

**Aaron Kemmerer**  
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## EDUCATION

<b>Ph.D. in Social Work</b> Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA	<b>Anticipated 2024</b>
<b>Master of Social Work</b> Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA	<b>2020</b>
<b>BA in Philosophy &amp; Gender Studies, <i>magna cum laude</i></b> Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA	<b>2012</b>

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<b>Teaching Assistant</b> <i>Richmond Public Schools</i> YMCA Power Scholars Program	<b>2019</b>
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- Implement summer school programs for middle school RPS students.
- Collaborate with a team of teachers to educate middle school students.
- Develop lesson plans for literacy and theatre classes.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS AND EXPERIENCE

Community-based solutions to affordable housing crises, particularly for LGBTQ+ youth populations; gender, racial, and economic justice in Southern and rural communities; mutual aid organizational development and radical community structures.

<b>Research Assistant</b> <i>School of Social Work, Virginia Commonwealth University</i>	<b>2018</b>
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- Assistant to Drs. McDonald, Wagaman, and Wike
- Involved in preliminary efforts for a study entitled, "LGBTQ+ and Human Animal Interaction."

<b>Research Assistant</b> <i>School of Social Work, Virginia Commonwealth University</i>	<b>2019 – 2020</b>
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- Assistant to Dr. Wike, conducting primary qualitative research.
- Analyzed data for "Safe as Yourself" Study which examined the experiences of LGBTQ+ youth in rural communities.

## HONORS & AWARDS

Outstanding Graduating Senior	<b>2012</b>
Dean's List	<b>2009 – 2012</b>

## PUBLICATIONS

Wagaman, M.A. & Kemmerer, A. (2021). Transgender & nonbinary youth empowerment. *Social Work and Health Care Practice with Transgender and Nonbinary Individuals and Communities: Voices for Equity, Inclusion, and Resilience*.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Housing Services Intern**

**2019 – 2020**

Side by Side Virginia

- Offer case management services to LGBTQ+ youth who are unstably housed through the Host Home Program
- Engage in clinical practice settings through individual sessions and peer support groups
- Collaborate on community development meetings and aspects of training

### **Hotline Specialist and Community Development Intern**

**2017-2019**

YWCA, Greater Richmond Regional Hotline

- Connect individuals and families experiencing crisis to shelter and community-based services.
- Respond to RHART (Regional Hospital Accompaniment Response Team) calls to advocate for survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault.
- Keep records through VAData and HCIS databases.
- Engage in effective prevention efforts across the community, offering education and training about healthy relationships, intimate partner violence, and sexual violence

### **Shelter Staff**

**2016 – 2018**

Hanover Safe Place

- Support survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault at a trauma-informed, low barrier shelter.
- Promote healthy relationships and assist clients to meet their basic needs.
- Respond to RHART calls and coordinate with hospital staff.

## **ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS**

### **Vice President**

**2011 – 2012**

VCU Philosophy Club

## **COMMUNITY WORK**

### **Girls Rock! RVA**

**2010 – 2018**

- Organize a free youth program using music education to empower girls and gender-nonconforming youth.
- Work with all-volunteer staff to ensure camp operates smoothly.
- Coordinate events and grants for fundraising.

### **Southerners on New Ground (SONG)**

**2011 – 2018**

- Research and develop campaigns to address issues of racial and economic justice, mass incarceration and the impact of violence on marginalized communities across the South.
- Learning from and building with people – collectively and individually.

### **Advocates for Richmond Youth**

**2014 – 2016**

- Collect and analyze CBPR data on housing instability affecting youth, specifically LGBTQ+ youth.
- Organize meetings and community events,
- Participate in professional coalitions and train service providers.