

BREE AKESSON

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CURRENT POSITIONS

Wilfrid Laurier University

Assistant Professor, Lyle S. Hallman Faculty of Social Work
Faculty, Social Justice & Community Engagement (SJCE) Master's Program

Child Protection in Crisis (CPC) Learning Network, Program on Forced Migration and Health, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

Faculty Affiliate

Child Psychiatric Epidemiology Group (CPEG), Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, New York State Psychiatric Institute

Clinical Treatment Facilitator

Columbia Group for Children in Adversity

Research Associate

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Global Social Work	Global social work practice Social service workforce development Intersections between social work and public health
Child Protection	Psychosocial effects of war and disaster on children and families Children and families affected by trauma Social ecological frameworks for child protection Intergenerational transmission of violence
Research Methods	Rapid ethnography in instable contexts Grounded theory analysis Interviewing children and families Mixed methods in global contexts Engaging young children in research
Social Work Education	Graphic narratives in global social work education Self-care for social work students in international field placements Doctoral social work education, professional development, and support

EDUCATION

- 2009 – 2014 **McGill University, School of Social Work**
PhD, Social Work
 Dissertation: “Contradictions in place: Everyday geographies of Palestinian children and families under occupation”
 Committee: Myriam Denov (Chair), Claudia Mitchell, Ceren Boğaç
 Awards: K.B. Jenkes Prize for Thesis Excellence and Director’s Prize for Outstanding Doctoral Research in Social Work
- 2004 – 2006 **Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health**
MPH, Population and Family Health / Forced Migration and Health
 Thesis: “Evaluation of psychosocial assessment tool for children affected by forced migration and conflict in the Northern Caucasus”
 Advisor: Neil Boothby
- 2003 – 2006 **Columbia University, School of Social Work**
MSSW, Advanced Clinical Social Work Practice / Health, Mental Health and Disabilities
 Thesis: “Rethinking psychosocial healing in complex emergencies”
 Advisor: Michelle Ballan
 Awards: Diamond Jubilee Fund Scholar
- 1997 – 2001 **Columbia University**
BA, Sociology
 Thesis: “Cascade of interventions: The medicalization of childbirth”
 Advisor: Herbert Gans
 Awards: Gold Crown Award for Outstanding Leadership

RESEARCH FUNDING

- 2015 – 2016 **Childrearing under fire: Implications for child protection**
Principal Investigator
 Funding: Wilfrid Laurier University (CAD\$9,950)
- 2015 **Child protection practices & related workforce needs in southeast Europe**
Principal Investigator
 Funding: European Union, Oak Foundation, & Austrian Development Cooperation (EUR10,350)
- 2013 – 2014 **Social service workforce training in West & Central Africa**
Co-Investigator
 Funding: UNICEF (US\$56,952)
- 2011 – 2014 **Mapping safe spaces: How children & families experience safety amidst armed conflict**
Principal Investigator
 Funding: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) (CAD\$150,000)
- 2010 **Mapping of child protection monitoring, evaluation, & research tools**
Co-Investigator
 Funding: UNICEF (US\$16,480)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- D'Amico, M., Denov, M., Khan, F., Linds, W., & **Akesson, B.** (in review). Research as intervention: Experiences with visual participatory methodologies for children affected by political violence. Submitted for review to *Global Public Health: An International Journal for Research, Policy and Practice* on 18 March 2015.
- Akesson, B.** (in press). Trees, flowers, prisons, flags: Frustration and hope shaping national identity for Palestinian families. Accepted for publication in *Global Studies of Childhood*.
- Akesson, B.** (in press). School as a place of violence and hope: Tensions of education in post-intifada Palestine. Accepted for publication in *International Journal of Educational Development*.
- Rothwell, D., Lach, L., Blumenthal, A., & **Akesson, B.** (2015). A scoping review of doctoral scholarship in Canada: Implications for the discipline. Accepted for publication in *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*.
- Akesson, B.** (2014). "We may go, but this is my home": Experiences of domicile and resistance for Palestinian children and families. *Journal of Internal Displacement*, 4(2), 8-22.
- Akesson, B.**, D'Amico, M., Denov, M., Khan, F., Linds, W., & Mitchell, C. (2014). "Stepping back" as researchers: Addressing ethics in arts-based approaches to working with war-affected children in school and community settings. *Educational Research for Social Change*, 3(1), 75-89.
- Akesson, B.** (2014). Castle and cage: Meanings of home for Palestinian children and families. *Global Social Welfare*, 1(2), 81-95.
- Denov, M. & **Akesson, B.** (2013). Neither here nor there? Place and placemaking in the lives of separated children. *International Journal of Migration, Health and Social Care*, 9(2), 56-70.
- Akesson, B.** (2012). The concept and meaning of place for young children affected by political violence in the occupied Palestinian territories. *Spaces and Flows*, 2(2), 245-256.
- Akesson, B.**, Hoven, C., Mandell, D., Donina, K., & Doan, T. (2012). Parental involvement with the criminal justice system and the effects on their children: A collaborative model for researching vulnerable families. *Social Work in Public Health*, 27(1-2), 148-164.
- Ager, A., **Akesson, B.**, Stark, L., Okot, B., McCollister, F., Flouri, E., & Boothby, N. (2011). The impact of the school-based Psychosocial Structured Activities (PSSA) program on conflict-affected children in northern Uganda. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 52(11), 1124-1133.
- Ager, A., Stark, L., **Akesson, B.** & Boothby N. (2010). Defining best practice in care and protection of children in crisis-affected settings: A Delphi study. *Child Development*, 81(4), 1271-1286.
- Akesson, B.** (2008). Addressing the psychosocial needs of pregnant women affected by war: Program approaches and program gaps. *Refuge*, 25(1), 55-59.
- Akesson, B.** (2005). War is not the only trauma: Rethinking psychosocial healing in complex emergencies. *Columbia Social Work Review*, 3, 34-42.

Peer Reviewed Book Chapters

- Akesson, B.** (in review). The socio-spatial development of national identity for Palestinian children and families: Insights from the concept of territoriality. In Z. Millei and R. Imre (Eds.), *Ideals of Childhood*

and Nation in the Twenty-First Century: International Case Studies and Perspectives (Critical Cultural Studies of Childhood Series). New York, NY: Palgrave MacMillan. Revisions submitted on 15 December 2014

- Akesson, B.** (in review). Raising babies in the context of political violence: Voices from Palestinian parents. In A. Gottlieb and J. DeLoache (Eds.), *A world of babies: Imagined childcare guides for seven societies*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. Submitted for review on 1 December 2014.
- Akesson, B.** (in press). Geographies of Palestinian children: A critical review of the scholarship. In K. Horschelmann and C. Harker, (Eds.), *Geographies of children and young people: Conflict, violence, and peace* (Vol. 11). UK: Springer.
- Akesson, B.** (in press). Holding everything together: Experiences of Palestinian mothers under occupation. In T. Takseva & A Sgoutas (Eds.), *Mothers under fire: Mothering in conflict areas*. Bradford, ON: Demeter Press.
- Akesson, B.** (in press). Miasma of violence affecting Palestinian children and families. In C. Ergler, R. Kearns, & K. Witten (Eds.), *Geographies of children's health and wellbeing in urban environments*. Farnham, Surrey, UK: Ashgate Press. Revisions submitted on 16 March 2015.
- Akesson, B.** (in press). Using mapmaking to study the personal geographies of young children affected by political violence. In N. Worth, I. Hardill, & S. Lucas (Eds.), *Researching the lifecourse: Critical reflections from the social sciences*. Bristol, UK: Policy Press.
- Akesson, B.** (2014). Arrested in place: Palestinian children at the border (pp. 81-98). In S. Spyrou & M. Christou (Eds.) *Children and borders*. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.

Encyclopedia Entries

- Akesson, B.** (in press). Millennium villages project. In M. Odekon & J.G. Golson (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of world poverty* (second edition). SAGE Reference.
- Akesson, B.** (in press). Palestine. In M. Odekon & J.G. Golson (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of world poverty* (second edition). SAGE Reference.

Reviews

- Akesson, B.** (in press). The violence of the image. [Book review.] *Visual Studies*.
- Akesson, B.** (2014). Ameer got his gun. [Film review.] *Visual Studies*, 29(1), 99-100.
- Akesson, B.** (2013). A different light: The photography of Sabastião Salgado. [Book review.] *Visual Studies*, 28(1), 104-105.

