

KATRINA R. ELLIS, PhD, MPH, MSW
Assistant Professor

CONTACT INFORMATION

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RESEARCH & PRACTICE INTERESTS

African American family health interventions
Cancer prevention and survivorship
Self and family management of multiple chronic conditions
Racial and ethnic disparities in health
Community-based participatory research & evaluation
Digital health assessments & tools

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

2018 **Post-Doctoral Fellowship, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill**
Cancer Health Disparities Training Program (Department of Health Behavior)
Center for Health Equity Research (Department of Social Medicine)
Carolina Postdoctoral Program for Faculty Diversity (UNC-Chapel Hill)

2015 **PhD, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI**
School of Public Health, Department of Health Behavior & Health Education

2010 **Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, RWJF Evaluation Fellowship Program**
Placement: HighScope Educational Research Foundation, Ypsilanti, MI

2008 **MPH, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI**
School of Public Health, Department of Health Behavior & Health Education

MSW, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
School of Social Work, Interpersonal Practice/Health

2002 **BA, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA**
Major: Secondary Education/Art; Summa Cum Laude

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2018–Present **Assistant Professor, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**
School of Social Work

Core Grant Member, Rogel Cancer Center, Michigan Medicine
Health Behavior and Outcomes (HBO) Program

Research Affiliate, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Gillings School of Global Public Health, Department of Health Behavior

2015–2018 **Post-Doctoral Fellowship, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill**
Cancer Health Disparities Training Program (Department of Health Behavior)
Center for Health Equity Research (Department of Social Medicine)
Carolina Postdoctoral Program for Faculty Diversity (UNC-Chapel Hill)

GRANTS & AWARDS

Research Grants

Awarded

2017 **Enhancing Physical Activity Using Dyad Messaging Tailoring**
Role: Principal Investigator
Funder: UNC Carolina Prevention and Control Intervention Research
\$21,950 (in-kind)

This research project is using existing conceptual frameworks, research evidence and primary data to guide the creation of tailored messaging to promote physical activity among African American cancer survivor/family member dyads based on their health assessments using the UNC Carolina Health Assessment and Resource Tool (CHART).

2016–2018 **NIH Loan Repayment Program**
Role: Principal Investigator
Funder: NIMHD - Health Disparities Research LRP
\$28,390

Examine social, familial and contextual factors that influence psychosocial, behavioral and quality of life outcomes among African American families managing cancer and co-occurring chronic health conditions to implement effective intervention programs. This award repays educational debt during the funding period while I engage in this NIH-mission relevant research.

2013 **Dyadic Analysis of the Influence of Chronic Conditions Wellbeing
Advanced Cancer Patient/Caregiver Dyads**
Role: Principal Investigator
Funder: Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan
\$3,000

With this grant, I gained advanced quantitative analysis skills in order to conduct longitudinal dyadic data analysis examining the influence of co-occurring health problems on patient and caregiver health outcomes in advanced cancer.

2012 **The Effects of a Family-Centered Intervention on the Attitudes,
Subjective Norms, and Behavioral Intentions toward Physical Activity
among African American Boys**
Role: Principal Investigator
Funder: Department of Health Behavior & Health Education, University of

Michigan
\$4,500

This funding was used to support the preparation and submission of a research article (Ellis, Caldwell, et al., 2014) investigating the effects of a family-centered intervention for non-resident African American fathers and their pre-adolescent sons on their intentions toward engaging in physical activity.

Selected Awards & Honors

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|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2017 | Conference Travel Grant
GMAP Region-1S Symposium, Charleston, SC |
| 2016 | Conference Travel Grant
UNC Lineberger Cancer Outcomes Research Program |
| 2010–2015 | Rackham Merit Fellowship Award for Doctoral Study
University of Michigan (Full Tuition & Stipend) |
| 2013 | Rackham Graduate School Debt Management Award
University of Michigan (Student Loan Repayment) |
| 2013, 2011,
2010 | Conference Travel Grant
Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan |
| 2012 | AACR Minority Scholar in Cancer Research Award
Conference Travel Scholarship
Intercultural Cancer Council Biennial Symposium |
| 2011, 2012 | Summer Institute Training Award
Rackham Graduate School, Institute for Social Research (ISR), University of Michigan |
| 2011 | Margaret Dow Towsley Scholarship
Center for the Education of Women, University of Michigan |
| 2006–2008 | Dean’s Award, School of Public Health
University of Michigan (Full Tuition) |
| | Dean’s Award, School of Social Work
University of Michigan (Full Tuition) |

