

# CAROLYN WARD

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## EDUCATION

**University of Michigan** August 2024 - June 2026  
Masters in Social Work

**Carleton College** June 2019  
BA in Religion

*\*Colorado School of Public Health Class* September - November 2022

- Completed Social Justice Youth Engagement, a 7-week (10.5 hour) online course.
  - Learned tools to establish and sustain equitable relationships with young people.
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## SOCIAL SERVICES WORK EXPERIENCE

**TORCH Coordinator** March 2023 - June 2024  
*Healthy Community Initiative, Northfield, MN*

*TORCH (Tackling Obstacles and Raising College Hopes) supports students of color, future first-generation college students, and low-income youth in Northfield's middle and high school communities by encouraging students to envision continued education post-secondary in a form that fits the individual student best. northfieldtorch.org*

- At high school, supported 24 juniors and seniors who were taking PSEO (Post-Secondary Enrollment Options) classes. Met with young people to take quizzes together, work in small groups on class materials, edit essays, and provide scaffolding for how to interact with professors. Also focused on student concerns around sexual health, as well as went through the process with young people to receive therapy outside of school.
  - At middle school, worked with ~50 students to create individual plans that identified areas of intervention, goals, and future aspirations. Communicated with parents to discuss outside of school opportunities for youth. Interacted daily with students in skill building and power-sharing.
  - Across both HS and MS TORCH, imagined, implemented, and planned a partnership between TORCH and the RAVE (Reduction and Awareness of Vaping and E-Cigarette) initiative to put on a Speaker Series where community members came to talk with young people about life skills, such as what healthy boundaries in romantic relationships look and feel like and managing a debit and credit card. Proud moment: we had a young person from our local non-traditional HS come share his experience with addiction.
  - 160 hours per month (per week: 20 hours @ Northfield MS, 20 hours @ Northfield HS)
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**Project Manager** March 2022 - May 2023  
*Healthy Community Initiative, Northfield, MN*

- Worked in Youth Substance Invention and Prevention in Rice County (in Faribault and Northfield) with the Youth E-Cigarette Minnesota Department of Health grant. Created and facilitated a new Rice County youth leadership team for the RAVE initiative. The 12 youth on the team met twice every month to explore the root cause for why young people choose to vape, build leadership skills, and create space for support (many students identified as Queer and were actively vaping or had quit nicotine).
- Managed the RAVE grant budget (\$125K spending allowance per year), work plan, and paid

students for their time. Acted as point-person at HCI for communicating with the Minnesota Department of Health.

- Assisted 17 students in NHS TORCH who were taking a variety of PSEO classes.
- 160 hours per month (per week: 20 hours with RAVE, 20 hours with PSEO students)

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**AmeriCorps Promise Fellow**

September 2019 - August 2021

*Minnesota Alliance with Youth, Minneapolis, MN*

*Host Site: Northfield Middle School TORCH Program, Northfield, MN*

- Worked with MS students on homework both in-person and on zoom. Collaborated with students on self-advocating about schoolwork and communicating with teachers. Met and discussed student progress with school counselors, administration, and other multi-tiered systems of support. Planned and led 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders during after-school programming from 3:30-5pm on Monday - Thursdays.
- Provided solutions during Distance Learning, *Oct 2020 - Feb 2021*, i.e. connected families with Wi-Fi Hotspots, dropped-off headphones to students struggling to find a quiet working space, and distributed meals/snack-packs to family homes. Was the point-person on staff for communication with the local Food Shelf.

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**Student Wellness Advocate**

September 2017 - May 2018

*Carleton College Office of Health Promotion, Northfield MN*

- Constructed dialogue around complex issues (i.e. suicide prevention, disordered eating) with campus community. Facilitated discussions surrounding mental health and competitive stress-talk with first year students. Researched how gender-based discrimination affects success in the classroom.

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**LANGUAGES SPOKEN**

Fluent English  
Proficient Spanish

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**LEADERSHIP/HONORS/ACTIVITIES**

- Certified in Mental Health First Aid June 2022, September 2017
- Attended NCTOH (National Conference on Tobacco or Health) June 2022
- Attended MPPSC (Minnesota Prevention Program Sharing Conference) October 2022
- Recipient of Four Friends Fellowship June 2018  
*carleton.edu/student-activities/programs/four-friends-fellowship*
- Trained in Green Dot Bystander Practices September 2017