

MATI SICHERER

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Certification and Education

- Northcentral University, May 2014 - EdD in Special Education.
- NJ State Student Personnel Services, 2004.
- Montclair State University, January 1994 - Master of Arts in Counseling.
- NJ State Elementary Education, K-8, 1991.
- New York University, June 1988 - Bachelor of Arts in Creative Writing.

Volunteerism

- **Upchieve, 2020-present:** Volunteer college coach with low income high school students
- **Therapy Dog, 2016-present:** Trained therapy dog to pass certification test, 2016. Regularly visit ICU at Valley Hospital (Ridgewood, NJ), Hospice (regional) and nursing home (Careone).
- **Soup Kitchen, 2015-2018:** Cooked and served food monthly at local soup kitchen (Hackensack, NJ)
- **Backpack Project, 2010-2016:** Collected and packed school supplies into backpacks for students with financial need
- **Parent Workshop Facilitator, 2001-2006**
 - Spring House for Women (Bergen Regional Hospital, Paramus, NJ): Created curriculum and facilitated, positive discipline-based parenting workshop for women in recovery.
 - Red Cross (Ridgewood, NJ): Planned, implemented, and taught weekly workshops to parents of twins
 - Ridgewood YMCA (Ridgewood, NJ): Planned, implemented, and taught weekly court mandated workshops to parents with children involved with DCP

Experience

High School Counselor, Wayne Valley and Wayne Hills High School, Wayne, NJ (9/09 – Present)

Unique/Creative Programming

- Created, developed, and instituted best practices-based curriculum and small group for college-bound students with learning disabilities.
- Created, developed, and manage on-site therapy dog/animal-assisted therapy program including classroom visitations and individual visits.
- Created, write, and disseminate monthly counseling newsletter.
- Coordinated prom gown collection and distributed to Catherine's Closet for students with financial need
- Develop and write school and community-wide presentations including workshops on disability awareness, teen stress and anxiety, inclusivity, transgender awareness, financial aid (2009-2014), senior awards day (2009-2014), incoming student orientation, and college process.
- Instituted and advise Gay-Straight Alliance (2015-present).
- Coordinated school-wide Anti-Bullying programming (2011-2013).

Day to Day Responsibilities

- Coordinate individual college counseling including essay writing, college research, application evaluation, standardized testing review, college interview preparation, scholarship, and financial aid review.
- Coordinate 504 plans and meetings.
- Coordinate with various school offices, including the Child Study Team and the Student Assistance Specialist.
- Provide individual and group counseling services.

- Interpret test scores, records, and other evaluative data to help students clarify and identify career goals.
- Administer and proctor standardized testing of students.
- Refer students and parents to outside agencies following established policy and crisis intervention protocol.
- Provide counseling services for identified high-risk students and/or those students with actual crisis situations.
- Member of School Safety team (2011-2016).
- Facilitate Intervention and Referral Services program (2010-2013).

Intervention and Prevention Specialist (9/04-6/09) Wayne Board of Education

Unique/Creative Programming

- Created and developed peer volunteer program between general education students and students with special needs.
- Created and developed service-learning program for letter writing to service men and women
- Created and developed service-learning program in conjunction with local supermarket to enhance positivity in the community called “Paper Bags for Positivity”
- Coordinated “Pennies for Puppies” program to support the Seeing Eye Foundation
- Created and coordinated backpack and school supply distribution for students with financial need

Day to Day Responsibilities

- Developed and implemented district-wide school-based counseling program and curriculum for k-5 students.
- Coordinated and managed all 504 plans.
- Facilitate and manage all I&RS (Intervention & Referral Services Committee) meetings and plans.
- Facilitated group and individual counseling.
- Implemented classroom-based instruction.
- Consulted with teachers and administrators on effective discipline, intervention, and management techniques.
- Delivered teacher training and education on topics such as classroom management and suicide intervention.
- Worked closely with middle school counselors for transitioning 5th-grade students.
- Member of SEL committee (Social Emotional Learning).