PUBLICATIONS

*Denotes Student Mentee

Journal Articles – Accepted or Published

20. Kowitt, S., **Ellis, K.R.**, Carlisle, V., Bhushan, N., Black, K., Cranley, N., Eng, G., Martin, M., McGuirt, J., Sokol, R., Tang, P., Vines, A., Walker, J., Fisher, E. (accepted). Peer Support in Cancer: A Systematic Review. *Supportive Care in Cancer*.
19. **Ellis, K.R.**, Young, T., Carthron, C., Simms, M., McFarlin, S., Davis, K., Dave, G,

- Corbie-Smith, G. & Cene', C. (in press). Perceptions of rural African American adults about the role of family in understanding and addressing risk factors for cardiovascular disease. *American Journal of Health Promotion*.
18. Katapodi, M.C.,+ **Ellis, K.R.**,+ Nikolaidis, C., Schmidt, F., Eicher, M., & Northouse, L. (2018). Family support in a population-based sample of young breast cancer survivors and their blood relatives. *Cancer Medicine*, 1-13.
*equal contribution
 17. Corbie-Smith, G., Wiley-Cene, C., Bess, K., Young, T., Dave, G., **Ellis, K.R.**, Hoover, S.M., Feng-Chang, L., Wynn, M., McFarlin, S., & Ede, J. (2018). Heart Matters: A study protocol for a community based randomized trial aimed at reducing cardiovascular risk in a rural, African American community. *BMC Public Health*, 18(1), 938.
 16. Carthron, D., Cuthberson, C., Phillips, K., **Ellis, K.R.**, Bahorski, S., Rini, C. (2018). Recruitment & retention of older adults with osteoarthritis and their partners into a physical activity intervention. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 6, 197.
 15. Samuel, C.A., Schaal, J., Robertson, L., Kollie, J., Baker, S., Black, K., Mbah, O., Dixon, C., **Ellis, K.R.**, Eng, E., Guerrab, F., Jones, N., Kotey, A., Morse, C., Taylor, J., Whitt, V., & Cykert, S. (2018) Racial differences in symptom management experiences during breast cancer treatment. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 26(5), 1425-1435.
 14. Samuel, C.A., Lightfoot, A.F., Schaal, J., Yongue, C., Black, K., **Ellis, K.R.**, Robertson, L., Smith, B., Jones, N., Foley, K., Kollie, J., Mayhand, A., Morse, C., Eng, E., Guerrab, F. (2018). Establishing and sustaining new community-based participatory research (CBPR) partnerships using the CBPR charrette model: Lessons from the Cancer Health Accountability for Managing Pain and Symptoms (CHAMPS) Study. *Progress in Community Health Partnerships*, 12(1), 89-99.
 13. Titler, M.G., Visovatti, M., Shuman, C., **Ellis, K.R.**, Dockham, B., Yakusheva, O., & Northouse, L. (2017). Effectiveness of implementing a dyadic psychoeducational intervention for cancer patients and family caregivers. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 25(11), 3395-3406.
 12. **Ellis, K.R.**, Janevic, M.R., Kershaw, T., Caldwell, C.H., Janz, N.K., & Northouse, L. (2017). Engagement in health-promoting behaviors and patient-caregiver interdependence in advanced cancer: An exploratory study. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, 40(3), 506-519.
 11. **Ellis, K.R.**, Janevic, M.R., Kershaw, T., Caldwell, C.H., Janz, N.K., & Northouse, L. (2017). The influence of dyadic symptom distress on threat appraisals and self-efficacy in advanced cancer and caregiving. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 25(1), 185-194.
 10. **Ellis, K.R.**, Janevic, M.R., Kershaw, T., Caldwell, C.H., Janz, N.K., & Northouse, L. (2017). Meaning-based coping, chronic conditions and quality of life in advanced cancer & caregiving. *Psycho-Oncology*, 26(9), 1316-1323.
 9. Song, L., Rini, C., **Ellis, K.R.**, & Northouse, L. (2016). Appraisals, dyadic communication, and quality of life over time among couples coping with prostate cancer. *Supportive Cancer Care*, 24(9), 3757-3765.

