

Vanessa Vaccarino

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EDUCATION

Western New England University: Springfield, MA
Bachelor of Social Work

Graduated Summa Cum Laude May 2018
Cumulative GPA: 3.96

Honors and Awards

President's List (GPA 3.80 or higher): 2014-2018
Albert C. Pryor, Jr. Honor Graduate in Social Work Award: 2018
Co-Curricular Award (Citation for Community Service): 2017
The National Society of Leadership and Success: Inducted 2016
Alpha Lambda Delta (First Year Honor Society): Inducted 2015

Coursework

Human Behavior in the Social Environment	Invitation to Aging	Spanish
Econ of Poverty and Discrimination	Interventive Methods I, II & III	Ethics for SW
Dynamics of Oppression & Empowerment	Research Methods	

SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCES

Justice Resource Institute, Holyoke, MA Aug 2017-May 2018

- Conducted in-home therapy as a Therapeutic Training & Support staff for children, ages 10-16 who have social, emotional and/or behavioral issues, and their family's
- Planned and facilitated weekly sessions with clients, communicated with team members effectively, attended all meetings and supervision each week
- 450+ hours completed

Senior Research Project

- Conducted research on campus using adapted survey from Wisconsin Hope Lab to explore food insecurity
- Performed statistical tests on the 300+ responses; discovered 19% were food insecure
- Presented findings to Dean of Students which lead to food pantry being created on campus
- Planning to present findings at BPD Annual Conference March 2019

Pioneer Valley Project, Springfield, MA Jan 2017-May 2017

- Collaborated alongside community organizers to bring social change on a macro scale in Springfield
- 120 hours completed

After Incarceration Support Systems, Springfield, MA Sept 2016-May 2017

- Provided various services to formerly incarcerated women to help transition back into the community
 - Built relationships with clients by communicating and listening to stories, problems and needs
 - 55 hours completed
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LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Alternative Breaks Advisory Board, Communications Chairperson Sept 2016-Apr 2018

Social Work Advocating Together Club

- Vice President Jan 2017-Dec 2017
- General member Sept 2015-Dec 2016

Community Action Rewards Everyone (CARE) Club

- Senior Citizens Chairperson Sept 2016-Apr 2018
- General member Sept 2015-May 2016

Residence Hall Association , member	Jan-May 2016
Sophomore Career Connections Program , member	Sept-Dec 2015
• Shadowed Kristine Perrone, MSW	
Social Work Advisory Board , member	Nov 2014-present

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Lunch Box Program , Albany, NY	Summer 2016 & 2017
• Packaged and delivered lunches three times a week to children ages 1-18 throughout the city of Albany	
• Total of 3,075 lunches delivered in 2016 and a total of 6,030 lunches delivered in 2017	
Alternative Spring Break , Des Moines, IA	Mar 2017
• Served with Habitat for Humanity	
• Worked on various construction projects alongside community members	
Alternative Fall Break , Rutland, MA	Nov 2016
• Volunteered at Heifer Farms International and learned about food insecurity and sustainability worldwide	
Alternative Spring Break , Washington, DC	Mar 2016
• Served with Thrive DC, Martha's Table, and Capital Area Food Bank	
• Prepared and served food to approximately 150+ community members daily at city food kitchen	
• Presented two elementary schools with a healthy eating program and helped the students get food	
Sister Maureen Joyce Center Soup Kitchen , Albany, NY	Nov 2015-present
• Prepare and serve meals to adults who are homeless and engage to develop relationships	
Capital City Rescue Mission , Albany, NY	June 2013-Dec 2015
• Prepared and served meals to homeless adult males	

WORK EXPERIENCE

Bethlehem Preschool Inc. , Glenmont, NY	
• Teacher Assistant	Sept 2018-Present
• Teach 23 three year olds social and emotional skills, letter and number recognition and exploration	
• Collaborate with two other teachers, including lesson planning and preparing centers	
• Document children's growth, create monthly goals, write and attend conferences with parents	
• Communicate with parents and guardians on a daily basis	
• Afternoon Aid	May 2017-Aug 2018
• Interacted and communicated with teachers and children infant to five year olds	
First Year Seminar Assistant , Western New England University	Sept-Dec 2017
• Assisted the professor in and out of class with grading and planning lessons	
• Communicated, engaged and assisted first year students in and out of the classroom	
Center for Civic Engagement Student Assistant , Western New England University	Sept 2017-May 2018
• Complete tasks delegated to me by my supervisor including paperwork and various projects	
Hidden Cafe , Delmar, NY	Apr 2014-Jan 2017
• Hostess/waitress	
• Communicated with customers to fill orders in busy restaurant	
Polling Institute , Western New England University	Oct 2015-May 2017
• Contacted residents of Massachusetts by phone to inquire about important political and social issues	
ACTS Tutoring and Mentoring , Springfield, MA	Sept-Dec 2014
• Tutored children ages 6-11 in basic math, writing and reading at churches in Springfield	
• 40 hours completed	

SKILLS

- Language: Basic Spanish
 - Computer: GoogleDocs, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint
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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Voices of Hunger on Campus

May 2018

- Attended workshops and engaged in group discussions about food insecurity on college campuses
- Collaborated with colleagues ideas to combat the issue

Social Work Conference, Western New England University

Mar 2017

- Attended workshops and engaged in discussion around trauma, play therapy and recidivism

IMPACT National Conference

Feb 2017

- Attended workshops and engaged in discussion around community service, service-learning and advocacy efforts