

Barbara Thorsen

EDUCATION

School	Degree	Area of Concentration	Date
Sonoma State University	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	1986
Kid's Time Institute, CA Department of Education	Trainer	School age providers	1999 - 2001

EMPLOYMENT

Employer	Title	Dates
Center for Applied Research Solutions (CARS)	Project Manager	2008 - Present
Sonoma State University – Family Violence Prevention Unit	Co-Director	2003 - 2008
Sonoma State University – Family Violence Prevention Unit	Project Coordinator	2001 - 2003
Sonoma County Family YMCA	Associate Program Director	2000 - 2001
Richard Crane YMCA Childcare Program	Site Director	1997 - 2000

Ms. Thorsen is currently Program Manager for the Center for Applied Research Solutions (CARS) bringing her expertise in managing Technical Assistance (TA) service delivery, training coordination and program management. At CARS she manages the TA component for the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) and Community Prevention Initiative (CPI) grants for the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs. In this capacity she is responsible for the delivery of over 2,500 TA days per contract year between SDFSC and CPI, overseeing all aspects of technical assistance process: reviewing assignments, hiring consultants, invoicing and working with subject matter experts to ensure accurate and timely service for both projects.

Before joining CARS, Ms. Thorsen managed Federal and State grants at Sonoma State University for 7 years where the content included reducing children's exposure to violence, the Indian Child Welfare project, mandated child abuse reporter training, substance abuse, and domestic violence. Among the funders for these projects were the California Department of Social Services, The California Attorney General's Office, Crime and Violence Prevention Unit and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Additionally, Ms. Thorsen has extensive knowledge and skill in providing services to children and families through her experience as the director of various child development centers.