

Kyle H. O'Brien, PhD, DHSc, MSOT, LCSW, OTR/L

Southern Connecticut State University
School of Health and Human Services
Department of Social Work
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EDUCATION

	New York University , New York, NY
05/2017	PhD Doctor of Philosophy <i>Social Work</i>
05/2015	Certificate Integrated Primary and Behavioral Health Care
05/2008	MSW Master of Social Work <i>Advanced Clinical Practice</i>
	Nova Southeastern University , Fort Lauderdale, FL
09/2015	DHSc Doctor of Health Science <i>Health Science</i>
	Sacred Heart University , Fairfield, CT
08/2011	MSOT Master of Science <i>Occupational Therapy</i>
	Gateway Community College , New Haven, CT
05/2009	Certificate Gerontology
05/2009	Certificate Substance Abuse Counseling
	Southern Connecticut State University , New Haven, CT
05/2007	BSW Bachelor of Social Work <i>with minors in Psychology and Sociology</i>

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

	<u>Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT</u>
08/2017-Present	Assistant Professor; Tenure Track Department of Social Work
08/2016-05/2017	Part Time Lecturer Department of Social Work
	<u>New York University, New York, NY</u>
09/2015-05/2016	Adjunct Lecturer/Field Work Instructor Silver School of Social Work
08/2014-05/2017	Doctoral Research Fellow McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research
	<u>Gateway Community College, New Haven, CT</u>
09/2012-12/2012	Curriculum Evaluation & Redesign Educational Assistant Department of Social Sciences, Human Services Program
01/2009-Present	Part-Time Lecturer; Level II Department of Social Sciences

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- *Integrated Primary and Behavioral Health Care*
- *Interprofessional Practice*
- *Positive Psychology & Positive Neuroscience*
- *Patient Engagement, Hope, and Motivation*
- *Burn Injuries & Rehabilitation*
- *Aging and Gerontology*
- *Illness and Disability*

TEACHING INTERESTS

- *Interprofessional Education*
 - *Distance Learning Education*
 - *Student Centered Education*
 - *Adult Learning & Non-Traditional Students*
 - *Human Behavior & Social Work Practice*
 - *Health Sciences & OT Practice*
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 RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2014-2017 **Doctoral Research Fellow** | McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research, New York, NY
 Mentors: Mary McKay, PhD, MSW; Jennifer Manuel, PhD, LMSW
- Served as an administrator for the Advanced Certificate Program in Integrated Primary and Behavioral Health Care and assisted with its development and implementation
 - Developed and implemented a transtheoretical evaluation tool for the Advanced Certificate Program
 - Assisted in the development, data collection, and evaluation of a Robin Hood Funded study integrating primary care and mental health services for children in the Bronx, New York
 - Synthesized extant literature on focused topics, identified gaps in existing research, and formulated research questions and hypotheses
 - Wrote, edited, prepared, and revised manuscripts for publication
 - Completed and submitted a NIH LRP grant application
 - Served as a Field Instructor for macro-level, research focused MSW students
 - Developed and proposed an innovative way to perform the diagnostic interview using a positive psychology approach based on the neuroscience of novelty and motivation. This proposed approach was published in *JAACAP*
 - Assisted in the planning phase of a pilot study to test the previously published approach to the diagnostic interview, in collaboration with Bellevue Hospital, New York, in the Adolescent and Child Psychiatry Clinic
- 2013-2014 **Chairperson** | Evidence Based Practice Group; Constellation Health Services, Norwalk, CT
- Identified extant evidence from journals and databases to answer clinical questions posed by therapists
 - Disseminated evidence-based information relevant to clinical practice to all therapists
 - Compiled and organized evidence-based information using innovative and easily accessible methods for therapists to access when in the field
- 2011-2012 **Volunteer Research Assistant** | Department of Social Work, Southern CT State University
 Mentor: Stephen Monroe Tomczak, PhD, LMSW
- Assisted with the development and implementation of a survey tool to assess the impact of a lobby day training program and annual lobby day event for undergraduate and graduate social work students
 - Assisted with data entry and dataset cleaning using SPSS
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PUBLICATIONS

8. **O'Brien, K.H.**, & Lushin, V. (under review). Examining the impact of psychological factors on hospital length of stay for burn survivors: A systematic review.
7. **O'Brien, K. H.**, Acri, M., Campanelli, P., Cerniglia, J., & McKay, M. (in press). Retooling the health care workforce in the era of the Affordable Care Act: An evaluation of an advanced certificate program in integrated primary and behavioral health care. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*.
6. Gopalan, G., Bornheimer, L.A., Acri, M., Winters, A., **O'Brien, K.**, Chacko, A., & McKay, M. (in press). Multiple family group service delivery model for children with disruptive behavior disorders: Impact on caregiver stress and depressive symptoms. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*.

