



2025 FEB 14 12:48 PM

# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

February 14, 2025

Erie County Legislature  
92 Franklin St. – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, NY 14202

**RE: RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE YOUTH SERVICES BOARD**

Dear Honorable Members:

Be advised that, pursuant to Article 12, I hereby appoint the following individual to the Youth Services Advisory Board. Their term shall expire on **December 31, 2027**.

Meghann Simpson  
103 Pomona Place  
Buffalo, NY 14210

Should you have any questions, please contact my office at (716) 858-8500.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz  
Erie County Executive

cc: Karen Rybicki, Commissioner of Social Services  
Appointees

# Meghann R. Simpson

---

## Education

May 2024 -----B.A. Interdisciplinary Social Science & Minor in African American Studies  
May 2019-----A.A. Social Science & Human Services

---

## Work Experience

June 2024 – Current

### **Families Together in New York State, NY**

#### Statewide Youth Engagement Specialist

- Collaborate with OCFS, OHM, OASIS, NAPS, NAMI
- Host youth-oriented events for education, career development, and political advocacy
- Provide educational workshops at conferences per request
- Organize and oversee NYS Conference on Youth & Young Adult Mental Health

August 2023 – July 2024

#### Youth Training Coordinator

- Member of Rutgers University Youth C-PTSD Treatment Advisory Council
- Collaborate with OMH, CTAC, Rutgers University, PeerTAC
- Conduct social science research and experiments
- Develop and provide state-wide training on various mental health topics
- Present at speaking engagements & conferences

May 2023 – Current

### **Now She Speaks, Buffalo, NY**

#### Co-Founder & Development Director

- Oversee the development of all programs
- Develop and provide training on Domestic Violence, Interpersonal Violence, and Human Trafficking
- Facilitate victims & survivors support group
- Oversee Homeless Youth & Human Trafficking Intersectionality Training

February 2023 – July 2023

### **Baker Victory Services, Lackawanna, NY**

#### Youth Behavioral Health Specialist

November 2021 – January 2023

### **Endeavor Health Services, Cheektowaga, NY**

#### Clubhouse Program Supervisor

September 2021 – January 2023

#### Community Case Manager

November 2020 – November 2021

#### Clubhouse Program Assistant

---

## Certifications

Human Rights Consultant, August 2023  
Youth Peer Advocate Provisional Certificate, August 2023  
Therapeutic Crisis Intervention March 2023  
Mental Health First Aid USA, February 20<sup>th</sup> 2020  
Youth Mental Health First Aid USA, February 12<sup>th</sup> 2020

## Publications

Mental Health Stigmas in the Black Community – Behavioral Health News 2023

## References

Dr. Carl Stokes  
Instructor/Coordinator of Human Services at Suny ECC  
Contributor and Author of Stokes Media  
Mental Health Therapist & Social Worker  
(716) 270-2679, DrCarlStokesJr@gmail.com

Maggie Benjamin  
Coordinator of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Survivor Support Services at the International Institute of Buffalo  
Founder and CEO of Now She Speaks  
(716) 800-7542, Maggieb1292@gmail.com

Cassie McGee  
L.M.S.W. Personalized Recovery-Oriented Services  
Endeavor Health Services  
(716) 352-8474