

Patrice Franz Penney

College of Social Work
University of South Carolina
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Key Competencies and Experience

- * Over 30 years' clinical practice, supervision, consultation, and training
- * Expertise in trauma-informed practices and child and family therapies
- * 20 years' graduate and undergraduate teaching experience in social work and psychology

- * Developed and directed community center in low-income, culturally diverse community
- * Established highly respected community mental health center and clinical internship program in Chicago area
- * Developed undergraduate and graduate level counseling and psychology programs in African university
- * Developed and direct not-for-profit training organization, Initiative for Children at Risk Africa
- * Lived cross-culturally in Kenya ten years and travel extensively in Africa since 2003

Professional Experience

Clinical Assistant Professor, August 2015—Present

College of Social Work, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina

Teaching expertise:

Trauma-informed practice

Family therapy

Clinical and community-based practice with children, adolescents, and families

Child development, attachment relationships, parenting, caregiving (and issues of foster care, adoption, and orphaning)

Teaching:

Family Interventions and Family Therapy

Trauma-Informed Practice

Advanced Theory for Social Work Practice: Children, Youth, and Families

Advanced Interventions for Social Work Practice: Children, Youth, and Families

Psychopathology and Psychodiagnostics for Children and Adolescents

Human Behavior in the Social Environment

Advanced Theory for Health/Mental Health

Advanced Interventions for Mental Health

Service to the CoSW:

Faculty Council, 2019 – present

Specialization Chair, Children, Youth, and Families, 2017 – 2020

MSW Committee member, 2016 – 2019

Psychopathology and Psychodiagnostics Sub-Committee, 2018— 2019

Oversaw and developed SOWK 759 and 760

Search Committee member, 2018

Advanced Field Practicum Supervisor, Heritage Academy (Augusta, GA), 2017-2019

Developed new field practicum site in trauma-informed school social work

Field Liaison, 2015 – present

Executive Director, August 2014—Present

Initiative for Children at Risk Africa

Launched and direct non-profit organization with the mission of training caregivers of orphaned and vulnerable children (OVCs) in sub-Saharan Africa, developing trauma counseling resources for children, research, and advocacy (www.icarafrica.org).

Provide training for African caregivers, social workers, teachers, counselors, government organizations, police, and NGOs in nine countries to date. Over 1400 African caregivers, social workers, teachers, administrators, pastors, and government officials have been trained, reaching 200,000+ children.

Consult with African orphan caregiving organizations and NGOs, government departments, and schools regarding psychosocial needs of OVCs, policies and practices that support orphan care, family and community-based initiatives for better care of OVCs.

*Authored Africa-based curriculum for addressing psychosocial needs of orphaned and vulnerable children through nurturing caregiving, entitled *Nurturing hearts: Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Currently self-published for use in Africa. www.icarafrica.org*

Psychotherapist, 1983 – present

Areas of clinical expertise include complex trauma, loss, attachment issues, adoption and foster care, children's special needs, couple and family interventions, domestic violence, systemic challenges of poverty and community violence for children and families, refugee trauma, orphaned and vulnerable children (international)

Private Practice, Chicago area, June 2014—August 2015

Child, adolescent, marital, and family therapy

Private Practice, Karen Surgery, Nairobi, Kenya, 2003 – 2007, 2009 – 2013

Child, adolescent, marital, and family therapy

Work with Africans, ex-patriates, diplomats, mission, NGO, and international aid workers

Private Practice, Summit Clinical Services, Wheaton, Illinois, 2007 – 2009

Child, adolescent, marital, and family therapy

Tumaini Counseling Centre, Nairobi, Kenya, 2003 – 2007

Counseling with children, adolescents, and families in missions' contexts across Africa

Family co-therapy and training for center psychiatrists and counselors

Psychotherapist, Chicago area, 1983 – 2003

Child, adolescent, marital, and family therapy

Work with families in urban low-income communities from diverse cultures

Faculty, January 2004 – December 2013

Africa International University, Nairobi, Kenya

Established and directed counseling office serving faculty, staff, and students, 2005-2013

Assisted in the development of and lectured in undergraduate Psychology Programme, 2009-2013

Developed and taught all courses in Counseling Post-Graduate Diploma Programme, 2004-07

Undergraduate Courses Taught:

Child Development
Counseling Children and their Families
Children at Risk
Trauma and Loss in Children
Assessment of Children
Community Strategies and Interventions for Children

