

Elisa Childs, MSW, LCSW

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Education

The University of Georgia <i>ABD: School of Social Work</i>	Athens, GA	November 2022 (exp.)
Middle Tennessee State University <i>Master of Social Work</i>	Murfreesboro, TN	May 2015
University of Hawai'i: Maui Community College <i>Nursing Assistant Certificate</i>	Wailuku, HI	June 2012
Middle Tennessee State University <i>Bachelor of Social Work (Minor in sociology)</i>	Murfreesboro, TN	December 2011
MiraCosta Community College <i>Associate of Arts, Sociology</i>	San Diego, CA	May 2009

Research Experience

Research Assistant Iowa City, IA June 2020–Present

National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice
The Center for Public Health Evaluation and Research
The University of Iowa

Assists with research and evaluation activities (planning, data collection, analysis, report writing) for CDC-funded public health programs, with a specific focus on increasing access and eliminating disparities related to social determinants of health. Evaluates multiple chronic disease programs, specifically those focusing on cancer, diabetes, and Alzheimer's Disease. Other responsibilities include developing evaluation plans and evaluation reports, interviewing study participants, developing evaluation tools and instruments, performing statistical analysis using SPSS, and facilitating meetings and presentations of evaluation results to the Iowa Department of Public Health and other stakeholders.

Principal Investigator

October 2019–April 2022

Examining Health Care Quality in Rural Georgia.

IRB Approved.

Designed and implemented a qualitative study that involved interviewing rural residents with chronic conditions to determine health care quality conceptualization and its impact on their decision to use local health care services. Manuscript of findings currently being prepared.

Principal Investigator May 2019–February 2022
Defining Rural. IRB Approved.
Developed and distributed an online survey to determine perceived definitions of “rural” from scholars, researchers, and professionals who study/work in rural areas and/or with rural populations. Manuscript under review. *Manuscript under review..*

Co-Investigator September 2019–July 2021
How Student Perception Impacts Utilization of U.S. College Campus Services. IRB Approved.
Collaborated in the design, development, and dissemination of a survey exploring student perception of on-campus counseling centers in the Southeast U.S. Manuscript under review.

Principal Investigator January 2019–September 2020
The Taliaferro, Wilkes, and Lincoln Community Health Needs Assessment. IRB Approved.
Designed, developed, and disseminated a 45-question community health needs assessment to assess the medical and mental health needs of rural east Georgia, building community relationships with the local hospital, politicians, civil servants, business owners, residents, etc. *Manuscript published by the Journal of the Georgia Public Health Association in Spring 2022.*

Project Assistant Athens, GA June 2019–July 2020
The University of Georgia, School of Social Work - Dr. David Okech
Title: Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training for Micro-Specialization MSW - Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students; Source: Department and Health and Human Services, Health Resources & Services Administration; Award amount: \$2,600,000.00;
Responsibilities: Completed annual reports to the federal government, entered project data in database, interfaced with federal grant officials, solved technical issues, etc.

Research Assistant Athens, GA August 2018–May 2020
The University of Georgia, School of Social Work - Dr. Tiffany Washington

- Developed a survey instrument to assess caregiver respite use and dosage.
- Conducted interviews with caregivers to assess respite dosage and utilization.
- Completed ICF Training (International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health)
- Assisted with focus groups centered on caregiver’s experience with respite.
- Led meetings when Dr. Washington was unavailable and mentored MSW team members.
- Conducted statistical analysis utilizing SPSS and analyzed data.
- Conducted systematic reviews for Dr. Washington, with a specific focus on kidney disease.

Teaching Experience

Co-teacher Athens, GA January 2020–May 2020
The University of Georgia, School of Social Work: Research Methods
Alongside an associate professor, assisted with the development, planning, and implementation of a graduate level Research Methods class, emphasizing active learning.

Publications

Childs, E., & Washington, T. (2022). Perception of health care access in rural Georgia: Findings from a community health needs assessment survey. *Journal of the Georgia Public Health Association*.

Childs, E., & Boyas, J. (2022). Off the beaten path: A scoping study of how ‘rural’ is defined by the U.S. government for rural health promotion. *Health Promotion Perspectives*.

Alvarez-Hernandez, L., Childs, E., Fatehi, M., & Yeo, H. (under review). How student perception impacts utilization of U.S. college campus services. *Journal of American College Health*.

Washington, T., Mingo, C., & Childs, E. (2019). Chronic Disease Self-Management. In *Encyclopedia of Gerontology and Population Aging*. (Vol. 1). New York City, NY: Springer Publishing.

Childs, E., & Boyas, J. (under review). Continuing down the unbeaten path: A proposed framework toward a standardized definition of ‘rural’ informed by experts of rural studies and laypersons.

Childs, E., & Laigo, D. (in progress). Conceptualization of health care quality in medically underserved rural Georgia: A qualitative exploration.

Washington, T., Childs, E., McDuffie, M., & Wolf, K. (in progress). Chronic kidney disease and its impact on caregiver biopsychosocial factors: A systematic review (working title).

Lynch, A., Denney, C., Boyas, J., & Childs, E. (in progress). Diabetes health outcome differences between private insurance and Medicaid recipients in rural Georgia.

Presentations

Yeo, H., & Childs, E. *Older adults’ access to hospital-based palliative care services in Iowa*. Poster presentation at the Gerontological Society of America. Indianapolis, IN. Accepted.

Childs, E. *Assessing health care accessibility in rural Georgia*; Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research Conference 2020. Washington, DC.

Childs, E., & Buckley, T. *A content analysis of rural social work education in American BSW programs*; Poster presentation at the Rural Sociological Society Conference 2019. Richmond, VA. – Awarded \$400 stipend.

