**Jennifer Ulie-Wells, Ph.D.**

[**Jlwells1205@gmail.com**](mailto:Jlwells1205@gmail.com)

**@JenniferWells23**

**(515) 240-5471**

**Education**

2018 Ph.D. Iowa State University Special Education Doctoral Program

Graduated 2018

Completed Social Justice Certificate 2015

Completed coursework for Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Certificate 2015

Dissertation: Who I want you to be: Three portraits of culturally competent teachers improving the mental health of students

2011 M.S.E., Teaching and Learning, Drake University

Concentration: Special Education

1999 B.A., Elementary Education, The University of Iowa

Concentration: Special Education

**Professional and Research Interests**

* Critical school mental health praxis (CrSMHP)
* Cultural/racial trauma in school mental health
* School mental health systems
* Teacher preparation
* Social Justice in Education

**Professional Experience**

2013-present **Founder and Executive Director,** Please Pass the Love Youth Mental Health Initiative, Des Moines, IA

Responsibilities: Founded and manage a youth mental health non-profit that provides school mental health supports and trainings to students, families, schools and community providers. Created the only school mental health conference in the state.

2017-present **School Board Member,** West Des Moines Schools, West Des Moines, IA

Responsibilities: Govern the school district through administrative, judicial, and legislative decision-making duties.

2017-present **Adjunct Professor**, School of Education, Drake University, Des Moines, IA

Responsibilities: Teaching graduate and undergraduate coursework in special education. Supervising student practicum experiences for students within Introduction to Special Education. Created and implemented online School Mental Health Literacy Course with ISEA, Please Pass the Love & Drake

2013-2017 **Assistant Professor,** Education Department, Grand View University, Des Moines, IA

Responsibilities: Teaching graduate and undergraduate coursework; Dance Marathon, NAMI on Campus, and Slam Poetry Advisor; Dream to Teach Liaison

2011-2013 **Adjunct Professor**, School of Education, Drake University, Des Moines, IA

Responsibilities: Teaching graduate and undergraduate coursework in special education. Supervising student practicum experiences for students within Introduction to Special Education.

2008-2013 **Special Education**, West Des Moines Community Schools,

West Des Moines, IA

Responsibilities: Teaching 13-18 students in special education 7th-8th grades with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). Engaged in committee work with Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS), special education literacy, and mental health.

2004-2007 **Kindergarten/Special Education Teacher**, West Des Moines Community Schools, West Des Moines, IA

Responsibilities: Taught 5-11 students with emotional and behavior disorders 3rd-6th grades. Responsible for writing and managing Individual Education Plans, Behavior Intervention Plans, and Functional Behavior Assessments. Taught 26 Kindergarten students some with special needs. Worked collaboratively with Autism team and district committee work.

2002-2004 **Special Education Teacher**, West Central Valley School District, Stuart, IA

Responsibilities: Taught 8-14 special education students K-5. Helped to create a behavior disorders classroom for the school district. Trained and implemented the first time-out room in the district.

2001-2002 **Special Education Teacher**, Plainfield Community School District,

Plainfield, IL

Responsibilities: Taught 7-12 learning resource special education students K-5. Managed IEP’s, BIP’s, and FBA’s. Facilitated support groups for students dealing with divorce and death.

1999-2001 **Third Grade Teacher**, Regina Catholic Elementary School, Iowa City, IA

Responsibilities: Taught third grade general education specializing in Social Studies. Assigned students with behavior issues and facilitated support group for students dealing with divorce and death.

**Courses taught**

**Drake University**

SPED 122/222, Characteristics of Mild/Moderate Disabilities

SPED 126/226, Moderate/Severe Learning Disabilities

SPED 225, Introduction and Evidence‐Based Interventions to Emotional and Behavioral Disorders

SPED 120/220, Introduction to Special Education

ESME 215 Online Meeting the Needs of Diverse Learners

WDMCS Drake Cohort Special Education

Online School Mental Health Literacy Course

Special Education Student Teacher Supervisor 2011-2013

**Please Pass the Love Online School Mental Health Academy**

School Mental Health Literacy

Racial & Cultural Trauma

Building Relationships

Classified Staff Academy: Suicide Prevention, Mental Illnesses, Trauma Sensitive Strategies, Reducing Undesired Behaviors, and Self-Care

Book Studies

**Grand View University**

EDGR 522, Current Issues in Urban Education

LIBA 110/LIBA 111, Freshman Core I Seminar

EDUC 280, Human Relations Training for the Classroom Teacher

EDUC 430, School Mental Health

EDEX 520, School Mental Health

EDUC 475, Individual Behavior Management

EDUC 440, Diagnosis and Evaluation of Special Education Students

EDUC 363, Working with Families, Teachers & Community

EDUC 343/344, Instructional Strategist I Methods

EDUC 361/362, Instructional Strategist I Practicum

EDUC 111, Introduction to Education

EDUC 242, Pedagogies of Exceptional Children

Student Teacher Supervision

Practicum Student Supervision

**Professional Affiliations**

2021-Present National Center for School Mental Health Advisory Board Member

2019- Present Iowa School Mental Health Alliance (ISMHA)

