

Amanda Schuelke joined the Northeast Michigan Regional Defender Office as our staff social worker in October 2022. Amanda works with our clients by identifying their needs, connecting them to services within the community to address those needs, providing case management and support; and assisting with sentence mitigation when appropriate. She also identifies clients who would benefit from mental health diversions and advocates tirelessly on their behalf.

Prior to joining our team, Amanda's professional experiences stretch over sixteen years where she specialized in working primarily with adults who have Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, Serious Persistent Mental Illness, or both. Amanda also has a broad range of experience working with individuals and families who struggle with circumstances such as substance abuse, past trauma, homelessness, domestic violence, sexual abuse, codependency, anger management, and more.

In addition to her direct interactions with clients, her focus areas include advocacy, resourcing, linking, coordinating, networking, and building community partnerships; all while strengthening a more person-centered approach within the legal realm.

Amanda is a graduate of Madonna University, receiving highest honors.

She is certified in:

- First Aid CPR AED Infant and Child/Adult
- Non-Violent Crisis Intervention
- Gentle Teaching
- PRIDE training
- Dementia Training
- Mental Health First Aid
- Mental Health First Aid Trainer
- ASSIST – Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training
- Motivational Interviewing
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Trauma-Informed care for persons with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities.