

**SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS**

Advocate for families with children who have special needs with 28 years of personal and professional experience. Areas of interest include: family support, family/provider partnership, children's mental health, cultural competence, family-centered practice, and consumer and family advocacy. Experienced trainer and facilitator in the areas of family support and family-centered practice.

- A skilled and effective collaborator and team member who is able to establish good rapport with colleagues and engages others in ways that support relationships.
- Communicates clearly and effectively with colleagues, and others.
- Ability to develop and deliver training to diverse audiences in ways that are engaging and effective.
- Understands and respects the implications of diversity for services, training, and general communication.
- Ability to identify and resolve problems while maintaining relationships
- Ability to achieve goals and adhere to project timelines
- Writes excellent project reports and summaries
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Proficient basic computer skills

**PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

2012 – Present	Information Specialist, Family Support Program, School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2004 – Present	Project/Training Coordinator, Family Support Program, School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2003 – 2006	Training Specialist, Family Support Network of North Carolina, School of Medicine, University of North Carolina at Chapel
1999 – 2004	Lecturer, School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2001– 2003	Coordinator/Trainer, Family Advocacy Project, Jordan Institute for Families, UNC School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
1998 – 2001	Lecturer, School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
1998 –2001	Parent Advocate/Training Consultant, Children's Mental Project, School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
1995 – 1998	Program Administrator/Trainer, Families CAN, Inc., Raleigh NC

**Guest Lecturer:**

Guest Lecturer, SOWO 842 – Families: Theory and Practice, School of Social Work, Fall 2016

Guest Lecturer, SOWO769 – Evidence-based Interventions in Direct Practice, Spring 2016

Guest Lecturer, SOWO 837 – Disability Policy, School of Social Work, Spring 2016

### **SELECTED WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

Leach, B. & Norris, T. “*Rethinking Guardianship and Less Restrictive Alternatives.*” 66<sup>TH</sup> Annual Conference on Exceptional Children. Greensboro. November 2016

Leach, B. “*Family Support Network™ of North Carolina and Family Support Program – An Overview*” [webinar]. Community Cares North Carolina (CCNC)-Care Coordination for Children (CC4C), Division of Public Health, Children & Youth Branch, NC Department of Health and Human Services. September 2016

Leach, B. “*Supporting Adolescent and Young Adult Success: Living Independently in Communities.*” North Carolina System of Care Conference - Creating a Culture of Care: From Cradle to Career. May 2016

Leach, B., Norris, T., Mergner, S., Zuver, D., Parlier, M. “*UNC-PrimeCare Interprofessional Education in Co-Occurring Developmental Disabilities and Behavioral Health: The Case of Willow McDonald.*” UNC PrimeCare Interprofessional Education Conference. Chapel Hill. April 2016

Leach, B. & Norris, T. “*Surviving and Thriving: Supporting Families with Children who have Special Needs.*” NAMI North Carolina 2015 Annual Conference: Transforming the Face of Mental Illness in North Carolina. May 2015

Norris, T. & Leach, B. “*Evidence-Based Caregiver-Provider Partnerships: Working Collaboratively with Families who have Children with Special Needs.*” NC Social Services Institute. Hickory. October 2014, and Eastern AHEC Annual Children’s Services State of the Art Conference. New Bern. August 2015

Norris, T. & Leach, B. “*Parents Making Dream out of Life’s Hard Places: Dealing with the Challenges of Raising a Child with Special Needs.*” Northwest Area Health Education Center (AHEC). Winston-Salem. March 2014

Leach, B. and Norris, T. “*Evidence-Based Caregiver-Provider Partnerships: Working Collaboratively with Families of Children Who Have Special Needs.*” Allied Health Education Center (AHEC) Workshop. August 2014, October 2015

Leach, B. and Mergner, S. “*Evidence-Based Caregiver-Provider Partnerships: Working Collaboratively with Families of Children Who Have Special Needs.*” Allied Health Education Center (AHEC) Workshop. December 2012, August 2013, October 2013

Norris, T. and Leach, B. “*Parents Making Dreams out of Life’s Hard Places – Dealing with the Challenges of Raising a Child with Special Needs.*” Allied Health Education Center (AHEC) Workshop, April 2012

Leach, B., Siegel, Susan. “*PREParation for Emergencies and Recovery: Supporting Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their Families*”. Three-hour workshop on emergency preparedness by individuals with disabilities provided in communities across North Carolina. Family Support Program, School of Social Work, UNC-Chapel Hill. October 2010 – September 2012

Leach, B. “*Cultural Awareness: Developing Culturally Responsive Services.*” Three-part series on Cultural Competency. UNC Center for Development and Learning, LEND Program, Core Course. Fall 2008

Leach, B., Norris, T. “*Essential for Individuals with Disabilities: PREParation for Emergencies and Recovery.*” North Carolina Emergency Management 2012 Spring All-Hazards Conference. March 2012. Sunset Beach

Norris, T., Leach, B. “*Parents and Providers: Perspectives on Supporting Families with Children who have Special Needs.*” Coastal Pediatric Symposium 2012, SEAHEC. March 2012. Wrightsville Beach

Leach, B. “*PREParation for Emergencies and Recovery: Supporting Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their Families.*” 2011 Clinical Update & Psychopharmacology Review Conference, Southern AHEC. February 2011. Pinehurst

Williams, E., Leach, B. “*When Survival is not Enough: Embracing Change and Supporting Resiliency.*” Keynote, Ninth Annual Fall Social Work Conference August 2010. University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

Van Gelder, M., Leach, B. “*Family Support 360: Lessons Learned 2004—2009.*” ADD Technical Assistance Meeting. May 2010. Washington, DC

Zipper, I.N., Leach, B., LeRiche, T. “*Building a Military-Civilian Family Support System.*” ADD Technical Assistance Meeting. May 2010. Washington, DC

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

NC Infant Mental Health Association Early Childhood Mental Health Workforce Development Task Force

North Carolina Collaborative for Children, Youth, and Families

Assuring Better Child Health and Development (ABCD) State Advisory Committee

North Carolina Respite Care Coalition, Barriers Subcommittee, 2016

NC State System Improvement Plan (SSIP) Workgroup. Early Intervention, 2015 – Present

**EDUCATION:**

Wake Tech Community College, Raleigh NC

Relevant coursework: Early Childhood Development, Business Management, Accounting

Elon University; Elon, North Carolina

Relevant coursework in: English, Psychology, Sociology

Cary High School, H.S. Diploma