2018-Present National School Mental Health State Summit Member (SAMHSA, HHS, HRSA)

2017-Present Alliance for Family, School, and Community Partnerships (AFSCP) Member

2018-Present Iowa Department of Public Health Suicide Prevention Task Force

2018-2018 Iowa Family Leadership Training Institute Mentor, Family Engagement Division of Child and Community Health Stead Family Department of Pediatrics University of Iowa

2017 Invited as a member of the Department of Education Social-Emotional Taskforce

2016-2020 Learning Supports Coalition Project AWARE & Climate Transformation Department of Education

2016-2018 Des Moines Civil and Human Rights Community Doers Advisory Council

2016-2018 Youth Violence Prevention Task Force Des Moines, Iowa

2015-2017 School Mental Health Screener Committees Iowa Department of Education

2014-2017 Dream to Teach, Des Moines Public Schools, Advisory Board Member

2014-2016 Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Conference Proposal Reviewer

2013- 2015 Polk County Trauma Informed Care Stakeholders Group

2013-2015 Greater Des Moines National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Executive

Board of Directors Member

2013-2016 Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) member

2013- 2016 Council for Children with Behavior Disorders (CCBD) member

2010- Present Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) member

2005- 2015 Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders,

Kansas City, MO

**Education Expert Witness Experience**

2018 Retained by Bradshaw, Fowler, Proctor & Fairgrave Attorneys at Law

**Sample of Presentations**

November 2020 White Privilege Conference Co-Presenting with DMPS CORE students, Racial & Cultural Trauma, Online

October 2020 National School Mental Health Conference, *Schools as Systems of Racial Trauma,* Online

October 2020 Iowa Courts: Judges Conference, *Racial & Cultural Trauma in Courts*, Online

September 2020 Grinnell Schools, *School Mental Health Literacy Training,* Online

August 2020 Virginia School Board Association, *Keynote: 14 Ways School Boards Can Advance School Mental Health,* Online

August 2020 Minnesota School Board Association, *Keynote: 14 Ways School Boards Can Advance School Mental Health,* Online

July 2020 Douglas County Behavioral Health Summit, *Keynote: School Mental Health Literacy*, Online Kansas

June 2020 Nebraska School Mental Health Conference, *Keynote: School Mental Health in Covid,* Online

May 2020 Des Moines Chamber Women’s LEAP Series Online, *Self-Care in Covid*, Des Moines, IA.

March 2020 *National Center for School Mental Health Covid Response Panel Online*, Washington DC.

February 2020 *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Keynote*, Wartburg College, Waverly, IA

January 2020 School Administrators of Iowa, *Basic School Mental Health Literacy in Collaboration with Iowa AEA Online*, Johnston, IA

November 2019 Iowa Association of School Boards, *Keynote: 14 Ways School Boards Can Advance School Mental Health*, Des Moines, IA

November 2019 National SMH Conference, *Racial & Cultural Trauma*, Austin, TX

September 2019 Department of Education Summit, *Iowa’s Suicide Epidemic,* Des Moines, IA

August 2019 Summit on School Climate & Culture, *Racial & Cultural Trauma*, Des Moines, IA

April 2019 Southeastern Behavioral Health Conference, *Racial & Cultural Trauma in Schools*, Myrtle Beach, SC

April 2019 Iowa Safe Schools Governor’s Conference, *LGBTQ Mental Health*, Des Moines, IA

March 2019 Iowa AEA Board, *Basic School Mental Health Literacy for AEAs*, Urbandale, IA

February 2019 Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, *Becoming a Mental Health Advocate*, Des Moines, IA

January 2019 Des Moines Public Schools C3 Trainers, *Racial & Cultural Trauma in Schools,*  Moines, IA

August 2018 Central Decatur School District Trauma Conference, *Trauma Within a School Mental Health Framework*, Leon, IA

July 2018 Blank Children’s Hospital School Nurses Conference, with Marci Cordaro, RN, *The Role of a School Nurse in a School Mental Health System,* Ankeny, IA

June 2018 Iowa Safe Schools Suicide Prevention Course, *LGBTQ Suicide Prevention,* Des Moines, IA

May 2018 Waukee Prairieview, Staff Professional Development, *School Mental Health Literacy,* Waukee, IA

April 2018 Iowa Governor’s Conference Safe Schools, *LGBTQ Mental Health and Suicide Prevention for Youth and Educators,* Des Moines, IA

April 2018 Iowa Association of Alternative Educators Conference, *Cultural/Racial Trauma in Schools,* Des Moines, IA

March 2018 ACT Conference, with Kayla Selby, *School Mental Health Literacy,* Cedar Rapids, IA

March 2018 Iowa Gear Up Conference, with Sonia Reyes-Snyder, *Culturally Conscious School Mental Health Literacy*, West Des Moines, IA