8. Kershaw, T., **Ellis, K.R.**, Yoon, H., Schafenacker, A., Katapodi, M., & Northouse, L. (2015). The interdependence of advanced cancer patients' and their family caregivers' mental health, physical health, and self-efficacy over time. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 49(6), 901-911.
7. Lambert, S., Yoon, H., **Ellis, K.R.**, Northouse, L. (2015). Measuring appraisal during advanced cancer: Psychometric testing of the appraisal of caregiving scale. *Patient Education & Counseling*, 98(5), 633-639.
6. **Ellis, K.R.**, Griffith, D.M., Allen, J.O., Thorpe, R.J., & Bruce, M.A. (2015). "If you do nothing about stress, the next thing you know, you're shattered": Perspectives on stress, coping and health among African American men. *Social Science & Medicine*, 139, 107-114.
5. **Ellis, K. R.**, Caldwell, C. H., Assari, S., & De Loney, E. H. (2014). Nonresident African-American Fathers' Influence on Sons' Exercise Intentions in the Fathers and Sons Program. *American Journal of Health Promotion*, 29(2), 89-98.
4. Janevic, M.R., **Ellis, K.R.**, Sanders, G.M., Nelson, B.W., & Clark, N.M. (2013). Self-management of multiple chronic conditions among African American women with asthma: A qualitative study. *Journal of Asthma*, 51(3), 243-252.
3. Griffith, D. M., **Ellis, K. R.**, & Allen, J. O. (2013). An intersectional approach to social determinants of stress for African American men: Men's and women's perspectives. *American Journal of Men's Health*, 7(Suppl. 4), 19S-30S.
2. Griffith, D.M., **Ellis, K.R.** & Allen, J.O. (2012). How does health information influence African American men's health behavior? *American Journal of Men's Health*, 6(2), 156-153.
1. Griffith, D.M., Johnson, J., **Ellis, K.R.** & Schulz, A.J. (2010). Cultural context and a critical approach to eliminating health disparities. *Ethnicity and Disease*, 20(1), 71-76.

Journal Articles – Under Review

1. Hoggard, L., Volpe, V., Thomas, A., Wallace, E., & **Ellis, K.R.** The role of emotional eating in the links between racial discrimination and physical and mental health.

Journal Articles - In Progress (Selected)

4. **Ellis, K.R.**, Thomas, S.* , Hoggard, L., Carthron, D., Young, T., Ali, Z.* , Eng, E. & Corbie-Smith, G. Family multimorbidity and the health of African Americans: Conceptualization, evidence, and implications.
3. **Ellis, K.R.**, Bak, E.* , Song, L., Eng, E. & Corbie-Smith, G, Northouse, L. Patient and caregiver reported symptoms in advanced cancer and caregiving: implications for quality of life and dyadic symptom management.
2. **Ellis, K.R.**, Cuthbertson, C., Rimmler, S., Carthron, D.L., Phillips, A., Corbie-Smith, G., Callahan, L. & Rini, C. Multimorbidity Influences Support for Physical Activity among Adults with Osteoarthritis and Their Partners.
1. **Ellis, K.R.**, Black, K., Davis, K., Baker, S., Schaal, J., Cothorn, C., Guerrab, F.,

Goettsch, F., Lightfoot, A., Padilla, N., Samuel, C., Yongue, C., Eng, E. Racial differences in the influence of healthcare system factors on informal support for cancer care among Black and White breast and lung cancer survivors.

Book Chapters

1. Griffith, D.M., Schulz, A.J., Johnson, J. & **Herbert/Ellis, K.R.** (2009). Implications of racism for Black Americans' diabetes management and outcomes. In L. Jack (Ed.), *Diabetes in Black America: Public Health and Clinical Solutions to a National Crisis*. Munster, IN: Hilton Publishing.

Book Chapters – Under Review

1. Black, K.Z., Baker, S., Robertson, L.B., Lightfoot, A., Alexander-Bratcher, K., Befus, D., Cothorn, C., Dixon, C., **Ellis, K.R.**, Guerrab, F., Hayes-Greene, D., Love, B., Schaal, J., Simon, B., Smith, B., Thatcher, K., Wiley, T., Wilson, S.M., Yongue, C., & Eng, E. Antiracism organizing for culture and institutional change in cancer care. Book Chapter, In "Is it race or racism?": State of the evidence & tools for the professional", Eds. Ford, C.L., Griffith, D.M., Bruce, M.A., & Gilbert. K.

