Erica Bova-Brown, MSW, APSW

Ms. Bova-Brown is in her twenty-sixth year as a school social worker—a job she loves to do every day! She worked for twenty years in a suburban district and is in year six with Milwaukee Public Schools. Ms. Bova-Brown’s professional goals are: to love and honor people; to provide a safe place for students, families and staff at school; and to remove obstacles to academic success and the best-possible quality of life. During her career, she has been an advocate for thousands of students and families. Ms. Bova-Brown has worked with students of many racial, cultural, socioeconomic and religious backgrounds, from grades K4 through 12.

For twenty years, Ms. Bova-Brown managed a half-million-dollar budget, including Titles I through V. She developed academic support programs, facilitated staff inservices and student-centered trainings, including hundreds of anti-racism/equity trainings for students and staff. Ms. Bova-Brown developed district policies and procedures related to upholding the legal rights of protected classes at school. Ms. Bova-Brown handled elaborate program audits, such as the civil rights, Title I and homeless program audits. She started a district English-Language-Learners program, started and facilitated high school clubs including a student Gay-Straight Alliance, a Multicultural club and a competitive chess club. Ms. Bova-Brown facilitated more than 60 overnight and weekend student retreats focused on anti-discrimination. She has facilitated more than a thousand student-to-student presentations and performances, including all-school plays, Black History Programs, Martin Luther King Day celebrations, talent shows, fashion shows and classroom presentations. Ms. Bova-Brown has facilitated and chaperoned student trips to major sites in the United States, including New York City, Niagara Falls and Washington D. C., along with international student trips to Greece & Turkey, Japan, China and South Africa.

For several years, Ms. Bova-Brown worked as a medical social worker in an emergency department, conducting mental health assessments. She has also volunteered at the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center, Planned Parenthood, Habitat for Humanity and the Hunger Task Force.