Magazine Articles

- Akesson, B.** (2011, June). Research with young children affected by family violence: Proposing a robust research agenda. *Early Childhood Matters*, 116, 22-25.

Reports

- Canavera, M., **Akesson, B.**, & Landis, D. (2014, August). *Social service workforce analysis and strengthening in the West and Central Africa region*. New York, NY: Columbia Group for Children in Adversity.
- Ager, A., **Akesson, B.**, & Shunk, K. (2010). *Mapping of child protection monitoring and evaluation tools*. New York, NY: Columbia Group for Children in Adversity.
- Akesson, B.** (2009). *A review of safe spaces for young children in unstable settings*. The Hague, Amsterdam: Bernard van Leer Foundation.
- Williamson, J., Wessells, M., & **Akesson, B.** (2008). *Engaging with communities for child well-being*. Washington, DC: Interagency Learning Initiative (ILI).
- Akesson, B.** (2008). *Care and protection of children in crisis-affected countries (CPC): Improving methodologies, increasing knowledge*. New York, NY: Program on Forced Migration and Health.
- Akesson, B.** (2008). *Care and protection of children in crisis-affected countries (CPC): Good practice, policy change brief*. New York, NY: Program on Forced Migration and Health.
- Boothby, N., Ager, A., & **Akesson, B.** (2008). *Household livelihoods in crisis situations: What do we know and need to learn about economic interventions for child protection and well-being*. New York, NY: Columbia University's Program on Forced Migration and Health.
- Akesson, B.** (2005). *Evaluation of psychosocial assessment tool in the Northern Caucasus*. New York, NY: The International Rescue Committee.

Working Papers

- Akesson, B.**, Burns, V., & Hordyk, S-R. (2014). The place of "place" in social work: Rethinking the person-in-environment model. Working Paper available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2486156>
- Akesson, B.** (2013). Suicide terrorism as a process of meaning-making and identity-formation among youth. Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2481279>
- Akesson, B.** & Oba, O. (2013). Beyond words: Graphic narrative in the global social work classroom. Working paper available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2481318>
- Akesson, B.** Ives, N., & Denov, M. (2012). Integrating self-care into the classroom: Preparing social work students for the challenges of international field settings.
- Bailey, S.N., Bogossian, A., & **Akesson, B.** (2013). Starting where we are at: Developing a student-led doctoral teaching group.

Articles in Preparation

- Akesson, B.**, Braganza, M., Rothwell, D., & Lach, L. (in preparation). Analysis of qualitative doctoral dissertations in Canada.
- Akesson, B.** & Shokirova, T. (in preparation). Home demolitions: A violation of children's and families rights.
- Gokani, R., **Akesson, B.**, & Bogossian, A. (in preparation). Fathering under fire: Palestinian men raising and protecting their children under occupation.
- Rothwell, D., Lach, L., **Akesson, B.** & Braganza, M. (in preparation). The intervention paradox: Why does so much social work education and so little social work practice focus on intervention?

Trocmé, N., **Akesson, B.**, & Jud, A. (in preparation). Mapping the child protection universe: A framework for mapping child protection agencies

PRESENTATIONS

Peer Reviewed Conference Presentations

Akesson, B. (2015, January). Cage and castle: The role of home for Palestinian children and families. Paper presented at the *Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference* in New Orleans, LA.

Mitchell, C., Denov, M., Linds, W., D'Amico, M., **Akesson, B.**, & Khan, F. (2014, May). Ethical beginnings and ethical endings: Arts-based participatory research with youth affected by armed conflict. Paper presented at *7th Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS)* at Université de Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2014, April). Hope and hopelessness under occupation: Contradictions in place for Palestinian children and families. Paper presented at the Joint Area Center's (JAC's) *Children and Globalization: Issues, Policies and Initiatives Symposium* at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL.

Bailey, S., Bogossian, A., & **Akesson, B.** (2013, November). Starting where we are at: Process analysis of a student-led doctoral teaching group. Paper presented at the *Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)*, Dallas, TX.

Akesson, B. (2013, June). Cage and castle: The role of home for Palestinian children and families. Paper presented at the *Global Health and Well-Being: The Social Work Response Conference* at New York University, New York, NY.

Burns, V., **Akesson, B.**, & Hordyk, S-R. (2013, June). The place of "place" in social work: A fresh look at the person-in-environment model. Paper presented at the *Canadian Association for Social Work Education Conference (CASWE)*, Victoria, BC.

Akesson, B. (2013, April). Arrested in space: Palestinian children and families experiences with visible and invisible borders. Paper presented at the *Annual General Meeting of the Association of American Geographers (AAG)*, Los Angeles, CA.

Denov, M. & **Akesson, B.** (2013, March). Neither here nor there? Place and placemaking in the lives of separated children. Paper presented at *6th Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS)* at St. Mary's University, Halifax, NS.

Akesson, B. (2012, May). Entering family spaces: Lessons from place-based research with families in conflict settings. Paper presented at the International Showcase of Social Work at the *Canadian Association of Social Work Education (CASWE) Annual Conference*, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON.

Akesson, B. (2012, May). Using graphic narratives in the international social work classroom. Paper presented at the *Canadian Association of Social Work Education (CASWE) Annual Conference*, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON.

Akesson, B. (2012, February). Using mapmaking to study the personal geographies of young children affected by political violence. Paper presented at the *Annual General Meeting of the Association of American Geographers (AAG)*, New York, NY.

Akesson, B. (2011, November). The concept and meaning of place for young children affected by political violence in the occupied Palestinian territories. Paper presented at *Spaces and Flows: An International Conference on Urban and ExtraUrban Studies*, Monash University, Prato, Italy.

- Akesson, B.** (2011, November). The concept and meaning of space and place for young children affected by political violence in the occupied Palestinian territories. Paper presented at the *Global Conference on Space and Place*, Prague, Czech Republic.
- Akesson, B.**, Ives, N., & Denov, M. (2011, October). Self-care in the classroom: Preparing students for the challenges of international field placements. Paper presented at the *Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)*, Atlanta, GA.
- Akesson, B.** (2010, June). Salutogenesis: A theoretical approach for illuminating resilience in young children affected by armed conflict. Paper presented at the *Pathways to Resilience II: The Social Ecology of Resilience Conference*, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS.

Other Academic Presentations

- Akesson, B.**, Canavera, M., Landis, D., & Armstrong, M. (2015, February). Social work education in West and Central Africa: Implications for child protection. Presentation at *Faculty of Social Work Annual Research Forum*, Wilfrid Laurier University, Kitchener, ON.
- Root, J. & **Akesson, B.** (2015, January). Exploring the impacts of violence in local and global contexts. Mock lecture for prospective BSW students, Wilfrid Laurier University, Brantford, ON.
- Akesson, B.** (2014, October). Working in the gray: Dichotomies of social work in contexts of armed conflict. Invited keynote address for *2014 Equity Forum: Disrupting the Construction of the "Other" in the Media*, Wilfrid Laurier University's Lyle S. Hallman Faculty of Social Work, Kitchener, ON.
- Akesson, B.**, Canavera, M., & Landis, D. (2014, May). Social work education in West and Central Africa: Implications for child protection. Invited presentation for the *Centre for Research on Children and Families (CRCF) Research Seminar*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.
- Akesson, B.** (2014, March). Contradictions in place: Everyday geographies of children and families in the occupied Palestinian territories. Invited presentation at Wilfrid Laurier University, Kitchener, ON.
- Akesson, B.** (2013, December). Contradictions in place: Everyday geographies of children and families in the occupied Palestinian territories. Invited presentation at the Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA.
- Akesson, B.** (2013, March). Arrested in space: Palestinian children and families experiences with visible and invisible borders. Invited presentation for the *Centre for Research on Children and Families Research Seminar*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.
- Akesson, B.** (2013, February). Contemporary issues in high-conflict settings. Invited guest presentation for the *International Relations Students' Association (IRSA)* at McGill University, Montréal, QC.
- Akesson, B.** (2012, October). Entering family spaces: Challenges of place-based research in contexts of violence. Invited keynote presentation at the *Annual Alumni Homecoming Lecture*, McGill University School of Social Work, Montréal, QC.
- Akesson, B.** (2011, February). Perspectives on child soldiers. Invited presentation to the *Rights and Democracy Student Network Conference*, Université de Québec, Montréal, QC.
- Akesson, B.** (2008, October). What is the current state of knowledge on early childhood development in emergencies? Invited guest presentation for the *Annual Meeting for the Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development (CGECCD)*, Budapest, Hungary.