Program Evaluation

2. **Ellis, K.R.** & Daniel-Echols, M. (2009). *Summary of formative evaluation data for Year 1 of the Early Learning Communities initiative: Prepared by the HighScope Educational Research Foundation for the United Way of Southeastern Michigan*.
1. **Ellis, K.R.**, Hunt, T., Caldwell, C.H., Assari, S., Brooks, C., & Hill-DeLoney, E. (2016). *A fidelity evaluation of the Fathers and Sons Program: Adherence, dosage, quality and participant responsiveness*.

PRESENTATIONS (Selected)

*Denotes Student Mentee

Samuel, C. A., Schaal, J., Mbah, O., Eng, E., Robertson, L., Baker, S., Black, K. Z., Dixon, C., **Ellis, K.**, Guerrab, F., Jordan, L., Lightfoot, A., Cykert, S. Examining the role of perceived respect on racial disparities in cancer-related pain. Poster presentation to be presented at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) 2018 Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved, New Orleans, LA.

Samuel, C. A., Schaal, J., Mbah, O., Elkins, W., Robertson, L., Baker, S., Black, K. Z., Dixon, C., **Ellis, K.**, Eng, E., Guerrab, F., Jordan, L., Lightfoot, A., Padilla, N., Younge, C., Cykert, S. Racial and Educational Differences in Symptom Burden and Supportive Care among Breast Cancer Patients Undergoing Chemotherapy. Poster presentation to be presented at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) 2018 Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved, New Orleans, LA.

Ellis, K.R., Cuthbertson, C., Rimmler, S., Carthron, D.L., Phillips, A., Callahan, L. & Rini,

C. Multimorbidity influences support for physical activity among adults with osteoarthritis and their partners. Poster presentation to be presented at the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) 2018 Annual Scientific Meeting, Boston, MA.

Ellis, K.R., Kowitt, S., Carlisle, C., Bhushan, N.L., Black, K.Z., Brodar, K., Cranley, N., Davis, K.L., Eng, E., Martin, M., McGuirt, J., Sokol, R.L., Tang, P.Y., Vines, A.I., Walker, J.S., Fisher, E.B. (April, 2018). Peer support opportunities across the cancer care continuum: A systematic scoping review of recent peer-reviewed literature. Oral presentation to be presented at the 39th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, New Orleans, LA.

Eng, E., Schaal, J., Black, K., Cykert, S., **Ellis, K.R.**, Hayes Greene, D., Hislop, S., Jones, N., Kotey, A., Lightfoot, A., Muhammad, T., Padilla, N., Samuel, C., Guerrab, F., Robertson, L., Smith, B., Thatcher, K., Walker, J., & Yongue, C. (2017). Building a CBPR partnership around an anti-racism framework to address inequities in cancer care outcomes through system change. Oral presentation presented at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Lightfoot, A.F., Jones, N., Samuel, C., Black, K., Cykert, S., **Ellis, K.R.**, Eng, E., Foley, K., Guerrab, F., Hardy, C., Kollie, J., Mayhand, A., Morse, C., Robertson, L., Schaal, J., Smith, B., Wiley, T., & Yee, M. (2017). Building new community-based participatory research (CBPR) partnerships using the CBPR charrette model: Lessons from the Cancer Health Accountability for Managing Pain and Symptoms (CHAMPS) study. Oral presentation presented at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Ellis, K.R. (February, 2017). Breadth of peer support in cancer: Preliminary results of a systematic review. Oral presentation presented at the Facilitating and Expanding Peer Support in Research and Applications for Cancer and Other Health Challenges Conference, Chapel Hill, NC.

Bak, E.* , **Ellis, K.R.**, & Northouse, L.N. (November, 2016). Symptoms, symptom clustering, and quality of life in advanced cancer patient-caregiver dyads. Oral presentation presented at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students, Tampa, FL.

Ellis, K.R., Schaal, J., Baker, S., Black, K.Z., Cothorn, C., Davis, K., Doost, K., Eng, E., Goettsch, C., Guerrab, F.*, Hardy, C., Lightfoot, A., Padilla, N., & Samuel, C. (2016). A system-change and community-based participatory research approach to understanding the role of informal social networks during the cancer care journey. Poster presentation at the Ninth AACR Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Samuel, C.E., Schall, J., Robertson, L., Eng, E., Kollie, J.G., Yongue, C., Foley, K., Smith, B., Yee, M.K., Black, K., **Ellis, K.R.**, Hoffman, L., Lightfoot, A., Morse, C., Padilla, N., & Cykert, S. (2016). Equity in patient-provider communication regarding treatment-related symptoms and HRQOL among breast cancer survivors. Poster presentation at the ASCO Palliative Care in Oncology Symposium, San Francisco, CA.

Baker, S., **Ellis, K.R.**, Hoffman, L., Thatcher, K., & Wilson, S. (2016). A racial equity and community-engaged approach to nonprofit work. Oral presentation at the #NonprofitSTRONG Conference, Raleigh, NC.

Ellis, K.R., Caldwell, C.H., Assari, S., & Hill-DeLoney, E. (2013). Effect of a family-based intervention on nonresident African American fathers' and sons' relationships and intentions to

exercise. Oral presentation at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Boston, MA.

Ellis, K.R., Griffith, D.M., & Allen, J.O. (2013). Coping strategies for health and consequences of African American men's stress: Perspectives of African American men and women and implications for intervention. Roundtable presentation at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Boston, MA.

Ellis, K.R., Acquaye/Hunt, T., Caldwell, C.H., Assari, S., Brooks, C., & Hill-DeLoney, E. (2013). A fidelity evaluation of the Fathers and Sons Program: Adherence, dosage, quality and participant responsiveness. Oral presentation at the 10th Annual Yale Bouchet Conference on Diversity in Graduate Education, New Haven, CT.

King, A., Griffith, D.M., **Ellis, K.R.**, & Allen, J.O. (2012). Stress and coping in African American men's health: Implications for interventions. Poster presentation at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, San Francisco, CA.

Ellis, K.R., Griffith, D.M., Allen, J.O., & Hill, G.L. (2011). Health information and African American men: Barriers and facilitators to behavior change. Oral presentation at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Washington, D.C.

Johnson, J.L., Griffith, D.M., **Ellis, K.R.**, Allen, J.O., & Hill, G.L. (2011). Social and physical environments as determinants of fruit and vegetable consumption among African American men. Oral presentation at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Washington, D.C.

Ellis, K.R. (2010). Seeing the iceberg under the surface: Reflections on developing as a culturally responsive evaluator. Oral presentation at the annual meeting of the American Evaluation Association, San Antonio, TX.

Daniel-Echols, M., & **Herbert/Ellis, K.R.** (2009). Addressing the challenges of evaluation a professional development intervention for family, friend, and neighbor child care providers. Roundtable session at the annual meeting of the American Evaluation Association, Orlando, FL.

Johnson, J.L., Griffith, D.M., Ober Allen, J., **Herbert/Ellis, K.R.**, Hill, G., & Gaines, H. (2009). Close to home: Women's perspectives on African American men's eating and physical activity. Oral presentation at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Spilka, G., Hopson, R., Brooks, P., Moronta, D., Patrizi, P., Perez, D., Walters, H., Yang, H., Figueredo, V., Fraser, E., Hendricks, A., Henry, B., **Herbert/Ellis, K.R.**, Jackson, S., Jim, J., & Millett, R. (2009). A conversation among emerging and seasoned professionals in evaluation and diversity: challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned. Think tank session at the annual meeting for the American Evaluation Association, Orlando, FL.

Griffith, D., **Herbert/Ellis, K.R.**, Johnson, J., & Schulz, A.J. (2008). Racism and racial disparities in diabetes management and outcomes. Presented at the NIH Summit: The Science of Eliminating Health Disparities, National Harbor, MD.

RESEARCH & EVALUATION EXPERIENCE

2015–2018 **University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill**

Post-Doctoral Fellowship

This postdoctoral fellowship was supported through an NIH/NCI T32 mechanism (5T32CA128582-07) and the UNC Center for Health Equity Research. My associated projects and their overarching goals were as follows:

Understanding Multiple Disease Management Among African American Families

PI: Katrina Ellis, PhD

Examine social, familial and contextual factors that influence psychosocial, behavioral and quality of life outcomes among African American families managing cancer and co-occurring chronic health conditions through systematic literature review, secondary analysis, and primary data collection to inform future intervention programs.

