
Christopher Botsko, MA

Senior Associate

SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

Mr. Botsko has over 15 years of experience supporting and evaluating systems and community change efforts. He has provided support to government agencies, nonprofits, community coalitions, and other entities as they seek to improve systems and supports covering a wide variety of groups including families with children, adolescents, women, and veterans and their families. Mr. Botsko has extensive expertise in evaluation and capacity building including the use of qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-method approaches to evaluation and capacity building in critical component areas of systems change including data use and development, leadership development, coalition building, and policy change. He has extensive experience conducting and developing protocols for focus groups, interviews, and developing and administering surveys to a wide variety of populations and in a wide variety of formats (e.g., telephone, mail, and on-line).

Mr. Botsko served as Project Director for technical assistance for the State Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Initiative (ECCS) which provided support to cross-agency, cross-organizational efforts to improve systems covering health, mental health, child care, family support, and parenting education in 49 States and 5 jurisdictions. His success led to him directing the evaluation of ECCS. He has also provided evaluation and support for Virginia Smart Beginnings coalitions- community-level systems change efforts directed at young children and their families. Mr. Botsko directed a project to assess the sustainability of a Federally-funded initiative to develop an integrated approach to women's health at academic medical centers and community health centers after Federal funding ended. The assessment included content analysis of project reports, surveys and interviews, and site visits.

He has also developed and carried out a project to build integrated community approaches to serving veterans and their families. Mr. Botsko and his team helped develop and support coalitions that are carrying out action plans to improve services and supports in two communities. These coalitions included a strong focus on developing leadership roles and skills for the newest generation of veterans. He has also conducted an evaluation for a Report to Congress on a health care access and outreach initiative for rural veterans in three States. In addition to evaluating the first year of implementation of the grants to States, he worked with the Office of Rural Health Policy to develop performance measures and a long-term monitoring system for the grants.

Mr. Botsko has conducted a maternal and child needs assessment for the State of Idaho and has worked in a variety of projects that include rural areas and has an in-depth understanding of the specific challenges that rural communities face. He has presented at a wide variety of meetings, workshops, and conferences and has helped facilitate and develop agendas for conferences, strategic and action planning meetings, and a variety of workshops.

EDUCATION

1989	MA - Sociology Completed Ph.D. coursework and qualifying exam.	Indiana University
1986	BA - Sociology High Honors	Rutgers University

WORK HISTORY

2011 - Present **Community Science**
Gaithersburg, MD
Senior Associate

Provides evaluation and capacity building support for a variety of projects addressing health disparities, child and youth development, community building, food assistance and nutrition, and systems change.

2010 - 2011 **Altarum Institute/Health Systems Research**
Washington, DC
Director, Center for Women, Children, and Adolescent Health

2005 – 2009
Senior Associate

2001 – 2004
Senior Policy Associate

1997 – 2000
Policy Associate

Designed and directed a large number of evaluation and technical assistance projects covering a wide range of topics and populations. These projects included: national, state, and community efforts involving the building of comprehensive systems for young children and their families; an examination of the sustainability of efforts to build comprehensive, multidisciplinary, community-focused initiatives to address women's health after Federal support for the initiatives ended; and community-based initiatives to provide comprehensive, integrated support to veterans and their families.

1995 - 1997 **Child Trends, Inc.**
Washington, DC
Research Analyst

Conducted research and provided technical assistance for a variety of projects examining welfare reform implementation with a special focus on effects on children. Summarized policy developments in welfare reform, child care, child welfare, and employment and training programs. Developed survey questions for large scale national surveys on the effects of changes in social welfare policy. Engaged in the production of reports on national and state indicators of child and family well-being and assisted in

writing and producing large-scale reports on trends in the well-being of children and youth.

1994 – 1995
Project Manager

**Indiana University Center for Survey
Research**
Bloomington, IN

Managed projects and reported survey results, analyzed survey data, constructed questionnaires and assisted in sample design; advised project directors on research progress; trained interviewers to carry out surveys; and monitored interviewers work to assure quality standards were being met.

1990 - 1993
Associate Instructor

**Indiana University Department of
Sociology**
Bloomington, IN

Taught courses in race and ethnic relations and social organization, including course and syllabus design; preparation of lectures; and formulation and grading of student assignments and exams.

1983 – 1987
Research Assistant

**Institute of Criminological Research,
Rutgers University**
New Brunswick, NJ

Assisted in writing reports; grant preparation; data collection from government agencies; telephone interviewing; and statistical analysis.

