

Erica C. Ernst, LCSW, RDDP, EMT-P, CADC
Renaissance Social Services
Clinical Director

Ms. Ernst has worked in the fields of mental health and substance use for 24 years, the last 21 being at Thresholds. Erica was formerly the Program Director of Grais Apartments, which is a 44 apartment Harm Reduction and Housing First focused permanent residence for formerly homeless individuals who have a diagnosis of a mental illness as well as substance use. Erica previously was the supervisor of the Mobile Assessment Unit CTA Project and initiated the HIV/AIDS Prevention Project. She has volunteered with the Chicago Recovery Alliance for the last 10 years and implemented their free counseling program.

Erica has been a contributing presenter with the Midwest Harm Reduction Institute for the last 10 years and has presented widely on topics related to the Harm Reduction model and Trauma-Informed care, most recently and the Harm Reduction Coalition conference. She received her MSW from Jane Addams College of Social Work, and her BA in Psychology from Boston University.