Teacher (09/91 - 06/97) Newark Board of Education, Newark, NJ

- Taught self-contained 4th and 5th-grade classes in all subject areas.
- Taught 9th through 12th-grade basic skills.
- Created and developed grade 5-8 before school counseling and support sessions for at-risk students.

Substance Abuse Counselor (02/88 - 11/90) Northeast Lifeskills Associates, Passaic, NJ

- Counseled heroin addicts in an outpatient methadone treatment facility.
- Wrote and implemented treatment plans for diverse detoxification programs.
- Created and facilitated women's and family support group.
- Participated and presented cases in weekly clinical treatment meetings.

Awards, Professional Affiliations and Presentations

- NJACAC (New Jersey Association of College and Career Counselors) Spring 2020 conference session presenter (canceled due to Covid19)
- NJSCA (New Jersey School Counselor Association) Counselor of the County Award 2020.
- NJACAC (New Jersey Association of College and Career Counselors) Spring 2019 conference session presenter.
- NJSCA (New Jersey School Counselor Association) fall 2017 conference break out session presenter.

- LDA (Learning Disabilities Association) International Conference 2018 Table Talk presenter.
- NJSCA (New Jersey School Counselor Association) Humanitarian Award 2016.
- Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society (2014).

Publications and Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Sicherer, M. (2020). *The Elementary School Counselor's Guide to Supporting Students with Learning Disabilities: A Comprehensive Program*. London, England: Routledge Press.
- Sicherer, M. (2019). *College for Students with Learning Disabilities: A High School Counselor's Guide to Fostering Success*. London, England: Routledge Press.
- Sicherer, M. (2018). Beyond the IEP, *School Counselor Magazine*. 56(1). 23-27. Alexandria, VA: American School Counselor Association.
- Sicherer, M. (2014). *Exploring Teacher Knowledge About Dyslexia and Teacher Efficacy in the Inclusive Classroom: A Multiple Case Study*. (Doctoral Thesis). Northcentral University. Scottsdale, AZ.
- Shemesh, E., Annunziato, R. A., Ambrose, M. A., Ravid, N. L., Mullarkey, C., Rubes, M., Chuang, K., Sicherer, M., ... Sicherer, S. H. (2013). Child and parental reports of bullying in a consecutive sample of children with food allergy. *Pediatrics*, 131(1), e10-7.
- Lieberman, J. A., Weiss, C., Furlong, T. J., Sicherer, M., & Sicherer, S. H. (2010). Bullying among pediatric patients with food allergy. *Annals of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology*, 105(4), 282-286. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anai.2010.07.011>.
- Sicherer, M. (2001). The morning I first noticed my sons almost as tall as me. *The Listening Eye*. 21. Kent Ohio: Kent State University.
- Sicherer, M. (2001). This Spot on Your Neck. *Ginger Hill*. 177. Slippery Rock, PA: Slippery Rock University.
- Sicherer, M. (2001, years end). Not a Serious Poet. *Medicinal Purposes*. 2(5). 75. Richmond Hill, NY. Poet to Poet.
- Sicherer, M. (2001). Three Women. *Collages & Bricolages: The Journal of International Writing*. #14. 13. Shipperville, PA: Marie-Jose Fortis.
- Sicherer, M. (2000 Spring). Neighbors. *Cold Mountain Review*. 55. Boone, NC: Appalachian State University.
- Sicherer, M. (1999, Nov). Gone Away. *Art Times*. 16(4). 16. Mt. Marion, NY. CSS Publications.
- Sicherer, M. (1999). Having once danced. *The Blindman's Rainbow*. 2(5). 22. Erie, PA.
- Sicherer, M. (1999). Her mother dying. *The Blindman's Rainbow*. 5(2). 22. Erie, PA.
- Sicherer, M. (1999). She in three parts." First prize winner. *Niedergasse*. 4(July). 27. Zurich, Switzerland: Pasquale Capocasa, Great Plains Publishing.
- Sicherer, M. (1999, Sept/Oct). Twins, Again." *Twins Magazine*. 14. Englewood, CO. Twins Magazine.

Languages Spoken

- Fluent in Spanish
- Knowledge of Hebrew