

University of Washington, School of Social Work  
4101 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Seattle, WA 98105  
mccowank@uw.edu

## **EDUCATION**

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PhD	University of Washington, Social Welfare	June 2020 (anticipated)
	Dissertation: <i>Effects of High School Student Participation in Intergroup Dialogue</i>	
MSW	University of Missouri, Columbia Policy, Planning and Administration	2015
	Thesis: <i>Institutional Isomorphism amongst Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities</i>	
BA	Stephens College, English/Creative Writing	2011
BS	Stephens College, Psychology	2011

## **SPECIAL SKILLS AND AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE**

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1. Evaluative Research Methods
2. Advanced Training in Statistics
3. Clinical expertise: substance use and mental health treatment, community integrated practice.
4. Teaching expertise: social inequalities, social work practice courses (micro, mezzo and macro), field education

## **AWARDS, HONORS, GRANTS, & FELLOWSHIPS**

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2019	Faculty Spotlight, Samuel E. Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center
2018	Student Choice Teaching Award, BASW Program, University of Washington
2017	Multicultural Alumni Partnership Scholarship, University of Washington
2017	Graduate Student Travel Award, University of Washington

2017	Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Travel Grant, University of Washington
2016	West Coast Poverty Center Annual Poverty Summit Fellowship, University of Washington
2015	Heart of Missouri United Way Graduate Research Fellowship
2014	M. Sable Study Abroad Endowment Student Travel Award
2014	Missouri Association of Social Welfare Student Travel Award
2014	U.S. Autism & Asperger Association 9th Annual World Conference Travel Award
2013	Missouri Association of Social Welfare Student Travel Award

## RESEARCH INTERESTS & EXPERIENCE

### Interests

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I engage a variety of methods such as action research, evaluation research, intervention development implementation science to study social stratification, racial and economic justice, adolescent development, identity formation, sociopolitical development, justice-oriented youth programs.

### Experience

*Data Analysis Research Consultant* 2019 - Present  
 Byrd Barr Place  
 Principal Investigator: Angela Powell  
 Analyzed qualitative data for African American Health in King County Study.

*Qualitative Researcher & Research Coordinator* 2019 - Present  
 Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Research Consortium  
 Principal Investigator: Charles Lea MSW, PhD  
 Supported a research-practice project with Federal Way Public Schools. Coordinated with district and school leaders to develop project goals and research methods and qualitative data collection protocols, collecting and analyzing qualitative data, Developing a plan with school leaders on how the data will be used, and participating In the dissemination strategy developed with the school district, including writing a Final report; and contributing to manuscripts being developed for referred journals.

*Program Evaluator* 2015 - Present

Social Development Research Group, Survey Research Division

*Northwest Leaders in Substance Abuse Brief Intervention Training Grant*

*Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration/ Grant Number: 1H79TI025935-01*

Principal Investigator: Kevin Haggerty, PhD, Emiko Tajima, PhD

Monitor and evaluate SBIRT Training Program; collect, track, and analyze survey data.

Ensure grantee compliance with SAMHSA Best Practices for CSAT Programs.

*Focus Group Facilitator* 2016 - 2017

Social Development Research Group, Survey Research Division

*Friends of the Children Study*

Principal Investigator: Kevin Haggerty, PhD

Facilitated focus groups with foster caregivers, biological caregivers and FOTC mentors across three agency locations: Tampa, FL, Portland OR, and Seattle, WA.

*Community-based Program Evaluation* 2016 - 2017

Communities in Action, Social Development Research Group

*Communities that Care (CTC)*

Principal Investigators: R. Catalano, K. Haggerty & Margaret Spearman

Developed evaluation plan for three evidence-based programs to be implemented in community agencies and schools in Central and Southeast Seattle.