5. Acri, M., Zhang, S., Chomanczuk, A.H., **O'Brien, K.**, Mini de Zitella, M., Scrofani, P., Velez, L., Garay, E., Sezer, S., Little, V., Cleek, A., & McKay, M. (in press). Barriers and facilitators to screening efforts in pediatric primary care: Implications for communities impacted by poverty. *Journal of Family Studies*.
4. Lushin, V. & **O'Brien, K.H.** (2016). Parental mental health: Addressing the unmet needs of caregivers for children with autism spectrum disorder. *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry* 55(12), 1013-1015. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jaac.2016.09.507>
3. Acri, M.C., Bornheimer, L.A., **O'Brien, K.**, Sezer, S., Little, V., Cleek, A., & McKay, M.M. (2016). A model of integrated health care in a poverty-impacted community In New York City: Importance of early detection and addressing potential barriers to intervention implementation. *Social Work in Health Care* 55(4), 314-327. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00981389.2015.1137256>
2. **O'Brien, K.H.** & Schlechter, A. (2016). Is talking about what's wrong necessarily right: A positive perspective on the diagnostic interview. *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry* 55(4), 262-264. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jaac.2015.12.016>
1. Campanelli, P.C., **O'Brien, K.H.**, Lebron, D., & Cerniglia, J. (2016). Meeting the challenges of healthcare reform: Preparing the workforce for transformational practice change. *Behavioral Health News*, 3(3), pp, 6, 34. http://mhnews.org/back_issues/BHN-Spring2016.pdf

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

1. **O'Brien, K.** (in progress). Social determinants of health: The how, who, and where. A systematic review. Progress: In final writing phase.

DISSERTATION AND DOCTORAL REQUIREMENTS

- O'Brien, K.H.** (2017). *Beneath the Surface: A Call for Integrating Health and Mental Health Care for Burn Survivors*. PhD Dissertation. New York University.
- O'Brien, K.H.** (2015). *Professorship Beyond Teaching*. Doctoral Internship. Nova Southeastern University.
- O'Brien, K.H.** (2015). *Teaching Positive Psychology*. Doctoral Practicum. Nova Southeastern University.
- O'Brien, K.H.** (2015). *Doctoral Objective Analysis*. Doctoral Capstone. Nova Southeastern University.

PRESENTATIONS

1. **O'Brien, K.H.** (January 2013). *Occupational Therapy Strategies for Handwriting Skills: A Training for Paraprofessionals and Classroom Aides*. Norwalk Public Schools, Norwalk, CT.

GRANTS & COMPETITIVE FUNDING

\$3,974	2017 Southern Connecticut State University Faculty Development Grant: Sustaining Conversations on Racism, Identity, and Our Mutual Humanity: An In-service Opportunity for the Faculty in the Social Service Professions , for O'Brien, K. , Aguilar, J., Keenan, E. & Hoffer, S.
\$1,864.74	2017 Gateway Community College Foundation Professional Development Grant: Aging and Dementia Simulation Kits for Innovative Teaching
\$1,000	2017 B. Robert Williamson Jr. Foundation Adaptive Leadership Fellowship , New York University Silver School of Social Work
\$34,779	2016-2017 New York University Silver School of Social Work Doctoral Program Research Fellowship

\$58,129	2015-2016 New York University Silver School of Social Work Doctoral Program Research Fellowship
\$61,999	2014-2015 New York University Silver School of Social Work Doctoral Program Research Fellowship
\$5,000	2011-2012 Sacred Heart University Occupational Therapy Program Graduate Research Assistantship

TEACHING

COURSES

08/2016 – Present	<p>Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT <u>Department of Social Work</u> SWK 320 BSW – Human Behavior and the Social Environment I SWK 382 BSW – Social Work with Elders HON 494 BSW – Social Work Departmental Honors Thesis Prospectus HON 495 BSW – Social Work Departmental Honors Thesis SWK 572 MSW – Social Work Practicum III and Capstone Proposal Seminar SWK 573 MSW – Social Work Practicum IV and Capstone Seminar</p>
01/2009 – Present	<p>Gateway Community College, New Haven, CT <u>Department of Social Sciences</u> HSE 101 AS – Introduction to Human Services SOC 114 AS – Sociology of Aging (re-developed curriculum/master syllabus) PSY 209 AS – Psychology of Aging (re-developed curriculum/master syllabus)</p>

