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# Sandra Keenan

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## Education

Ed.D.	2003–2007, enrolled in Educational Leadership Doctoral Program (A.B.D.) Dissertation completion scheduled for June 2009
C.A.G.S.	2005, Johnson and Wales University, Educational Leadership
M.Ed.	1984, Rhode Island College, Special Education
B.A.	1977, Greensboro College, Special Education

## Professional Credentials and Certifications

Rhode Island Certification, Administrator of Special Education and Severe/Profound Special Education Teacher, valid for life

## Present Position

### **Senior Research Analyst, American Institute for Research, Washington, DC (2000–Present)**

Current projects include the Technical Assistance Partnership for Child and Family Mental Health, which provides direct technical assistance related to system of care change initiatives and schools; the Behavioral Prevention and Promotion Center, which is the primary partner with EDC in the National Center for Youth Promotion and Violence Prevention. Areas of expertise include: Provision of technical assistance to school districts and communities; Special Education (students with emotional and behavioral disorders), Special Education Administration, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Family Involvement, and Collaboration with Community Agencies, Developing Community Based Systems of Care, Establishing School Based Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, Health Promotion for School-aged Children, Assistive and Instructional Technology, and Systems Change.

## Professional Experience

### **Project Director, Behavior Prevention and Promotion Center, AIR, Washington, DC (2005–Present)**

Coordinated and managed this subcontract for AIR with the National Center who is under contract with the Center for Mental Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services. Coordinate and deliver technical assistance related to safe schools, accessing mental health, and systems reform for Safe Schools Healthy Students grant communities across the United States. Knowledge development and dissemination involves the production of resources and materials, such as the Guides for PBIS, School Administrators, Cultural Competence and Systems of Care; as well as conducting various training events on school mental health areas.

### **Education Resource Specialist, Center for Mental Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services, Technical Assistance Partnership for Child and Family Mental Health, AIR, Washington, DC (2000–Present)**

Coordinate and deliver technical assistance related to education to over 60 grant communities across the United States implementing a “System of Care” for child and family mental health. This role requires ongoing communication with site personnel and the provision of resources. It requires working closely with community based staff and families and making connections to the Federal initiative. Knowledge development and dissemination involves the production of resources and materials, as well as conducting various training events on school mental health areas.



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**Task Leader, AIRDROP (AIR Dissemination of Research onto Practice) Company Good Works Project (2003–2005)**

Task leader for the development of a curriculum and resource toolkit on the health promotion of nutrition, fitness, asthma and mental health.

**Technical Assistance Specialist, U.S. Department of Education, Center for Implementing Technology in Education, AIR (2004–2005)**

Assist with the coordination and delivery of technical assistance for educators implementing assistive and instructional technology at state level department of education.

**Acting Project Director, Center for Mental Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services, Technical Assistance Partnership for Child and Family Mental Health, AIR (2000–2001)**

Coordinated and managed this national technical assistance center project. This involved oversight and direction of over 20 staff in its provision of technical assistance to 60 sites across the country.

**Administrator of Special Services, ADA/504 Coordinator, Narragansett School System, Narragansett, RI (1996–2000); and Assistant Director of Special Education, ADA/504 Coordinator, Westerly School Department, Westerly, RI (1990–1996)**

Supervised and administered Special Education Programs, Preschool–12.

## **Publications**

March 2008. “*Systems of Care*,” A Guide for Safe Schools/Healthy Students Projects, co-authored with Kendra Kreider and Kim Kendziora.

February 2008. “A Comprehensive Approach to Promoting Social, Emotional, and Academic Growth in Contemporary Schools,” Chapter 78, Volume 4, in *Best Practices in School Psychology V*, co-authored with David Osher, Jeffrey Sprague, Roger Weissberg, Jennifer Axelrod, Kimberly Kendziora and Joseph Zims; edited by Alex Thomas and Jeff Grimes.

March 2007. “*Engaging School Administrators*,” A Guide for Safe Schools/Healthy Students Projects, co-authored with Libia Gil, Steve Adamowski, and Kim Kendziora.

October 2006. “*Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports*,” A Guide for Safe Schools/Healthy Students Projects, co-authored with Kendra Kreider.

January 2005. “*Inclusion Strategies for Students with Learning and Behavioral Problems*,” Chapter 6, Second Edition, edited by Paul Zions, Pro-Ed.

March 2004. “Collaboration with Other Agencies: Wraparound and System of Care for Children and Youth with EBD,” chapter co-authored with Lucille Eber for *Handbook of Research in Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*, edited by Robert Rutherford, Mary Magee Quinn and Sarup Mather.

April 2003. “Establishing Exemplary Personnel Preparation Programs for Teachers of Students with EBD through Partnerships with Schools, Parents and Community Agencies,” co-authored with Peck, Cheney and Neel. Monograph published by Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders.

March 2003. “School-Based Mental Health Services: A Necessity, Not a Luxury,” chapter co-authored with Porter, Pearson, and Duval Harvey. *The Handbook of Child and Adolescent Systems of Care*.

September 2002. “Instituting School Based Linkages with Mental Health and Social Service Agencies,” co-authored with David Osher. *Technical Assistance Guide #8 for Safe Schools*.

March 2002. “Strengthening the Capacity of Schools and Communities to Serve Students with SED,” co-authored by Dodge and Lattanzi. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, Vol. II, No. 1. pgs 23–34.