*Focus Group Facilitator* 2016- 2017

Social Development Research Group

*Connecting: LGBTQ Youth in Foster Care*

Principal Investigators: Kevin Haggerty, PhD, Susan Barkan, PhD, Amy Salazar, PhD

Facilitated focus groups with foster caregivers, Washington State Children's Administration staff, and LGBTQ2S) foster care alumni. Data analysis and manuscript development.

*Data Collection & Budget Manager* 2013- 2015

University of Missouri-Columbia, Provost Office

*Chancellor's Distinguished Visitor's Program*

Reviewed and recommended Distinguished Visitors nominations for visiting scholars.

Maintained website, database, visitors' schedule and program budget. Prepared annual reports, promoted visitors and negotiated cost sharing with University departments.

*Lead Evaluator of Health and Mental Health Programs* 2015- 2015

Heart of Missouri United Way

*Community Impact Initiative*

Built capacity for evaluation with partner agencies; included consulting with social service agencies to develop logic models, theory of change, process evaluations and outcome measurement tools. Facilitated stakeholder meetings and worked with various advisory councils and sub-committees to implement United Way's Community Impact Model.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer Reviewed Publications

Tajima, E., **McCowan, K.**, Lindhorst, T., Haggerty, K., Rivara, J., Schack, S., Ramey, A., & Jackson, R. (2019). Promoting SBIRT Training for Social Work Students Across Field Settings. SBIRT Special Issue: Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions.

Haggerty, K & **McCowan, K.**, (2018). Using the Social Development Model to promote a more nurturing society. *Special Issue: Ensure Healthy Development for All Youth Through the Power of Prevention. The Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research (JSSWR)*.

Salazar, A. M., **McCowan, K.**, Cole, J., Skinner, M., Noell, B. +, Colito, J. M., Barkan, S. E., & Haggerty, K. P. (2017). Developing relationship building tools for foster families caring for LGBTQ2S teens. *Child Welfare, special issue on children and youth with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities/expression involved in child welfare and other public systems*.

### Manuscripts in Preparation

**McCowan, K.** Unpacking social capital for youth development: Implications for theory, research and practice.

Haggerty, K, Skinner, M., Harris, D. & **McCowan, K.** Differences in Stress Response among Black and White Early Adults

## PRESENTATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations & Posters

**McCowan, K.**, Morhaf, A., Lindo, E., (2019) Decolonizing medical education through the Pedagogy of the Oppressed. Panel presentation at Department of Family Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle WA.

- McCowan, K.,** Haggerty, K., Lindhorst, T., LaFazia, A., Jackson, T., Shack, S., Tajima, E. (2018). *Creating relevant excellence: SBIRT training in partnership with the county's public behavioral health and recovery department and the school of social work*. Poster presentation: Society for Social Work and Research 22nd Annual Conference, Washington D.C.
- McCowan, K.,** Woods,.E., Moise, E., (2017). *When Academia is not Enough for Feminists of Color in Graduate School*. Panel presentation at National Women's Studies Association: 40 Years After Combahee: Feminist Scholars and Activist Engage the Movement for Black Lives, Baltimore M.D.
- McCowan, K.** (2017). *Unpacking social capital for low-income youth of color*. Poster presentation at Society for Social Work and Research 21st Annual Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- McCowan, K.,** Woods,.E., Hand, M., Moise, E., (2017). *Connecting graduate student teaching, research, and activism*. Panel presentation at Sociologist for Women in Society, Albuquerque, NM.
- McCowan, K.,** Moise, E. (2016). *Identity, Critical Consciousness & Youth Activism*. Workshop presented at Office of Minority and Diversity Affairs, First Year Diversity and Inclusion Retreat, Auburn, WA.
- McCowan, K.** Woods,.E., Hand, M., Rodriguez, R., Towne-Arnold, K. (2015). *Women and Crime*. Women and Gender Studies Annual Conference, Columbia, MO.
- McCowan, K.** (2014). *Mental Health Policy Comparative Analysis: South African & United States*. University of Missouri-Columbia School of Social Work, Columbia, MO.