Using Dyad-Based Behavioral Assessment & Feedback to Improve Physical Activity among African American Cancer Survivors & Significant Others

PI: Katrina Ellis, PhD; Co-Is: Eugenia Eng, DrPH, Leeza Park, MD, Lixin Song, PhD, RN, Carmina Valle, PhD

This study uses existing conceptual frameworks, research evidence and primary data to guide the creation of tailored messaging to promote physical activity among African American cancer survivor/family member dyads based on their health assessments using the UNC Carolina Health Assessment and Resource Tool (CHART).

Social & Interpersonal Context of Managing Chronic Illness

PIs: Dana Carthron, PhD, RN Michigan State University & Christine Rini, PhD

This project investigates the social and interpersonal context of managing chronic illness through a longitudinal study of couples that gathered data on physical health, comorbid medical conditions, and caregiving responsibilities in the context of physical activity and social support processes within couples, with a particular focus on understanding and reducing health disparities.

Prostate Cancer – Family Care for Patients & Spouses

PI: Lixin Song, PhD, RN

The goal of this project is to understand physical and psychosocial issues that patients with cancer commonly encounter, with a particular emphasis on the interactions between patients, their family caregivers, and healthcare providers and how these interactions affect cancer outcomes (such as quality of life and symptom management).

Implementation of an Evidence-based Psycho-educational Program for Cancer Patients and their Family Caregivers in the Cancer Support Community Network

PI: Maria Titler, PhD, RN, FAAN, University of Michigan

This study examines the effectiveness of the FOCUS Program implemented in a small-group format on cancer survivors' and their family caregivers' outcomes when implemented at two Cancer Support Community (CSC) affiliates.

Interventions to Increase Screening by Breast Cancer Survivors and Their High Risk Female Relatives

PI: Maria Katapodi, PhD, RN, FAAN, University of Basel, Switzerland

Utilizing dyadic and triadic data analysis techniques, this study describes family support in young breast cancer survivors and their relatives who are at higher risk of getting breast

cancer, identify predictors of survivors' and relatives' family support, and determine the extent to which their family support is interdependent.

Outcomes of Triaged Family Care in Advanced Cancer

PI: Laurel Northouse, PhD, RN

The overarching goal of this NCI-funded RCT (completed) was to determine if brief or extensive forms of the evidence-based, family-focused FOCUS Program improves outcomes of patient / family-caregiver dyads in advanced cancer; I am currently conducting secondary analyses of study data.

ACCURE: Accountability for Cancer Care through Undoing Racism & Equity

Co-PIs: Eugenia Eng, DrPH, MPH & Sam Cykert, MD

Through the joint work of a community collaborative and two Cancer Centers, this NCI-funded project identifies structures built into cancer care systems that make cancer care vulnerable to institutional racism and investigates how these structures can be changed to reduce racial inequities in cancer outcomes for early-stage breast and lung cancer patients.

Peers for Progress, Community Health Educator (CHE) Project

PI: Edwin Fisher, PhD

This project will enhance outreach and education, and disseminate culturally appropriate, evidence-based cancer information building on the strengths of community health education and peer support to address cancer outcomes in North Carolina, including disparities in incidence and mortality.

Heart Matters: Reducing Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factors in Rural Communities in North Carolina

PI: Giselle Corbie-Smith, MD, MsC

Building on a long-standing community-based partnership, this study is determining the feasibility and efficacy of adapting an evidence-based intervention (EBI) in rural African American communities to support cardiovascular disease-related behavior change. This project specifically considers the appropriateness of the EBI in the given social and physical environment and the acceptability of using mobile technology.

Family Members Influence Quality and Delivery of Care for Heart Failure Patients

PI: Crystal Cene, MD, MPH

This research project examines the impact of family member involvement in direct clinical care for heart failure (e.g., through accompaniment to medical visits and direct interactions with health care providers) on the quality of patient-provider communication and subsequent health behaviors and outcomes.

Patient & Family Resource Center, Chapel Hill, NC

Loretta Muss, Coordinator, Lineberger Cancer Center

The UNC Cancer Center Patient and Family Resource Program is increasing efforts in a number of areas to improve supports provided to caregivers of people with cancer. In the role of co-faculty advisor, provide consultation support for an MPH student Capstone Project for the 2015-2016 school year in their work with the Resource Center. In the role of evaluation consultant, provide guidance on the development and implementation of a caregiver support program evaluation survey for use with Resource Center initiatives.

