

RACHEL C. CASEY, Ph.D., M.S.W.

rachel.casey@maine.edu
(503) 750 – 7916

University of Southern Maine

School of Social Work
71 Bedford Street
Portland, ME 014104

PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVES

Conduct research that illuminates the unique experiences of incarcerated women vis-à-vis mental health and violence, aiming to improve the responsiveness of mental health programs in correctional settings

Engage students in dynamic learning experiences, guiding them toward the development of a critical perspective in preparation for competent, reflexive social work practice

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Increasing capacity for effective, compassionate mental health treatment for incarcerated women
- Women's lived experiences of criminal justice involvement
- Trauma responses to criminal offending behavior
- Participatory and feminist research methodologies

TEACHING INTERESTS

- Social justice, human rights, diversity, and ethical social work practice
- Forensic social work practice and criminal justice policy
- Qualitative and quantitative research methods for the social sciences
- Theories of human behavior in the social environment

EDUCATION

Virginia Commonwealth University, School of Social Work, Richmond, VA

Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work (Ph.D.), May 2018

- Dissertation: "Mental health difficulties and service use of incarcerated women: The influence of violence perpetration and victimization"
- Committee: Kia J. Bentley, Ph.D. (Chair), Sarah Kye Price, Ph.D., Shelby E. McDonald, Ph.D., Nancy A. Morris, Ph.D. (Department of Criminal Justice)

Master of Social Work – Clinical Concentration (M.S.W.), May 2012

- Completed foundation courses in social work practice, human behavior theory, social policy, social justice, and research methods
- Completed clinical social work practice concentration courses in theories of social work practice, evidence-based psychosocial interventions, and trauma-informed care

Boston College, Lynch School of Education, Chestnut Hill, MA

Bachelor of Arts in Human Development (B.A.), May 2010

TEACHING EXPERIENCE and ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME

Assistant Professor of Social Work, Begins Fall 2018

- SLWK370 Human Behavior in the Social Environment
- SLWK505 Social Work Research I

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

Adjunct Instructor in M.S.W. Program

- SLWK601 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I (Fall 2016)
- SLWK610 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II (Spring 2017, 2018)
- SLWK609 Foundations of Research in Social Work Practice (Spring 2018)
- SLWK611 Social Work Research for Advanced Standing Students (Summer 2017, 2018)
- SLWK603 Social Work & Social Justice (Fall 2016, 2017)

Adjunct Instructor in B.S.W. Program

- SLWK370 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I (Spring 2017)
- SLWK371 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II (Summer 2018)

Teaching Assistant in M.S.W. Distance Education Program

- SLWK601 Human Behavior in the Social Environment (Fall 2016)

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA

Teaching Assistant, Fall 2009 to Spring 2010

- Introduction to Feminisms with Assistant Professor Abigail Brooks (Fall 2009)
- Family, School, and Society with Dean John Cawthorne (Spring 2010)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Casey, R. C., & Bentley, K. J. (2018). Psychotropic medication experiences of incarcerated women: A qualitative inquiry into conundrums of access and identity. *Women & Criminal Justice*. doi: 10.1080/08974454.2017.1389331

Bentley, K. J., Cummings, C. S., **Casey, R. C.**, & Kogut, C. (2018). Professional identity and shared decision-making among psychiatry residents: Designing a brief teaching module. *Journal of Mental Health Training, Education, and Practice*, 13(2), 112-123.
Doi: 10.1108/JMHTeP-02-2017-0009

Casey, R. C. (2018). The biopsychosocial-spiritual impact of incarceration: A content analysis of women's personal accounts. *Affilia: Journal of Women and Social Work*, 33(1), 126-138.
doi: 10.1177/0886109917718233

Bentley, K. J., & **Casey, R. C. (2017).** Incarcerated women's experiences and beliefs about psychotropic medication: An empirical study. *Psychiatric Services*, 68(4), 384-389.
doi: 10.1176/appi.ps.201600078

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Casey, R. C., & Bentley, K. J. (in preparation). Individual factors associated with women's use of mental health services during incarceration: Anticipating programmatic needs.

Casey, R. C., Bentley, K. J., & McDonald, S. E. (in preparation). Mental health difficulties of incarcerated women: The influence of violence perpetration and victimization.

Casey, R. C. (in preparation). Pathways to violence: Exploring theoretical explanations for the influence of childhood victimization.

