



[GRADUATE PROFILE]

The Counselor

Jesse James '09 '12

B.S. in Human Development and M.S. in Management & Organizational Leadership
Executive Director/Administrator at Firwood Gardens

A background as a drug and alcohol counselor isn't traditionally a prerequisite to working as the administrator of a residential care facility for the elderly, but I feel that God really used my experience as a counselor to prepare me for this work by teaching me to effectively communicate with others.

A lot of what I do is rooted in genuinely caring about the well-being of others. I have always been a leader and not a follower, so it feels amazing to help others discover their full potential and watch an employee succeed in moving forward in their career. Working with the elderly, I find it difficult to face the constant loss of those that are receiving end of life services but I consider it a true honor to walk alongside them at such an important and sacred time.