2012–2013 **Center for Research on Ethnicity, Culture and Health (CRECH)**
Fathers & Sons Project, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
PI: Cleopatra Caldwell, PhD
CRECH Fellow

CRECH fellows gain research experiences and skills through participation in a faculty research project focused on racial and ethnic health disparities, in-depth faculty mentoring, a graduate seminar with fellow trainees and health disparities researchers, and written and oral presentations for professional and public audiences. My primary research project, the Fathers and Sons Project, used a community-based participatory process to design and implement a theory-driven and culturally appropriate, family-focused intervention program for nonresident African American fathers and their 8- to 12-year old sons.

2011–2012 **Center for Managing Chronic Disease**
Women of Color with Asthma (Sub-study), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
PI: Mary Janevic, PhD, MPH
Research Assistant

The goal of this project was to examine asthma-management challenges in the context of multimorbidity among African-American women through in-depth qualitative interviews and analysis.

2010–2011; **Center on Men’s Health Disparities**
2007–2009 Men 4 Health Project, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
PI: Derek Griffith, PhD
Research Assistant

This project completed formative work to inform the design and implementation of an intervention to improve healthy eating and physical activity among African American men in Flint, Michigan.

2009–2010 **HighScope Educational Research Foundation**
Research & Evaluation Department, Ypsilanti, MI
Research Director: Marijata Daniel-Echols, PhD
Fellow; Project Coordinator

My primary tasks were as follows: engage in workshops, trainings and meetings that address substantive and practical aspects of evaluative work, especially the role of culture and context; gain skills and knowledge necessary to conduct high quality program evaluation; and, participate in data analysis, data management, evaluation design, literature reviews, the preparation of evaluation reports, conference presentations and stakeholder meetings.

2007–2008 **School of Public Health, University of Michigan**
Asking Families About Asthma
PI: Christy Houle, PhD, MPH
Research Assistant

The goal of this project was to assess agreement between African American adolescents (self-report) and their caregivers (proxy-report) on adolescent asthma-related health experiences, and examine factors contributing to differences in adolescent and caregiver reports.

2007–2008 **School of Public Health, University of Michigan**
Fathers Matter

PI: Cleopatra Caldwell, PhD
Research Assistant

The Fathers Matter project examined multilevel factors associated with birth outcomes in the African American community, and the role of fathers specifically, through interviews with mid-pregnancy African American mothers and birth fathers.

2006–2007 **School of Social Work, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**
Special Moms, Special Babies
PI: Susan McDonough, PhD
Research Assistant

The goal of this project was to increase the mental health of and adaptive relations between infants and mothers in high-risk families (maternal depression, infant negative emotionality, and parenting stress) through a preventive, interaction guidance intervention.

COMMUNITY & CLINICAL PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Community Health Training & Experience

2007–2008 **University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center, Ann Arbor, MI**
Minority Outreach Program
Intern; Program Assistant

Assisted with the planning and implementation of health education programs and events for minority populations, including collaborating with community members and health workers to increase cancer awareness and cancer prevention among minority populations.

2006–2008 **University of Michigan, School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, MI**
Public Health Action Support Team (PHAST)
Student Member

Completed training and workshops to assist local and state health departments to meet the demands of public health events, disasters, and investigations. Participated in deployments to assist with a measles outbreak investigation with China CDC in Tianjin, China and an assessment of food security with the New Orleans Food and Farm Network in New Orleans, Louisiana.

2003–2005 **United States Peace Corps Volunteer**
Ministry of Health, Fiji
Health Promotion Officer

Worked with nurses, doctors, environmental health professionals, dieticians, and other clinic and community partners (i.e., village leaders, clergy, school staff) to facilitate workshops and support initiatives that promoted the “Healthy Island” framework of health promotion in clinics, hospitals, schools, villages, workplaces, and other settings.

2003 **Michigan State University Extension Program, Kalamazoo, MI**
Food & Nutrition Program, Diabetes Self-Management Program
Nutrition Instructor

Provided home-based diabetes self-management support for clients with low-incomes using motivational interviewing and other behavior change techniques and strategies.

2002–2003 **Kalamazoo Gospel Mission, Kalamazoo, MI**
Homeless Shelter & Drug Recovery Program
Supervisor

Supervised the childcare center, program center and living area for residents participating in a faith-based, family-centered drug abuse recovery program.