INVITED LECTURES

Spring 2018	<p>Gateway Community College, New Haven, CT Department of Social Sciences First Year Experience Program <i>The Role of Social Work in Assessing for and Addressing Social Determinants of Health – Exploring Health, Healthcare and Human Services in a Dynamic Society (IDS 114)</i></p>
Fall 2008	<p>Department of Social Sciences Human Services Program <i>Career Paths in Gerontology and Case Management Skills – Introduction to Human Services (HSE 101)</i></p>

RELEVANT CLINICAL & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2011 – 2014	<p>Constellation Health Services Norwalk, CT Level III Pediatric Occupational Therapist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administered screenings and evaluations, interpreted results, and determined recommendations for pediatric populations • Developed, implemented, and monitored treatment and intervention strategies utilizing a continuum of service delivery models • Provided skilled treatment to children with physical disabilities and mental health diagnoses to enhance their ability to fully access and be successful in the academic environment • Participated in the IEP process and engaged in consensual decision making with school teams • Communicated effectively with personnel, administrators, parents, and community members • Provided accurate documentation of assessment and intervention results
2011 – 2012	<p>The Connecticut Burn Center at Bridgeport Hospital Bridgeport, CT Per-Diem Occupational Therapist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluated functional abilities and limitations status-post injury • Established a plan of care and treatment goals by identifying and prioritizing key limiting factors and assessed ongoing effectiveness

- Collaborated with and provided education to patient and family as well as other members of the inter-professional burn team
- Provided comprehensive early rehabilitation intervention to the ICU burn patient to limit loss of range of motion, reduce edema, prevent contractures via splinting and anti-deformity positioning, increase strength and range of motion, ADL training, and scar management
- Provided skilled treatment with an emphasis on restoring daily living skills, functional mobility, pain relief, and the prevention of permanent disabilities (i.e. scarring or contractures)
- Provided psychosocial support to patients after facing minor to life threatening burn injuries to prepare for therapy sessions and to adjust to potentially permanent changes in physical characteristics and abilities
- Worked closely with interprofessional burn care team by providing and carrying over recommendations to ensure quality patient care and successful rehabilitation outcomes
- Supported patients to promote their rights and acted as a patient advocate as necessary

2011 – 2012

The Mary Wade Home | New Haven, CT

Pro-Bono Geriatric Clinical Social Worker

- Performed comprehensive psychosocial assessments during admission process and during quarterly and annual reassessment of residents
- Evaluated, developed, implemented, and monitored plans of care to meet stated social work goals

2011

The Connecticut Burn Center at Bridgeport Hospital | Bridgeport, CT

Occupational Therapy Level II Fieldwork Student

- See above per-diem position for description of responsibilities

2010

Gaylord Specialty Healthcare | Wallingford, CT

Occupational Therapy Level II Fieldwork Student

- Evaluated and treated patients' neuromuscular, cognitive, and psychosocial skills as they impacted occupational performance and independent living
- Developed and implemented individualized rehabilitation programs to help patients rebuild lost skills and restore lost confidence
- Provided recommendations to the interprofessional team to enhance the care and functions of patients
- Worked with medically-complex patients: stroke, spinal cord injuries, traumatic brain injuries, musculoskeletal injuries, cardiac conditions, neurological conditions and multi-systemic injuries
- Supported patients to promote their rights and acted as a patient advocate as necessary

2008 – 2009

Area Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut | New Haven, CT

Geriatric Case Manager

- Provided highest standard of care management to older adults wishing to remain safely in their communities/homes
- Conducted in home assessments of older adults and families
- Participated in the process of client discharge from hospitals and nursing homes in order to coordinate homecare services
- Monitored and reviewed continued appropriateness of developed care plans, making revisions where necessary
- Advocated on behalf of client and/or family in health related matters, procurement of services, and entitled benefits
- Mobilized and coordinated efforts of community and familial resources as necessary
- Assisted with institutional placements as needed
- Initiated and participated in the conservator process of clients when necessary

- 2007 – 2008 **Connecticut Hospice, Inc.** | Branford, CT
 Clinical Social Work Intern
- Assessed patient and family social and emotional factors in order to estimate capacity and potential to cope with illness, terminal condition, and/or death
 - Consulted with interprofessional team members to develop an appropriate plan of care
 - Counseled patients and/or family members experiencing emotional, social, or economic conflict
 - Attended patient interprofessional group meetings and facilitated discussion of issues relating to the psychosocial component of home-hospice care
 - Assisted patient, family, and hospice team members in mobilizing community resources
- 2006 – 2007 **State of Connecticut Public Defender Services** | New Haven, CT
 Social Work Intern
- Carried a caseload of five clients, assessed their mental health and substance use status, made appropriate referrals to community agencies and recommendations to the court
 - Conducted and wrote biopsychosocial assessments for individuals receiving public defender services
- 2005 **Sister Anne Virginie Grimes Health Center** | New Haven, CT
 Social Work Student
- Helped residents maintain baseline cognitive and physical function
 - Enabled residents to function as independently as possible by encouraging residents to achieve their fullest potential
 - Offered the residents meaningful and enjoyable activities including one on one room visits and reminiscing activities
 - Completed in-depth life reviews on residents and explored various life goals including discharge planning

