



## Danita Johnson

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### Professional Summary

A compassionate and dedicated clinician with extensive experience in mental health and education. Holding a B.S. in Early Childhood Development and an M.S. in Psychology from Purdue University, I bring over 15 years of experience in the educational field, including 7 years in special education services and 6 years focused on mental health therapy for individuals ages 5 through adulthood and skilled in providing evidence-based interventions and developing tailored treatment plans that promote resilience and well-being. She is committed to fostering a supportive environment that empowers clients to navigate challenges and achieve personal goals.

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### Education

#### **Master of Science in Psychology**

Purdue University  
2018

#### **Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Development**

Purdue University (Graduated Magna Cum Laude)  
2016

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### Professional Experience

#### **Clinician**

Hope Haven Psychological Resource  
09/2022 – Present

- Provide individual and family therapy to clients aged 5 to adulthood, utilizing evidence-based therapeutic approaches.
- Collaborate with caregivers to create tailored treatment plans for specific needs.
- Conducted assessments and developed strategies for managing a range of mental health challenges.

**Clinician**

Damar Services

09/2019 – 09/2022

- Provide individual and family therapy to clients aged 5 to adulthood, utilizing evidence-based therapeutic approaches.
- Collaborate with caregivers to create tailored treatment plans for specific needs.
- Conducted assessments and developed strategies for managing a range of mental health challenges.

**School Counselor**

Purdue Polytechnic High School Englewood

07/2019 – 01/2023

- Provide individual and group counseling to students with academic, social, emotional, and behavioral challenges.
- Conducted assessments and developed personalized plans to address students' academic and career goals and social and emotional needs.
- Collaborate with teachers, administrators, and parents to identify and support students needing intervention and referral to additional resources.
- Facilitate classroom lessons and workshops on study skills, conflict resolution, bullying prevention, and college and career readiness.
- Serve as a liaison between students, families, and community organizations to coordinate support services and resources.
- Implement school-wide initiatives to promote a positive school climate and foster a culture of inclusivity and respect.
- Participate in multidisciplinary team meetings to develop and monitor individualized education plans (IEPs) for students with special needs.

**Director of Student Services-Special Education**

Lighthouse Academies Charter School

01/2017 – 01/2019

- Lead a team of student support professionals, including counselors, advisors, special education teachers, and intervention specialists, in delivering comprehensive services to students with various diagnosed developmental and/or behavioral disabilities.
- Developed and implemented strategic plans, policies, and procedures to support a diverse student population's academic, social, and emotional needs.

- Developed individualized education plans (IEPs) and coordinated with multidisciplinary teams to ensure effective implementation.
- A supportive and inclusive classroom environment was fostered, promoting positive behavioral and academic outcomes.
- Ensure compliance with relevant federal and state regulations, including Title IX, ADA, and FERPA, and maintain accurate records and reporting systems.

### **Skills Development Specialist**

Adult & Child Mental Health

07/2016 – 01/2018

- Collaborate with mental health professionals to assess the needs of adults and children receiving services and develop individualized skills development plans.
- Design and implement skill-building workshops and training sessions focused on emotional regulation, social skills, stress management, and coping strategies.
- Utilize evidence-based practices, including cognitive-behavioral techniques, mindfulness exercises, and psychoeducation, to facilitate skill acquisition and promote mental wellness.
- Provide individualized coaching and support to clients to reinforce learning and generalize skills to various settings, including home, school, and community environments.
- Collaborate with interdisciplinary team members, including therapists, case managers, and psychiatrists, to integrate skills development initiatives into clients' treatment plans.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of skills development programs through client feedback, observation, and outcome measures, and make recommendations for program enhancements.
- Develop partnerships with community organizations, schools, and other stakeholders to expand access to skills development resources and support services.

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### **Skills**

- Strong background in child and adolescent development
- Expertise in special education and individualized support strategies
- Proficient in various therapeutic modalities (e.g., CBT, play therapy, family therapy)
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work collaboratively with families, educators, and healthcare professionals

## **Professional Affiliations**

- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars member (NSCS)
- Educators Club member at Purdue University

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## **References**

Available upon request.