Akesson, B. (2007, September). Careers in public health. Invited panel presentation at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY.

Akesson, B. (2006, April). Addressing the psychosocial needs of pregnant women affected by war: Program approaches and gaps. Invited paper presentation at the Columbia School of International and Public Affairs' symposium, *Caught in the Crossfire: The Effects of War on Women and Girls*, New York, NY.

Akesson, B. (2005, May). Psychosocial healing in complex emergencies. Invited paper presentation at the launch of the *Columbia University Journal of Student Social Work*, New York, NY.

Community Presentations

Akesson, B. (2015, March). Social work in extremis: Addressing challenges and mobilizing strengths with war-affected children and families. Invited keynote address for the *Social Work Week Annual Breakfast*, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton & Hamilton Health Sciences, Hamilton, ON.

Akesson, B. (2013, November). Issues affecting children in war settings. Keynote speaker for the World Summit for Children Committee at the *Secondary Schools' United Nations Symposium (SSUNS)*, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2013, January). Forced migration of children and families. Invited keynote address for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Working Group at *McGill Model United Nations*, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2011, February). The power of place for the children in Palestine. Invited presentation to the Montreal Dialogue Group (MDG), Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2010, November). The power of place: The importance of sense of place for children affected by war. Invited presentation at the TEDxMcGill conference, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2010, February). Community and activist work at home and abroad. Invited panel presentation for McGill University's Career Planning Service (CaPS), Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2008, November). Identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect. Invited guest presentation to the Child Psychiatric Epidemiology Group at New York State Psychiatric Institute, New York, NY.

Akesson, B. (2006, October). Public health crisis in Chechnya and beyond: Post conflict and persistent challenges. Invited presentation at the International Center for Tolerance Education, Brooklyn, NY.

Broadcast Interviews

Akesson, B. (2013, November 11). Non-violent resistance in Palestine. Radio interview on Caravan: Community News for Arabs and Muslims (CKUT Radio), Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2011, February 23). The effects of political violence on children in the occupied Palestinian territories. Radio interview on Caravan: Community News for Arabs and Muslims (CKUT Radio), Montréal, QC.

Text Interviews

Morgan, M. (2014, September 1). 'Out of place': The Palestinian definition of home. *Daily News Egypt*.

INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANCIES

- 2015 **Children in Crisis (CPC) Learning Network**
Research Associate
 Leading research project using the Delphi method in order to determine effective practices and approaches to strengthen the global social service workforce
- 2015 **Terre des Hommes**
International Lead Researcher
 Leading and overseeing the development of a baseline study to identify the existing child protection practices and the social service workforce related needs to recommend strategies for improving effective social work and child protection interventions and strengthen social workforce in eight countries in south-east Europe (Albania, BiH, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia)
- 2013 – 2014 **UNICEF, West and Central Africa Regional Office**
Research Associate / Consultant, Columbia Group for Children in Adversity
 Mapped formal and informal training of social workers and other paraprofessionals by universities, social work institutes, and non-governmental organizations in West and Central Africa in order to inform the development of a regional strategy to strengthen the social welfare workforce
- 2012 – 2013 **University of KwaZulu-Natal**
Writer for International Child Protection Curriculum
 In conjunction with international team of child protection experts and supported by UNICEF and Save the Children UK, developed teaching and learning materials for open-source online child protection in emergencies post-graduate diploma based at University of KwaZulu-Natal and University of Indonesia.
- 2010 **Child Protection Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group (CMERG)**
Research Associate / Consultant, Columbia Group for Children in Adversity
 Identified monitoring and evaluation tools and created tool matrix for child protection mapping exercise for UNICEF and Save the Children. Developed a comprehensive mapping framework for current child protection monitoring and evaluation tools.
- 2009 **Bernard Van Leer Foundation (BVLFF)**
Research Consultant
 Conducted desk review of interventions for young children in emergency settings
- 2008 – 2009 **Consultative Group for Early Childhood Care and Development (CGECCD)**
Research Consultant, Early Childhood Care and Development in Emergencies Working Group
 Generated draft position paper, incorporating experts' opinions and feedback from annual consultation. Initiated discussions on content and structural changes with review committee and facilitated agreement on proposed new framework. Solicited feedback from key informants and stakeholders.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2009 – 2014 **McGill University School of Social Work**
Research Assistant

Assisted in development of funding proposals on social work and child protection. Supported design of university courses on trauma and resilience and social work theory. Assisted with editing of introductory social work and international child rights book. Investigated potential funding opportunities.

