



**JCOIN**  
JUSTICE COMMUNITY  
OPIOID INNOVATION  
NETWORK

# Learning Experiences to Advance Practice (LEAP)

**Scholars Program 2023-2024**

June, 2024



**CTC**  
JCOIN Coordination and Translation Center

# About JCOIN

The [Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network \(JCOIN\)](#) facilitates the collaboration between investigators and criminal legal system and behavioral-health partners to study and disseminate evidence-based research on treatment and best practices to improve care given to individuals with opioid use disorder (OUD) in criminal legal system settings.

Led by the [National Institute on Drug Abuse \(NIDA\)](#), and funded through the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) [Helping to End Addiction Long-term® Initiative](#), or [NIH HEAL Initiative®](#). JCOIN is a groundbreaking initiative designed to advance scientific knowledge on effective policies, practices, and interventions, and expand their use into daily practice within health and the criminal legal system.

JCOIN includes 13 clinical research centers ("Research Hub") and two resource centers that conduct complementary studies and provide supportive infrastructure: the [Coordination and Translation Center \(CTC\)](#) and the [Methodology and Advanced Analytics Resource Center \(MAARC\)](#). Together, these centers engage criminal legal system practitioners and treatment providers in research studies to address the opioid crisis and disseminate findings to stakeholders across the country.

Each study involves researchers working with the criminal legal system and health stakeholders within five or

more communities to address gaps in opioid use disorder treatment and related services in a wide range of criminal legal system settings, including jails, prisons, community corrections, problem-solving courts, and juvenile justice agencies. The studies will evaluate behavioral interventions, digital therapeutics, comprehensive patient-centered treatments, and delivery of medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) throughout the United States.

In 2020, the CTC launched the [Learning Experiences to Advance Practice \(LEAP\)](#) education program to support investigators and scholars with training and knowledge to conduct research and build research capacity within the criminal legal system and health settings.



# About the LEAP Program

Learning Experiences to Advance Practice (LEAP) is a pilot education and mentorship program led by the JCOIN CTC that offers two tracks: a 2-year Investigator Track; and a 1-year Scholar Track. In 2023, the LEAP program only offered the Scholar Track. The LEAP program aims to advance the capacity and diversity of high-impact research for populations involved with the health and criminal legal systems through specialized training and skill-development curriculums.

Specifically, the goals of the program are to:

- » Grow the research workforce with the knowledge and skills needed to conduct ethical, rigorous research including partnering with justice and health agencies to conduct rigorous studies, recruitment and enrollment of subjects, use of informed consent, and problem-solving in a variety of health, community, and justice settings.

- » Enlist an array of community, health, and criminal legal system leaders to value and implement research findings in practice and to engage in collaborative research teams on the conduct of research.
- » Motivate these learners to champion the completion of research projects and fidelity of planned projects given the challenges of day-to-day operations.
- » Expand and/or develop a pipeline of independent criminal legal systems and health researchers for the field that can work in multidisciplinary teams.

# LEAP Scholars

The LEAP Scholar track supports clinicians or clinicians-in-training, operational leads, criminologists, analysts, master-level or doctoral students, and practitioners interested in conducting or collaborating on research as part of their careers. The program equips participants with the knowledge and tools to conduct research at the intersection of health and the criminal legal system, including formulating research questions, understanding elements of research design, ethical issues regarding research in criminal legal system settings, and translating research findings.

Twenty-one Scholars were selected to participate in the 2023-2024 cohort. The following highlights these individuals and their contributions to the fields.



## JESSICA ALVES

Jessica Alves identifies as an African American woman who is currently the Program Manager for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Trial Court: Office of Community Corrections. In addition to Jessica's experience and personal qualities, she has a solid educational foundation and passion for the criminal justice rehabilitation system. Jessica obtained a Masters in Psychological Studies and has extensive experience providing services to high-risk mental health and substance use across the age continuum for over eight years. Jessica takes pride in developing strong relationships as the foundation of the work that she does. In her free time, Jessica is a mother to a 9-year-old, a wife, and enjoys running with her running club.

### EDUCATION

- » **Cambridge College | Boston, MA**  
Master of Education (MEd) in Psychological Studies, 2020
- » **Pine Manor College | Chestnut Hill, MA**  
Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Psychology, 2013

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## LEAH BENRUBI

Leah Benrubi is a third-year medical student at Tufts University School of Medicine. She is passionate about advancing access to healthcare among people experiencing homelessness and addressing substance use disorder on medical and policy levels.

