

GOV. MSG. NO. 551

Amanda M. Luning,
LMHC, IECMH-E®

Director, administrator, project manager, writer, speaker, listener, collaborator. Detail-oriented, and firm believer in 'good enough.' Resilient forward mover with a strong desire to be a part of genuine, smart, kind, balanced, and creative solution-focused work. Quick and curious learner and highly independent as needed. Advisor, consultant, mentor, teacher, and endless student.

FORMAL EDUCATION:

Doctoral Candidate Doctor of Public Health: Leadership, Advocacy, and Equity (Tulane University-2026)

Master of Science in Counseling Psychology: Marriage and Family Therapy (Chaminade University-2014)

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration: Human Resources and Project Management (Colorado Technical University-2005)

Associate of Applied Science/Human Services: Early Childhood Education (Honolulu Community College-2002)

SKILLS & CREDENTIALS

Licensed Mental Health Counselor (State of Hawaii, License# MHC-444)

Endorsed®-Infant Mental Health Mentor-Clinical/Early Childhood Family Associate (Alliance for the Advancement of Infant Mental Health) and Alliance Reflective Supervision/Consultation Registry Provider and Trainer

Rostered-Child/Parent Psychotherapist (Trained-New Orleans Cohort-2015-2017, Dr. Jay Osofsky)

Certificate in Project Management

Highly Proficient in Microsoft Office 365 Professional Plus

RECENT WORK EXPERIENCE:

HAWAII FASD ACTION GROUP, KANEHOE/HONOLULU, HI:

Executive Director-August 2024-present

- Public health awareness and systemic policy advocacy in Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) and other underdeveloped medical and public understandings of behavior and neurodiversity.
- Responsible for transitioning an all-volunteer 501c3 non-profit to project-based staff/sub-contractor operations, including grants and contract management, under a systemic integration framework.

THE SALVATION ARMY FAMILY TREATMENT SERVICES (SAFTS), HONOLULU, HI:

Clinical Director – October 2020-July 2024

- In close collaboration with the Executive Director, served in leadership to accomplish the objectives and goals of the agency in accordance with established values, mission, and vision of Family Treatment Services.
- Updated and maintains all Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement, Performance, Accessibility, Technology and Cultural Competency Plans as well as ongoing strategic and sustainability planning.
- Data collection, evaluation and reporting, compliance, grant writing and contract management.
- Managed all departments across the continuum of care of services, including residential, therapeutic living, transitional housing, outpatient programming, outreach, and infant mental health and family services.
- Worked in the community and maintained good relationships with partners and collaborators that support the growth and healing of the families at SAFTS.

Infant Mental Health/Reflective Practice Coordinator - June 2020 - October 2020

- Developed a unique Infant Mental Health (IMH) and Family Services model and offering following a significant organizational restructure at SAFTS, such as writing (new-to-the-state) job requirements that include Infant Mental Health-Endorsement®.
- Continue to manage Family Services at SAFTS, as well begin implementation of competency in IMH and reflective practice with staffing across the service continuum.
- Continue to serve on treatment and joint management teams, community advocacy for specialized Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment programs for Pregnant and Parenting Women with Dependent Children (PPWDC), such as the Med Quest Request for Information (RFI) advisory committee on reimbursement and services models for Infant and Early Childhood Behavior Health.

Parent/Child Services Manager - November 2015 - June 2020

- Managed the Parent/Child Services Department at SAFTS, including a Therapeutic Nursery Program (with a Child & Youth Services accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities [CARF] in conjunction with the SAFTS PPWDC Residential and Outpatient SUD Treatment Program) and served as the Director of two State of Hawaii Department of Human Services (DHS) Licensed Child-Care programs with 10-15 staff.
- Completed Comprehensive Developmental Evaluations (CDE) on children ages 2 weeks to 6 years and dyadic parenting assessments as well as developed Family Service Plans based on the needs of the dyad as well as direct clinical services, including Child/Parent Psychotherapy.
- Coordinated and supervised a team of clinical and multidisciplinary service providers including therapists, coaches, clinical interns, therapeutic caregivers, and volunteers. Provided regular reflective, clinical, and administrative supervision for staffing.
- Met regularly with interdisciplinary clinical teams for treatment planning, care-coordination, and comprehensive strategizing for mother/baby dyads in SUD treatment.
- Served on joint and program management teams, safety committee and various planning committees.
- Collected and reported out on data in areas such as: services outputs, client satisfaction and child and dyadic clinical outcomes.
- Represented on various community boards and advisory groups that supported at-risk young children in their families as well as work with community partners such as: Hawai'i Executive Office on Early Learning, Early Childhood Action Strategy, Hawai'i Maternal and Infant Health Collaborative, Collation for a Drug Free Hawai'i, Kapiolani Community College-Service Learning Program, and The Chaminade University-Mental Health Counseling Program.
- Supported execution of various grants that increased quality services to PPWDC clients such as: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), The Office of Native Hawaiian Affairs, The Hawai'i Community Foundation: Children's Trust Fund, The Ester McClure Stubblefield Fund, and the Samuel and Mary Castle Foundation.