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

- 11/2012- Present Licensed Clinical Social Worker | LCSW
State of Florida | License #SW11111
- 12/2011-Present **State of Connecticut** | License #7861
- 09/2011-Present Registered Occupational Therapist, Licensed | OTR/L
State of Connecticut | License #3833
- 08/2011-Present **National Board Certification in Occupational Therapy** | Certification #287346
- 05/2009-Present Certified School Social Worker
State of Connecticut Department of Education | Certification #C042012001685
- 03/2016 LGBTQ Safe Zone Certified
New York University Student Center for the LGBTQ Community
- 02/2016 Mental Health First Aid
National Council for Behavioral Health
- 02/2016 Flourishing Skills Group Certified Facilitator
The Flourishing Center
- 02/2016 Level 1 Certified Handwriting Specialist
Handwriting Without Tears | Certification #1726
- 12/2015 Seminar in Field Instruction (Social Work) [SIFI]
New York University, Silver School of Social Work

	<u>Social & Behavioral Research & Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)</u>
09/2015 - 09/2019	Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative [CITI Program]
	<u>Certified Financial Social Worker [CFSW]</u>
08/2015	Center for Financial Social Work
	<u>Certified Applied Positive Psychology Practitioner [CAPP]</u>
03/2015	The Flourishing Center
	<u>Certified We Need to Talk Driver Safety Facilitator</u>
10/2014	AARP & AOTA
	<u>Certified AOTA Fieldwork Educator</u>
05/2014	American Occupational Therapy Association
	<u>iTeach Essentials</u> (pedagogical and technical best practices for distance learning education)
08/2012	Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium

HONORS & AWARDS

2016	Dean's Award for Innovation in Social Work Practice , New York University Silver School of Social Work (<i>honors a student who demonstrates creativity and innovation in social work practice through a project, proposal or paper that includes an assessment to identify needed change or growth potential in an agency or community, a plan for making the change, and a description of implementing the change</i>)
2015	Alpha Eta Allied Health Professions National Honor Society member, Nu Sigma Upsilon Chapter
2015	Phi Alpha Social Work National Honor Society member, Pi Pi Chapter
2010	Pi Theta Epsilon Occupational Therapy National Honor Society member, Gamma Nu Chapter
2007	Phi Alpha Social Work National Honor Society member, Beta Rho Chapter
2007	2007 Henry Barnard Distinguished Student Award , The Connecticut State University System Foundation (<i>awarded in acknowledgment of outstanding academic achievement and community service, to twelve recipients chosen among 4,000 graduating seniors; three students from each of the four Connecticut State Universities</i>)
2007	Dean's Award , Southern Connecticut State University School of Health & Human Services (<i>awarded to one recipient chosen among students from six academic majors</i>)
2007	BSW Excellence Award , Southern Connecticut State University, Department of Social Work
2007	Magna Cum Laude , Southern Connecticut State University

SERVICE

NATIONAL

2017 – Present	Cochrane Citizen Scientist volunteer to help categorize and summarize health care evidence to inform diagnostic and treatment health care decisions
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UNIVERSITY

2017 – Present	Graduate Council Member for the School of Graduate Studies, Research, and Innovation at Southern Connecticut State University
2017 – Present	Department Champion for University-Wide Breastfeeding Initiative for the School of Health and Human Services at Southern Connecticut State University
2017 – Present	Notifications Management Committee (NMC) Member for Southern Connecticut State University (receives, considers, and evaluates proposals for new courses, revisions of existing courses and revisions of existing programs)
2017 – Present	University Curriculum Forum Social Work Department Representative for Southern Connecticut State University (Department Elected)
2017 – Present	Bachelor of Health Science (BHSc) Degree Program Development Workgroup; Social Work and Occupational Therapy Representative for the School of Health and Human Services at Southern Connecticut State University (Dean Appointed)