February 2018 Webster City Staff Professional Development, *School Mental Health Literacy,* Webster City, IA

January 2018 Walnut Creek Alternative School, *Self-care for Educators,* West Des Moines, IA

October 2017 5th Annual Iowa School Mental Health Conference, *School Mental Health Systems & Racial/Cultural Trauma,* Des Moines, IA

September 2017 Glenwood Schools Professional Development, S*chool Mental Health Literacy and Advanced SMH Topics,* Glenwood, IA

May 2017 McCombs Middle School Professional Development, *Basic Mental Health,* Des Moines, IA

April 2017 Ramily Family Mental Health Night, *Basic Mental Health for Families,* Glenwood, IA

March 2017 Bondurant Schools Professional Development, *Basic School Mental Health,* Bondurant, IA

February 2017 Urbandale Schools Professional Development, *Basic School Mental Health & Cultural Trauma,* Urbandale, IA

October 2016 4th Annual Iowa School Mental Health Conference, *Basic School Mental Health Conference,* Des Moines, IA

April 2016 Invited Presentation Iowa Department of Education Learning Supports Conference, *School Mental Health Strategies and Mental Health & MTSS Get Married*, Des Moines, IA

March 2016 Invited Presentations *School Mental Health Training for Youth & Parent Mental Health Training for Families* (in collaboration with Dr. Jeffery Kerber), Urbandale School Middle School, Urbandale, IA

January 2016 Invited Presentation *School Mental Health Training for Youth*, Sauk Prairie HS, Sauk City, WI

### December 2015 Invited *School Mental Health Strategies for Teachers*, Urbandale MS Professional Development, Urbandale, IA

October 2015 Invited *School Mental Health Strategies for Teachers,* Iowa SMH Conference, Des Moines

October 2015 Invited Presentation *Youth Mental Health MTSS Strategies,* Risky Business Conference, Des Moines, IA

# September 2015 Invited Presentation 2015 Mental Health & Behavior Summit, Wisconsin Dells, WI

# August 2015 Invited Training *School Mental Health Strategies for Teachers,* Perry Community Schools, Perry, IA

# May 2015 Invited Professional Panel, *Youth Mental Health,* Waukee Community Schools, Waukee, IA

# April 2015 Invited Presentation Iowa Suicide Prevention Coalition, *Youth Mental Health MTSS Strategies,* Des Moines, IA

March 2015 Invited Presentation *Youth Mental Health Policy & Change,* Iowa ACT Conference, Des Moines, IA

October 2014 Invited Training *School Mental Health Strategies for Teachers,* Waukee Middle School, Waukee, IA

October 2014 Invited Presentation *Youth Mental Health,* Risky Business Conference, Des Moines, IA

September 2014 *School Mental Health Strategies for Teachers,* Iowa SMH Conference, Des Moines

May 2014 *PBIS and Interconnected Frameworks,* Iowa School-Based Mental Health

Conference, Des Moines, IA

February 2013 *Mental Health Training for Educators*, Professional Development Training,

West Des Moines Community Schools

**Publications**

Ulie-Wells, J. (2019). 14 ways for school boards to improve school mental health. Des Moines, IA: Please Pass the Love.

Ulie-Wells, J., Bruna Richardson, K., & Romo, C. (2020). Critical School Mental Health Praxis (CrSMHP): A framework for change In Clauss-Ehlers, C. (Ed.), *Social Justice for Children and Young People: International Perspectives.* Cambridge University Press, Cambridge: UK.

Orlando, C. M., Bradley, W., Collier, T. A., Ulie-Wells, J., Miller, E., & Weist, M. D. (2018). What Works in School-Based Mental Health Service Delivery?. In *Handbook of School-Based Mental Health Promotion* (pp. 33-49). Springer, Cham.

**Publication Contributor**

Hoover, S., Lever, N., Sachdev, N., Bravo, N., Schlitt, J., Acosta Price, O., Sheriff, L. & Cashman, J. (2019). Advancing Comprehensive School Mental Health: Guidance From the Field. Baltimore, MD: National Center for School Mental Health. University of Maryland School of Medicine.

**Professional Certifications**

2018 Non-suicidal self-injury, online, Cornell University

2015 Social Justice in Education, Iowa State University

2014 Youth Mental Health First Aid Certification

2010-Present Instructional Strategist I Mild/Moderate Certification State of Iowa

2003-Present Instructional Strategist II LD/BD Certification State of Iowa

2003- 2013 Mandt De-escalation and Crisis Prevention Certification

2001-2005 Elementary Education Teaching Certification State of Illinois

1999- Present Elementary Education Teaching Certification State of Iowa

**Honors and Awards**

2021 Iowa School Psychology Association Distinguished Service Award

2020 Iowa School Counselor Association Advocate of the Year

2018 National Center for School Mental Health Youth and Family Partnership Award

2015 & 2017 American Association of University Women “Wonder Woman” Award designed for women that go above and beyond in teaching, scholarship and service

2017 Catharine Maurice Carroll Graduate Scholarship