental Health Programs and Services*; National Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention 2009 SS/HS Grantee Sustainability Meeting
- Freeman, E. V., Wells, K., (2012, Jan/Feb/March) Mental Health Affinity Group Webinars, SSHS grantees, National Center for MH Promotion & Youth Violence Prevention; Topics available at <http://sshs.promoteprevent.org/sshs-events/meetings-webinars?page=3>, 4, 5 and 6
- Freeman, E. V., Wells, K. (2011, November) *Sustaining Mental Health Services, Legacy Wheel Planning for Sustainability Course*, SSHS Project Director webinar
- Freeman, E. V., Wells, K., (2011, September) *Community School Partnerships: Building a Culture to Sustain School Mental Health Programs*; CSMH 16th Annual Conference
- Freeman, E. V., Wells, K. (2011, September) *Collaborating with Students: Developing, Implementing and Sustaining School Mental Health Program with Multiple Stakeholders*; CSMH 16th Annual Conference
- Freeman, E.V., Grabill, D., (2011, September) *Schools as Partners in Systems of Care: Approaches to Building and Sustaining School-Based Mental Health Support and Programs*; AIR TA Partnership webinar
- Freeman, E. V., Kitson, J., (2011, May) *Sustaining School Mental Health Programs & Services: Strategies from Successful Safe Schools Healthy Students Initiatives*; SS/HS 2008 Grantee Sustainability Meeting, presented twice
- Freeman, E. V., Kitson, J., (2011, May) *School Mental Health Professional Stream – Facilitated Discussions on Sustainability Successes and Challenges*; SS/HS 2008 Grantee Sustainability Meeting, presented four times



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- Freeman, E. V., Wells, K., Lawler, T., Wallace, G., Valdez, M., Mills, D., (2011, March & July) *Strategies to Finance School Mental Health Programs and Services*, SS/HS PD Consortia
- Freeman, E. V., (2011, March & July) *Financing School Mental Health Programs and Services: Strategies from SS/HS Initiatives*, SSHS Project Director Consortia Meeting
- Freeman, E. V., Kitson, J., (2011, Feb & May) *Developing Partnership with Mental Health Agencies to Sustain School Mental Health Programs*, SS/HS PD Consortia
- Freeman, E.V., Lawler, T., Littrel, J., (2011, Jan/Feb) *Leading for Change: Grantee Success Stories, Working with Core Management Teams; and Developing Partnership with Mental Health Agencies to Sustain School Mental Health Programs*, SSHS Project Director Leadership For Change Meeting
- Freeman, E. V., Wells, K., Willis-Darpoh, G., Kitson, J., (2011, March/April/May) Mental Health Affinity Group Webinars, SSHS grantees, National Center for MH Promotion & Youth Violence Prevention, Topics available at <http://sshs.promoteprevent.org/sshs-events/meetings-webinars>
- Freeman, E. V., Wells, K., (2011, Nov/Dec) *Spotlight on Successful School Mental Health Programs from SSHS Grantees*; and SSHS Mental Health Affinity Group
- Willis-Darpoh, G., Freeman, E.V., Wells, K., (2011, April/May) *Cultural and Linguistic Competence in Mental Health: Series #1, 2*, Mental Health Affinity Group Webinars, SS/HS Cohorts 2007-2009
- Jones, J., Freeman E.V., Wells, K., Kitson, J. (2011, September) *Cultural and Linguistic Competence in Mental Health: Series 3*, Mental Health Affinity Group Webinars, SS/HS Cohorts 2007-2009
- Freeman, E.V., Kitson, J., (2010, November) *Strategies to Build School Mental Health Programs: Lessons Learned from Exemplarily Safe Schools/Healthy Student Initiatives*; CCBD International Child & Adolescent Conference XV, Minneapolis, MN
- Freeman, E. V., Kitson, J.(October 2010) *The Whole School Approach to Building Comprehensive School MH Programs to Address All Students' Needs: Lessons Learned from the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative*; CSMHA 15th Annual Conference
- Freeman, E. V., Kitson, J. (2010 September) *Schools as Collaborative Partners to Address the Mental Health of Children/Youth in Rural and Tribal Areas – Safe Schools/Healthy Students as a Model*; Rural Behavioral Health Symposium
- Freeman, E. V., Wells, K., Kitson, J., (2010, April/May/June/Sept) Mental Health Affinity Group Webinars, SSHS grantees, National Center for MH Promotion & Youth Violence Prevention; Topics available at <http://sshs.promoteprevent.org/sshs-events/meetings-webinars>