- 2017 – Present **Interprofessional Education Program Committee Member** for the School of Health and Human Services at Southern Connecticut State University
- 2017 – Present **Social Work Curriculum Committee Member** for the Department of Social Work at Southern Connecticut State University
- 2017 – Present **Social Work Practice Sequence Committee Member** for the Department of Social Work at Southern Connecticut State University
- 2017 – Present **Doctor of Social Work (DSW) Faculty Core Member** for the Department of Social Work at Southern Connecticut State University
- 2017 – Present **Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Faculty Core Member** for the Department of Social Work at Southern Connecticut State University
- 2016 – 2017 **Doctoral Program Committee (DPC) PhD Candidate Representative** for the Silver School of Social Work PhD Program at New York University (Faculty Appointed)
- 2016 – 2017 **Master of Social Work (MSW) Faculty Core Part-Time Faculty Voting Representative** for the Social Work Department at Southern Connecticut State University (Faculty Appointed)
- 2006 – 2007 **Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Student Voting Representative** for the Social Work Department at Southern Connecticut State University (Faculty Appointed)

EDITORIAL

- 2016 **Invited Reviewer** for textbook manuscript *Spirituality and Older Adults: Implications for Mental Health Practice* by Holly Nelson-Becker, SAGE Publications.
- 2015 **Invited Reviewer** for textbook manuscript *Fundamentals of Helping Relationships with Older Adults* by Adelle M. Williams, SAGE Publications.
- 2013 **Invited Reviewer** for textbook proposal *Fundamentals of Helping Relationships with Older Adults* by Adelle M. Williams, SAGE Publications.

COMMUNITY

- 2017 – Present **Palliative Care Interprofessional Workshop Committee Member/Facilitator; Social Work Representative** for the Yale University School of Medicine
- 2013 – 2014 **Chairperson** for the Evidence-Based Practice Group of Constellation Health Services, Norwalk, CT
- 2011 **Clinical Social Work Volunteer** for The Mary Wade Home, New Haven, Connecticut
- 2008 – 2009 **Social Work Volunteer** for CancerCare's children support group, Crafting Ways to Cope, Whittingham Cancer Center, Norwalk Hospital, Norwalk, Connecticut
- Assisted with facilitating a support group for children ages 3+ who have a parent diagnosed with cancer
 - Used arts and crafts as a primary means of emotional expression and to elicit group discussion
- 2006 – 2010 **Volunteer Captain & Athlete Escort** for the Connecticut Special Olympics Summer Games, New Haven, CT

RESEARCH MENTORSHIP/SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE

- 2016 – Present **Capstone Thesis/Translational Research Advisor** for Advanced Practice MSW Students, Southern Connecticut State University Social Work Department
- 2015- 2016 **Research & Administrative Fieldwork Supervisor** for Joseph Cerniglia, MSW student, New York University, McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research
- 2015 **Research Mentor** for Jaimee Betts, OTD student, St. Catherine University, for the Occupation, Participation, and Justice doctoral course project entitled "Hope and life satisfaction in a skilled nursing facility"
- 2015 **Research Project Supervisor** for Maria Latorre, MSW student, New York University, McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research
- 2013 **Capstone Community Based Research Mentor** Sacred Heart University Graduate Occupational Therapy Program (3 MSOT students); "Learning in Motion: The biological basis for the importance of movement for learning"

FIELDWORK SUPERVISION

- 2016 – Present **Fieldwork Liason for Advanced Practice MSW Students**, Southern Connecticut State University
2015 – 2016 **Fieldwork Instructor**, New York University, MSW Advanced Standing Fieldwork Student
2014 **Fieldwork Educator**, Housatonic Community College, Occupational Therapy Assistant Level 2 Student
2013 **Fieldwork Educator**, Sacred Heart University, Graduate Occupational Therapy Level 1 Students (2)
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ADVISEMENT

- 2017 – Present **Undergraduate Student Advisor** (34 Students) Southern Connecticut State University, Social Work Department
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DOCTORAL COMMITTEES

- 2017 – Present **Member**, Jaimee Hegge (OTD Candidate), *A pilot professional development program for occupational therapy practitioners who work in home settings: Knowledge translation on urinary incontinence*, Proposal defended 12/14/17, St. Catherine University, Henrietta Schmoll School of Health
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THESIS MENTORSHIP/SUPERVISION

- 2017 – Present **Honors Thesis Faculty Advisor**, Bethany Meyer (Undergraduate BSW Candidate), *Effects of newborn care on paternal stress*, Southern Connecticut State University, Social Work Department
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PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2011 – Present Connecticut Occupational Therapy Association (**CONNOTA**)
2009 – Present American Occupational Therapy Association (**AOTA**)
2007 – Present National Association of Social Workers Connecticut Chapter (**NASW-CT**)
2007 – Present National Association of Social Workers (**NASW**)
2005 – 2007 Social Welfare Organization (**SWO**)
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