During her time in medical school, she has served as president of the student organization Healthcare Alliance for the Homeless, coordinating 1400+ hours of volunteer work among her peers and partnering with community advocates to connect with the medical school. She also runs the Addiction Medicine Interest Group, which provides mentorship and research opportunities for students interested in the field. She participates in an inter-professional school group, Student Coalition on Addiction, that focuses on policy changes related to substance use disorder and harm reduction.

Leah's prior research focused on examining the illicit drug supply in Massachusetts for trends in skin and soft tissue infection rates. She aimed to amplify the voices of people directly affected through mixed-method designs to identify themes related to stigma in the healthcare setting for people who use drugs. Her current research is focused on using implementation science to increase HIV testing in the emergency department, with the goal of improving access to status-neutral care.

### EDUCATION

- » **Tufts University | Medford, MA**  
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Psychology
- » **Tufts University School of Medicine | Boston, MA**  
Doctor of Medicine (MD) Candidate

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## KWASI BOAITEY

Kwasi Boaitey is a dedicated wellness professional with over 20 years of experience. Kwasi serves as the Director of Culturally Responsive Management (CRM) at the University of Rochester Office of Equity & Inclusion. Kwasi is currently a PhD candidate in Human Development at the University of Rochester Warner School of Education, focusing on identity development, posttraumatic growth, and racialized trauma. Kwasi is a New York State Licensed Clinical Social worker, an International Coaching Federation Professional Certified Leadership Coach, an NYS Part B Certified Mediator, a Certified Substance Abuse Professional, a Registered Yoga Teacher, and an NSCA-Certified Personal Trainer.

Kwasi comes to this work through experiencing 87,600 consecutive hours of incarceration -774 of which were in isolation-in the NYS Department of Corrections. Kwasi has harnessed the skill of joyful discomfort through mentorship, loss, triumph, and friendship. Clients, patients, and students often liken Kwasi to the constant gardener as he has learned how to cultivate the human spirit in places where others would offer that the soil is not rich with nutrients and there is limited light and water for growth. Kwasi is also the owner of Upperlevel Fitness Inc. where his focus is using relational modalities of mindfulness, movement, and cultural humility to facilitate open lines of communication, client resilience, and stress management. His work continues with organizations, individuals, families, and adolescents facing professional and personal life challenges.

### EDUCATION

- » **University of Rochester | Rochester, NY**  
PhD Candidate (ABD) in Human Development
- » **The State University of New York at Buffalo | Buffalo, NY**  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) and Master of Social Worker (MSW)
- » **Roberts Wesleyan University | Rochester, NY**  
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Organizational Management

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## JENNIFER BRADFORD, MD, MPH



Jennifer Bradford, is an Assistant Professor in the UMass Department of Family Medicine and Community Health (FMCH). Dr. Bradford is board-certified in family medicine and addiction medicine. She is the Medical Director of Community Healthlink Detox Continuum program, where she offers substance use disorder treatment in both outpatient and inpatient settings. She also provides trauma-informed primary care for individuals who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation. In addition, Dr. Bradford is the Director of Inclusion and Social Justice within the FMCH Department and creates opportunities to make diversity and inclusion an integral part of clinical care. She advises the Massachusetts Office of Clinical Affairs on policy initiatives related to substance use disorders.

### EDUCATION

- » **Tufts University School of Medicine | Boston, MA**  
Doctor of Medicine (MD), 2010
- » **University of Massachusetts Amherst | Amherst, MA**  
Master of Public Health (MPH), 2015

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## VANESSA BRIGHT

Vanessa Bright is a mom, educator, leader, author, and entrepreneur. In 2019, Vanessa started Maryland Reentry Resource Center with a desire to use her experience, resources, and expertise to empower formerly incarcerated individuals to become thriving and productive citizens in the communities to which they return. Her inspiration is focused on upholding human dignity and creating opportunities that help individuals and organizations remove the social and financial barriers to success.

Vanessa is the author of two books, *Dollars and Cents for Parents and Children* and *Create Your Life Plan Now: Your Roadmap to Reentry*.

Vanessa holds a Bachelor of Business Management from the University of Georgia, an MBA from Howard University, and a Master of Social Work from Catholic University. She is also a Licensed Master Social Worker.