- 2007 **Child Psychiatric Epidemiology Group (CPEG)**
Research Coordinator, Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, NYS Psychiatric Institute
 Coordinated research projects for children and families affected by trauma. Conducted interviews. Coded and analyzed research data. Prepared, wrote, and reviewed grant proposals. Developed presentations and edited publications. Supervised graduate interns.
- 2006 – 2009 **Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University**
Program Manager (2007 – 2010), Care & Protection of Children in Crisis-Affected Countries
 Designed research protocols and piloted assessment and evaluation methodologies for research studies examining child protection and well-being issues. Supervised and supported field researchers and coordinated research analysis. Assisted with dissemination of research, including distribution of policy briefs, presentations at global meetings, publication in journals, and coordination of conferences.
- Research Associate (2006 – 2007), Center for New Media Teaching and Learning*
 Developed case studies on Cambodia, Rwanda, and Sudan, with a focus on child protection and gender-based violence and their intersections with humanitarian law and international politics in complex emergency settings. Created an online global classroom.
- Program Coordinator (2006), Program on Forced Migration and Health*
 Assisted with general program coordination and management, including editing of book on children affected by armed conflict. Oversaw first-stage of international child protection research project, organized program and grant files. Provided field support for students and faculty. Assisted with academic projects and curriculum design.
- 2006 **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)**
Research Assistant, Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival
 In conjunction with the Fragile State Team, drafted and revised public health publications.
- 2004 – 2005 **International Rescue Committee**
Research Associate, Chechnya/Ingushetia (2005)
 Evaluated psychosocial program in Chechnya and Ingushetia. Synthesized findings and suggested improvements to better meet needs of population. Prioritized best practices for future programs. Trained psychosocial counselors to improve staff competencies.
- Research Assistant, New York (2004 – 2005)*
 Assisted global security advisor with researching and writing country reports and context assessments. Developed educational materials for child and youth protection and development unit. Developed international regional donor strategy for health unit.

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2006 - **Child Psychiatric Epidemiology Group (CPEG), Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, New York State Psychiatric Institute**
Clinical Treatment Facilitator
 Provide clinical referrals to children and families involved in longitudinal research study in three cohorts: (1) families affected by 9/11, (2) first responders, and (3) families with an incarcerated parent.
- 2006 **Outside the Dream Foundation**
Interim Program Director
 Managed international non-governmental agency that provided educational stipends to vulnerable children in Uganda.
- 2005 – 2006 **Jacobi Medical Center, Trauma and Burn Intensive Care Units**
Caseworker
 Provided family-focused psychosocial services to patients and families. Implemented traumatic loss and end-of-life counseling, crisis intervention, and discharge planning.
- 2003 – 2004 **Goddard-Riverside Community Center, Project Reachout (PRO), Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team**
Outreach Worker
 Worked with severely mentally-ill homeless population, assisting with attainment of housing, medication management, and psychosocial needs. Utilized family systems theory, cognitive behavioral therapy, crisis intervention, solution-focused therapy, all within client-centered and community-based framework.
- 2003 **Erikson Center for Adolescent Development, San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center**
Youth Development Counselor
 Supervised and counseled at-risk adolescents at residential day treatment center. Integrated crisis intervention strategies, behavior management systems, and multi-disciplinary treatment plans.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor (University-Level)

- 2015 SK121: Introduction to Social Work Practice, Values, and Ethics (BSW)
 SK222: Child Welfare (BSW)
- 2014 – 2015 SK111: Introduction to Social Welfare (BSW)
- 2014 SK500: Human Development in Context (MSW)
- 2012 SWRK 532: International Social Work (MSW and BSW)
- 2010 – 2011 SWRK 220: History and Philosophy of Social Work (BSW)

