

SAJID SETTLES

ADDICTIONS COUNSELOR

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Compassionate, multiculturally fluent counselor with 15+ years of experience delivering crisis intervention, behavioral counseling, and pastoral care across correctional, psychiatric, developmental services, and higher-education settings. Extensive history supporting justice-involved and high-risk populations through case management, grief and bereavement counseling, suicide prevention, and individualized care planning. Bilingual (English/Arabic) with a proven ability to build trust across diverse and vulnerable communities, and a Master's in Religious Studies grounding a holistic, whole-person approach to recovery and well-being.

CORE COMPETENCIES

• Crisis Intervention & Management	• Grief & Bereavement Counseling	• High-Risk Case Management
• Behavioral Intervention	• Suicide Prevention	• Individualized Care Planning
• Conflict Resolution	• Client/Patient Assessment	• Group Facilitation & Workshops

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chaplain — Johns Hopkins University2023 – Present

- Provide one-on-one spiritual guidance and counseling support to students navigating personal, academic, and emotional challenges, including grief, isolation, and crisis.
- Lead weekly religious services and study circles; organize educational events and lectures for the campus community.
- Facilitate interfaith dialogue and advise student organizations on community-building and peer support initiatives.

Parole & Probation Agent — Maryland Dept. of Public Safety & Correctional Services2023 – 2024

- Supervised a caseload of justice-involved individuals through structured monitoring, risk assessment, and referral to community-based treatment and support resources.
- Coordinated with case managers and treatment providers to support compliance with court-ordered conditions and successful community reintegration.

Chaplain / Counselor — Maryland Dept. of Public Safety & Correctional Services2022 – 2023

- Delivered individual and group counseling to incarcerated individuals, addressing behavioral, emotional, and spiritual needs.
- Facilitated regular religious education classes and led weekly and monthly lectures and support sessions.

Chaplain / Counselor — Connecticut State Dept. of Correction2020 – 2022

- Provided pastoral counseling, crisis support, and religious education programming to a high-risk incarcerated population.
- Served as a trusted point of contact for individuals in acute emotional distress, including grief and loss.

Developmental Service Worker — MA Dept. of Developmental Services2019 – 2020

- Taught daily living skills and supervised residents with intellectual/developmental disabilities and autism spectrum needs.
- Supported clients in navigating complex personal and behavioral situations, applying individualized behavioral strategies.

Chaplain / Counselor — Connecticut State Dept. of Correction2012 – 2016

- Delivered regular religious studies and language instruction alongside individual and group counseling for incarcerated individuals.

Chaplain / Counselor — St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center2009 – 2012

- Provided pastoral counseling and bereavement support within an inpatient psychiatric setting.

Chaplain / Counselor — New York State Dept. of Corrections2008 – 2012

- Delivered religious education, weekly and monthly lectures, and individual counseling to incarcerated individuals.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Counselor / English Tutor — Ghars Bilingual School, Salmiyya, Kuwait (2018–2019) and Ajial Bilingual School, Riggae, Kuwait (2015–2018)
- ESOL Instructor, Level 3 — Training Resources of America, Springfield, MA (2015)
- Teacher — ICS, Baltimore, MD (2007–2008)

EDUCATION

M.A., Religious Studies — Chicago Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL2022

B.A., Human Services & Criminal Justice (Dual Concentration), Honors — University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA2015

Diploma, Religious Studies & Arabic, Honors — Seminary of the Kuwait Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs, Rumaithiya, Kuwait2019

A.A., Liberal Arts, Honors — Jefferson Community College, Watertown, NY2012

Diploma, Arabic Language — University of Medina, Medina, Saudi Arabia2001

Certificate, TESOL/TEFL — Global Leadership College, Canada2015

CERTIFICATIONS & ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- Massachusetts Teaching License #518569
- Ecclesiastical Endorsement
- CPR / First Aid Certified; OC (Pepper Spray) Certified
- Special MAP Training in Administering Medications
- Special Training in Physical Restraints & Self-Defense
- Fatherhood Initiative Facilitator — New York State Dept. of Corrections