

## 2015-2016 Missouri School Social Worker of the Year

### **Kim Harrelson, LCSW**

Kim received her MSW degree in May 2007 from the University of Kansas with an emphasis in School Social Work and obtained her Clinical Social Worker license in the state of Missouri in 2012. She has been a member of the School Social Workers Association of America and the School Social Workers Association of Missouri since 2007 and currently serves as President-Elect for the Missouri state association and Chairs the Communications Committee.

Kim has worked in numerous school settings in a variety of assignments, but with a common focus of joining students and families with needed resources and ensure their success. She is currently employed by Mercy Hospital in St. Louis and developing a tiered program focused on resiliency at three elementary schools in north St. Louis. Kim recently began using telehealth technology to assist students and parents to attend psychiatric appointments and other meetings without the student needing to leave school. Kim's tireless spirit and determination is evident in her work with students as well as her work with the state organization. She never gives up and is willing to do whatever it takes to address student needs.

Kim is a leader across the state of Missouri, contributing to the positive image and advancement of the profession of school social work. She has worked diligently to ensure that Missouri's professional association's website reflects a professional and comprehensive image of the profession. Kim has transformed the website into an informative and user-friendly tool, reflecting the vital role which we play in the educational system. Additionally, Kim has been a leader in organizing and putting on two state conferences each year in Kansas City. She has recruited new leadership and is always willing to mentor new volunteers to the state association's Board of Directors.

