

RACHELLE VETTERN, Ph.D.

Rachelle Vetter is an assistant professor and the leadership and volunteer development specialist for the North Dakota State University Extension Service.

From 1997-2001, she was the CHARACTER COUNTS! project leader for the South Dakota State University Cooperative Extension Service. In this position, she worked with educators to help communities build CC! networks and integrate character education into schools, after-school programs, businesses, and faith communities. Supervising a staff of three, she planned and conducted more than 30 CC! trainings in rural, urban, and reservation communities, training more than 2,000 youth and adults.

A licensed school counselor, Dr. Vetter has a B.A. in Psychology, a M.S. in Counseling and Human-Resource Development, and a Ph.D. in Human Development: Counselor Education. Her M.S. internship included integrating CC! into an elementary, middle, and high school counseling program. As 43 percent of students in the district are Native American, one of her goals was to incorporate Dakota and Lakota culture into her lessons. Prior to her position with CC!, she worked as a youth-center director on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

Dr. Vetter lives with her husband Darin, their son Evan, and their daughter Emily in Fargo, North Dakota.