Brian J Strode

327 Wilderness Rd, Hampton, VA 23669

757-577-2756 [brianjstrode@gmail.com](mailto:brianjstrode@gmail.com)

EDUCATION

* 05/2008 to 12/2009
  + Master of Science in Education
  + Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA
  + Major: Counseling
  + Specialized in Community/Agency Counseling Track
  + Degree program was, and still is, CACREP accredited
  + Graduated in December 2009
  + Final GPA: 3.54
* 08/2006 to 05/2008
  + Bachelors of Science
  + Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA
  + Major: Health Sciences
  + Minors: Human Services & Psychology
  + Graduated in May 2008
  + Final GPA: 3.48
  + Dean’s List for Spring 2008 semester (one of only two semesters I was eligible)
* 08/2002-08/2006
  + Associates of Science
  + Tidewater Community College, Portsmouth, VA
  + Major: General Studies in Science
  + Graduated in December 2006
  + Final GPA 3.1
  + Began college career with Concepts in Critical Care as a Paramedic at TCC
* 01/2000 to 05/2001
  + EMS Certification Courses
  + Network Medical Systems, Chesapeake, VA
  + Took ALS certification courses one level at a time
  + Passed VA Certification Exam for EMT-Shock Trauma in Spring 2000
  + Passed VA Certification Exam for EMT-Cardiac Technician in late 2000
  + Passed NREMT exam for EMT-Paramedic in June 2001
  + Reciprocated into Virginia in July 2001
* 08/1999 to 12/1999
  + Regional Firefighting Academy
  + Tidewater Regional Fire Academy, Virginia Beach, VA
  + Regional Firefighting Academy
  + Class Number 69
  + Successfully completed

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

* 10/2013 to 04/2014
  + Triage Consultant
  + Value Options

1434 Crossways Blvd

Chesapeake, VA 23320

* + 800-342-9647
  + Type of Business: Insurance company operating as an employee assistance program. Immediate supervisor: Lisa Corbett, Call Center Supervisor
  + Salary: $25.00 per hour. No Benefits.
  + I was a contracted employee under a temp agency named Delta-T. The contact details for Delta-T are not made available to me; I applied under Value Options and was not informed I was under a temp agency until after I had started the job. I employed as a temporary employee, but I was not informed of this when I started; I was informed that I would be permanent with benefits in 01/2014, but that never came to be.
  + I was employed under the Military OneSource program, which is a division of Value Options.
  + Duties: Answered phone calls from people using the services available via the Military OneSource program. Determined the caller’s eligibility for services and directed them to the correct department. The job was advertised as a clinical mental health position for practitioners and required a graduate degree in a mental health license eligible field; however, clinical skills were only used to approve or deny a caller for clinical services provided by mental health practitioners outside of the company. The job was an in-bound customer service call-center position.
  + I was informed by the temp agency on a Monday morning that my assignment with Value Options was ending immediately. I had been informed by my supervisor on the previous Friday that I would be made a permanent employ with Value Options anytime soon. I was not given a reason for my assignment ending.
* 06/2012 to 10/2013
  + Emergency Services Counselor IV
  + City of Norfolk, Community Services Board

3755 E Virginia Beach Blvd

Norfolk, VA 23502

* + 757-664-7690
  + Type of Business: Public mental health therapy agency
  + Immediate supervisor: Shelby Giles, Program Manager of Emergency Services
  + Salary: $43,588/year, plus benefits.
  + Duties: As a part of a mobile crisis team, intervened crises involving clients with mental illness in acute settings. These duties included crisis intervention counseling to de-escalate the crisis and to seek inpatient hospitalization for clients in serious risk of harm to self or others. This included petitioning magistrates for clients in need of treatment involuntarily. This position also included monitoring a crisis call line for crisis intervention and counseling via telephone as well.
  + During my time of employment, I created a form that was used as a tool by the practitioners that increased effectiveness and efficiency in finding and securing clients’ placement in inpatient psychiatric facilities. This form was adopted by the regional leaders to be used by multiple agencies in the region.
  + I resigned with notice. I enjoyed this job, my supervisor, and my colleagues; however, I worked 50+ hours a week on inconsistent schedules that were mostly evenings, overnights, and weekends. I accepted another job only because I had to find a work/life balance that met the needs for myself, my employer, and my family.
* 04/2012 to 06/2012
  + Emergency Services Clinician
  + Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare

301 Elm Ave SW

Roanoke, VA 24016

* + 540-345-9841
  + Type of Business: Public mental health agency
  + Immediate supervisor: Kelly Clineville
  + Salary: I was offered about $37,500 when hired, but I was dropped to about $34,000 after I started. I was supposed to have benefits.
  + Duties: As a part of a crisis team, intervened crises involving clients with mental illness in acute settings. These duties included crisis intervention counseling to de-escalate the crises and to seek inpatient hospitalization for clients in serious risk of harm to self or others. This included petitioning magistrates for clients in need of treatment involuntarily. This position also included monitoring a crisis call line for crisis intervention and counseling via telephone as well.
  + After accepting the job offer, I was paid at a significantly lower salary. I was offered the job at Norfolk CSB and accepted the offer. I submitted my resignation from this position, but the agency denied my resignation. The next day the agency suspended me without informing me why, refusing to explain why. They then terminated me, refusing to provide a reason when I asked.
* 07/2011 to 04/2012
  + Guidance/Career Services Counselor
  + USDA Forest Service, Great Onyx Job Corps Center

3115 Ollie Ridge Rd.

Mammoth Cave, KY 42259

* + (270) 286-4514
  + Type of Business: Educational and vocational training center for at-risk adolescents.
  + Immediate supervisor: David Harris, Center Director
  + Salary: $47,448/year (GS-9 Step 1), plus benefits.
  + Duties: This job had multiple facets of responsibilities. In the education counseling portion of the job, I was required to help students develop education plans that led to them obtaining a high school diploma, a GED, or meeting minimum academic requirements to complete the Job Corps program, all as a part of a team involving teachers and education administrators. These education plans included, but were not limited to, implementing individual development plans for learning disabilities and monitoring those plans for effectiveness. In the vocational counseling portion of the job, I was responsible for helping students decide what trades they would like to learn and assist them in becoming successful in their trades. Included in this was helping the at-risk adolescents learn employability skills to help them be successful in all of their professional endeavors. I was also responsible for accountability of all of my assigned students on a daily basis and monitoring students’ progress towards successful completion of the Job Corps program. The final facet of my duties was related to mental health counseling. I used counseling skills to diffuse situations and conflicts students had to help them overcome stressors they experienced adjusting to life on the Job Corps center and to becoming a professional person. I did this mental health counseling component working together with a licensed counselor that was available on the Job Corps Center.
  + I resigned with notice. The position was not what I understood it to be as far as providing the professional opportunities I was seeking. Center administrators were aware of my being misinformed and I worked with them to arrange a separation that was fair and beneficial for both the center and me. Also, my family was struggling with life in Kentucky and wanted to get back to anywhere in Virginia.
* 12/2009 to 07/2011
  + Access and Emergency Services Clinician
  + Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services Board

15361 Bradford Rd.

Culpeper, VA 22701

* + (540) 825-3100
  + Type of Business: Public mental health agency
  + Immediate supervisor: John DiNonno, Access and Emergency Services Manager & Debra Pulaski, Access and Emergency Services Coordinator
  + Salary: $35,197.50/year, plus Emergency Services on-call rate (starting and current), plus benfits.
  + Duties: The job consisted of crisis intervention counseling sessions and employee assistance counseling sessions for clients dealing with stressors and/or substance abuse that were leading to a mental health disturbance for that client. The job also consisted of conducting preadmission screenings for inpatient placement into a mental health facility and/or a substance abuse facility. In addition, the job consisted of collecting information and data that was used to schedule clients for the non-emergency clinicians and to gather information on the clients that were followed by the non-emergency clinicians. The difference between this job as an emergency clinician and the non-emergency clinicians with the agency was that this job was focused on short-term solution focused therapy whereas the non-emergency clinicians focused on long term care.
  + I resigned this job with proper notice. I was offered a job that, when presented to me, appeared to be an opportunity to provide better for my family and advance my professional growth. If I had the maturity and knowledge then that I do now, I would not have left this job.
* 02/2008 to 12/2009
  + Student Employee: Control Room Tech
  + Old Dominion University-Peninsula Center

600 Butler Farm Rd. Suite 2000

Hampton, VA 23666

* + (757) 766-5200
  + Type of Business: Higher Education University
  + Immediate supervisor: Corey Herbin, Control Room Engineer
  + Salary: $10.70/hour (starting), $11.50/hour (ending). No benefits.
  + A student employment position while transitioning career goals.
  + Duties: The job consisted of ensuring that state of the art audiovisual equipment was in working order for classroom presentation and for the transmission and reception of broadcasted courses. The job also consisted of building and maintaining a video library of all Old Dominion University courses that were broadcasted to or from the facility for future review.
  + I left the job because it was automatically terminated upon my completion at the school because it was a student employee position.
* 09/2001 to 12/2006
  + Paramedic/Firefighter
  + Hampton Division of Fire and Rescue