### EDUCATION

- » **University of Georgia | Athens, GA**  
Bachelor of Arts (BA)
- » **Howard University | Washington, DC**  
Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- » **Catholic University of America | Washington, DC**  
Master of Social Work (MSW)

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## VICKII COFFEY

Dr. Vickii Coffey is an Associate Professor in the Social Work Department at Governors State University (GSU). She earned a master's degree in Social Work from the University of Chicago, Crown Family School of Social Work Policy and Practice, and a doctorate degree in Criminology, Law, and Justice from the University of Illinois at Chicago. At GSU, Dr. Coffey teaches a diverse range of social work courses with a primary emphasis on diversity and social justice.

Prior to her career in academia, Dr. Coffey worked as Executive Director (E.D.) for non-profit, Chicago-based domestic violence and human service agencies. As an E.D., she served on local and national advisory councils that developed and implemented social policy and safety initiatives to intervene on and stop violence against women. Her past service includes appointments to the National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women (U.S. Department of Justice) and the Taskforce on Domestic Violence (U.S. Department of Defense). Most notably, Dr. Coffey is a past recipient of a Presidential National Crime Victims Service Award.

Currently, Dr. Coffey serves on the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Board (ICJIA) by gubernatorial appointment. The primary role of ICJIA is to ensure that the criminal justice system in Illinois is efficient, effective, and equitable.

Dr. Coffey's distinct research interests are: mass incarceration, reentry, violence against women, and the intersections of race, class, and gender across each of these spectrums. In recent years, her research investigations have focused on barriers and facilitators to quality health care and cancer health disparities in populations of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people. Her most recent study, *Barriers and Facilitators to Quality Health Care for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated African Americans* is currently in progress with an anticipated publication in 2024.

### EDUCATION

- » **The University of Chicago | Chicago, IL**  
Master of Science in Administration (MSA) in Social Work
- » **University of Illinois at Chicago | Chicago, IL**  
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)



## SAVANNAH ELDRIDGE

Savannah Eldridge is a Registered Nurse and Founder of Be Frank 4 Justice. She formed Be Frank 4 Justice to help ensure access to justice, after realizing obstacles while assisting her brother Frank appeal the egregious life sentence that he received under the outdated habitual offender statute. Through the organization, she advocates for meaningful changes in the criminal legal system and the empowerment of system-impacted families.

In 2020, she formed the Coalition to Abolish Slavery-Texas, working to end the practice of slavery in the Texas prison system. She also serves as a steering committee member for the Statewide Leadership Council, Board of Directors for the Texas Inmate Families Association (TIFA), as Co-Director of State Operations for the Abolish Slavery National Network, and as Chair of the Criminal Justice Committee for NAACP 6304.

### EDUCATION

- » BSN, RN, CRRN

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## JORGE FINKE

Jorge Finke is a Primary Care Physician at Bowdoin Street Health Center in Boston, where he provides care to patients of all ages. He also manages methadone for patients with opioid use disorder at Spectrum Health Systems in Waltham, as well as two local correctional facilities in the Boston metropolitan area. He received his MD from the University of Massachusetts Medical School, where he stayed for his family medicine residency. He is currently a lecturer at Harvard Medical School and frequently precepts residents as well as medical students on their primary care rotations.

He is passionate about the practice of evidence-based medicine and is a contributing editor for *American Family Physician*. He has long had an interest in caring for patients with opioid use disorder and is in the process of starting an office-based addiction treatment program at Bowdoin Street Health Center. His interests include retention in and discontinuation from substance use treatment and their effects on relapse rates.

### EDUCATION

- » **University of Massachusetts Medical School | Worcester, MA**  
Doctor of Medicine (MD)

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## MAYA HOLCOMB

Maya Holcomb first began exploring the field of psychological research as an undergraduate student at the State University of New York at New Paltz, where she completed an internship at the Global Psychiatric Epidemiology Group at Columbia University and the New York State Psychiatric Institute. After obtaining her Bachelor of Science in Psychobiology, she began working as a Research Assistant within the Center for Behavioral Health and Youth Justice on a community-based participatory research project within the RADx-UP consortium, examining the efficacy of rapid COVID-19 testing engagement strategies for people who use opioids, where she coordinated the project at one of the two research sites. She is currently a Research Coordinator for the e-Connect Scale-Up project, which aims to assist probation officers in identifying and referring justice-involved youth with behavioral health needs to the necessary treatment.

Maya is passionate about research that centers on the experiences of underserved communities. Her academic interests are rooted in the construction of culturally informed therapeutic tools, their real-world application, and the ways in which they can address the social determinants of health that impact at-risk populations.

