

AHEC-SSW Training Partnership
Faculty Information Sheet

Name: Tonia Jacobs Deese

Position/Title: Clinical Assistant Professor
UNC Chapel Hill School of Social Work

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Education/Degrees: Bachelor of Arts, Psychology & Political Science
Master of Social Work (both from UNC-CH)

Professional Certifications: Licensed Clinical Social Worker,
Certified Clinical Trauma Specialist

Academic Experience: Since 2013, Tonia has served as a lead trainer, curriculum developer and writer for the Family & Children's Resource Program at UNC School of Social Work. In this role, Tonia has been responsible for creating and delivering a wide variety of continuing education classes for professional social workers. Tonia has provided professional education to staff in a variety of fields (e.g., child welfare, adult and child mental health, juvenile justice).

Brief Summary of Work Experience (last two years):

In her work, Tonia focuses on translating research into tangible skills staff can quickly apply to their day-to-day practice. She has developed and trained courses on a variety of topics including primary and secondary trauma, vicarious trauma, attachment, child development, cultural permanency, engaging families, and many others.

Tonia has also worked as a coach and consultant to agencies, with a focus on implementing best practices to improve outcomes.

Specialization/Research Areas:

Tonia's special interests are the Indian Child Welfare Act, family systems theory, promoting social worker wellness (prevention of secondary trauma and burnout), and the impact of culture on client and family outcomes.

Available for presentations on the following topics: historical trauma, intergenerational trauma, healthy sexual development, secondary and vicarious trauma.