



Debbie Mixon Mitchell, Ph.D.
Associate Director
HERS

Debbie Mixon Mitchell, Ph.D., is the Associate Director of HERS Institutes where she works with the HERS President and Executive Director to develop, implement and assess the daily program for the HERS Summer Institutes. Dr. Mixon Mitchell has almost 15 years of experience as a highly regarded faculty member and child welfare trainer at the University of Denver. Her areas of expertise include intercultural communication, organizational communication, clinical supervision and the development and delivery of competency-based and culturally competent pedagogy. Dr. Mixon Mitchell co-authored *Beyond the question of color: Diversity issues in child welfare supervision* (2009) and was a contributing author to Colorado's Child Welfare Practice Handbook (1998).

Before joining the University of Denver, Dr. Mixon Mitchell was employed for approximately 20 years as a caseworker and manager in a Public Child Welfare system. Her work involved crisis intervention and case planning with children and their families in response to allegations of child maltreatment.

Dr. Mixon-Mitchell has a commitment to service within the professional community. She was awarded Governor Bill Ritter, Jr.'s Service & Leadership Award as an intercultural specialist (with expertise in youth development and cultural competence) during the Haitian Orphan Operation following the tragic earthquake in Haiti. Dr. Mixon Mitchell accompanied, consoled and encouraged children from Haiti as they traveled to Colorado to join their adoptive families (Jan. 2010) and was instrumental in developing protocols for providing intercultural parenting of Haitian orphans.

Dr. Mixon-Mitchell served on the Governor's Cultural Competence subcommittee to the Colorado Child Welfare Action committee in 2008-2009 and previous to that as a member of the Colorado Department of Human Services' Minority Over Representation committee in 2003. Her service work within the community connects large and small scale projects, and has opened up dialogue about diversity and social justice issues for women and children of color.