

CURRICULUM VITAE

CYNTHIA CAROLINE FLYNN

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Special Education**
Area of Concentration: Human Services Management
University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill)
Dissertation Topic: Three Case Studies of Service Coordination
Efforts Involving Preschool Handicapped Children
- M.Ed. Education Administration**
South Dakota State University (Ellsworth)
- B.A. Early Childhood Education**
University of South Carolina (Columbia)

EXPERIENCE

- August 2010-
Present **Interim Associate Director,**
The Center for Child and Family Studies, College of Social Work,
University of South Carolina
- Directs the overall operations of the Center for Child and Family Studies. Serves as Principal Investigator for the Department of Social Services Contract and other key contracts and grants. Serves as a research faculty member in the College of Social Work.
- January 2008 –
July 2010 **Interim Director, Research, Planning, and Evaluation and the
Education and Community Initiatives Divisions**
The Center for Child and Family Studies, College of Social Work,
University of South Carolina
- Directed the activities of two divisions within The Center. The combined division housed thirteen programs. Directly supervised eleven staff and faculty members who managed or worked on these projects. Coordinated all research and evaluation projects conducted by Center staff and faculty. Coordinated proposal writing for new grants and contracts.

July 2007 –
December 2007

Interim Director, Education and Community Initiatives Division,
The Center for Child and Family Studies, College of Social Work,
University of South Carolina

Directed one of the three divisions of The Center for Child and Family Studies. This division housed five projects. Directly supervised the three staff members who manage these projects. Networked with community partners to identify and seek additional grant opportunities.

April 1998 –
Present

Research Assistant Professor, The Center for Child and Family Studies, College of Social Work, University of South Carolina

Conducted independent evaluations of innovative programs. Worked with program staff to plan the evaluation, write the evaluation plan, write interim reports, collect data, analyze data, develop a final report, and make presentations to program staff and funding source. Assisted with the planning and implementation of three evaluations: the State Department of Education Deaf/Blind Grant, and the MSW traineeship grant.

Conducted an annual statewide survey of adolescents in foster care. Analyzed survey data, and disseminated results using a variety of report formats, and presentations. Managed a grant to provide volunteer education coaches for youth in foster care who live in residential care facilities.

Worked with the Department of Social Services to provide advice and consultation on implementing the National Governor's Association Policy Academy on Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care. Conducted the evaluation of these efforts.

Managed a three-year federal research grant to determine elements of successful adolescent adoptions. Supervised one person who assisted with this grant and other evaluation activities.

November 1991 -
January 1998

Research Coordinator, Center for Rehabilitation Technology Services, South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department

Worked as part of a team to successfully compete for a federally funded five year research grant investigating rehabilitation technology services in vocational rehabilitation agencies. Coordinated eight research studies as a part of this grant. Directly responsible for conducting five of the studies including conceptualizing and implementing the studies, supervising data collection, analyzing results, and producing final reports on each study. Supervised a research assistant and various consultants working on aspects of the

studies. Disseminated results of studies through presentations at conferences, publications in related journals, and through reports sent to VR offices.

March 1987 -
November 1991

Consultant for Transition, South Carolina Department of Education, Office of Programs for the Handicapped

Provided leadership to local school district special education staff on developing transition-oriented programs for students with disabilities. As a part of this effort, organized and implemented a training effort for school-based teams in the development and implementation of a functional, transition-oriented curriculum for students with severe disabilities. Organized and provided ongoing leadership for a task force on transition (composed of educators from around the state) to conceptualize effective transition program models for local school districts. Conducted numerous in-service training sessions and presentations to parent groups on transition, inclusion, and a variety of other topics. Developed and disseminated materials designed to promote awareness and understanding of transition issues among parents, educators, and other agency staff. Represented the Department of Education on various interagency task forces including an interagency task force to conceptualize a state-wide system for the transition of students with disabilities from school to the adult world. Participated in monitoring and provided technical assistance to local school districts, state operated programs, and Head Starts to insure compliance with Public Law 94-142 and State Board of Education Regulations.