PRESENTATIONS

National Juried Presentations:

Casey, R. C. (2018, November). *Scaffolding assignments as a tool for teaching social justice*. Paper presentation at the Council on Social Work Education 64th Annual Program Meeting; Orlando, FL.

Rosenberg, R. D., & **Casey, R. C.** (2018, November). *Teaching social work students to think like researchers: Pedagogical theory and techniques*. Interactive workshop at the Council on Social Work Education 64th Annual Program Meeting; Orlando, FL.

Casey, R. C., & Compton, K. S. (2017, October). *Freire and the Grand Challenges: Problem-posing and praxis in social work classrooms*. Interactive workshop at the Council on Social Work Education 63rd Annual Program Meeting; Dallas, TX.

Casey, R. C. (2017, May). *"That's the personality disorder talking": Embracing mental illness as a lens on experience*. Paper presentation at the 12th International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry; Urbana-Champaign, IL.

Bentley, K. J., & **Casey, R. C.** (2017, January). *A mixed methods investigation of incarcerated women's experiences with psychotropic medication*. Paper presentation at the Social for Social Work and Research 21st Annual Conference; New Orleans, LA.

Casey, R. C. (2016, November). *Hard time: A qualitative content analysis of incarcerated women's personal accounts*. Paper presentation at the Council on Social Work Education 62nd Annual Program Meeting; Atlanta, GA.

Cummings, C., **Casey, R. C., & Bentley, K. J.** (2016, November). *Identity and decision-making among psychiatrists: Lessons for social work collaborators*. Poster presentation at the Council on Social Work Education 62nd Annual Program Meeting; Atlanta, GA.

Casey, R. C., & Bentley, K. J. (2016, June). *Incarcerated women's experiences and beliefs about psychotropic medication: An empirical study*. Paper presentations at the National Organization of Forensic Social Work Annual Conference; New Orleans, LA.

Casey, R. C. (2016, May). *My time behind bars: An autoethnography of correctional social work*. Paper presentation at the 12th International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry; Urbana-Champaign, IL.

National Juried Presentations (continued):

- Casey, R. C.** (2015, October). *Using a social work lens to develop an integrated theory of suicide*. Discussion group presentation at the Council on Social Work Education 61st Annual Program Meeting; Denver, CO.
- Betts, S. E., **Casey, R. C.**, & Abell, M. L. (2015, October). *The effects of peer mentoring on foundation master of social work students*. Poster presentation at the Council on Social Work Education 61st Annual Program Meeting; Denver, CO.

Local Presentations and Guest Lectures:

- Casey, R. C.** (2018, April). *Mental health difficulties of incarcerated women: The influence of violence perpetration and victimization*. Poster presentation at Social Work Research Symposium. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.
- Casey, R. C.** (2018, April; 2017, April). *Forensic social work practice: Roles and skills*. Guest lecture in Social Work Practice in Community Mental Health, an MSW course with Professor Kia J. Bentley. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.
- Casey, R. C.** (2017, September). *Incarcerated women's experiences with mental health services: Implications for clinical practice with mandated clients*. Oral presentation to counseling staff at Commonwealth Catholic Charities, Richmond, VA.
- Casey, R. C.** (2017, June). *Incarcerated women's experiences with psychotropic medication: A qualitative study*. Guest lecture in Foundations of Social Work Research, an MSW course with Adjunct Professor Rachel D. Rosenberg. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.
- Bentley, K. J., & **Casey, R. C.** (2016, July). *Shared decision-making in psychiatry and mental health practice*. Oral presentation to The Dr. Robin Hulbert Annual Mental Health Services Training Meeting for the Virginia Department of Corrections, Crozier, VA.
- Bentley, K. J., & **Casey, R. C.** (2016, May). *The psychotropic medication experiences of incarcerated women: Findings from an empirical study*. Oral presentation to Virginia Department of Corrections Executive Team, Richmond, VA.
- Casey, R. C.** (2016, April). *Criminal justice reform for women: An application of the multiple streams framework*. Oral presentation at Student Policy Conference, School of Social Work at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.
- Bentley, K. J., & **Casey, R. C.** (2016, April). *The psychotropic medication experiences of incarcerated women: Reflections and lessons from an empirical investigation*. Oral presentation at Research-Sharing Luncheon, School of Social Work at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.
- Casey, R. C.** (2016, March). *Mental illness and incarceration: A policy problem*. Guest lecture in Mental Health Social Policy, an MSW course with Professor Kia J. Bentley. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.
- Casey, R. C.** (2016, December; 2015, November). *Social work practice in correctional settings: Opportunities and challenges*. Guest lecture in Introduction to Social Work, a BSW course with Professor Joseph Walsh. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work, Richmond, VA