Teaching Assistant (University-Level)

- 2010 – 2011 SWRK 400: Policy and Practice with Refugees (BSW)
- 2009 SWRK 525: Critical Thought and Ethics (BSW)

Instructor (Community-Level)

2002 Public Health Instructor, Eor-Ekule Secondary School, US Peace Corps, Narok, Kenya

1997 - 2001 Community Health Instructor, American Red Cross, Los Angeles, CA & New York, NY

Guest Lectures

Akesson, B. (2015, March). Contradictions in place: Everyday geographies of Palestinian children and families under occupation. Guest lecture for *HR328: Global Issues, Global Governance: United Nations in the 21st Century*, Wilfrid Laurier University, Brantford, ON.

Akesson, B. (2015, January). Social justice research in action. Guest lecture for *SJ690: Social Justice Research and Professionalization Forum*, Wilfrid Laurier University, Brantford, ON.

Akesson, B. (2014, November). Self-care for social workers. Guest lecture for *SK212: Social Work as Transformative Action*, Wilfrid Laurier University, Brantford, ON.

Akesson, B. (2014, February). Statelessness: Challenges for social work. Guest lecture for *SWRK 400: Policy and Practice with Refugees*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2013, December). The meaning of place and displacement: Research with Palestinian children and families. Guest lecture for *SWRK 532: International Social Work*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2013, October). International human rights policy. Guest lecture for *SWRK 428: Social Policy and Administration*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2013, October). Social work in conflict zones: Issues and complexities. Guest lecture for *SWRK 532: International Social Work*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2013, February). Using psychosocial support to address global mental health. Invited guest lecture for *Inter-Professional Global Health Course*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2013, February). Statelessness: Challenges for social work. Guest lecture for *SWRK 400: Policy and Practice with Refugees*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2012, December). An introduction to international social work. Guest lecture for *SWRK 220: History and Philosophy of Social Work*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2012, October). Entering family spaces: Lessons from social work research with families in conflict settings. Guest lecture for *SWRK 643: Research Methods*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2012, March). Statelessness: Challenges for social work. Guest lecture for *SWRK 400: Policy and Practice with Refugees*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2012, February). Community-based approaches to practice with populations affected by trauma. Guest lecture for *SWRK 621: Trauma and Resilience*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.

Akesson, B. (2011, November). Mapping children's place: Personal geographies of children in the oPt. Guest lecture for *SWRK 532: International Social Work*, McGill University, Montréal, QC.

HONORS, AWARDS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

2014 Faculty Travel Grant
Wilfrid Laurier University

CAD\$750

2014	Director's Prize for Outstanding Doctoral Research McGill University, School of Social Work	CAD\$1000
2014	K.B. Jenkes Prize for Thesis Excellence McGill University	CAD\$600
2013	Graduate Student Teaching Award McGill University, Faculty of Arts	CAD\$500
2011	Graduate Scholar Award Spaces and Flows Conference, Common Ground Publishing	USD\$500
2010 - 2011	Arts Graduate Student Travel Grant McGill University, Faculty of Arts	CAD\$2000
	McCall MacBain Award McGill University	CAD\$5,000
	Center for Research on Children and Families Travel Grant McGill University	CAD\$1,500
2009 - 2011	Principal's Graduate Fellowship McGill University, School of Social Work	CAD\$30,000
2005 - 2006	Diamond Jubilee Fund Scholarship King-Solomon-Beethoven Lodge #232 F. & A.M.	USD\$3,000

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Research in Cultures of Young People (ARCYP)
 Association of American Geographers (AAG)
 Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS)
 Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE): *International Affairs Committee*
 Centre for Research on Children and Families (CRCF)
 Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
 International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM)
 International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW)
 International Consortium for Social Development (ICSD)
 International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW)
 International Visual Sociology Association (IVSA)
 International Studies Association (ISA)
 Middle East Studies Association (MESA)
 Mixed Methods International Research Association (MMIRA)
 Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP)
 Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)
 Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE)

