



## OUR TEAM

# LISA KROTIK, M.S.

Executive Director of Outreach and Engagement



## BIOGRAPHY

***"Growing up in a family where my mother had immigrated and my Dad was a blue-collar worker, I became self-aware early on about the power of education and the opportunities that exist here. As a first-generation college student and someone who has had varied experiences trying to live life to the fullest, I felt a calling to empower youth and equip them with the tools they need to self-actualize and take responsibility for making good things happen in their own lives."***

Lisa is committed to making a difference for today's youth by nurturing self-actualization and equipping them with the tools they need for school and for life. With strong problem-solving skills, project management abilities, and a systems thinker approach, Lisa has proven successful in establishing innovative practices and efficient systems.

Currently an Executive Director, National School Counseling Leadership Conference Coordinator, and a PL Specialist/Consultant for Hatching Results, Lisa is a former K-8 school counselor whose social-emotional learning (SEL) and career readiness initiatives earned her the Oppenheimer Recognition Award, which resulted in a large Illinois SEL/Mental Health grant award and her school's selection as one of only six to become a *model elementary school* in Chicago (approx. 450 total elementary schools at the time). During more than six years at the district office as Lead K-8 Counselor for hundreds of school counselors, she participated in the formation of the K-12 School Counseling and Postsecondary Advising Office, developed K-12 professional learning and resources, managed staff and special projects, led policy development and initiatives such as performance evaluation development and the removal of case management duties from school counselors, and conducted school visits throughout the city to work with counselors and administrators. She even received the inaugural Golden Child award from the Office of College & Career Success. An Education Pioneer Visiting Fellow, Lisa was recognized for her systemic change efforts at the District Office, Chicago Teachers' Union, and at the Illinois School Counselor Association (ISCA) as a Board member with the School Counselor Advocate of the Year award in 2015. More than anything, she believes in school counseling and is a fierce advocate for comprehensive, data-driven school counseling programs for all students!

## PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Co-author of the best-selling *Hatching Results for Elementary School Counseling: Implementing Core Curriculum and Other Tier One Activities* (Hatch, Duarte, & De Gregorio, 2018)
- Served 850+ school counselors and college and career coaches in Chicago Public Schools, the 3rd largest school district in the nation
- Literary contributions to *The Use of Data in School Counseling: Hatching Results for Students, Programs, and the Profession* (Hatch, 2014), and *101 Solutions for School Counselors and Leaders in Challenging Times* (Chen-Hayes, Ockerman, & Mason, 2014).

## TESTIMONIALS

*"Lisa worked with our 60 school district counselors over a two year period to update and reinvent our comprehensive school counseling program. I had been searching for a resource to lead us through a process that was engaging, had high expectations, and would help our program become a leader of school counseling in our state. I first saw her present at the national ASCA conference and knew Hatching Results was what we were looking for and that Lisa would be an incredible leader for us. Her extensive background, national experience, and sense of humor were just what we needed. She has guided us to move from having 32 individually created school counseling models in our 32 schools to building one comprehensive model aligned with national standards. Our model has embedded district-wide consistency while also creating space for each school community to make the program its own. Even with my 20 years of experience as a high school counselor, high school administrator supervising counselors, and a district administrator leading our district's comprehensive school counseling model, I could not have accomplished what Lisa was able to do with our group."*

– Michael Ralls, MA., MS., Director of Social Services, North Clackamas School District, OR

*"Lisa is someone you trust and connect with immediately. Whether it's presenting, or one-on-one, she has a style that is warm, bright, and engaging. Lisa knows her stuff. She draws on her own examples and peppers her presentations and conversations with real-life experiences. She's not afraid of being frank or of having difficult conversations, because at the heart of it, Lisa is passionate about this work. She's determined to help you succeed. And her calm, reassuring demeanor makes you feel like you can! Lisa is particularly strong at conceptualizing the big picture and helping break that picture down into achievable steps. It is rare to find a person with both the ability think strategically and the ability to implement processes and plans."*

– Patricia Weinzapfel, Executive Director Family Engagement, Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, IN

## FUN FACTS

- Lisa backpacked through South East Asia for three months for travel and humanitarian work.
- Lisa travelled to and camped across 13 U.S. national parks in 31 days for her honeymoon.
- Lisa is a proud product of Chicago Public Schools, having attended an elementary magnet school on the south side of Chicago.



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