PUBLICATIONS

Gregory Hooks and Chris Botsko edited by Charles Bonser. Bloomington, IN: Institute for Development Strategies (1994) "The Economic Impacts of the Postwar Defense Program: The Regional Distribution of Munitions Facilities." in Dimensions of Change: Decline and Restructuring in the American Midwest, Pp. 305-22.

Larry Griffin, Christopher Botsko, Ana-Maria Wahl and Larry Issac. (1991) "Theoretical Generality, Case Particularity: Qualitative Comparative Analysis of Trade Union Growth and Decline." International Journal of Comparative Sociology 32: 110-136.

Larry Griffin, Holly McCammon, and Christopher Botsk (1990) "The Unmaking of a Movement: The Crisis of U.S. Trade Unions in Comparative Perspective," in M. Hallinan, D. Klein, and J. Glass (eds.) Change in Societal Institutions Plenum, Pp. 169-194.

SELECTED TECHNICAL REPORTS

Christopher Botsko (2011) *Flex Rural Veterans Health Access Program Implementation Evaluation*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Rural Health Policy.

Christopher Botsko (2011) *Sustaining Comprehensive Early Childhood Systems Building: An ECCS Evaluation Results Brief*, Altarum Institute.

Christopher Botsko, Amy Brown, and Sarah Lifsey. (2010) *Grants to States to Support Oral Health Workforce Activities: Report to Congress*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Health Professions.

Amy Brown and Christopher Botsko (2009) *Literature Review: Defining Sustainability of Federal Programs Based on the Experiences of the Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health's Multidisciplinary Health Models for Women*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women's Health.

Vivian Gabor, Christopher Botsko, and Sheryl Mathis (2007) *Needs Assessment Report for Vet Pop and The National Survey of Veterans, Servicemembers and Family Members*, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Policy and Planning.

Christopher Botsko, Jodi Anthony, and Laura Sternesky (2006) *Quality of Care for Children with ADHD in New York State Participating in Medicaid Managed Care: A Qualitative Assessment*, New York State Department of Health Office of Managed Care.

Beth Zimmerman, Judith Gallagher, Chris Botsko, Rebecca Ledsky, and Valerie Gwinner (2005) *Assessing the Bright Futures for Infants, Children and Adolescents Initiative: Findings from a National Process Evaluation*, Health Systems Research, Inc. for the Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

Christopher Botsko, Sheryl Mathis, and Jodi Anthony (2005) *An Assessment of the BabyCare Program*, Health Systems Research, Inc. for the Virginia Department of Health.

Christopher Botsko, Priscilla Mark-Wilson, Amy Brown, and Jodi Anthony (2005) *Providing and Obtaining Comprehensive Health Care: A Focus Group Study of Barriers and Opportunities*, Health Systems Research, Inc. for: The Oregon Department of Human Services.

Judith Gallagher, Jodi Anthony, Christopher Botsko, and Amy Brown (2005) *Maternal and Child Health and Children with Special Health Care Needs Five Year Assessment Report* Health Systems Research, Inc. for: State of Idaho

Department of Health and Welfare Division of Health Bureau of Clinical and Preventive Services.

Christopher Botsko and Priscilla Mark-Wilson (2004) *Findings and Recommendations: Delaware Focus Group Study*, Health Systems Research, Inc. for the Delaware SECCS Planning Committee.

Christopher Botsko, Renee Schwalberg, Judith Gallagher, and Jennifer Dunbar (2004) *The Use of Title V Resources in a Changing Health Care Environment: Current Utilization and Recommendations for the Future*, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

Vivian Gabor, Brooke Layne Hardison, Christopher Botsko and Susan Bartlett (2003) *Food Stamp Program Access Study: Local Office Policies and Practices*, Economic Research Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Judith Gallagher, Christopher Botsko, Priscilla Mark-Wilson and Anne Hopewell (2003) *Greater than the Parts: Collaboration Lessons for Catholic Charities and Catholic Health Care*, The Catholic Health Association of the United States and Catholic Charities USA.

Hilary Bellamy, Renee Schwalberg, Dorothy Borzsak, Jennifer Dunbar, Christopher Botsko, Jamie Hart, Michael Perry, Adrienne Dulio (2003) *Findings from the State Children's Health Insurance Program Focus Group Study*, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services. Health Systems Research, Inc.

Beth Zimmerman, Renee Schwalberg, Christopher Botsko, Judith Gallagher, and Dorothy Borzsak (2001) *Mental and Physical Health: Barriers To and Strategies For Improved Integration*, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, DHHS. Health Systems Research, Inc.