OTHER SKILLS

Professional Trainings and Certificates

- 2015 Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans Course on Research Ethics (TCPS2: CORE)
 Systematic Review Methods Workshop, Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), New Orleans, LA
- 2014 Introduction to Multiple Linear Regression, Building Research Capacity (BRC) with First Nations and Mainstream Youth Protection Services in Québec, Centre for Research on Children and Families, McGill University
- 2013 Teaching Students to Document Empirical Research Workshop, Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)
 Beyond the Research Paper Teaching Workshop, McGill University Teaching and Learning Services
 Web Editing and Management, McGill University Teaching and Learning Services
- 2011 Qualitative Methods Workshop: Developing and Writing Proposals for Funding, New York University School of Social Work
- 2010 Introduction to Course Design and Teaching, McGill University Teaching and Learning Services
 Student Response System Using Turning Point Software, McGill University Teaching and Learning Services
 Camtasia for Course Design, McGill University Teaching and Learning Services
- 2009 Learning to Teach Professional Development Workshop, McGill University Teaching and Learning Services
- 2008 Using SAS, New York State Psychiatric Institute
 Using SPSS, New York State Psychiatric Institute
 Intermediate Excel, New York State Psychiatric Institute
- 2007 Licensed Master Social Worker, New York
- 2005 Using EpiInfo 3.3.2, Safe Horizon, New York
- 2004 Psychotherapy with Refugees of Trauma, The White Institute, New York
 Practical Front Line Assistance & Support for Healing (PFLASH), New York Mental Health Association
- 2003 Facility Manager Training, Erikson Center for Adolescence, Los Angeles

Languages

- 2010 French Immersion (*Level Beg-Int*), Université du Québec à Montréal
 2001 Swahili Language Training (*Level 3*), United States Peace Corps, Kenya
 2000 Swedish Immersion (*Level 2*), Mälardalens Högskola, Sweden

ACADEMIC SUPERVISION

Supervision of Master's Thesis

- 2014 - Amber Richardson (MA, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Committee Member of PhD Dissertations

- 2014 - Hend Shalan (PhD, Wilfrid Laurier University)

Supervision of Graduate Research Assistants

- 2014 Alishau Diebold (MSW, Wilfrid Laurier University)
 2015 - Inês Lincho (MSW, Wilfrid Laurier University)

SERVICE

Peer Reviewer

- 2015 - Israeli Science Foundation (1)
 2015 - *Global Public Health* (1)
 2014 - *Canadian Journal of Children's Rights* (1)
 2014 - *International Journal of Migration, Health, and Social Care* (2)
 2013 - *Girlhood Studies Interdisciplinary Journal* (1)
 2013 - *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry* (2)
 2013 - *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research* (3)
 2011 - *McGill Sociological Review* (1)
 2011 - *Social Work Education* (4)
 2011 - *Spaces and Flows: An International Journal of Urban and Extraurban Studies* (3)

University Service

- 2014 - BSW International Field Placement Sub-Committee, Lyle S. Hallman Faculty of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University
 2014 - BSW Curriculum Review Sub-Committee, Lyle S. Hallman Faculty of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University
 2014 - Department Appointment and Promotions (DAP) Committee, Lyle S. Hallman Faculty of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University
 2014 - Graduate Student Appeals Committee, Wilfrid Laurier University

2014 - BSW Committee, Lyle S. Hallman Faculty of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University

Community Service

2014 - Golden Horseshoe Beekeeping Association
Member

2013 - 2014 Santropol Roulant, Montréal, Québec
Apiculture Collective Volunteer

2009 - 2011 Special Olympics, Guelph, Ontario & Montréal, Quebec
Assistant Coach

2007 - 2014 Columbia College Alumni (CCA) Association, New York, NY
Alumni Representative Committee Québec Chair (2011 – 2014)
Columbia College Women Executive Board Member (2007 – 2010)

2007 - 2008 Achilles' Track Club, New York, NY
Guide for Athletes with Disabilities

2004 - 2008 Health Global Access Project, New York, NY
Health Advocate

2003 Camp Laurel Foundation, Inc., Los Angeles, CA
Youth Counselor

2001 - 2002 United States Peace Corps, Nairobi, Kenya
Community Public Health and Development Volunteer

2000 - 2001 International Organization for Adolescents, New York, NY
Youth Advisory Board Member

1997 - 2001 Columbia University Emergency Medical Services, New York, NY
Executive Director (2000)
Personnel Director (1999)
Crew Chief (1998 – 2001)