Counseling Post-Graduate Diploma Courses

Ministry to Children
Trauma and Loss
Theories and Principles of Counseling
Human Growth and Development
Counseling Practice with Adults, Children, and Families

Clinical Supervisor, 2003 – 2013

Nairobi, Kenya
Provided clinical supervision for several master's and PhD psychotherapists
Provided consultation for two mental health centers, private schools, the UN, the American Embassy, and Tumaini Counseling Centre; provided clinical training for mental health professional groups in Nairobi

Faculty Lecturer, 2004 – 2007

Amani Counselling Centre and Training Institute, Nairobi, Kenya
Developed and taught courses in marital and family therapy, and advanced marital therapy in MFT Post-Graduate Diploma Programme

Adjunct Clinical Faculty, 1998 – 2003

Wheaton College Department of Graduate Psychology, Wheaton, Illinois

Courses Taught:

Child Development and Treatment
Adolescent Development and Treatment
Lectured in PsyD program

Director of Staff Training and Development, 1991 - 2003

Outreach Community Ministries, Wheaton, Illinois
Provided clinical training for staff therapists, master's and doctoral interns, on a wide range of current counseling issues, including new innovations in therapy, ethical issues, marriage and family therapy
Managed Clinical Directors' team, including facilitation, overall program planning, developing policies and best practices

Clinical Director, 1986 – 2003

Outreach Community Center, program of Outreach Community Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois
OCC serves a low-income diverse community outside of Chicago
Supervised six clinical therapists providing outpatient therapy and crisis intervention services for children, adolescents, and their families, couples and adults
Managed all aspects of OCC program, including services, grants, program development, and supervision

Developed and implemented major demonstration grant for untreated depression (DuPage Partnership for Behavioral Health); developed system of care with other providers; provided training to participating clinicians
Developed strong clinical internship program, provided clinical supervision for over 70 master's level interns in year-long internships, including weekly live supervision groups

Director of Counseling, 1994 – 1997

Wheaton Youth Outreach, program of Outreach Community Ministries, Wheaton, Illinois
Supervised clinical therapists and interns, providing outpatient therapy, youth crisis response, counseling for sheltered homeless women, and private school counseling

Director, 1986 – 1991

Outreach Community Center, program of Outreach Community Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois
Launched and directed Center, with multifaceted social services in low-income, multiracial community
Supervised staff, developed and implemented programs, including counseling, casework services, community outreach and development, and several children's programs
Worked with OCC Board, community agencies, schools, police, churches and government to develop community support and funding, and grow volunteer program

Clinician/Consultant, Child Specialist, 1984 – 86

DuPage County Health Department, Mental Health Division, Wheaton, Illinois
Provided therapy and consultation services to low-income couples, families and children with severe problems; consulted with Head Start and nursing program

International Projects (other than ICARA)

Trauma Therapist and Trainer, 1999, 2006

Kigali, Rwanda
Developed and led weeklong experiential trauma healing workshop for fourteen Rwandan genocide/rape survivors. Developed and led training on trauma healing for African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) team, Rwanda, working with program directors who provide assistance to orphans and widows of 1994 genocide

Honduras CRISTO Project Team Member, 1999 – 2001

Tegucigalpa, Honduras
Participated in a Wheaton College faculty team training counselors and pastors in post-trauma support and education following Hurricane Mitch. Led workshops on trauma recovery, child and family issues; consulted with counselors, pastors and lay leaders.

Publications

Farber, N., & Penney, P. (2020). Essential and neglected: Transforming classroom learning through relationship. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work, 40*(2), 95-113.

Penney, P. (2014). *Nurturing hearts: Trauma-informed care for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Self-published for use across sub-Saharan Africa.

Penney, P. (2013). Nurturing their hearts: The significance of an attachment paradigm for understanding the psychosocial needs of African orphaned children. In S. Greener, et al. (Eds.). *Christian perspectives and research on child development in the African context*. Nairobi, Kenya: Daystar University.

Penney, Patrice. (2011). Child sexual abuse survivors as parents: Navigating a difficult path. In Schmutzer, A. (Ed). *The long journey home: Understanding and ministering to the sexually abused*. Eugene, Oregon: Wipf and Stock.

