

Kelly Myers Sugahara, LCSW

Ph.D. Candidate

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April 2026

Education

PhD in Social Work and Social Research Candidate	2016-present	Portland State University, Portland, Oregon
Graduate Certificate: Gender, Race, and Nations	2018	Portland State University, Portland, Oregon
MA: Irish Studies, Identities and Representations	2016	University College Cork, Ireland
MSW: Combined Macro and Clinical	2006	The Catholic University of America,
BA in Social Work, minor Religion	2004	Washington, DC

Professional Licenses

2016 Licensed Clinical Social Worker, State of Oregon
2009 Licensed Clinical Social Worker, State of Hawai'i
2011 Certified Substance Abuse Counselor, State of Hawai'i
2011 Internationally Certified Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor, IC&RC

Academic Employment

Adjunct Professor, Portland State University, September 2019-2023
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Portland State University, September 2018-June 2019
Graduate Research Assistant, The Braid Research Team, Portland State University, November 2017-March 2019
Graduate Research Assistant, Trauma Informed Oregon, September 2016-July 2018

Other Professional Employment

Psychotherapist & Owner, Crow Songs & Wildflowers, LLC, November 2022-present
Psychotherapist, Psychiatry East Clinic, Providence Health, Portland, Oregon November 2023-June 2025
Therapist, Thriveworks, Hawai'i, September 2020-November 2022
Inpatient Social Worker, Providence Health, Portland, Oregon, April 2020-July 2022; June 2023-November 2023
Behavioral Health Consultant, Mosaic Medical, Bend, Oregon, May 2016-July 2019
Outpatient Clinical Supervising Consultant, Rimrock Trails Adolescent Treatment Services, Bend, Oregon
September 2016-December 2017
Outpatient Counselor, Rimrock Trails Adolescent Treatment Services, March-September 2016
Addiction Programs Clinical Manager, The Salvation Army: Family Treatment Services, Honolulu, Hawai'i
August 2013-June 2014
LCSW for the Perinatal Addictions Treatment of Hawai'i (PATH) Clinic, Waikiki Health, Honolulu, Hawai'i
January 2011-July 2013
Recovery Services Coordinator, Parents and Children Together: Ohia Shelter, Kaneohe, Hawai'i
January 2011-April 2011
Primary Counselor, Po'ailani Dual Diagnosis Treatment Center, Kailua, Hawai'i, February 2009-September 2010
Advanced Crisis Counselor, Jordan House, So Others Might Eat, Washington, DC, November 2007-December 2008
Mary Clair House Program Coordinator, So Others Might Eat, Washington, DC, July 2006-October 2007
Advanced Year Intern & On-Call Staff, Jordan House, So Others Might Eat, November 2005-June 2006
Director General, Magdalene House, Maggie's Place, August 2004-August 2005
Case Management Intern, Whitman Walker Clinic, Takoma Park, Maryland, September 2003-May 2004
Intern, Rainbow Support Services, Limerick, Ireland, June-July 2003

Presentations at Professional Meetings

Myers Sugahara, K. & Tellei, J. (2025). Creating a Culture of Care: Learnings from a Case Study of the PATH Clinic. Presented at the Hawai'i Behavioral Health and Wellness Conference, October 23, 2025
Myers Sugahara, K. (2022). Trauma Informed Care: Theory to Praxis. Presented at the Hawai'i Behavioral Health and Wellness Conference, virtual, November 18, 2022.
Wahab, S, Mehrotra, G., & Myers, K. (2021) Slow Scholarship for Social Work: A Praxis of Resistance and

Creativity. Presented at the Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, virtual, January 19-22, 2021.

Myers, K. (2019). The Braid that Binds Gender Based Violence Work. Presented at the Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Conference, Portland, OR, March 2019.

Wahab, S., Mehrotra, G., Kimball, E., Ng Ping Cheung, S., Myers, K. (2018). The Braid that Binds Us. Presented at the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence Annual Conference, Sunriver, Oregon, May 2018.

Inservice Trainings, Workshops, Invited Lectures, and Other Presentations

Myers, K. (2019). Trauma Informed Care. Guest Lecture BSW class at Portland State University, March 12, 2019.

Myers, K. & Gooding, A. (2018) Queering Social Work Education. Presented at the Queering Social Justice Symposium, Portland State University, May 31-June 1, 2018.

Myers, K. (2018). How We Train is How We Frame: Considering the Braid in DV Advocate Training. Presented at WGSS Colloquium: No Imposters Here: Exploring the Personal as Intellectual, Portland State University, April 13, 2018.

Clark-Shim, H., Myers, K., and Gillow-Wiles, A. (2017). Cultural Trauma. Presented as part of SW610 Field Experience: Human and Social Services in Seoul, Korea, June 2017

Myers, K. & Sergi, M. (2017). Trauma-Informed Schools. Inservice Training at Marshal High School, Bend, OR, August 2017.

