# Heather A. Cruz

## Education:

Canisius College Master of Science in Education May 1999 Concentration: School Counseling New York State Permanent Certification in School Counseling

State University of New York College at Buffalo Bachelor of Arts Degree, December 1995 Major: Psychology

#### **Higher Education Experience**

## **Erie Community College**

# Dean of Students (February 2014- present)

Directed the operations of the following offices: Student Activities, Health Services, Student Government Association, Compeer Inc. Project

## Department Chair- Counseling (June 2009- 2014)

Responsible for the daily operations of the counseling center including all academic and administrative functions within the department. Oversaw a staff of approximately fifteen staff members that included counselors, mentors, clerical support staff, and interns to aid in the promotion of effective student services.

## Admissions Counselor (October 2002-2014)

Fostered relationships between ECC and local Buffalo public, private, and charter high schools that promoted comprehensive enrollment services and expedited the admissions acceptance

#### Student Access Counselor (October 2001-2002)

Provided case management services that included testing, coordination of accommodations, information, and referral.

# Career Exploration Internship Program Counselor (April 2000- October 2001)

Provided academic, personal, and vocational counseling to foster care youth ages 14-21. Assisted in the recruitment, screening, and selection of academically eligible students for the program

#### **Highlights of Qualifications:**

**Student Support and Retention**: Lead project manager for the implementation of the Early Alert tool, Starfish Retention Solutions.

**Program Development and Collaboration:** ECC Chair of Project AWARE, a grant based partnership along with seven other Western New York Community agencies that administers Mental Health First Aide training

**Title IX, VAWA, and Student Conduct:** Designated campus liaison for the implementation of Education Law 129-B mandates that were imposed by SUNY and Enough is Enough Legislation.

**Counseling**: Experienced in various counseling modalities with diverse populations

Online Survey: <u>http://bit.ly/CruzHeather</u>