### EDUCATION

- » **The State University of New York (SUNY) at New Paltz | New Paltz, NY**  
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Psychobiology, 2021

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## FRANCES (FRAN) JENSEN, MD, MS

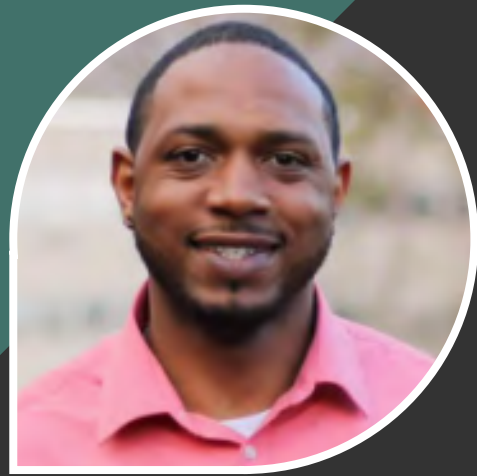
Dr. Frances Jensen is a board-certified internist and has maintained a clinical focus on addiction medicine throughout her career. Currently, she serves as the Maine Medical Director of Better Life Partners (BLP), where she oversees the treatment of individuals with OUD/AUD, using telehealth as a tool to provide medication, group counseling, and care coordination. Currently, she is developing a Re-Entry Patient and Advisory Board, which includes members of the justice-involved population, to ensure that BLP includes their voices in all components of our service delivery model. Prior to joining BLP, Dr. Jensen served as the Medical Director of the Office of MaineCare Services, where she provided subject matter expertise on value-based models of healthcare delivery, the physician's perspective on coverage policies, and data-driven approaches to improve the health of Medicaid beneficiaries. She also has served as the Chief Medical Officer of a Health Information Technology company that developed case management platforms for individuals receiving Home and Community-Based Services; clinically, she provided MOUD to justice-involved individuals out of a mobile clinic in Baltimore. From 2013-2018, Dr. Jensen directed a team that designed several state-based, multi-payer alternative payment models while at the CMS Innovation Center and served on the Federal HHS Taskforce to combat the Opioid Epidemic. She has a BA from Bowdoin College, an MS from the University of Idaho, and an MD from Johns Hopkins, where she also completed her residency in Internal Medicine and fellowship in Emergency Medicine and the Law.

### EDUCATION

- » **Bowdoin College | Brunswick, ME**  
Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Physics, 1987  
Summa Cum Laude, Highest Honors
- » **University of Idaho | Moscow, ID**  
Master of Science (MS) in Zoology, 1992
- » **The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine | Baltimore, MD**  
Doctor of Medicine (MD), 1997
- » **The Johns Hopkins Hospital | Baltimore, MD**  
Residency in Internal Medicine, 2000  
Fellowship in Emergency Medicine and the Law, 2007

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## DIVINE LIPSCOMB

Divine Lipscomb is an accomplished scholar and advocate, boasting a diverse educational background that includes an AA in Business Administration, a BS in Rehabilitation and Human Services, and a current pursuit of an MEd in Rehabilitation and Clinical Mental Health. With a profound interest in understanding the impacts of trauma before, during, and after incarceration, Lipscomb's research focuses on this critical area, shedding light on the nuanced challenges faced by individuals within the criminal justice system. As a formerly incarcerated scholar, Lipscomb actively contributes to Penn State's Prison Education Program, leveraging personal experiences and academic expertise to support others in similar situations. Their remarkable contributions have earned Lipscomb prestigious accolades, such as Penn State's Rock Ethics 2020 Stand Up Award and the Outstanding Adult Student Award. Lipscomb's groundbreaking achievements also extend to the community, as the first African American and formerly incarcerated member of the State College Borough Council, showcasing a commitment to advocacy, education, and societal change.

### EDUCATION

- » **Monroe College | New York City, NY**  
Associate in Arts (AA) in Business Administration, 2008
- » **The Pennsylvania State University | State College, PA**  
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Rehabilitation and Human Services, 2022  
Master of Education (MEd) in Rehabilitation and Clinical Mental Health, 2024
- » **International Institute for Restorative Practices | Bethlehem, PA**  
Certified Restorative Practices & Circles, 2020  
Certified Restorative Justice Conferences, 2023

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## LAURA LODOLO

Laura Lodolo (she/her) is a MD/MPH candidate at Tufts University School of Medicine (TUSM) in Boston, Massachusetts. Laura became passionate about caring for populations experiencing substance use, mental illness, and incarceration while working as a medical scribe for San Luis Obispo County Behavioral Health and volunteering at the San Luis Obispo County jail. These experiences inspired her to pursue a dual degree and learn more about health-systems and health policy. During medical school, Laura was Co-President of Phoenix Project, a community-service learning club at TUSM that teaches health education workshops at South Bay House of Corrections, a jail in Boston, MA. She is also part of a research team studying health care in carceral settings and has published research on stakeholders' perspectives on opt-out vaccination in jails. Laura is applying to Emergency Medicine programs for residency and is interested in completing her training at a safety-net hospital where she will continue pursuing her interests in health equity and carceral health.