Peer Reviewed Presentations

Penney, P. & Farber, N. (2019, November). *Essential and neglected: Relational capacities in the social work classroom*. Workshop presentation, Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), 66th Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO.

Penney, P., Wright, M., and DiNovo, R. (2018, March). *Using Case Studies to Discuss Social Work*. Workshop presentation to the South Carolina NASW Annual Conference, Columbia, SC.

Penney, P. (2016, November). *Addressing Trauma and Attachment Loss in African Orphans: A Case Study of Community-Based Caregiving*. Oral presentation, International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS) International Conference, Dallas, TX.

Penney, P., Farber, N., Mitchell, M., DiNovo, R. (2016, November). *Essential and neglected: Transforming classroom learning through relationship*. Panel presentation, Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) 62nd Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

Penney, P. (2016, July). *Non-formal training curriculum for African orphan caregivers incorporates Theraplay[®] interventions*. Invited Poster Presentation, 7th International Theraplay Conference, Evanston, Illinois.

Penney, P. (2011, November). *Nurturing their hearts: The significance of an attachment paradigm for understanding the psychosocial needs of African orphaned children*. Peer-reviewed paper presented to the DayStar University Child Development Symposium, Nairobi, Kenya.

Invited Video Training

Penney, P. (2020, December). *Trauma-sensitive school training, Module 2*. Created and produced 2nd of 2-part video training for Richland One School District, Columbia, South Carolina.

Penney, P. (2020, November). *Trauma-sensitive school training, Module 1*. Created and produced 1st of 2-part video training for Richland One School District, Columbia, South Carolina.

Invited Presentations

Penney, P. (2020, October). *Understanding and responding to complex trauma, Pt. 2*. Webinar presentation for the United Way, Richland County, Resilient Richland.

Penney, P. (2020, October). *Understanding and responding to complex trauma, Pt. 1*. Webinar presentation for the United Way, Richland County, Resilient Richland, virtual.

Penney, P. (2020, October). *Trauma-informed caregiving for adolescent trafficking survivors in a residential setting*. Lighthouse for Life, Lexington, SC.

Penney, P. (2020, May). *Early trauma's long reach: Implications for victimization and a system of coordinated survivor care*. Webinar presentation for South Carolina Office of the Attorney General, VASA program.

Penney, P. (2020, May). *Building resilience for children and families*. Webinar presentation for South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (SCCADVASA) member organizations.

Penney, P. (May, 2020). *Response to COVID-19: Care for self and others*. Webinar presentation for VISTAGE, Columbia, SC.

Penney, P. (2020, February). *Trauma-informed care with children and their mothers*. 3rd of 3-part series, SisterCare, Columbia, SC.

Penney, P. (2020, January). *Trauma-informed care with adult survivors of Interpersonal Violence (IPC)*. 2nd of 3-part series, SisterCare, Columbia, SC.

Penney, P. (2019, November). *Strategies to foster trusting relationships in crisis settings*. Webinar presentation for South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (SCCADVASA) member organizations.

Penney, P. (2019, November). *Neuroscience foundations for understanding interpersonal trauma*. 1st of 3-part series, SisterCare, Columbia, SC.

Penney, P. & Merrell, M. (2019, October). *Adverse Childhood Experiences in rural communities: Addressing ACEs in children*. Upper Midlands Rural Health Network School Health Workshop: Trauma, Triage, and Treatments, Rock Hill, SC.

Penney, P. (2019, July). *Trauma-informed relational strategies for parents and caregivers*. Wired for Connection Weekend Conference, Augusta, GA.

Penney, P. (2018, October). *Trauma-informed care in emergency foster care setting*. Presentation to Palmetto Place Shelter.

Penney, P. (2018, March). *Trauma-informed clinical practice with children and families experiencing DV or SA*. Presentation to the clinical staff of South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Penney, P. (2018, February). *From Concept to Practice Considerations: Trauma- Informed Social Work with Children*. Professional Development Series, College of Social Work, University of South Carolina.

Penney, P. (2017, October). *Active learning in the MSW classroom*. Training for instructors, College of Social Work, University of South Carolina.

Penney, P. (2016, April). *Traumatic stress in children and adolescents: becoming trauma-informed in our practice*. Sumter Social Work Conference, Sumter, South Carolina.

Penney, P. (2016, February, May). *The impact of trauma on homelessness: how shelter staff and volunteers can help*. Family Promise of the Midlands, Columbia) volunteers.