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- Freeman, E. V., (2010, March) *Strategies to Develop Sustainable School Mental Health Programs*, SSHS Project Director Consortia Meeting
- Wilson, C., Freeman, E. V., Kitson, J., (2010, August) *When the Unexpected Happens: Are You Prepared to Respond and Support Recovery from Tragedy or Crises in the School & Community*, SSHS Project Director Consortia Meeting
- Brutti, M., Campana, J., Freeman, E.V., (2010, August) *Effects of Health Care Reform and Mental Health Parity on Mental Health Services*; SSHS Project Director Consortia Meeting
- Freeman, E. V., Wells, K., (2010, December 7 &9) *Sustaining Mental Health Services, Legacy Wheel Planning for Sustainability Course: Series # 1, #2*, SSHS 2009 Cohort Project Director Webinar
- Freeman, E. V., Wells, K., Kitson, J., (2010, March) *Work is More Fun When We Play Well Together: Learning How to Integrate School MH Counselors with Other School Health Professionals*, Mental Health Affinity Group Webinars, SS/HS Cohorts 2007-2009
- Freeman, E.V., Wells, K., Kitson, J., (2010, August) *Learning the Language: Working With Local & State Mental Health Providers*, Mental Health Affinity Group Webinars, SS/HS Cohorts 2007-2009
- Freeman, E.V., Kitson, J., (2009, January) *Planning Sustained Mental Health Services in Schools*, Mental Health Affinity Group Webinars, SS/HS Cohorts 2007-2009
- Freeman, E., V., Kitson, J., (2009, August) *Assessment and Screening Methods for Mental Health Programs in Schools*, Mental Health Affinity Group Webinars, SS/HS Cohorts 2007-2009
- Freeman, E. V., Kitson, J., (2009, August) *Strategies & Resources for Developing Sustainable Mental Health Services*, Mental Health Affinity Group Webinars, SS/HS Cohorts 2007-2009
- Freeman, E., V., Kitson, J., Wells, K., (2009, Sept/Oct/Nov); *Mental Health Affinity Group Webinars, SSHS grantees*, National Center for MH Promotion & Youth Violence Prevention, Topics available at <http://sshs.promoteprevent.org/sshs-events/meetings-webinars>
- Freeman, E. V., Kitson, J., (2009, November) *A Framework for Implementing Evidence-Based Interventions Effectively In Schools: Lessons Learned From The Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative*, Association of School Health Administrators, 83rd Annual Conference, Denver, CO



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- Freeman, E.V., Craft, M. L., (2008, September) *An Innovative Approach to Building School Mental Health Programs in Rural Areas*, 13th National School-Based Mental Health Assistance Conference, Phoenix, AZ.
- Freeman, E. V., (2007, December) Building Comprehensive Mental Health Programs in Schools, (1/2 day pre-conference seminar & workshop session), NC School MH Project, Greensboro, NC.
- Freeman, E. V., Weist, Mark, (2007, February) *Innovative Approaches to Funding and Sustainment of School MH Programs*, Shared Agenda Communities Conference, Denver, Colorado.
- Freeman, E. V., (2006, July) *Developing and Evaluating School-Based Mental Health Programs, Louisiana LEADS 2006* – Department of Education Summer Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Freeman, E. V., (2006, April) *Creating Integrated System of Care for Successful Schools and Students*, Burke County Schools, Morganton, NC.
- Freeman, E. V., (2005, October) *School-Based MH Counselors: Collaboration with School Districts*, 95th Annual International Association of Truancy & Dropout Prevention Conference: No More Dropouts...Period, Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Freeman, E.V., Bullard, G., Mottstiller, T., (2005, May) *School Based Programs that Last*, SAMHSA Technical Assistance Partnership Region II Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- Freeman, E. V., (2005, Feb.) *Early Indicators of Emotional Disturbance Among Children: Implications for Training School Personnel, and MH Care in Schools: A collaborative and Coordinated Effort*, The 27th Annual Cross Cultural Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Freeman, E. V., (2004, Feb.) *Building Comprehensive Best Practice Programs in Schools*, North Carolina Isothermal Planning & Development Commission, School-Based Conference, Rutherfordton, NC.
- Freeman, E. V., Rubin, M., (2004, Oct.) *Outcome Measurement and Evaluation in School Mental Health Part 1: Outcome Measurement: Strategies to Implement Evaluation in School-Based Mental Health Programs*, 9th Annual Conference on Advancing School-Based Mental Health, Dallas, Texas.
- Freeman, E. V., Craft, M. L., (2004, Oct.) *Lexington Partners for Prevention: Development of a Violence Prevention Initiative*, 9th Annual Conference on Advancing School-Based Mental Health, Dallas, Texas.
- Freeman, E. V., (2004 – 2006) *Developing and Evaluating School-Based Mental Health Programs*, Arkansas Department of Education: School-Based MH Conference



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- (2004, Jan 28-29) *We're Changing the Face of Mental Health for Arkansas Students and Their Families*, Little Rock, AR.
- (2004, June) Special Education School-Based Mental Health Network Conference *Best Practice in School-Based Mental Health*"
- (2004-2006) Ongoing Consultation to Arkansas Dept. of Education School MH Programs
- Freeman, E. V., (2004, May) *School-Based Mental Health Programs in SC*, North Carolina Community Backyard School-Based MH Conference
- Freeman, E. V., Craft, M. L., (2003, Oct.) *Developing and Evaluating School-Based Mental Health Programs*, 8th Annual Conference on Advancing School-Based Mental Health, "Mental Health in Schools: Doing What Works!" Portland, OR.
- Freeman, E. V., & Georgetown University Evaluation Group (2003, March) *Keys on Keeping on... Sustainability in Systems Development*, 16th Annual Research Conference, A System of Care for Children's Mental Health: Expanding the Research Based, Tampa, Florida.
- Freeman, E. V., (2002, June) *Best Practice in School-Based Mental Health*, Coalitions for Youth Violence Prevention Second National Grantee Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- Freeman, E.V., Rubin, M., (2001, August) *The Role of School-Based Mental Health in South Carolina*, The 3rd International Conference on Social Work in Health and Mental Health, Tampere, Finland.
- Freeman, E.V., Rubin, M., (2001, July) *Development of School-Based Mental Health Programs: The South Carolina Experience*, World Assembly for Mental Health, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Freeman, E. V., (2001, April) *Development of School-Based Mental Health: The SC Experience*, SED Network: Multi agency Network for Students with Severe Emotional Disturbance, One Village, One Child: A Circle of Care 6th Annual Conference, Pensacola, Florida

*Other presentations *may be provided upon request as related to clinical treatment and interventions for families and youth*