Childs, E., & Buckley, T. *Rural social work education in American BSW programs*; Poster presentation at the Council of Social Work Education Conference 2019. Denver, CO.

Technical Reports

Title: DP18-1815 Cooperative Agreement Program: Category A, Diabetes Management and Type 2 Diabetes Prevention; Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Division of Diabetes Translation; Award Amount: \$2,183,634.00; Grant #: DP18-1815

Title: Building Our Largest Dementia (BOLD) Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act, Public Law 115-406; Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC) ; Award Amount: \$600,000.00; Grant #: CDC-RFA-20-2004

Title: Iowa Comprehensive Cancer Control Program; Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Cancer Prevention and Control Programs for State, Territorial, and Tribal Organizations; Award Amount: \$300,000.00; Grant #: DP22-2202

Childs, E., Abbott, A., Richardson, B., & Schueller, A. (2021) Pick A Better Snack: School Survey. Iowa City, IA: The University of Iowa, Center for Public Health Evaluation and Research. United States Department of Agriculture.

Childs, E., Abbott, A., & Tylke, S. (2021) 5-2-1-0 Healthy Choices Count!: FY'20 Case Study Report. Iowa City, IA: The University of Iowa, Center for Public Health Evaluation and Research. United States Department of Agriculture.

Practice Experience

Hospice of the North Coast

Carlsbad, CA

June 2016–July 2018

Medical Social Worker

- Managed a caseload of 45 hospice patients, attending to their psychosocial needs and collaborating as part of an interdisciplinary care team that included physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, marriage and family therapists, and chaplains.
- Performed patient psychosocial assessments to augment existing services and contributions to the plan of treatment, emphasizing and facilitating services available to military veterans.
- Assisted the physician and other care team members in understanding the social and emotional factors relating to a patient's terminal illness.
- Assessed for cognitive capacity, suicide risk, and elder/dependent adult abuse, following appropriate reporting protocols when necessary.
- Facilitated the completion of advanced health care directives, Physician's Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment), mortuary arrangements, funeral planning, facility placement, insurance, FMLA paperwork, etc.
- Provided information and referrals to appropriate community resources, facilitating the completion of applications for programs such as Medicaid, In-Home Support Services (IHSS), In-Home Operations (IHO), food stamps, Meals-on-Wheels, para-transportation, etc.
- Provided bereavement counseling to grieving loved ones.
- Acted as a community educator within the San Diego area, developing and presenting educations on the signs and reporting protocols of suspected elder/dependent adult abuse in long-term residential care facilities.

Villa Rancho Bernardo Skilled Nursing Facility San Diego, CA August 2015–September 2016
Director of Social Services

- Managed, planned, developed, organized, evaluated, and directed the social services department of Villa Rancho Bernardo Care Center, a 300-bed skilled nursing facility, acting as an integral component in increasing the Medicare 5-Star Rating from 1-½ stars to 5-stars.
- Developed a written plan of care that identified the needs of the patient and the goals to be accomplished, utilizing a task-centered model.
- Implemented policies for identification of medically related social/emotional patient needs.
- Developed and implemented care plans, patient assessments, and discharge plans.
- Referred patients to appropriate agencies/programs when the facility could not meet needs.
- Educated patients and families on Medicare regulations and facilitated the completion of applications for Medicaid, in addition to other state and county programs available.
- Delegated authority, responsibility, and accountability of six social services personnel, including providing supervision for one MSW intern.
- Developed and implemented an Operation's Manual for the social services department.

Accomplishments

Implemented new policies, such as multilingual communication boards, an MSW internship program with the University of Southern California, alternate transportation billing procedures (which saved on average \$25,000 a month), and an Alzheimer's Disease support group for caregivers.

NHC Place Cool Springs Nashville, TN January 2015–May 2015

MSW Intern: 500 hours

- Utilized a client-centered model when developing care plans for patients, specifically in the rehabilitation and memory care unit.
- Executed referrals for mental health services, home health therapy, outpatient therapy, and infusion services.
- Led and participated in case management (at both the intake and discharge level), and facilitated family care plan meetings.
- Conducted patient assessments, which included Brief Interviews of Mental Status (BIMS), resident mood interviews (PHQ-9), and psychosocial histories, particularly utilizing Medicare's Minimum Data Set (MDS) and Mini-Mental Examinations (MME).
- Succeeded as a liaison between rehab therapists and insurance companies, sending patient therapy updates to determine a discharge date.

Monroe Harding Group Home Nashville, TN May 2013–November 2014

Residential Counselor

- Provided supervision and care for at-risk male youth in state custody, in a residential and home-like environment.
- Facilitated activities of daily living, group counseling, meal prep education, and recreation.
- Transported youth to school, GED testing, recreational activities, etc.
- Disciplined and held youth accountable, using de-escalation techniques and mediation; filing police reports when necessary.
- Documented behaviors, attitudes, and attention to education and responsibilities in the home daily, in addition to medication intake.

California Law and Professional Ethics Courses–2016–18 hours completed
Voted “Best New Employee of 2015” at Villa Rancho Bernardo Care Center–*as Director of Social Services*

Licensure, Certifications, and Professional Affiliations

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, State of California – #93816
Council of Social Work Education – *member since 2020*
Georgia Gerontological Society – *member since 2019*
Southern Gerontological Society – *member since 2019*
National Rural Health Association – *member since 2019*
International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF) – *certificate – as of 2019*
Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) – *certificate – as of 2018*
Rural Sociological Society – *member since 2018*
Georgia Clinical & Translational Science Alliance – *Aging & Rural Health – member since 2018*
Global Partners: Nkhoma Hospital, Malawi, Africa – *Hospice of the North Coast – 2018 to 2018*
Ethics Committee – *Hospice of the North Coast – 2017 to 2018*