

**University of Vermont**  
**Department of Social Work**  
**Field Instructor Award**  
**2016 - 2017**

Each year, the Department of Social Work designates one Field Instructor to receive our Field Instructor Award. This award is given to a social worker in a community agency for distinguished service as an educator in preparing students in the field for social work practice. This year the award goes to:

**Kerri Duquette-Hoffman** for her exceptional work with our students at WomenSafe.

Kerri has worked with us in the role of Field Instructor for 10 years. She was nominated by the Field Liaison group who spoke of her steady and conscientious attention to learning – and – her commitment to providing ongoing and helpful feedback on student process records. One liaison said that she learned a lot from reading Kerri's feedback and they it was clear that she is a wonderful practitioner. As a Field Coordinator, I join with the liaisons and her students in their appreciations and want to acknowledge that she has needed to engage in some very tough situations and that she worked through them all with amazing grace.

The following thoughts have been shared by former and current field students:

- Kerri is an extremely intelligent woman who's passion for social work, social justice, and education come t through in her agency work, her work with colleagues, and definitely with me, her intern.
- Kerri explain things to me in a very thorough manner and is gentle when she points out ways that the work could have been done differently.
- This placement exceeded my goals this year – thanks to my supervision with Kerri
- Kerri was so dedicated to my learning and had the superior gift of being present to me, as an intern.
- I am thankful that Kerri pushed me (in a supportive way) to learn things I may not have volunteered for on my own.
- Kerri has a cutting edge approach to social work practice and I am so grateful to have been exposed to that.
- I felt like I could come to Kerri with anything – and – she always knew what to say.

And from your colleague and fellow field instructor at WomenSafe, Foresta Castenada, she writes -- *Please send my congratulations to Kerri. Here are some things I would say if I could be there: We at WomenSafe are so proud of our fearless leader! I cannot think of anyone more deserving for this award. I have been so thankful to have Kerri as a fellow colleague, field instructor and mentor.*

So, Kerri from the faculty and staff and students at UVM in the Department of Social Work...Thank you – thank you for all that you do for our students, and all that you do for the community around domestic and sexual violence.