Answer Staff Biographies

ELIZABETH SCHROEDER, ED.D., M.S.W.
Executive Director

Elizabeth Schroeder, Ed.D., M.S.W., became the executive director of Answer in September 2008 and supervises all aspects of its programs, finances and staff. Prior to joining Answer, Dr. Schroeder had a ten-year relationship with the organization as a training consultant for its Sexuality Education Training Initiative and a sexual health expert and Medical Advisory Board member for its National Teen-to-Teen Sexuality Education Project.

An internationally recognized trainer, consultant and author in the areas of sexuality education, youth development, curriculum and counseling, Dr. Schroeder has an extensive knowledge of sexuality education programs, policies and politics; national and international connections with key organizations and individuals; and a passion for Answer’s work in comprehensive sexuality education. Since 2000, Dr. Schroeder has trained thousands of youth-serving professionals, adolescents and parents in the United States and overseas. She has presented at national conferences and written extensively about sexuality and relationship issues.


Dr. Schroeder has received numerous honors throughout her career, including the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors and Therapists’ Schiller Prize, for her approaches to teaching Internet safety to youth, and the national Mary Lee Tatum Award, which is given annually to “the person who most exemplifies the qualities of an ideal sexuality educator.” She currently chairs the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS) Board of Directors and has served on numerous local and state task forces and committees.

She holds a Doctorate of Education in Human Sexuality Education from Widener University and a Master’s in Social Work from New York University.
SUSAN N. WILSON, MS.Ed.
Senior Advisor
Susan N. Wilson, MS.Ed., served as executive coordinator of Answer (formerly the Network for Family Life Education) for 23 years and is now Answer’s senior advisor. She is a state and national leader in the fight for effective sexuality education and the prevention of adolescent pregnancy. She has received numerous awards for her work, and has authored many articles on sexuality education and appeared on numerous shows. Currently, Ms. Wilson serves on the Board of Trustees of the Princeton Area Community Foundation, working as project coordinator of its Community Experience Partnership: Engaging Older Adults for Civic Good. She was named one of two Progressive New Jerseyans of the decade by New Jersey Policy Perspective, and was named a Policy Fellow at the Institute for Women’s Leadership at Rutgers University’s Douglass College.

NORA GELPERIN, M.Ed.
Director of Training and Education
Nora Gelperin, M.Ed., oversees Answer’s Sexuality Education Training Initiative. She is also founder of the organization’s annual Training Institute in Sexual Health Education (TISHE), and a sexuality expert for the weekly live chats on the Sex, Etc. Web site, Sexetc.org. Ms. Gelperin develops, markets and conducts training workshops for teachers and community agency staff in New Jersey and nationwide. Previously, Ms. Gelperin was an adjunct instructor of Human Sexuality at Temple University and Montclair State University, and a community educator with the Planned Parenthoods of Western Washington and Greater Northern New Jersey. She earned her Master of Education in School Health Education degree from Temple University. Ms. Gelperin has written curricula for the Teen PEP manual, Discussion Guides for Sex, Etc. and numerous articles on adolescent sexual health.

RANA E. BARAR, M.P.H.
Program Manager
Rana E. Barar, M.P.H., oversees all planning, implementation and monitoring aspects of Answer’s national Teen-to-Teen Sexuality Education Project, which is comprised of the Sex, Etc. magazine and Web site, Sexetc.org. She is also responsible for the integrated marketing strategy for the magazine, Web site, strategic partnerships and campaigns. Prior to joining Answer, Ms. Barar was senior program officer for the Averting Maternal Death and Disability (AMDD) Program at the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University. After finishing her M.P.H. in population and family health in 2006, Ms. Barar took over the administrative management of the AMDD Program, specifically focusing on strategic planning and launching AMDD’s new look and Web site. She has a strong background in international relations, which has been enhanced by her substantial experience in Europe, Russia and Africa.
JUDY LONG  
**Director of Development**
As Answer’s director of development, Judy Long is responsible for implementing the organization’s fundraising strategy for foundations and individual donors. A graduate of DePauw University and a published author, Ms. Long brings strong writing and editing skills to the position from her years as a children’s book editor in New York and as a grant writer. Her prior development experience includes fundraising for the Morris County (NJ) Park Commission and, most recently, for the New Jersey Historical Society.

ELLEN PAPAZIAN, M.A.  
**Senior Editor**
Ellen Papazian is senior editor of the Teen-to-Teen Sexuality Education Project’s main components— the *Sex, Etc.* national magazine and Web site, Sexetc.org. She also manages its strategic partnerships with MTV, gURL.com, Scenarios USA and other national youth media outlets. Prior to joining Answer, Ms. Papazian spent three years as associate managing editor of *Ms.* magazine. She was also a freelance researcher for *Ms.*, *Out* and *Working Woman* magazines. A graduate of New College at Hofstra University, Ms. Papazian was granted their 2001 Young Alumnus Award. She holds a master’s degree in English from Rutgers University.

LUCINDA HOLT, M.A.  
**Managing Editor**
Lucinda Holt, M.A., manages *Sex, Etc.*’s teen editorial staff and national contributors and edits the *Sex, Etc.* national magazine, the *Sex, Etc.* Web site, Sexetc.org, and the teen editors’ column for MTV’s *think: Sexual Health* campaign. Prior to joining Answer, Ms. Holt worked as a freelance editor. She has also worked for Condé Nast Publications and such youth organizations as Prep for Prep and the Columbia University Liberty Partnership Program. Ms. Holt graduated magna cum laude from Amherst College and holds a Master of Arts in Anthropology degree from Columbia University. Her essay appears in the anthology *What Your Mama Never Told You: True Stories about Sex and Love* (Graphia Books).

DAN RICE  
**Program Coordinator**
Dan Rice is responsible for the ongoing maintenance, development and content initiatives for the *Sex, Etc.* Web site, Sexetc.org. He is also a trainer for Answer’s Sexuality Education Training Initiative and provides sexual health training to the *Sex, Etc.* teen editorial staff. Prior to joining Answer, Mr. Rice was coordinator of a drop-in center for LGBTQ teens, where he gained experience in crisis-intervention counseling. He has also been a community educator in public schools to raise awareness of sexual orientation issues. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Wagner College.
TODD SLAWSKY, M.Ed.
Training Coordinator
Todd Slawsky, M.Ed., coordinates the logistics of Answer’s Sexuality Education Training Initiative, which trains more than 3,000 participants per year. He has been a resident director for Rutgers Cook College, where he promoted a secure environment for college residents and conducted a series of educational programs to teach residents about topics relating to sexuality education, safety, study habits and communication. Mr. Slawsky has also worked as the assistant director of the Rutgers Student Legal Information Center, where he developed programs to educate students about the most common types of legal problems. He holds a Master of Education in Learning and Teaching degree from Rutgers University’s Graduate School of Education.

MELISSA WASHINGTON HARRIS
Publications Coordinator
Melissa Washington Harris is responsible for Sex, Etc. subscription outreach and for marketing Sex, Etc. magazine at conferences, workshops and other events. Prior to joining Answer, Ms. Harris was an account executive for a boutique public relations firm in New Jersey. She was also an editor at Essence and Sesame Street Parents magazines. Her writing has appeared in Vibe and Heart & Soul as well as Finding Our Way, a teen health book for girls. Most recently, Ms. Harris taught a freelance writing course at an adult learning center. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from Howard University.

ALEX MEDINA
Web Associate
Alex Medina updates content for the Sex, Etc. Web site, Sexetc.org, and publishes the weekly Sex, Etc. e-newsletter. He also maintains Sex, Etc.’s presence on social-networking sites, like MySpace, Facebook and YouTube. Mr. Medina researches Web 2.0 technology and follows current trends in popular teen culture. Previously, he was an intern at Answer. He discovered Answer while he was an undergraduate Peer Advisor on Sexuality and Queer Issues at Rutgers University and participated in a panel discussion for the Sex, Etc. teen editorial staff. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Psychology from Rutgers University.