## TEACHING COMPETENCIES

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### INTERESTS

Social justice & Cultural diversity, social work administration; intellectual & historical foundations of social work practice; intergroup dialogue; introduction to social welfare practice; mental health and substance use courses

### Course Experience

<b>Field Education Seminar</b>	2018 –Present
Fordham Graduate School of Social Services, Online MSW Program	
<i>Adjunct Instructor &amp; Field Advisor</i>	

<b>Facilitating Intergroup Dialogue</b> University of Washington, School of Social Work (BASW elective) <i>Co-Instructor</i>	Winter 2018
<b>Building Competencies for Intergroup Dialogue Facilitation</b> University of Washington, School of Social Work (BASW elective) <i>Co-Instructor</i>	Fall 2017
<b>Large Group Theory</b> University of Missouri-Columbia, School of Social Work (MSW Foundation course) <i>Teaching Assistant</i> (Faculty Instructor: Cande Iveson)	Spring 2017
<b>Historical and Intellectual Foundations of Social Welfare</b> University of Washington, School of Social Work <i>Teaching Assistant</i> (Faculty Instructor: Dr. William Vesneski)	Fall 2016
<b>Building Competencies for Intergroup Dialogue Facilitation</b> University of Washington, School of Social Work (BASW elective) <i>Teaching Assistant</i> (Faculty Instructor: Dr. Margaret Spearmon)	Fall 2016
<b>Poverty and Inequality</b> University of Washington, School of Social Work (MSW foundation course) <i>Teaching Associate</i> (Faculty Instructor: Dr. William Vesneski)	Winter 2015
<b>Policy Analysis</b> University of Washington, School of Social Work (MSW elective) <i>Teaching Associate</i> (Faculty Instructor: Dr. William Vesneski)	Winter 2015
<b>Introduction to Social Work Practice</b> University of Washington, School of Social Work (BASW foundation course) <i>Teaching Assistant</i> (Faculty Instructor: Dr. Mary Lou Balassone)	Fall 2015
<b>Pharmacology I</b> UMKC School of Pharmacy- Columbia Campus <i>Teaching Assistant</i> (Faculty Instructor: Roger Sommi PharmD, PhD)	Fall 2014
<b>Toxicology</b> UMKC School of Pharmacy- Columbia Campus <i>Teaching Assistant</i> (Faculty Instructor: Roger Sommi PharmD, PhD)	Spring 2014
<b>Pharmaceutics I</b>	Spring 2015

UMKC School of Pharmacy- Columbia Campus  
*Teaching Assistant* (Faculty Instructor: Roger Sommi PharmD, PhD)

## **Invited Lectures & Training Workshops**

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| <i>Racial Equity Training</i><br>Center for Engagement and Leadership Education<br>University of Washington, Undergraduate Academic Affairs  | September 2019 |
| <i>Effects of Participation: Intergroup Dialogue in Garfield High School</i><br>Research Methods II (MSW)<br>University of Washington, School of Social Work   |                |
| <i>SBIRT: Implications for Practice &amp; Research</i><br>Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) (MSW)<br>University of Washington, School of Social Work                          | February 2018  |
| <i>Social Work Practice with Children &amp; Youth</i><br>Introduction to Social Work Practice (BASW)<br>University of Washington, School of Social Work  | February 2018  |
| <i>Music of the Movement: Healing Justice</i><br>Historical Trauma and Healing (MSW)<br>University of Washington, School of Social Work  | March 2017     |
| <i>Ethics &amp; Policy: Five Days at Memorial</i><br>Policy Analysis (MSW)<br>University of Washington, School of Social Work  | March 2016     |
| <i>Community Change Strategies</i><br>Human Behavior and Social Environment (BASW)<br>University of Washington, School of Social Work  | May 2016       |
| <i>Introduction to Substance Use &amp; Mental Health Practice</i><br>Introduction to Social Work Practice<br>University of Washington, School of Social Work   | November 2015  |
| <i>Mental Health Policy &amp; Practice in South Africa &amp; United States: A Comparative Analysis</i><br>International Social Work & Public Health<br>University of Missouri-Columbia School of Social Work |                |