TRAINING & SPECIALIZATIONS

Historical and Systemic Trauma and Oppression, Social Considerations in Health, Infant Early Childhood Mental Health, Attachment, Human and Child Development, Reflective Practice, Prenatal Substance Exposure/FASD, Ethics, Behavior Intervention, Parenting Education, Trauma Responsive Care, and Holistic Approaches in Public Health

Community Speaker/Trainer -

P.A.R.E.N.T.S. Inc., University of Hawai'i: Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work and the John A. Burns School of Medicine, INPEACE, Department of Health: Maternal and Child Health Branch, Learning to Grow, Early Head Start, Hawai'i Health Workforce Summit, P.A.T.C.H.

International/National Presentations:

World Associate for Infant Mental Health, Alliance of Global Neonatal Nursing, The Change Companies

AFFILIATIONS & PROJECTS

Zero to Three - Finance Policy Project-Hawai'i Core Team (2023-present) - Primary Advising Clinician

Association for Infant Mental Health in Hawai'i (AIMHHI): Board Member (2017-present) - Current Public Awareness and Advocacy Committee Co-Chair (former Endorsement Committee Chair).

Hawai'i Community Foundation

Promising Minds Initiative (2019-present) With the Association for Infant Mental Health in Hawai'i (AIMHHI) co-wrote, developed, and provided implementation for the initial Promising Minds Fellows Program designed to increase the pool of competent Infant and Early Childhood Behavioral Health Professionals in Hawai'i. Ongoing advisory capacity.

Alliance for the Advancement of Infant Mental Health-Exam Review Task Force (2023-2024)-reviewed reliability and equity issues and made recommendations to Alliance on changes to traditional exam administration and review processes.

Honolulu Community Action Program (HCAP)-Trauma Informed Care

Implementation (2020-2022) - With AIMHHI, wrote proposal, developed pilot, and provided direct service support for a Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) Pilot Program for Early Head Start locations across the state.

- **Special Projects:** Organized and implemented a state-wide Child/Parent Psychotherapy training cohort at SAFTS, resulting in 8 additional specialty rostered clinicians; coordinated a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Family Hui Hawai'i to run LENA Start (an achievement gap research and implementation program) parenting cohorts at SAFTS; collaborated with the Consuelo Foundation and case management, housing and outpatient team members to provide special access to the Vivian & Violet Special Fund (VVSF) to support unique gap needs of SAFTS families.

Family/Play Therapist - June 2015-November 2015

- Provided direct client services, including couples counseling, parent/child therapy, play therapy and family therapy to clients across the continuum of services at SAFTS.
- Taught classes in the areas of parenting education and healthy relationships and supported in training of Therapeutic Nursery staff.

OHANA MATTERS FAMILY SERVICES (SELF-EMPLOYED), WAHIAWA/MILILANI, HI

Child and Family Wellness Consultant/Therapist - June 2013-present

- Child and family wellness consultation to individuals, groups, and programs in Infant Mental Health, Trauma Informed Care, and Reflective Practice. Psycho-educational workshops for parents and caregivers of young children based on principles in early child development; therapeutic visitation supervision for non-custodial parents in high-conflict divorces; individual and family psychoeducational health, nutrition planning, and self-development coaching.
- Child/Parent Psychotherapy (CPP), Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), individual and family counseling.

MARK H. BERNSTEIN, MD, INC., WAHIAWA, HI

Mental Health Practice Management/Patient Advocacy - February 2005-September 2015

- Held complete management responsibilities of a private psychiatry practice.
- Medical and insurance billing, contract review, audit support, HIPPA compliance, credentialing, and all daily administration.
- Conducted psychiatric patient advocacy, collaborative coordination of care, referral assistance and treatment planning.

VOLUNTEERING, INTERESTS & LIVED-EXPERIENCE:

- **Hawai'i FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders) Action Group (2016-2024)** - Actively participated in legislative advocacy, including bill development, written and in-person testimony, meetings with local legislators and coordination with like-minded advocacy groups and individuals to move legislation and policies that support public awareness and individuals and families affect by FASD; community trainings and State-wide FASD Conferences.
- **One-by-One Haiti-Maissade, Haiti (2004-2018)**-Sponsor and medical/education volunteer for health/school advocacy programs
- **Queen Julia Kapiolani Civic Club-(2022-present)** Member & Event Volunteer
- **SMALLIFY Rapid Innovation Labs (2019)**- cross sector team collaboration that developed and piloted a Parent Appreciation Program (**Mahalo Moments**) to be sponsored by local businesses.
- **Common Grace**-start-up volunteer mentor (2002-2005)

*Daughter, little sister, big sister, mother, wife, aunty, cousin, endless and forever friend.
Aware of fortune and fate, time and place, land and water, skin and bones.
Forest restorer, food grower, dog and cat lover equally.*

*Nurturer, believer, doubter, and wonderer. World traveler, mistake-maker, obnoxious
laugher, benefit-of-the-doubt giver. Pain feeler, trauma healer, peace seeker. Constant
skeptic, hopeless optimist, confused and curious wanderer.*

Grateful to be here and continuing to believe maybe we can all just get along.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST