



# Mr. Bordonaro

## University of Denver

### Social Worker



<b>A Learning Experience that Changed Me:</b>
A learning experience that changed me was in 2010 when I studied abroad in Rockhampton, Australia. My time in Rocky immersed me into new cultures and experiences that shaped me into who I am today. I lived in a building with thirty people from twelve different countries, all of us in a foreign country with no friends or family. We had each other, though, and quickly became part of each other's support systems, building lifelong friendships. We spent a lot of time together learning the similarities and differences of one another's cultures, values, and norms. My study abroad was an eye-opening experience that taught me so much about the importance of culture and community.
<b>My Favorite Book:</b>
Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom
<b>My Hobbies and Interests:</b>
I love watching Buffalo Bills football, being outdoors, spending time with friends and family, and watching movies.
<b>Prior Experience in Education:</b>
My experience in education dates back to 2011 with an internship at a Head Start program promoting school readiness for low-income children in Buffalo, NY. My next internship was with a school social worker at an elementary school where we focused on using play therapy to help our students. After graduating college, I spent a couple years working at an after-school program in Buffalo until I began working as a school social worker at a work readiness program for high school students with disabilities. That experience led me to the University of Denver in pursuit of my master's in social work where I was able to intern as a school social worker at DSST Byers. Now in the 2018-2019 school year I will continue at DSST Byers as a school social worker.
<b>Something Super-Unique About Me:</b>
I am a first generation American- my parents immigrated to the United States from Italy.
<b>Why I am Excited About Working at DSST:</b>
As a social worker for the past five years I have worked with many disadvantaged people who, due to systematic barriers, are unable to attain equal opportunities. Working with a district like DSST, which is working to mitigate the cultural and systematic biases within the education system to help better serve students and begin to influence change within our systems, is inspiring as a social worker. Having a learning disability, opportunity for an equal education was very important to my success as a student. Not all students have the opportunity I was given and I am excited DSST has given me the opportunity to help to work toward closing the gaps within our education system.