

Jennifer Higgins, PhD, MBA

P.O. Box 151 | Southampton, MA 01073 | 413-626-5151 | jennifer@commonwealthgrantworks.com

CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

M.B.A., Springfield College, Springfield, MA

Ph.D., 2003, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA

Dissertation Title: Analysis of Gambling Activities as a Programmatic Option in Senior Centers

M.S., Gerontology, August, 2000, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA

B.A. *with honors*, Sociology, February, 1995, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

A.A. *with honors*, Liberal Arts, June, 1992, Greenfield Community College, Greenfield, MA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty, College of Public and Community Service, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA, 2001-2003

- Taught course titled *Participation in Government*
- Developed course syllabus and curriculum
- Assessed student performance

Presenter, Gerontology Institute, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA, 2001

- Presented one-day problem gambling seminar for mature students

Adjunct Faculty, Gerontology Institute, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA, 2000

- Taught course titled *Adult Development*

RESEARCH/RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

CommonWealth GrantWorks Foundation, President, 2021-present

Center for Addiction Recovery, Evaluator, 2020-present

CommonWealth GrantWorks, Owner, 2019-present

Consultant, Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers, 2019

Grant-Writer and Editor, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, 2017-present

Director of Research and Policy, Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers, 2016-2019

Special Government Employee, Food and Drug Administration, 2014-present

Director, Strategic Planning and Business Development, Center for Human Development, 2015-2016

Director, Compliance and Quality Assurance, Center for Human Development, 2014-2015

SAMHSA Project Coordinator, Center for Human Development, 2012-2014

Clinical Trials Coordinator, Hartford Hospital, Institute of Living, 2011-2012

Clinical Trials Coordinator/ Quality Researcher, Cooley Dickinson Hospital, 2009-2010

Recruitment Specialist/ Research Assistant, Springfield Neurology Associates, 2007-2008

Trainer and Researcher, Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling, 2002-2007

Facilitator, Amherst Senior Center, 2005-2007

Social Worker, Northampton Council on Aging, 2005-2007

Homesharing Coordinator, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2004

Research Consultant and Survey Interviewer:

Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling, Senior Problem Gambling Study, 2002

Univ. of Massachusetts, Gerontology Institute, National Center for Long-term Care Research Initiative, 2000-2002

Simmons College, Simmons Longitudinal Study, 1998-2003

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, End-of-Life Care Commission, 2001

PUBLICATIONS

Higgins, J. (2001). Comprehensive Policy Analysis of and Recommendations for Senior Center Gambling Trips. *Journal of Aging and Social Policy*, 12:2.

Higgins, J. (2003). Analysis of Gambling Activities as a Programmatic Option in Senior Centers. (Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation).

Higgins, J. (2005). Exploring the Politics and Policy Surrounding Senior Center Gambling Activities. *Journal of Aging Studies*, 19.

Higgins, J. (2007). The Art and Science of Community-Based Clinical Trial Recruitment. *The Monitor*.

Higgins, J. & Cole-Poklewski, T. (2010). Case Management Reform: An Illustrative Study of One Hospital's Experience. *Professional Case Management*.

Higgins, J. (2014). Integrated Services & Suicide Prevention Training: A case study of one community mental health agency. *Professional Case Management*.

Higgins, J. (2014). *A Cognitive Ethnography of Workers in Massachusetts*. Self-Published Manuscript.

Higgins, J. (2014). Compliance and Quality Improvement Issues in Behavioural Healthcare Today. *Journal for Clinical Studies*.

Higgins, J. (2016). Serving on an FDA Advisory Committee: One member's point of view. *Journal for Clinical Studies*.

FUNDED PROJECTS

An Interstate Analysis of Senior Center Gambling Activity Costs and Benefits

- Project funded by the Mohegan Sun Casino, Connecticut

A Demonstration of the Effectiveness of a Therapeutic Intervention Tool for Improving Life Satisfaction in Seniors

- Project funded by the Frank Beveridge Stanley Foundation, Massachusetts

A Demonstration of the Effectiveness of a Therapeutic Intervention Tool for Improving Life Satisfaction in Seniors: Part II

- Project funded by the Ellen Abbott Gilman Trust, Massachusetts

Health Facilities for Northampton Seniors

- Capital project funded by the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts

Fostering Effective Integration

- Project funded by the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of Massachusetts

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Massachusetts/Amherst

Departmental Honors in Sociology, Magna Cum Laude

Phi Theta Kappa, Greenfield Community College

Massachusetts Gerontology Association graduate student paper awards:

- Exploring the Relationship of Lottery Play and Religiosity in a Sample of Western Massachusetts Older Adults, 2000
- Socioeconomic, Policy and Workplace Implications of Elder Care Benefits, 1999
- A Review of OBRA-87 and Nursing Home Patient Restraint, 1998

INTERNSHIPS

Legislative intern for state Senator Richard T. Moore, Boston, MA, 2000-2002

- Drafted legislation for long-term care insurance bill
- Researched long-term care insurance options and senior care organizations
- Assessed options for enhancing long-term care insurance and senior care organizations

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Member, SAMHSA Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee, 2020-present

Member, Massachusetts Council on Developmental Disabilities, 2018-present

Member, City of Northampton Elected Officials Compensation Advisory Board, 2014-present

Adult Basic Education Tutor, Career Point, 2010

Member, Classical Voice of New England Advisory Board, 2008

Member, City of Northampton Bike/ Pedestrian Committee, 2008

Fund-raiser and Volunteer Coordinator, Academy of Music in Northampton, 2007-2008

Mentor, Wisdom Works: Building Better Communities, National Council on Aging, 2006-2007

Counselor, SHINE, 2005-2007

Member, Belchertown Council on Aging, 2005-2006

Member, Ways & Means Committee, Amherst Woman's Club, 2003-2006

Ombudsman, WestMass ElderCare, Inc., 2003-2004

Chair, Fundraising Committee, Massachusetts Association of Older Americans, 2000-2003

Secretary, Massachusetts Gerontology Association, 2002-2003

Membership Chair, Massachusetts Gerontology Association, 2000-2002

Committee Member, National Council on Problem Gambling, 2000-2003

Student representative, Membership & Public Policy Committees, The Gerontological Society of America, 2000-2004

Editor-in-Chief of GeroNews, graduate student newsletter, 1999-2000

SAMPLE PRESENTATIONS

Higgins, J. (October, 2000). A policy analysis of senior center gambling trips. Presentation given at the 14th National Conference on Problem Gambling, Philadelphia, PA.

Higgins, J. (November, 2001). The GAME Plan: A comprehensive policy analysis of and recommendations for senior center gambling trips. Poster presentation given at the 53rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Washington, DC.

Higgins, J. (February, 2001). The GAME Plan: A comprehensive policy analysis of and recommendations for senior center gambling trips. Presentation given at the 8th Annual Florida Conference on Compulsive Gambling, Longwood, FL.

Higgins, J. (April, 2002). Analysis of Gambling as a Programmatic Option in Senior Centers. Presentation given at the Responsible Gambling Council Discovery 2002 Conference, Ontario, Canada.

Higgins, J. (November, 2002). Older Adult Problem Gambling: A New Challenge for Treatment, Prevention, and Community-Based Care Settings. Symposium organization and presentation given at the 55th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA.

Higgins, J. (September, 2007). Clinical Research Opportunities: Understanding the Research Process and Its Many Benefits. Presentation given at the regular monthly meeting of the Worthington Council on Aging.

Higgins, J. (May, 2014). Integrated Health Professionals: A New Career Path. Presentation given at the Commonwealth Workforce Coalition Meeting, Sturbridge, MA.

Higgins, J. (October, 2016). Mental Health Disparities: It's more than just numbers. Presentation given at the Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Conference, Holyoke, MA.