## **Invited Lectures (Non-University)**

*Series: Unpacking Anti-Blackness & Anti-Black Racism in Small CBO's* June 2019-Present  
Powerful Voices  
Seattle, WA

*Critical Youth Development* May 2017  
Progressive Millennials for Action: Books not Prisons Panel  
Seattle, WA

*Cultivating Resilience for Youth Well-Being* December 2017  
Na'ah Illahee Fund: A Catalyst for Native Women & Girls  
Seattle, WA

*Capacity-Building Workshop I: Building Evidence for your Program* July 2017  
Communities in Action  
Seattle, WA

*Capacity Building Workshop II: Implementing Effectiveness-Based Programs* July 2017  
Communities in Action  
Seattle, WA

## **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Psychiatric Social Worker** 2015- 2016  
Missouri University Psychiatric Center, Columbia, MO  
Conducted social services assessments, developed treatment plans and provided referrals to community, state and federal agencies. Collaborated with patient, families, healthcare providers and other staff regarding patient care and discharge planning.

**Substance Abuse Counselor** 2014-2015  
Compass Health, Columbia, MO  
Facilitated individual, group therapy and psychoeducation sessions for adolescents and adults engaged in Substance Use Disorder treatment and recovery.

**Job Coach** 2012- 2015



City of Columbia's CARE Program, Columbia, MO  
 Provided youth with career assessment/exploration, case management, job coaching and life skills training for low-income youth and youth with Autism spectrum disorders. Developed and evaluated a Life Skills Curriculum for the CARE Program and substantiate evaluation measures.

## **Psychiatric Aide**

2012- 2014

Missouri University Psychiatric Center, Columbia, MO

Provided direct care to patients with severe mental illnesses in the assessment, adolescent and adult units. Other main duties included assisting with re-socialization, behavior modification, crisis intervention, aggression management, as well as reporting observable changes in resident behavior.

Chaired Performance Improvement group designed to address discharge delays.

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

### *UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON*

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<i>Board Member, Multicultural Alumni Partnership</i>	2018-Current
<i>Member, Compassionate University Initiative: Community Well-Being</i>	2018- 2019
<i>Student Representative, Ph.D Program Committee</i>	2016—2018
<i>Chair, School of Social Work PhD Social Justice Committee,</i>	2016—Current
<i>President, Association of Black Social Work Students</i>	2016—2019
<i>Member, Innovation to Impact Visioning Committee</i>	2016--2019
<i>Student Representative, School of Social Work Equity Council,</i>	2016—2017
<i>Committee Member, PhD Program Awards Committee</i>	2016--2017

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## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

<i>Executive Board Trustee, UAW 4121, Seattle, WA</i>	2017- Present
<i>Co-Founder, Critical Youth Project, Seattle, WA</i>	2017-Present
<i>Member, Columbia Transition, Columbia MO</i>	2011—2016
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education	
<i>Site-Visit Subcommittee Member, United Way, Columbia MO</i>	2013—2015
<i>Advisory Council Member, Heart of Missouri United Way, Columbia MO</i>	2013—2015

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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<i>Member, National Association of Black Social Workers</i>	2015-Present
<i>Member, Society for Social Welfare Research</i>	2015-Present
<i>Member, Society for Women Sociologist</i>	2016-Present
<i>Member, National Women's Studies Association</i>	2015-Present
<i>Member, National Association of Social Workers</i>	2014-2016
<i>Member, American Association of University Women</i>	2008-2011

## REFERENCES

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William Vesneski, MSW, JD, PhD  
 Lecturer  
 University of Washington School of Social Work  
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 Professor, School of Social Work  
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 Director, Social Development Research Group  
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Margaret L. Spearmon , MSW, Ph.D.  
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