40 Lincoln St

Hampton, VA 23669

* + (757) 727-6580
  + Type of Business: Public Safety (Fire and Rescue) Department
  + Immediate Supervisor: David Barnett, Lieutenant
  + Salary: About $27,500/year (starting), About $48,000/year (ending). Plus benefits.
  + Duties: I performed assigned duties that are routine among most suburban fire and EMS departments. In addition, I taught in-station EMS continuing education material, initial EMT-Basic courses and basic and advanced life support continuing education courses while assigned as an instructor in the Training Bureau. I also had some experience as an Acting Lieutenant, sometimes as a battalion EMS supervisor and sometimes as station officer. Spent most of my career focus on EMS, often riding the medic while on shift duty. I also “precepted” several new ALS providers exclusively, providing them the post-classroom training they needed to practice independently under the medical director, as assigned by my commanding officers.
  + I supervised new recruits while they were fire academy students taking their initial EMS certifications courses. The number was about 10, give or take a few. The instructor position was a Lieutenant’s position, thought I was never formally promoted. As an acting officer in a station, I supervised station personnel ranging from 2 to 7 firefighters and medic/firefighters for the shift. As an acting officer as a battalion wide EMS supervisor, I supervised approximately 10 medics on the ambulances plus the personnel that responded on other fire apparatus. In both acting officer positions, I occasionally supervised fire and related scenes until chief officers arrived to assume command.
  + I resigned with notice. I resigned because I began to become interested in mental health and scholarly work as I matured professionally and as a human being. I chose to resign to focus on my academic requirements to make a career change into counseling.

Internships and Practicums

* 05/2009 to 12/2009
  + Student Chaplain/Counseling Practicum and Intern Student
  + Sentara Careplex Hospital

3000 Coliseum Dr.

Hampton, VA 23666

* + (757) 736-1201
  + Type of Business: Medical Hospital
  + Immediate supervisor: David Plummer, Chaplain
  + Salary: Unpaid professional practicum and internship
  + Duties: While in this position, I provided unscheduled counseling to medical patients, and their family and friends, who were at the hospital in the emergency department, admitted to the floor, and in the outpatient cancer treatment center. I also provided unscheduled counseling to staff within the hospital.
  + I left the position because it was automatically terminated upon completion of my internship.
* 09/2009 to 12/2009
  + Counseling Student Intern
  + Optima EAP

Bayside Medical Plaza

816 Independence Blvd Suite 1A

Virginia Beach, VA 23455

* + (757) 363-6777
  + Type of Business: Employee Assistance Program
  + Immediate supervisor: Don Martin, Clinical Manager
  + Salary: Unpaid professional internship
  + Duties: I provided solution-focused counseling, 3-8 sessions depending on the contract, to employees and family members of employees who worked for a business contracted with Optima EAP. The structure was 1 hour counseling sessions with development of treatment plans, keeping case notes, and appropriate terminations or referrals. Most of the clients served were generally higher functioning clients dealing with stressors affecting their everyday functioning.
  + I left the position because it was terminated at the completion of my internship.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

* 08/2011 - 03/2012
  + Youth Ice Hockey Assistant Coach
  + Owensboro Youth Hockey League, Owensboro, KY
  + Assisted the head coach on my son’s youth ice hockey team, focusing primarily on goaltending.
  + Though my name was on the game rosters and I was required to be registered with USA Hockey, I was not recognized as an official team coach by the league as I was recruited by the head coach to assist the team for the season.
* 08/1998 to 09/2001
  + Volunteer Firefighter
  + Fox Hill Volunteer Fire Company, Hampton, VA
  + Began fire service experience immediately following high school
  + Active member until resignation
  + Required to resign after I was hired by the city
* 07/1999 to 09/2001
  + Volunteer EMT
  + Buckroe Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad, Hampton, VA
  + Awarded Rookie of the Year for 1999
  + Active member until resignation
  + Required to resign position after I was hired by the city

AWARDS RECEIVED

* Rookie of the Year
  + Buckroe Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad
  + 1999
* Dean’s List
  + Old Dominion University
  + Spring 2008

LICENSES and CERTIFICATIONS

* State of Virginia, Real Estate Salesperson License, License number 0225213403
* Currently certified as a CSB Evaluator and Preadmission Screener by Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. Need to be employed by and endorsed by a CSB for the certification to be valid.
* During career in Fire Department, was certified in various firefighting and emergency medical services certifications, which included various firefighting certifications, Fire Officer I certification, Fire Instructor I certification, EMT-Paramedic certification, EMT-Instructor certification, and Advanced Life Support Coordinator certification, among a host of others. Due to my career change and a change in professional goals, I have allowed nearly all of these certifications to expire, but I mention them to show my commitment to being the best that I can be in my professional endeavors.

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

* Kathy Brauer

1216 Niles Court

The Villages, FL 32162

757-254-6810

Former co-worker at Hampton Division of Fire and Rescue

* Christi Medice

6394 Whittington Rd

Exmore, VA 23350

757-442-9310

Former Lieutenant at Hampton Fire and Rescue

* Christina Ritenour

5525 Orange Rd

Radiant, VA 22732

434-305-8103

Former co-worker at Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services Board