

Savannah O'Neill

MSW, CATC

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Oakland, California

Advocate dedicated to working within a harm reduction and racial equity framework to develop interpersonal and systemic solutions to advance the health and rights of those most vulnerable to structural violence. Skilled interpersonally as a facilitator with national stakeholders, community based organizations, grassroots coalitions and people with lived experience. Experienced in establishing brand new programs, providing technical assistance, project management, community organizing, and as public speaker.

EDUCATION

Master of Social Work

University of Michigan | 2015

Integrated Health Scholarship
Detroit Clinical Scholarship

Certified Addiction Treatment Counselor

Breining Institute | 2013

Bachelors of Art in Community Studies

University of California at Santa Cruz | 2010

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Consultant

Facente Consulting | February 2023 - Present

- Lead multiple simultaneous projects "end-to-end" of varying sizes, complexity, and subject matter, including guiding overall vision and providing direction and guidance to project team members.
- Manage, analyze, and use both quantitative and qualitative data to tell a story and inform program or policy decisions

Associate Director of Capacity Building

National Harm Reduction Coalition | November 2018 - Present
Oakland, CA

- Oversee all training and technical assistance for 58 counties in California including to 60+ syringe services programs, 250+ hospitals and to countless small collective, mutual aid groups beginning services in their communities
- Coordinate and facilitate coalition of 70 harm reduction programs, syringe services programs, participants, people who use drugs and public health departments; Developed first ever coalition steering committee, brand and logo, and doubled participation to turn a mutual collective into a powerful advocacy coalition
- Lead project management of California Harm Reduction Initiative (CHRI), a grantmaking and capacity building initiative in partnership with California Department of Public Health (CDPH) including development of multiple training series offerings to grantees, re-envisioning of technical assistance and collaboration on low barrier grantmaking values and evaluation strategy
- Collaborated with Associate Director of Community Mobilization to develop, advocate for, and mobilize 50+ organizations for lobbying to win \$15.2 million in California State Budget to create CHRI, the largest investment in U.S. history
- Created model of two-day community convenings that bridges training and local organizing to expand harm reduction services, successfully implemented in Fresno, Monterey and San Diego Counties.
- Established metrics and evaluation tools for CHRI grantees with an eye towards qualitative and quantitative assessments on integration of racial equity and meaningful involvement of people who use drugs
- Write and publish weekly harm newsletter, Morning Coffee, with audience of 1200+
- Elected member of Sustainability Workgroup, a cross departmental leadership team to assess cost savings and revenue generation opportunities resulting in zero layoffs and new strategic priorities
- Hire and supervise two manager level capacity building staff, support highly collaborative team of 6 in an organization that has grown by 50% in the last three years.

Overdose Prevention Education and Naloxone Distribution Coordinator

HIV Education Prevention Project of Alameda County | January 2016- September 2018
Oakland, CA

- Hired to develop, implement and lead Alameda county wide naloxone training and distribution program that has been annually refunded by Board of Supervisors
- Developed, tailored and delivered overdose prevention trainings for a wide range of community based organizations
- Created Train the Trainer program and established MOU's with 12 external agencies to implement and sustain naloxone distribution
- Fostered strong relationships with substance use treatment programs, leading to large increase in availability of naloxone within treatment programs
- Facilitated 7 trainings with County Jail staff to advocate for integration of naloxone access upon release and successfully implemented naloxone to a subset of people leaving incarceration

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SELECTED SKILLS

- **Facilitation** with over a decade of experience facilitating meetings, trainings, 200+ person conferences and coalition spaces
- **Transparent and direct communication**
- **Commitment to anti-racism** and reflective work
- **Project Management** with an eye for detail, organization and collaborative work planning
- **Project Management Tools** such as Asana, Google Drive, Salesforce
- **Coalition Building** with a commitment to relationship building and consistency
- **Leadership Development** with racially diverse teams, from differing educational and class backgrounds
- **Grant Writing + Funder Relationship Building**

SELECTED TRAININGS + EDUCATION

- **Managing to Change The World** 2021
The Management Center
- **Somatics for White Racial Justice Organizers** 2020
Dara Silverman + Amanda Reem
- **Building Racial Equity** 2019
Race Forward
- **Motivational Interviewing** 2013
- **HIV/HCV Prevention Counselor** 2011
UCSF Alliance Health Project

Opioid Treatment Program Coordinator

California Forensic Medical Group | February 2017 - December 2017
Dublin, CA

- Advocated for evidence-based policies during and after employment to ensure the minimal physical safety of pregnant people and people who use opioids
- Provided discharge planning for incarcerated people on methadone treatment
- Participated as expert witness on poor healthcare, negligence and other violations in multiple lawsuits in support of formerly incarcerated people

Behavioral Health Consultant

Western Wayne County Health Center | January 2015 - December 2015
Detroit, MI

- Initiated program to routinely screen people who are pregnant in OBGYN practice for substance use concerns, intimate partner violence and depression
- Provided case management as the sole behavioral health provider in primary care clinic to support pregnant people, improve fetal health outcomes and reduce CPS involvement

Research and Evaluation Assistant

Curtis Center Program Evaluation Group | January 2015 - December 2015
Ann Arbor, MI

- Completed semi-structured interviews with 35 organizations engaged in efforts to address intertwined intimate partner violence and substance use, and develop case studies to identify promising practices and barriers to innovation in the fields
- Developed interview guide and quantitative coding for research into Fresh Prescription Program, a pilot program using health insurance to cover fresh foods for low income residents of Detroit

Counselor

Humanistic Alternatives to Addiction Research and Treatment | September 2011 - July 2014
Oakland, CA

- Utilized strong clinical and organizational skills in order to maintain a caseload of 45 clients in methadone treatment for weekly counseling, psychosocial assessment, treatment planning, and discharge planning
- Implemented routine HCV + HIV testing and treatment on site through relationship building with other community based organizations

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Reimagining Public Safety Task Force

Advisory Board Member | September 2020- March 2021
Oakland, CA

- Participated as a member of the Alternative Responses, Programs and Investments advisory board
- Navigated challenging conversations around divestment in neighborhoods, race and violence and specifically decriminalization of sex work and drug use
- Contributed to the three recommendations that made it into that final recommendations presented to Oakland City Council and supported by Anti-Police Terror Project

Treatment Starts Here

Member | December 2017- Present

- Department of Health Care Services and California Department of Public Health joint run taskforce tasked with a statewide strategic plan for prevention of overdose deaths and increased access to treatment

Humanistic Alternatives to Addiction Research and Treatment

Community Advisory Board Member | December 2016 - Present
Oakland, CA

- Serve as a Community Board Member to support the financial and clinical operations of a two location non-profit treatment facility serving clients in Oakland and Hayward with opioid use disorder.

Higher Ground Harm Reduction

Community Advisory Board Member | December 2018- July 2020

- Serve as community advisory board for innovative national project addressing health and harm reduction needs of people who use drugs during climate crises