

DANIELLE J. VALENTE

COMMUNITY AVOCATE

PERSONAL SUMMARY:

Experienced community organizer, counselor and talented facilitator, looking to utilize my passion for psychology, soccer and equity. Exceptionally skilled in fostering strong relationships, training and development. Energetic personality, highly self-motivated and organized with strong communication skills.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Pronouns: She/her

VOLUNTEER SUMMARY:

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Girls Soccer Worldwide | 2018-Present

- Non-profit's goals are centered on empowering girls to rise out of poverty through sports and education.
- Grassroots: Collaborate and develop the after school curriculum for Title 1 schools in San Francisco.
- Leadership: Assist in developing the leadership program and co-facilitate workshops focused on empowering and educating female teens to positively influence their communities. Developed and led the first GSW leadership summit in Philadelphia, PA.
- International: Coordinate end-to-end processes of interviewing potential ambassadors and lead local workshops with ambassadors and Paraguayans to create change and break the cycle of poverty.

CLINICAL RESOURCE MANAGER

The Hidden Opponent | 2020-2021

- Non-profit and advocacy group that raises awareness for student-athlete mental health and addresses the stigma within sports culture.

PEER MENTOR & INSTRUCTOR

SLV.Global | 2018

- Partnered with the National Youth Services Council, as a peer mentor: trained, mentored and supervised 15+ volunteers on development projects whilst liaising between volunteers and senior international and local staff.
- Community Mental Health Worker: worked within rural communities with those suffering with mental illnesses and their families/caregivers, provided psycho-education to help reduce stigma in local communities.
- English teacher: furthered English language skills in children to enhance opportunities for future work; conducted initial assessments and programs to develop baseline.

CAREER SUMMARY:

Safe Places to Play Associate I

U.S. Soccer Foundation | December 2021 - Present

- Manage the Mini-Pitch projects from idea to conceptualization, targeting urban and underserved communities to assure children have a safe and accessible place to play soccer.
- Develop and maintain corporate and community-based relationships.
- The Foundation's goal is to build 1,000 Mini-Pitches by 2026.

PROGRAM MANAGER

Deep Play for Kids, LLC | 2018-Present | Per Diem

- Assist the founder in leading workshops based on social and emotional learning, grit and self-esteem for adolescents, teens and professionals who work with these populations.
- Responsible to establish overall performance standards for numerous projects. Develop partnerships with local schools, coordinate and direct end to end processes throughout events.

TRAUMA INFORMED SPECIALIST

Neurologic by Lakeside | 2021

- Contracted to a Title 1 school in Southwest Philadelphia. Identify and develop plans to assist students in overcoming trauma related behavioral issues that are negatively impacting their education.
- Collaborate and consult with administration and staff to share tools and strategies that will best support each individual student in the school setting.

MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR

Holcomb Behavioral Health | 2019-2021

- Lead the treatment team, by developing and implementing the treatment plan, designing individualized behavioral interventions and facilitating weekly clinical supervisions and consultations.
- Highly effective in developing programs to assist clients in utilizing evidence-based interventions to address skill deficits, maintain acquired skills, gain self-help skills, conflict-resolution and stress-reduction techniques.

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SKILLS & EXPERTISE:

- Innovative and passionate
- Communication and presentation skills
- Problem solving and teamwork skills
- Organization and time management skills
- Project lead and conceptualization

ACADEMIC HISTORY:

LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY

Leeds School of Social Sciences, 2018

- Graduated with a master's degree in Interdisciplinary Psychology.
- Participated on the women's futsal team.
- While attending LBU, played semi-professional soccer for Bradford City and Guiseley A.F.C.

DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Social Sciences, 2015

- Graduated a semester early with Honors.
- Played on DSU's Division 1 soccer team, all 4 years.
- Team Captain 2014 & 2015.
- All-Conference Player: 2013 & 2014 & 2015.
- Served on the Student Athlete Advisory Committee as a liaison between student athletes and the athletic department.

REFERENCES:

Pamela Jacobsen - info@girlssoccerworldwide.org
Co-founder and President of Girls Soccer Worldwide
San Francisco, California

Jeff Sommer - jsommer723@gmail.com
President of Eastern PA Youth Soccer
West Chester, Pennsylvania

LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENTS & SOCCER EXPERIENCE

GIRLS' SOCCER COACH

- Assistant coach for Episcopal Academy (private high school) | 2019-2021
- Head coach of Main Line Soccer club u12 girls team | 2019-2021
- Coaching staff for ODP Eastern PA (u14 & u18) | 2019-2020

CLINICIAN STAKEHOLDER PANEL ON EXPOSURE THERAPY

Macquarie University & University of Oxford | 2020

- Through the Wellcome Trust, was selected to participate in three global workshops to advance research targeting the effectiveness of exposure therapy in children with anxiety disorders.
- This included contributing to broad aspects of experience in exposure techniques (in Vivo, Graded exposure, Flooding, Imaginal), effectiveness of treatment and familial contributions.

GLOBAL YOUTH ADVANCEMENT SUMMIT SPEAKER

Michigan State University | 2019

- Selected as a speaker at international conference on global health.
- Selected on highlighted panel to over 200 people addressing global inequities, the meaning of wellness and practical youth led approaches that promote overall mental health and well-being.
- Facilitated interactive workshop for over 50 people focused on mental well-being, providing practical tools to connect participants back to their hearts, and to improve their own mental health.

CHILDREN'S BOOK PUBLICATION

Breath Breaks with Missy | 2019

- Assisted in developing and writing a book aimed at encouraging children to breathe their way to focus, calm and attention.
- Foreword and reviews by Sharon Salzberg and Stephen Cope.

TEAM USA MEMBER

Taipei, Taiwan | 2017

- Chosen as a Member of the Women's Soccer Team for the 29th World University Games.
- Competed against France, Taiwan, Switzerland and Argentina.
- While in Taipei, volunteered time to provide underserved communities with food and taught soccer lessons.

SELF IMAGE WORKSHOP VOLUNTEER

Mind & Leeds Beckett University | 2017

- Researched, created and presented positive self-image workshops to adolescents.
- Collaborated with Leeds Beckett University to raise awareness for positive self-image to local schools.

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March 17, 2022

US Youth Soccer
*Governance & Nominating
Committee*

9220 World Cup Way
Frisco, TX
75034

Dear Gloria Faber and Team:

I hope this finds you well. I am overjoyed to hear about the new Athlete Member, Board of Directors opening at US Youth Soccer. Since graduating with my master's degree in Psychology and being immersed in different cultures around the world - **my personal and professional lens widened exponentially. I found my passion in advocating, learning and leveraging the power of soccer to bring communities together.**

Growing up and playing for the CT and Regional ODP teams, I know the USYS's high impact on an adolescent's life. I've played throughout these programs during formative years of my life - and I can confidently say they have shaped who I am today.

There is no doubt soccer transcends sport. The importance herein lies of assuring the processes in place are apt from the top, down. I believe this begins with the Board of Directors. **With my unique perspective, curious mind, and commitment to the bigger picture, I am confident I would be a valuable addition.**

It would be an honor to sit on the Board of Directors and give back that which has given me so much. This role is a perfect match for my personal and professional interests, and I would be honored to discuss how I can be an asset to your team. I appreciate your time.

With gratitude,

Danielle Valente
(She/her)