Principal Investigator of Dissertation Research, October 2016 to April 2018

- Planned and conducted secondary analysis of data set from the Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities conducted by the Bureau of Justice Statistics
- Cleaned data, addressed missing data, and coded dummy variables in preparation for analysis
- Performed and interpreted multivariate analyses, including latent class analysis and multinomial logistic regression

Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work, Richmond, VA

Peer Debriefer to Dr. Cory Cummings, January 2017 to June 2017

- Engaged in analytic probing of research documents and methodological decisions to interrogate potential researcher biases and assumptions
- Participated in routine meetings with researcher to provide feedback and support

Graduate Research Assistant to Dr. Kia J. Bentley, September 2014 to August 2016

- Assisted in development of research designs and implementation of mixed methods research
- Conducted data entry, cleaning, storage and analysis

VCU School of Social Work and Department of Psychiatry, Richmond, VA

Co-Principal Investigator, January 2015 to December 2016

- Collaborated with Dr. Kia J. Bentley and Dr. Cory Cummings from the School of Social Work and Dr. Christopher P. Kogut, Director of Psychiatric Residency Program
- Conducted multi-stage project involving the design, implementation, and evaluation of an innovative teaching module about the use of shared decision-making in psychiatric practice

VCU School of Social Work and Virginia Department of Corrections, Richmond, VA

Co-Principal Investigator and Project Coordinator, January 2015 to August 2016

- Collaborated with Dr. Kia J. Bentley to design and implement a rigorous mixed methods inquiry of the experiences of incarcerated women with psychotropic medication
- Obtained and managed grant funding in the amount of \$7500
- Drafted methodology for submission to Institutional Review Board for full review
- Coordinated data collection protocol with correctional center personnel
- Conducted twenty-five semi-structured interviews with incarcerated women

Boston College Lynch School of Education, Chestnut Hill, MA

Undergraduate Research Assistant, 2008 to 2010

- Assisted in preparation for academic presentations, providing feedback to presenters
- Transcribed interviews containing sensitive content with meticulous attention to detail

DIRECT PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Eliot Community Human Services at Avenues Group Home, Arlington, MA

Residential Clinician, December 2013 to August 2014

- Provided individual counseling and case management services to eight adolescent male residents of a group foster home, engaging family members in treatment as appropriate
- Utilized strengths-based and culturally-sensitive approach to encourage development of independent living skills
- Developed and facilitated therapeutic groups based on the needs of residents, including anger management, healthy relationships, and substance abuse recovery groups

Mental Health Management Services at Massachusetts Corrections Institute, Framingham, MA

Mental Health Clinician, June 2012 to July 2013

- Facilitated weekly process groups and DBT groups for incarcerated women with chronic, severe mental illness, and weekly adjustment groups for newly incarcerated women
- Provided individual therapy to inmates with chronic, severe mental illness, using a trauma-informed approach to develop and achieve treatment goals
- Conducted weekly on-call shifts, responding to mental health crises such as self-injury and suicidality, verbal and physical aggression, and active psychosis; coordinated with correctional staff to implement emergency mental health services when appropriate

Powhatan Correctional Center, Powhatan, VA

Clinical Social Work Intern, September 2011 to May 2012

- Conducted informational trainings about mental illness for correctional officers
- Co-facilitated the Sex Offender Awareness Program, a mandatory mental health treatment group based on the Good Lives Model of sex offender treatment
- Provided individual therapy to incarcerated men with anxiety and mood disorders

Daily Planet Health Care Clinic, Richmond, VA

Case Management Intern, September 2010 to May 2011

- Developed eight-week employment skills program curriculum for adults experiencing homelessness, crafting educational objectives to reflect their needs
- Provided case management services to diverse caseload of clients, creating individual service plans to address needs for housing, benefits, and employment

CAMPUS SERVICE and ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE

Governance and Ordinance Committee, VCU School of Social Work

Doctoral Student Representative, September 2017 to May 2018

- Participated in monthly meetings and represented doctoral student interests
- Disseminated synopsis of discussion to doctoral students and solicited feedback

CAMPUS SERVICE and ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE (continued)

Comprehensive Exams Work Group, VCU School of Social Work

Doctoral Student Representative, September 2017 to December 2017

- Solicited and reported student feedback about comprehensive exam process
- Collaborated with faculty work group members to revise stated purpose of comprehensive exams and develop multiple proposals for alternative exam formats