Penney, P. (2015, June). *The humanitarian disaster of African orphaned children: Caregiving to build resilience*. Invited presentation, Humanitarian Disaster Institute Conference, Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois.

Penney, P. (2015, April). *Child trauma, attachment and trauma healing*. Invited plenary presentation and workshop, Trauma Healing Institute's Global Community of Practice, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Penney, P. (2015, December). *Self-care for emerging health professionals*. Invited presentation, Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina.

Penney, P. (2015, October). *Understanding traumatic stress: Helping our young children in the aftermath of the flooding*. Workshop presented to childcare directors and coordinators across South Carolina through the USC Child Development and Research Center, Columbia, South Carolina.

Penney, P. (2015, October). *Understanding traumatic stress: Helping our children in the wake of the flooding*. Presented to EdVenture after-school and museum staff, Columbia, South Carolina.

Penney, P. (2015, October). *Understanding traumatic stress*. Presented to College of Social Work students, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina.

Penney, P. (2015, October). *Understanding traumatic stress: Helping our children in the wake of the flooding*. Presented to Richland One School District, Columbia, South Carolina.

Invited International Presentations (with ICARA, 2015 – present)

Penney, P. (2020, Postponed). *Trauma-informed caregiving for trafficked and vulnerable children*. Invited by International Justice Mission, Ghana.

Penney, P. (2019, June). *Trauma-informed caregiving*. Three-day training with various organizations serving orphaned and vulnerable children in Nairobi, Kenya.

Penney, P. (2019, May). *Understanding trauma-informed practices with trafficked women and children*. Three-day training, invited by Herzwirk and a coalition of anti-trafficking organizations, Vienna, Austria.

Penney, P. (2019, May). *Trauma-informed child welfare support for maltreated children*. Two-day training with national leadership of Ministry of Social Development, Maseru, Lesotho.

Penney, P. (2019, May). *Trauma-informed social work practice with children and families*. Three-day training of 80+ undergraduate social workers and faculty, National University of Lesotho, Lesotho.

Penney, P. (2019, May). *Trauma-informed policing*. Four-day invited training of 60+ police leadership, Lesotho Mounted Police Service (LMPS), Maseru, Lesotho.

Penney, P. (2018, May). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Two-day training with Uganda Christian University Department of Social Work and community field partners, Mukono, Uganda.

Penney, P. (2018, July). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Two-day training with orphanages in Malawi.

Penney, P. (2018, June). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Three-day training with Teule Kenya, Oloitokitok, Kenya.

Penney, P. (2018, June). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Weeklong training with various NGOs, schools, and orphanages in Nairobi, Kenya.

- Penney, P. (2018, June). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Weeklong training with 20+ organizations serving orphaned and vulnerable, trafficked, and street children in Moshi, Tanzania.
- Penney, P. (2017, June). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Three-day training with various NGOs, orphanages, street child projects, and feeding projects. Nairobi, Kenya.
- Penney, P. (2017, May). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Three 3-day trainings for teachers, administrators, social workers, and community outreach workers. Family Legacy Mission International, Lusaka, Zambia.
- Penney, P. (2017, May). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Four-day training with national child development trainers (ToT) with Sentebale, Maseru, Lesotho.
- Penney, P. (2017, March). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Multiple three-day trainings and consultations with school counselors, teachers, and head 'mothers' with Family Legacy Mission International, Lusaka, Zambia.
- Penney, P. (May-June, 2016). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Four-day training with national child development trainers (ToT) with Sentebale, Maseru, Lesotho.
- Penney, P. (2016, May). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Four-day training and consultations with 125 caregivers, school counselors, and administration of Family Legacy Mission International, Lusaka, Zambia.
- Penney, P. (2015, July). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Three-day training with multiple organizations, Nairobi, Kenya.
- Penney, P. (2015, July). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Weeklong training and consultation with Children's Rescue Center and community collaborators, Bo, Sierra Leone.
- Penney, P. (2015, January). *Trauma-informed caregiving for orphaned and vulnerable children*. Weeklong training with Compassion International Kenya in Nairobi, Kenya.
- Penney, P. (2013, September). *Trauma recovery: Response to the Westgate terrorist attack*. Invited presentation to International School of Kenya (ISK) faculty, staff, and parents in the week following the Westgate terrorist attack, Nairobi Kenya.
- Penney, P. (2013, September). *Trauma recovery: For parents and their children*. Invited presentation to International School of Kenya (ISK) faculty, staff, and parents in the week following the Westgate terrorist attack, Nairobi Kenya.
- Penney, P. (2013). *Trauma of torture: treatment in counseling and community contexts*. Invited three-day training workshop, sponsored by IMLU (Independent Medico-Legal Unit which responds to torture survivors), Nairobi, Kenya.
- Penney, P. (2013). *Supporting the attachment needs of children with special needs in school*. Invited presentation to network of private school special needs support staff and directors across Kenya, Nairobi, Kenya.

