



**Sharon Hesseltime**  
**Trainer**

Sharon Hesseltime began her academic career at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale where she earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Social Work. In March of 1984, after a yearlong practical nursing study Sharon was lead to Public Health as a Home Visitor for adolescent parents with Southern 7 Health Department in Ullin, IL. She continued in multiple roles at Southern 7 for the next 19 years, leading the Social Services Division, spearheading innovative community partnerships and implementing home-based Head Start and Early Head Start programming.

Following a move to Minnesota, Sharon worked at the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) as a health educator and planner. In 2011 Sharon completed a postgraduate Certificate Program in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health at the University of Minnesota followed by her certification as an in-state Growing Great Kids Curriculum trainer in 2012. Since then, Sharon has facilitated GGK seminars for over 100 home visitors annually. At MDH she also served as a subject matter expert on Substance Use Disorders and demonstrated a strong commitment to supporting mothers in recovery from addiction through providing training, facilitating cross state agency partnerships and increasing awareness among public health staff working in evidence based home visiting. Sharon joined GKI's Training Development Team in 2016 with a focus on contextualizing GGK for parents struggling with addictions.

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