Myers, K. (2014). Working with Substance Abuse in the Family Court System. Presented to Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA Hawai'i), 2014.

Myers, K. (2012). Harm Reduction with Substance Abusing Women. Presented at Hawai'i Harm Reduction Conference, 2012.

Myers, K. & Franson, A. (2012). De-escalation Techniques. Presented at Waikiki Health All Staff Meeting, 2012.

Myers, K. (2012). Compassion Fatigue. Presented at Waikiki Health All Staff Meeting, 2012.

Myers, K. (2011). Trauma Informed Care. Presented at John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawai'i, 2011.

Honors, Grants, and Fellowships

First Class Honours for Dissertation: *Finding Power in Shame: Exploring the Use of Medieval Irish Narratives in Modern Trauma Treatments to Address Issues of Shame, Humiliation, and Overcoming Dishonour*, University College Cork, 2016

Honors in Classical Philosophy, Catholic University of America, 2004

Magna cum laude, Catholic University of America, 2004

Awarded the *Mary J. Flynn Award* from the National Catholic School of Social Service, 2004

Other Teaching, Mentoring, and Curricular Activities

Courses Taught

Portland State University, Masters of Social Work Program

SW510 Practice Skills for the Treatment of Substance Use Disorders	Winter 2023 (online)
SW512 Advanced MSW Liaison	Autumn 2022, Winter 2023, Spring 2023
SW571 Substance Misuse & Addictions	Autumn 2020(Salem), Spring 2021 (Eugene), Summer 2021 (Online), Spring 2022 (Salem)

SW571 Substance Use Disorders & Social Work Practice	Winter 2020, Autumn 2019 (Eugene), Autumn 2018 (Bend)
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SW511 Field Seminar & Placement	Autumn 2020, Winter 2021, Spring 2021 Autumn 2019, Winter 2020, Spring 2020
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SW510 Behavioral Interventions & Treatment	Autumn 2019 (Online)
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SW555 Social Work Perspectives on Mental Health Disorders	Spring 2019 (Eugene)
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SW558 Abuse & Trauma: Trauma Theory & Intervention	Winter 2019 (Bend)
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SW539 Social Justice in Social Work (TA)	Autumn 2017
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Courses and Programs Developed and/or Redesigned

Course Developer for the MSW Online Degree Project, Portland State University; SW510: *Practice Skills for the*

Treatment of Substance Use Disorders, Summer 2022.

National Council for Behavioral Health Opioid Learning Collaborative Grant, redesigning curricula for substance misuse graduate courses at Portland State University School of Social Work; Redesigned and updated SW571: *Substance Misuse & Addiction*, 2020; Created SW510: *Practice Skills for the Treatment of Substance Use Disorders*, 2021.

Women's Way, redesigned residential substance abuse treatment program to align with allotted treatment schedule, Honolulu, HI, 2013-14

Ke Ola Pono, redesigned outpatient substance abuse treatment program to align with allotted treatment schedule, Honolulu, HI, 2013-14

Mary Claire House, developed supportive housing program, So Others Might Eat, Washington, DC, 2006.

Community Engagement Achievements and Activities

Sugahara Foundation Philanthropy Committee, member 2025-present

Eastside Kettlebell Collective, 2022-present

Bleeding Hearts Kettlebell Club, 2018-2022

Muscles for Money Volunteer, benefitting SMYRC, 2018, 2019

Hood to Coast Fundraising Team, Providence Cancer Center, 2018, 2019; HTC 2020, 2021, 2022

AUCC Winter Shelter Volunteer 2021-2024

Bend Lady Roughriders Rugby Football Club 2016-2018

UCC Canoe Club 2014-15

UCC Mountaineering Club 2014-15

Hawai'i Ultra Running Team (HURT), 2011-2014, 2025

Hawai'i Irish Dance, 2010-2014

Kailua Canoe Club, Hawaiian ocean paddling, 2009-2014

Climb Aloha, rock climbing community, 2008-2014

Washington Furies Rugby Football Club 2000-2008

Treasurer 2007-08

Ruggerfest Tournament Chair 2007, 2008

Scholarly Works

Wahab, S., Mehrotra, G., Kimball, E., Ng Ping Cheung, S., Myers, K. (2021). Resistance and submission: A case study of the training and socialization of domestic violence advocates. *Journal of Progressive Human Services*.

Wahab, S., Mehrotra, G., & Myers, K. (2021). Slow scholarship for Social Work: A praxis of resistance and creativity. *Qualitative Social Work*.

Governance Activities for the University

Ph. D. Student Representative for the Ph.D. Committee, 2019-21

Membership in Professional Societies

National Association of Social Workers, member 2010-present

Oregon Chapter, 2016-present

Hawai'i Chapter, 2010-present