Jeffrey Capizzano, Robin Koralek, Christopher Botsko, and Roseana Bess (2001) *Recent Changes in Colorado Welfare and Work, Child Care, and Child Welfare Systems*, Assessing the New Federalism, The Urban Institute.

Christopher Botsko, Kathleen Snyder, and Jacob Leos-Urbel (2001) *Recent Changes in Florida Welfare and Work, Child Care, and Welfare Systems*, Assessing the New Federalism, The Urban Institute.

Hilary Bellamy, Dorothy Borzsak, Susan Williams, Christopher Botsko, Judith Gallagher, and Sheryl Anderson Mathis (2001) *Assessing the Effectiveness of Outreach and Enrollment in the Maryland Children's Health Program*, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Health Systems Research, Inc.

Vivian Gabor and Christopher Botsko (2001) *Changes in Client Service in the Food Stamp Program After Welfare Reform: A Synthesis of Case Studies in Eight States*, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), U.S.D.A. HSR.

Hilary Bellamy, Sheryl Mathis, Christopher Botsko, Susan Williams, and Marianna Kennedy (2000) *Strategies for Tracking and Monitoring SCHIP Outreach and Enrollment Activities: The Experience of Four States*, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Health Systems Research, Inc.

Pamela Holcomb, Kimura Flores, Marta Pernas, Carla Herbig, Karen Tumlin, and Christopher Botsko (1999) *Income Support and Social Services for Low-Income People in Florida*, Assessing the New Federalism, State Reports.

Kristin Seefeldt, Laura Kaye, Christopher Botsko, Pamela Holcomb, Kimura Flores, Carla Herbig, and Karen Tumlin (1998) *Income Support and Social Services for Low-Income People in Wisconsin*. Assessing the New Federalism, State Reports.

Christopher Botsko and Ian Hill (1998) *Health Plan Approaches to Perinatal Care*, The March of Dimes and the Milbank Memorial Fund.

Martha Zaslow, Kathryn Tout, Christopher Botsko, and Kristin Moore (1998) *Welfare Reform and Children: Potential Implications*, The Urban Institute. New Federalism Issues and Options for the States, Series A, No. A-23.

Vivian Gabor and Christopher Botsko (1998) *State Food Stamp Policy Choices Under Welfare Reform: Findings of 1997 50-State Survey*, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. Health Systems Research, Inc.

Brett Brown, Gretchen Kirby, and Christopher Botsko (1997) *Social Indicators of Child and Family Well-Being: A Profile of Six State Systems*, Institute for Research on Poverty University of Wisconsin-Madison, Special Report Series, Number 72. Child Trends Inc., Washington, DC.

Brett Brown and Christopher Botsko (1996) *A Guide to State and Local-Level Indicators of Child Well-Being Available Through the Federal Statistical System*, The Annie E. Casey Foundation. Child Trends, Inc., Washington, DC.

RECENT PRESENTATIONS, SYMPOSIA, AND WORKSHOPS

Sustainability of a Comprehensive Women's Health Initiative After Federal Funding Ends, American Public Health Association November 2011.

Creating Change in Policy And Practice At The Community, State, And National Level Through Comprehensive System Building, American Public Health Association November 2010.

Community Assessment of Services for Veterans and Their Families, J San Antonio Veterans Leadership Forum January 2010.

Challenges in Providing Evidence-based Care to Children with ADHD, American Public Health Association November 2007.

Quality of Care for Children with ADHD in New York State Participating in Medicaid Managed Care, New York State Department of Health, New York, NY December 2006.

An Assessment of the BabyCare Program, Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services, Richmond, VA December 2005.

The Role of Medicaid in Improving Birth Outcome, The Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs, Washington, DC February 2005.

Findings From Focus Groups Conducted with Parents and Guardians of Young Children, The 2nd National State Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Grantees' Meeting, Washington, DC, December 2004.

Partnering to Integrate Early Childhood Systems, The Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs, Arlington, VA. March 2002.

Welfare Reform and Anti-Poverty Policy, The University of Alabama in Huntsville Social Issues Symposium, Invited Speaker, Huntsville, AL, March 2000.

Measuring the Impact and Outcomes of Welfare Reform: The Assessing the New Federalism Project, The Maryland Association of Social Service Directors and the University of Maryland at Baltimore School of Social Work, Conference on Engaging the Community in Welfare Reform, Baltimore, MD, September 1997.

Indicators of Children's Well-being From Construct to Application, Project on State-level Child Outcomes. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC, April 1997.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Public Health Association
Society for Community Research and Action