



Opportunities' Alumni

Where are they Now



Who: Taralee (Cortez) Lashway

When did she work for LCOI? 2009 - 2011

What was her last job title? Victim Service Advocate

I worked as a Victim Advocate for Lewis County Opportunities until February of 2011. I took a lot of my experience with me to my new opportunity on Fort Drum, where I was the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator until April of 2012. At that time, I began an internship at Family Counseling Services of Northern New York (FCS) where I worked primarily with children and families involved with Child Protective Services.

I completed my graduate studies and received my MS in Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT) in December of 2012 and was hired as a full-time therapist with FCS. In December 2013, I received my license in New York State as an MFT and continued to work at FCS until August 2014. I then received an opportunity to work with Soldiers on Fort Drum as the Risk Reduction Program Coordinator. During this time, I gathered and compiled data to create training and awareness programs to help reduce the risk of child and spousal abuse, harassment and sexual assault, alcohol and substance abuse and suicide. I also continued my studies and received my certification as a NYS Credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor and my National Master Addiction Counselor Certification. In June of 2016, I started a position as a Counseling Psychologist at the Fort Drum Substance Use Disorder Clinical Care facility, which is where I am today.

"It is amazing where the world leads you and where you find your calling. Lewis County Opportunities, Inc. was instrumental in kick starting my career helping others. I value my time there and continue to support all the great work they do."