January 1985 -
February 1987

Technical Assistance Coordinator, State Technical Assistance Resource Team (START), Frank Porter Graham Center, UNC-Chapel Hill

Worked with State Plan Grant Coordinators in twenty states (including four US Territories in the Pacific) involved in developing a comprehensive service delivery system for children with disabilities birth through five years of age. Assisted these state level coordinators through consultation both on-site and over the phone on topics related to the development of a comprehensive service delivery system. Prepared and delivered presentations to state level interagency groups and other groups as needed and requested. Brokered technical assistance in areas where needed and requested. Wrote research briefs and a regular newsletter column on interagency coordination. Also developed resource packets on relevant topical areas and contributed to monographs on topics of interest to clients. Assisted in planning and conducting national and regional conferences and workshops for clients. Acted as a liaison to other

national organizations and federal agencies that work with young children with disabilities.

September 1980 - **Graduate Research Assistant**,
August, 1984 Interagency Collaborative Project
PIPE Plus Program, Durham County Schools
Project Know How - The Study of Knowledge Use Capacity in School
Programs for Young Handicapped Children
FDA Study of Piracetam in Dyslexic Children

Worked on four research projects while in school. Developed a handbook on preschool programs for children with disabilities and their parents. Developed surveys, analyzed data, wrote quarterly reports and the final report. Assisted with a review of the literature on Piracetam, administered reading tests to children, set up a conference on learning disabilities for the parents of children involved in the study, and acted as a liaison person between parents of participants and project administrators. Assisted in a national conference on interagency collaboration.

May 1978 - **Director**, Western South Dakota Community Action Agency
July 1980 Child Development Program

Operated five programs: Head Start, Home Start, Food Reimbursement for Day Care Homes, WIC Food Supplement Program, and a center-based Child Care Program. Supervised 35 employees, wrote the Head Start/Home Start grant each year, managed the budget, worked with County Council to obtain funding for the child care center, and worked with the Policy Council to make major program decisions. Developed an interagency committee to facilitate the provision of services for students with disabilities

August 1975 - **Education Coordinator/Teacher**, Head Start, Western South
May 1978 Dakota Community Action Agency

Supervised three Head Start teachers, coordinated services for children with disabilities, planned staff development, and taught a mainstreamed classroom of 18 four-year-old children.

March 1975 - **Teacher**, Head Start, Western South Dakota Community Action
May 1975 Agency

Taught a mainstreamed classroom of 18 four-year-old children.

COMMUNITY/PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

League of Women Voters of Columbia Area, President (1999-2005)
Board of Directors, PRO Parents (Parent Training Institute for SC) (1992-2008)
American Evaluation Association member

FUNDED GRANTS/CONTRACTS

South Carolina Interagency Deaf-Blind Project, Contract with The School for the Deaf and the Blind [2003-20016]

Improving Educational Outcomes for Youth in Residential Group Care Facilities, Grant from The Cassels Foundation [2007-2008]

The Training and Evaluation Services Contract: The Department of Social Services [2010-2018]

Interpreter Qualification Project and Interpreter Services, Contract with the Department of Health and Environmental Control [2007-2012]

Provider Curriculum Development, Implementation, Evaluation, Recordkeeping, and Reporting for the Home Again Project, Contract with the SC Department of Health and Human Services [2012-2013]

Eligibility, Enrollment, and Member Services Training Contract with the SC Department of Health and Human Services [2017-2018]

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Flynn, C.C. (2005, Spring). Positive outcomes: What workers can learn from successful teen adoptions. *Adoptalk*.

Flynn, C.C. (2004, Summer). Successful adolescent adoptions. *NRCYD Update*.

Flynn, C.C., & Welch, W. (2003, Fall). Youth are never too old to be adopted. *Adoptalk*.

Wright, L., & Flynn, C.C. (2006). Adolescent adoption: Success despite challenges. *Child and Youth Services Review*, 28, 487-510.

Wright, L., Flynn, C.C., & Welch, W. (2007). Adolescent adoption and the birthfamily. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*, 1(1), 35-63.