Penney, P. (2009). *Addressing the heart needs of vulnerable children*. Invited keynote speaker, VIVA Conference, Nairobi, Kenya.

Penney, P. (2009). *Systemic and relational psychotherapy*. Presented to network of professionals in psychology, medicine, and social work, Nairobi, Kenya.

Penney, P. (2005). *Understanding the psychosocial needs of orphans*. Invited keynote speaker, VIVA Conference, Nairobi, Kenya.

Media Interviews

Penney, P. (4/30/20). Interview regarding how parents can support our kids during COVID-19. Guest on WIS-TV Morning Edition with Judi Gatson.

Penney, P. (2/20/20). Interview regarding parents working with their kids after child abduction and death. Guest on WIS-TV with Judi Gatson.

Penney, P. (12/10/19), quoted in Schiferl, J. *Charleston students bring violent neighborhood trauma into class. New mental health support could help*. Post & Courier, Charleston, SC.

Penney, P. (9/26/16). Anderson-Independent Mail interview, in response to the Townville Elementary School shooting in SC.

Penney, P. (9/23/16). How the flood of 2015 changed the lives of children in Columbia, filmed interview with Matt Walsh, from The State (SC) newspaper.

Penney, P. (9/12/16). South Carolina NPR interview regarding children's coping on the anniversary of the 2015 flood.

Penney, P. (7/21/16). *Taking a stand for our kids*, Town Hall Meeting. Participated in a panel discussion organized by Columbia Councilwoman Tameika Devine, focused on helping community members address the recent police shootings of unarmed Black men. Aired on nightly news and one-hour presentation.

Penney, P. (7/8/16) Televised interview with WOLO, ABC-TV. Interview regarding how to talk to young children and adolescents about violence (shootings of unarmed Black men and police shootings).

Memberships in Professional Societies

National Association of Social Workers, 2004 – present.

International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, 2009 – present.

Theraplay Institute, 2011 – present.

Kenya Association of Professional Counselors, 2012 – 2014.

Council on Social Work Education, 2019-2020; 2016 – 2017.

Teaching Grant

de Zeeuw Wright, M., Penney, P., & DiNovo, R. (2017-18). *The Case Study Project*, Dean's Teaching Innovation Award, University of South Carolina, College of Social Work.

Honors

Teacher of the Year. (2020). College of Social Work, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Teacher of the Year. (2018). College of Social Work, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Phi Alpha Honor Society honorary inductee. (2018). College of Social Work, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Certification

Approved Clinical Supervisor, South Carolina, 2017 - present

Licensed Independent Social Worker—Clinical Practice, South Carolina, 2016 – present

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Illinois, 1991 – 2017 (currently inactive)

Trauma and Loss Consultant, 2001

Institute for Trauma and Loss in Children (TLC)

Clinical certificate.

Family Systems Program Externship certificate, Chicago, Illinois, 1989 – 1990.

Institute for Juvenile Research

One-year post-graduate clinical training certificate in family systems and family therapy.

Recent Continuing Education

Theraplay®, Level 1 and Level 2 Training and Sunshine Circles training

Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy, Level 1 training

EMDR, Level 1 training (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing)

ARC training (Attachment, Self-Regulation, and Competency framework)

TF-CBT certificate (Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy)

Trauma and developmental trauma trainings

Education

Master of Social Work, June 1983

University of Illinois, Jane Addams College of Social Work, Chicago, Illinois

Child and Family specialization (scholarship)

Clinical Internship, DuPage County Health Department, Wheaton, Illinois (1982-1983)

Clinical Internship, Court Diversion Program, DuPage County, Wheaton, Illinois (1981-1982)

Graduate study in Music Theory and Composition, 1978 - 1980

University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin

Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, June 1978

Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois