

Where are They Now?



Name: Kerri Collins

Class of: MSW Spring 2018

First job after graduation: Tuckamore Youth Treatment Centre, Eastern Health

Subsequent jobs:

I began working at Tuckamore two weeks prior to my MSW convocation. I have been working as a social worker since 2000, and have primarily worked in the areas of mental health, addictions, youth homelessness and sexual exploitation. This opportunity at Tuckamore has really been a full circle experience, given I started my career in Health and Community Services.

Where are you now?

My position is currently temporary, full-time in a Clinical Social Work role responsible for the coordination of referrals, intake and screening.

What's your favourite part of being a social worker?

By far, it's seeing people succeed by however they define it. I have been privileged to have witnessed resilience on so many levels, and it is inspiring to see the determination and courage people have, many times in despite of the circumstance.

What advice would you give to prospective students considering social work as a profession?

Take care of yourself and each other.

Favourite memory of your ...

Class: I don't know if I could pin point one particular memory. My favourite part of the program was the people I met along the way, and what I learned from them.

Time at the School of Social Work: I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to complete my MSW practicum with the Field Education Team. I learned so much from Cheryl, Sheri, Joan and Lisa - these strong women know their stuff! While completing the Teaching Skills Enhancement Program through Graduate Studies, I also had the opportunity to be mentored by Cheryl, which has definitely reignited my passion for teaching!

Time at Memorial: Convocation Day! I did the MSW program over seven semesters. With two small children, and life that happened along the way, I often wondered if I would make it. Convocation Day was a proud moment of "I did it"!

Any personal or professional highlights or milestones you'd like to share? (E.g. Have you won an award? Do you have a child or other family member who has followed you into the profession? Have you retired and taken on a new challenge or hobby?)

I did get to share my convocation with my oldest, Beck, who also had his preschool graduation the same week! My youngest, Bower, coined the term "Happy Congraduation"!