Promotion and Tenure Peer Review Committee, VCU School of Social Work

Student Representative, September 2017 to December 2017

- Reviewed and evaluated promotion materials
- Attended committee meetings and participated in discussion

Doctoral Student Association, VCU School of Social Work

President (elected to two terms), May 2015 to May 2017

- Served as a student representative to the Doctoral Program Committee, participating in monthly committee meetings and serving as a liaison between doctoral students and faculty
- Successfully advocated for additional funding support for doctoral students
- Conducted monthly meetings of the Doctoral Student Association, developing and disseminating agendas and facilitating discussion
- Collaborated with Doctoral Student Association Treasurer to develop, propose and manage annual budget of approximately \$1,000
- Planned and executed annual Fall Welcome Event and Spring Social Event

Academic Programs Committee, VCU School of Social Work

Doctoral Student Representative, August 2015 to May 2016

M.S.W. Student Representative, September 2011 to May 2012

- Participated in monthly meetings and represented student interests

School Assembly, VCU School of Social Work

Doctoral Student Representative, October 2014 to May 2015

- Participated in monthly meetings and represented student interests

M.S.W. Student Association, VCU School of Social Work

President (elected), May 2011 to May 2012

- Conducted monthly meetings of the M.S.W. Student Association, developing and disseminating agendas and facilitating discussion
- Collaborated with M.S.W. Student Association Treasurer to develop, propose and manage annual budget of approximately \$500
- Planned and executed two community service events.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Citizen Advisory Commission on Alternatives to Incarceration, Richmond, VA

Board Member, Appointed March 2016 to March 2018

- Participated in monthly board meetings with Richmond City Councilwoman Ellen Robertson to identify and evaluate solutions to end mass incarceration of Richmond City residents

COMMUNITY SERVICE (continued)

Opportunity Alliance Reentry, Richmond, VA

Reentry Class Instructor, July 2015 to December 2017

- Facilitated weekly therapeutic treatment groups at local jail facilities, including substance abuse treatment and anger management

Comfort Zone Camps

Healing Circle Facilitator, June 2015 to April 2017

- Facilitated therapeutic, grief support groups for children experiencing bereavement and/or ambiguous loss during weekend camp sessions throughout the year

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Institute on Inclusive Teaching, Virginia Commonwealth University

Facilitated by Dr. Rosalyn Hobson Hargraves and Dr. Enoch Hale, May 17, 2018

Case Method Training Institute, University of South Carolina

Facilitated by Dr. Terry A. Wolfer and Dr. Melissa C. Reitmeier, July 16-19, 2017

Coding and Analyzing Qualitative Data Training, Odum Institute at UNC-Chapel Hill

Facilitated by Dr. Johnny Saldaña, July 28-29, 2016

Digitally Integrated Classroom Boot Camp, Virginia Commonwealth University

Facilitated by Michael Forder, June 27-28, 2016

Community Engaged Research Institute, Virginia Commonwealth University

Facilitated by The Division of Community Engagement, May 13-15, 2015

AWARDS and HONORS

Elaine Rothenberg Social Work Award, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work

Ph.D. Student Recipient, May 2018

M.S.W. Student Recipient, April 2012

- Awarded annually to one outstanding student in each of the B.S.W., M.S.W., and Ph.D. programs of the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work who exemplifies academic excellence, community service, compassion and leadership

Commencement Speaker, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work

Invited Ph.D. Student Speaker, May 2018

First Place Poster at Student Research Symposium, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work

Ph.D. Student Recipient, April 2018

- Awarded annually to best poster submitted by a doctoral student and includes \$250 prize

AWARDS and HONORS (continued)

Student Leadership Award, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work

Ph.D. Student Recipient, April 2015, May 2016, May 2017

M.S.W. Student Recipient, April 2012

- Awarded to students in the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work demonstrating leadership and service to the school, the university, and the community

Phi Kappa Phi Scholarship, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work

Ph.D. Student Recipient, April 2015

- Competitively awarded to one student from in each of the B.S.W., M.S.W., and Ph.D. programs of the School of Social Work who has demonstrated outstanding achievement, and dedication to scholarship and the principles of the social work profession

PROFESSIONAL and EDUCATIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Association of Social Workers, December 2011 to Present

Council on Social Work Education, May 2015 to Present

Society for Social Work and Research, November 2015 to Present

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, November 2015 to Present

Virginia Commonwealth University Alumni Association, January 2013 to Present