



Dr. Steven Hoffler's professional experience has included positions as a Mental Health Consultant for Yale Medical School and Hartford Hospital's Institute of Living for their Juvenile Detention Program and for their Child, Adolescent and Young Adult Programs. His practice and teaching experience have also included clinical, supervisory and administrative positions at Yale New Haven Hospital, the Connecticut Department of Children and Families and the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) through Casey Family Services (CFS) where he served for ten years. At Casey, Dr. Hoffler served as the Deputy Division Director for six years in their Hartford Division and provided administrative and clinical oversight of its foster care, post-adoption, reunification and community involvement programs. At Casey he also served on the leadership team that managed the New Haven Grants Program of non-profit agencies dedicated to improving the lives of children and families. Additionally, he served as the Project Coordinator for the Center for Children's Advocacy for the Deep End Diversion Program, where he was responsible for implementing the principles of restorative justice in Connecticut's juvenile justice system. He continues to serve as a consultant for Connecticut's Department of Children and Families' workforce development and maintains a private practice in North Haven, CT.

Dr. Hoffler is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work at Southern Connecticut State University. His research and interest include child welfare, juvenile justice and mental health in the black community. Dr. Hoffler's work includes professionalization of the child welfare workforce through a clinical lens and advancing restorative practices in various settings and communities, and undoing racism. At Southern, he serves as an advisor to Brotherhood of Scholarship and Excellence (BrOSE), an affinity group on campus committed to recruiting and graduating young men of color from higher education institutions. This past May, he received Advisor of the Year in this role and has formed partnerships with high schools to help bridge the gap for other young men of color to pursue higher education. For the past few years, Dr. Hoffler has elevated his advocacy to addressing systemic racism in the criminal justice, child welfare and educational systems. He has instituted restorative justice practices in his classrooms and has partnered with others in the community to advance the social movement across campuses and other communities.

Dr. Hoffler received his B.A. in History and MSW from the University of Connecticut and his Ph.D. from Smith College School for Social Work. He serves on several advisory boards, holds several professional memberships and is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. In 2007, he received the Achiever Award recognized by UCONN and the Connecticut Association of Educational Opportunity Programs (CAEOP) for his outstanding educational, community, and personal success. In January, he received the 2019 Humanitarian Award by Senator Richard Blumenthal and the Connecticut Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission.