

## Dr. D. Merle Skinner, Curriculum Vitae

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### **EDUCATION**

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Argosy University, Chicago, IL. Ed. D. Counseling Psychology. 2014

Geneva College, Masters Science Organizational Leadership. Summa Cum Laude MS. 2002

University of Pittsburgh, Child Development, Pittsburgh, PA. Magna Cum Laude B.S., 1980

Connellsville Area Senior High School, Connellsville, Pennsylvania, Diploma, June 1976

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

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**September 1981- Present: Christian Family & Children's Center**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer.

*Administrative Responsibilities:* Developing and Ongoing management of operational and institutional advancement functions. Coordination of Financial, Development, Transportation and Government operations. Licensed Professional Counselor

*Oversight of Program Development:* Developing and implementing programs, Supervision oversight of Counseling and Educational Programming including Champion Christian Schools P-12; New horizons Pregnancy Resource Center, Christian Counseling Services, Transportation Services, Division of Public Policy Development, and the operations of finances, development, leadership development, personnel, regulating agencies, and other administrative tasks. Supervision and Development of Hiring, Supervision, mentoring, and other employee operations. Consulting roles on leadership, legislation, and organization and operations.

**April 2015 – Present: Adjunct Faculty Member, Various College and Universities; Davis College and Biblical Life Institute**

*Responsibilities:* Part time Psychology Instructor

**May 1980 - September 1981: Fayette Community Mental Health System.** Site supervisor. Duties: Supervision and training of four staff, assisting Masters Level Social Worker in assessing needs of children, coordinating, planning, and implementation of daily activities, parent education,

development workshops, program evaluation, preparation of case studies for consultants, and supervision of record keeping.

**Practicum Experience 1976-1980:** South Hills Mental Health System with emotionally disturbed adolescents including the development of individual and group treatment plans, direct responsibility for the small group of boys and their clinical work. New Horizon Homes, Inc. residential placement for severely and profoundly retarded children: Direct line care, designing behavioral modification treatment plans. Arsenal Family and Children's Center: after school workshop working with school age and pre-adolescent children, psychiatric evaluation and assessment conferences.

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## **PUBLICATIONS**

Skinner, D. (2014). "The Effects of training, level of religious commitment and perceived roadblocks on the integration of Spirituality into psychotherapy". Argosy University, Doctoral Dissertation.

Kalb, B.; Sivek, J. and Skinner, D. (1980). "Children From Intact Families Conceptualizations of Divorce". University of Pittsburgh, Unpublished Research Project.

Contributor to various professional and trade publications: Early Childhood Education. The Benefits of Accreditation. ACSI, Colorado Springs.

Various Poster Presentations at AACC Conferences on Religious integration into professional therapy and public policy.

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## **CERTIFICATIONS**

**Licensed Professional Counselor, PA Board of Social Work and Counseling**

**Pennsylvania Department of Education, Private School Teaching Certificate. Private School**

**Private School Principal Certificate and Early Education Teaching Certification**

**First Aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certification**

**Pennsylvania CDL Class B Certified driver** with Passenger and School Bus Endorsement and **Certified School Bus CDL Driver Trainer:** Provides regular and ongoing training to the Transportation Department at the Christian Family & Children's Center as a part of the PA Department of Transportation Driver Training Program Services, School Bus Division.

**Life member of the national registry of who's who** published in the 2001 edition, number

159397

**Professional Certification School Administrator**, Association of Christian Schools International

**Member of American Association of Christian Counselors**

**Member, and Past President Laurel Mountain Ministerial Association**

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## **RELATED EXPERIENCE**

**American Association Christian Counselors:** Research Poster Presentation at National Conference of Dissertation Research regarding the Integration of Spirituality in Therapy. Poster Presentation on the development of a Professional National network of State Advocacy Networks within the Christian Counseling Network.

**Board Member, Association Christian Schools International Children's Tuition Fund:** A national organization dedicated to developing and managing tax credit programs for ACSI across the country.

**Board Member, REACH Alliance:** The REACH Foundation (Road to Educational Achievement Through CHoice) and its sister organization, the REACH Alliance, are Pennsylvania's grassroots coalitions dedicated to ensuring parental choice in education.

**Co-Coordinator for PA CAPE Chapter (Council on American Private Education):** Responsible for coordination of all member private school associations in PA with regard to ongoing organizational activities, advocacy at the State level, and professional development activities as well as representing the Commonwealth at the Federal level.

**Coordinator for PA ACSI a statewide network of Christian schools:** Coordination of all statewide advocacy and networking for all ACSI schools within the Commonwealth. Founding member and Consultant to ACSIMD, ACSINY, ACSINJ, and states pending.

**Chair, CAPE National Early Education Task Force, Washington, D.C.** and Guest Presenter on National and State Early Education landscape and consultant with State Capes around the Country.

**Various workshops and keynote sessions** designed and implemented on issues related to families, education, marriage, parenting and children. Educational information ranges from infancy through adulthood. Counseling information across various age and developmental age groups.

**President and Past President of Mountain Laurel Chamber of Commerce, Donegal**

**Various public speaking engagements, written publications,** and Radio and T.V. appearances for church and community organizations. Past co-host of IMPACT LIVE, a daily radio program

about Christian services in Western PA. Guest, Cornerstone T.V. on Christian Education, Marriage and Family issues. Regular guest speaker and pulpit supply in churches.

**Coordinate and Offer Professional Testimony** given to state legislative committees (PA, MD, and Washington DC) on issues relating to the family at the State and the Federal level

**Past Advisory Board Member**, Westmoreland County Community College, Program on Child Development and Child Care

**Regular Participant for Conference Planning Committees** for Association of Christian Schools International, American Association of Christian Counselors, ACSIPA and PACAPE around Christian and Education issues, professional development and implications of public policy.

**National Early Childhood Issues National Planning** Work session in Colorado. Represented the Northeast Region of the Association of Christian Schools International.

**Past Weekly Radio Show Co-Host** on WWNL focused around regional issues affecting the family.

**Coordinate and Offer Professional Testimony** given to state legislative committees on issues relating to the family in the Commonwealth and at the Federal level

**Past District Representative for Western Pennsylvania.** Association of Christian Schools International, Mid-Atlantic Region, Elected position.

**Pennsylvania Governor's Early Education Commission:** Past appointment to committee to establish direction for the Early Education community in Pennsylvania.

**Awarded the University of Pittsburgh's Child Development Program's Fred Rogers-Nancy Currey Award** for distinguished service to Children and families as a part of the Department of Education's Applied Psychology Department.