### EDUCATION

- » **California Polytechnic State University | San Luis Obispo, CA**  
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Biological Sciences; Minor in Psychology and Child Development, 2019
- » **Tufts University School of Medicine | Boston, MA**  
Doctor of Medicine (MD)/Master of Public Health (MPH) Candidate, 2024

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## FABIOLA PLAZA

Fabiola Plaza is a fourth-year medical student at the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. Native to Venezuela, she grew up as one of seven children in South Florida. She then attended Columbia University, majoring in neuroscience and music. While at Columbia, Fabiola discovered her love for medicine and giving back to the community. After graduating in 2019, she worked as a research assistant for the Dynamic Social Cognition Lab, which investigated the neural correlates behind negative symptoms of schizophrenia. In 2020, she entered medical school, where she sought opportunities to volunteer. She became involved in the student council, the school's Committee for Anti-Racism and Allyship (CARA), and the Latino Medical Student Association at the school, regional, and national levels.

Her current research involves investigating potential health provider bias against those who are justice-involved and also establishing training and education in order to address this potential bias and teach healthcare professionals the importance of trauma-informed care when working with those who are justice-involved.

### EDUCATION

- » **Columbia University | New York City, NY**  
Neuroscience and Music
- » **Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell | Uniondale, NY**  
Doctor of Medicine (MD) Candidate

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## JODY RISKOWSKI

Jody's background, although varied, is focused on helping people develop into better versions of themselves. With a strong background in research, her prerogative is to use evidence-based practices to improve the lives of the people she serves. Currently, she is a community health educator with our correctional services, and her goal is to empower our population to make good choices to improve their health and well-being.

### EDUCATION

- » Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering
- » Master of Arts in Educational Administration
- » PhD in Biomedical Engineering
- » Master of Public Health (MPH) (in progress)



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## DONNA M. SABOORI

Donna Saboori is a third-year medical student at Penn State College of Medicine. Her research focuses on pediatric emergency medicine, trauma-informed care, addiction medicine, and neurocritical care topics. She is interested in improving patient literacy and advocacy, as well as studying the role of ED observation units.

### EDUCATION

- » **Penn State College of Medicine | Hershey, PA**  
Doctor of Medicine (MD) Candidate, Class of 2025
- » **Albright College | Reading, PA**  
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Biology with Co-Concentration in Spanish

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## MARVIN LONGBOAN SO

Marvin is a community-based researcher and primary care doctor. He is committed to developing clinical and public health innovations for families and children impacted by the criminal legal system.

### EDUCATION

- » **University of Minnesota | Minneapolis, MN**  
Doctor of Medicine (MD)
- » **Harvard University | Cambridge, MA**  
Master of Public Health (MPH) in Social and Behavioral Sciences
- » **University of California Berkeley | Berkeley, CA**  
Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Public Health and Forestry and Natural Resources

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## SAM TARPLIN

Sam Tarplin has several roles relating to substance use disorders (SUDs) intersection with the justice system. He is a Research Coordinator at Baystate Health in Springfield, MA, where he is involved with several qualitative and quantitative studies. These studies look at how SUDs are handled and treated within carceral settings. Sam is also a lecturer in UMass Amherst's Sociology Department, where he teaches an undergraduate course called Drugs and Society. Additionally, he is frequently invited to testify as an expert witness in criminal cases related to SUD.

Sam is a person in long-term recovery from opioid use disorder (OUD). He leverages his personal, lived experience to better connect to research participants, personalize his lesson planning, and specialize his court testimony. His areas of interest include health knowledge and beliefs among people who inject drugs, stigma's relationship to health outcomes, and ethical considerations when working with PWID as research participants.