Clinical Training & Care Experience

2007–2008 **University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center, Ann Arbor, MI**
Breast Cancer Clinic, PsychoOncology Program
Clinical Social Work Intern

Facilitated group and individual psychotherapy, performed psychosocial assessments, and recommended and participated in the implementation of interdisciplinary treatment plans with nurses, medical doctors, and other health professionals.

TEACHING INTERESTS

Graduate Level Courses

Cancer prevention and survivorship
Family-based health practice and research
Program development and evaluation
Psychosocial factors and health
Racial and ethnic disparities in health

Undergraduate Level Courses

Health behavior and health promotion
Introduction to public health

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

Instruction

2018 **University of Michigan, School of Social Work**
Instructor
Evaluation in Social Work (Fall 2018)
22 graduate students

2015–2016 **University of North Carolina, Gillings School of Global Public Health**
Co-Faculty Advisor
Health Behavior Capstone Project
NC Cancer Hospital Comprehensive Cancer Support Program
5 graduate students

2011 **University of Michigan, School of Public Health**
Graduate Student Instructor
Health & Society: Introduction to Public Health (Professor Kenneth Warner)
47 undergraduate students

2002–2003 **Michigan State University Extension Program, Kalamazoo, MI**

Computer Technology Instructor
30 elementary school students

Guest Lectures

- 2018** **Center for Research on Ethnicity, Culture and Health**
Graduate Seminar
- 2017** **North Carolina State University**
Research and Assessment in Higher Education (Professor James Ellis)
- 2016, 2017** **University of North Carolina, Gillings School of Global Public Health**
Community Capacity, Competence and Power: CBPR and Photovoice
Methodology (Professors Eugenia Eng & Alexandra Lightfoot)
- 2010** **University of Michigan, School of Public Health**
Program Evaluation in Health Education (Professor Mary Janevic)
- 2009** **University of Michigan, School of Public Health**
Program Evaluation in Health Education (Professor Derek Griffith)

Instructor Training & Preparation

- 2018** **Health Sciences Teacher's Academy, University of Michigan**
- 2013** **Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan**
Preparing Future Faculty Seminar (May–June)
- 2002** **Teaching Certification – Secondary Education, Louisiana**

UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL & DEPARTMENT SERVICE

- 2018** **Student Services Graduation Committee**
Member
University of Michigan, School of Social Work
- Faculty Advisor**
University of Michigan, School of Social Work
- 2017-Present** **Student Mentoring**
Kiana Bess, PhD Student, University of Michigan, School of Public Health
- Professional Mentoring**
Rosalee Washington, Alumnus, University of Michigan, School of Public
Health
- 2017** **Conference & Meeting Planning Committee**
Member
Facilitating and Expanding Peer Support in Research and Applications for
Cancer and Other Health Challenges, Chapel Hill, NC.
(February, August, and October 2017)

- 2016** **Student Research Mentoring**
 Project IMHOTEP, Training Underrepresented Minorities for Careers in the
 Public Health Sciences
 Students: Emma Bak* & Fatima Guerrab
 * Student Research Poster Award Recipient
- 2013–2014** **Faculty Search Committee**
Member
 University of Michigan, School of Public Health
- 2007–2008** **Dean Search Committee**
 University of Michigan, School of Social Work
- Co-President**
 Association of Black Social Work Students, University of Michigan Chapter

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2013–Present** **Journal Reviewer**
 American Journal of Men’s Health
 Psycho-Oncology
 SAGE Open
 Stress & Health
 Translational Behavioral Medicine
- 2012** **Abstract Reviewer**
 American Public Health Association Conference
- 2010** **Undergraduate Student Mentor**
 Melton Foundation

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & HONOR SOCIETIES

- American Public Health Association (APHA)
 American Society of Preventive Oncology (ASPO)
 Association of Oncology Social Work (AOSW)
 Edward A. Bouchet Honor Society
 Melton Foundation
 Phi Kappa Phi, University of Michigan
 Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM)
 Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Software: MPlus; PASW/SPSS; AMOS; Atlas.ti; Qualtrics; NVivo
 Quantitative methods, including dyadic data analysis and structural equation modeling
 Qualitative methods and analysis
 Program evaluation design and management
 Survey design and management

Last Update: October 12, 2018

