

STEPHANIE FIERRO-PADILLA

[REDACTED]

CAREER OBJECTIVE

Motivated Lead Bilingual Domestic Violence Advocate with comprehensive knowledge of social justice issues and systems affecting marginalized communities. Passionate about developing and facilitating programs to support communities in need. Collaborative and analytical with proven ability to lead advocates and build strategic partnerships, advocate for clients and advance change for communities in need.

EXPERIENCE

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NOV. 2020-PRESENT

BILINGUAL LEAD DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATE, U MOS

Description of position: Providing support to survivors, family members and witnesses through various systems. Including law enforcement, judicial, healthcare and social services. Providing comprehensive services including safety/danger assessment, goal setting and wellness/safety plans. Filing ALL Restraining orders at center, Harassment, Domestic Abuse, Sexual Assault including Juvenile Restraining Orders. Providing Mentorship to the team of Advocates, staffing cases and problem solving. Other responsibilities include organizing weekly case staffing's, monthly team meetings and alternating our 24-hour crisis line Monday-Friday from 5:00p.m.-8:00a.m. While actively working with my own caseload of Domestic Violence cases.

Strengthening community partnerships and collaborated with other advocates to make resources accessible to those in need. Reporting child abuse in accordance with legal mandatory reporters. Monitored and documented client progress and completed annual grant reports. Accompanied clients to court to clarify process and procedures, including transportation.

JUL. 2018 –NOV. 2020

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EDUCATION

MAY 2018

ASSOCIATES OF APPLIED SCIENCES, MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

I received my associate's degree in criminal justice and graduated with Scholastic Honors. This of course meant I was on the Dean's List every semester of my academic career here. During my time at Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) I was involved with our Criminal Justice Student Organization (CJSO) which sought out to connect the students in the Criminal Justice field with the broader community through volunteer work and advocacy. Halfway through my degree completion I was awarded a scholarship in the form of \$500 by the Wisconsin Association of Women Police.

SKILLS

- Bilingual (English & Spanish fluency)
- Case Management
- Safety Planning
- Leadership & Management
- Training in sensitive crimes, crisis intervention, and restraining order process/enforcement of court orders
- Collaboration skills; effectively work with others
- Familiar with criminal justice system/judicial process
- Sympathetic
- Problem solving skills/Critical thinker
- Computer/Software Proficiency
- Adaptability & Learning
- Time Management
- Communication Skills (verbal, written and active listening skills)
- Goal-oriented

FURTHER TRAINING/CERTIFICATES

Police Aid: Milwaukee Police Department District 7

- During my Fall 2016 semester I attended meetings that were catered to strategizing methods the police department could use to improve the community surrounding MPD district 7.

Ambush Training: MATC

- I participated in this program May of 2018 which sworn officers are required to complete. Scenarios often times included responding to hostile situations which escalated in the quickest, and safest ways. For example, often times we practiced with perpetrators and guns, navigating the best course of action that could lead to minimal danger.

Relevant Courses: MATC

- Sensitive crimes: This course focused on understanding the criminal justice system in regard to survivors of sexual and physical abuse, inclusive of women, men, and children. The work we did throughout this class taught us how to understand and recognize signs of abuse through certain behaviors, physical appearance, or emotional responses. Additionally, we learned how to intervene during a crisis situation.
- Community policing: During this course we focused on scenarios dealing with individuals which fall under Chapter 51, which means, individuals who are struggling with their mental health. This meant as a class we often acted out scenarios where individuals were frantic,

hyper-active, threatening harm to themselves, etc. Not only did this proper me to work with these specific individuals but overall improved my communication skills.

- Professional communication: We worked on our communication skills as officers approaching different types of scenarios. These scenarios included those that were categorized as criminal, domestic disturbances, robbery, noise compliant, etc.

Transitional Housing:

- Housing training in New Orleans, training was entry level on program. Training consisted on case management, federal expectations, data entry, case management and addressing survivor housing needs.
- Completed online training and passed notary commission exam. Approved notary commission from 05/28/20-05/27/2024.

Certificates:

Restraining Order Training: Onsite UMOS (certificate)

- I attended an onsite training lead by lead advocate Damaris Becker. the training consisted of depth information on petitioning for a restraining order, types of orders, enforcing and safety for clients
- Safe at home: (certificate): Completed virtual training that certifies me to enroll families in a Safe at Home Address Confidential Program. A cost-free program designed for individuals that face acts of threats or their safety and safety of children.

- Enhancing Legal Advocacy for LEP Survivors (Certificate)
- Notary Commission: (license)

Community Engagement

AMAR, Women's Group: St. Adalbert

- Facilitated a spiritual retreat for Latina women of Milwaukee's Southside by receiving proper training in order to guide women into the best course of action who had experienced domestic violence/sexual assault. This was done through prayer, group therapy, and lastly referring them to a long-term support system of necessary. For example, counseling.

Criminal Justice Student Organization: MATC

- During my time as a student member of CJSO I participated in public court hearings in order to gain a deeper understanding of the logistical side of criminal justice. A majority of our volunteer work included servicing the community by organizing and executing clothes and food drives. Additionally, our student organization partnered with the Hunger Task Force of the Milwaukee area to deliver meals to families of lower income.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Awarded \$500 a scholarship for Women in Law Enforcement.

- Graduated on the Dean's list from Milwaukee Area Technical College.
- Translated for UMOS in a USCIS immigration interview.
- Developed a COVID19 community response, included care kits/educational kits for UMOS clients.
- Developed a space of collaboration on inter departmental to staff cases and brainstorm change.