### EDUCATION

- » **University of Massachusetts Amherst | Amherst, MA**  
Master of Public Health (MPH), Concentration in Community Health Education, 2023
- » **University of Massachusetts Amherst | Amherst, MA**  
Bachelor's Degree with Individual Concentration (BDIC), Concentration in Addiction Studies, 2020
- » **Cape Cod Community College | Barnstable, MA**  
Associate's Degree (AA) in Human Services, 2019

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## MONTGOMERY TURNER-LITTLE



Montgomery Turner-Little is the Program Coordinator for the Family Justice Center Alliance. In this role, he provides technical assistance to domestic violence programs and Family Justice Centers nationwide. He earned a BS in Health Science Studies from Baylor University and an MPH in Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences from the University of Texas Health Science Center of Houston, where he assisted in research on childhood obesity. Prior to the Alliance, Montgomery was a Population Health Specialist for a mental health organization in Tarrant County.

### EDUCATION

- » **University of Texas Health Science Center of Houston | Houston, TX**  
Master of Public Health (MPH) in Health Promotion and Behavioral Science with a Graduate Certificate in Health Disparities, 2021
- » **Baylor University | Waco, TX**  
Bachelor of Science in Education (BSEd), 2014

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## PAMELA VALERA

Pamela Valera is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban-Global Public Health. She serves as the Concentration Lead for the MPH/MSW Dual Degree program at the School of Public Health, Rutgers University, the State University of New Jersey. Dr. Valera's research focuses on the drivers of health inequities in marginalized groups (including people who use drugs, people living with HIV, those at risk for HIV, and those involved in the criminal justice system).

At the Rutgers School of Public Health, she co-founded the Community Health Justice Lab (<http://www.chjl.org>), where members address inequity in health promotion activities among medically underserved and hidden populations. Dr. Valera can be reached at [pv181@sph.rutgers.edu](mailto:pv181@sph.rutgers.edu).

### EDUCATION

- » **University of South Carolina | Columbia, SC**  
PhD in Social Work

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## KHIRSTEN J. WILSON

Khirsten J. Wilson is a Clinical Psychology doctoral student at the University of Notre Dame. Her work focuses on advancing knowledge through community-engaged and culturally responsive research to promote psychological health and strengthen families amongst Black youth experiencing adversity. She is interested in sociocultural and contextual factors (e.g., structural inequities) that may influence the development of chronic mental illness, including the risk of suicidality, amongst youth in under-resourced communities. Wilson is also interested in social support networks within the context of youth community violence exposure and subsequent risk of antisocial behavior, particularly as it relates to the cyclical nature of youth perpetration of community violence.

As a future clinical psychologist, Wilson will prioritize the importance of social and contextual resources, in the psychological underpinnings in the development of youth antisocial behavior. Her current research as a graduate student centers on attitudinal (e.g., impulsivity, emotion dysregulation) and environmental factors that predispose youth to suicide and other adverse gun-related outcomes. She will continue her work in the future by contextualizing youths' experiences with chronic stressors (e.g., community violence, social victimization) and social support networks (e.g., mentors, family, nonbiological kinships) in the prediction of adolescent risky behavior, with the ultimate goal of furthering research and evidence-based practice that centers the voices of Black youth experiencing poverty.

### EDUCATION

- » **University of Notre Dame | Norte Dame, IN**  
PhD in Clinical Psychology (in progress)
- » **Mississippi State University | Starkville, MS**  
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Psychology, Cum Laude

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## NICOLE WOODSON-DEFAUW, MD

Nicole Woodson-DeFauw is an addiction medicine fellow at the University of Iowa Addiction and Recovery Collaborative, and a physician at the Iowa Medical and Classification Center. She completed her residency at the University of Iowa's Family Medicine-Psychiatry combined residency program, where she was able to focus on holistic and integrated care of medicine and psychiatry. During her residency, Dr. Woodson-DeFauw was a 2020-2022 APA SAMHSA Substance Use Disorder Minority Fellow, where she created a mentorship program in psychiatry for underrepresented minorities and a Health Equity Grand Rounds Lecture Series for the hospital's Department of Psychiatry.

Dr. Woodson-DeFauw's interests include mentoring and teaching medical students, integrated medicine, social determinants of health, advocacy, and addiction medicine. Upon graduation from her fellowship, she hopes to continue advocating for addiction treatment for justice-involved populations and creating opportunities to improve access to care.

### EDUCATION

- » **University of Iowa | Iowa City, IA**  
Hospitals and Clinics Family Medicine & Psychiatry Combined Residency Program, 2023
- » **Meharry Medical College | Nashville, TN**  
Doctor of Medicine (MD), 2018
- » **Luther College | Decorah, IA**  
Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Biology, 2013

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*The contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of NIDA, NIH, or the participating sites.*

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