
Mississippi State University, Social Work Program, 456 Hardy Road, Mississippi State, MS 39762

EDUCATION/LICENSURE**Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work**

University of Georgia

August 2019

Dissertation Title: *“You’re probably the first person that’s asked me”: Retrospective narratives of adults whose sibling experienced a burn injury*

Master of Social Work

The University of Georgia

May 2001

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

The University of Georgia

Cum Laude

July 1998

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (#CSW004049—Active in GA)

October 2008

ACADEMIC POSITIONS**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY**

Starkville, Mississippi

BSW Program Director

August 2025—present

Department of Sociology, College of Arts and Sciences

Assistant Professor [3/3 Teaching Load]

August 2022—present

Department of Sociology, College of Arts and Sciences

UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA

Pensacola, Florida

Assistant Professor [3/3 Teaching Load]

August 2019—August 2022

Department of Social Work, College of Education and Professional Studies

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

Kennesaw, Georgia

Adjunct Professor

January 2013—December 2014

Department of Social Work and Human Services, WellStar College of Health and Human Services

GRANTS**External Funding Received:**

2023—present

Title: Mississippi Academic Pathways Collaboration Project (PI: 2025—present; Co-PI: 2023—2025)

Funder: Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Project (Social Work Program sub-awardee)

Amount: Fiscal year varies based on curriculum audit; Funding for open-ended entitlement reimbursements

2020—2021

Title: Northwest Florida First Responder Resiliency Project (Co-Investigator)

Funder: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Amount: \$ 1,000,000

AREAS OF INTERESTS

Research:

- ▶ Individual and systemic impact of burn injuries in relation to identity, aftercare/reintegration and program development/interventions; Fire service with attention to mental health/suicide and program development/interventions; Intersection of trauma—primary and vicarious—and identity; Interprofessional education.

Teaching:

- ▶ Social Work Practice: Individuals, Families, Groups, and Organizations; Social Work Practice in Integrated Healthcare; Foundations of Research; Community/Macro Social Work; Human Behavior and Social Environment.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS [Published and/or In Press]

Rotunda, R., Herzog, J., **Dillard, D.**, King, E., & O'Dare, K. (2024). Alcohol misuse and correlates with mental health indicators among firefighters. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 1-8.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/10826084.2024.2422975>

Herzog, J., **Dillard, D.**, King, E., Rotunda, R., O'Dare, K., & Dilks, J. (2024). Examining the relationship between religious volunteering and mental health screeners among firefighters. *Journal of Spirituality in Social Work: Social Thought*, 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15426432.2024.2416579>

Hoffman, C., **Dillard, D.**, King, E., Blackburn, A. (2024). “Nobody gives a damn if you don’t know the rules”: Poverty, strain, and crime. *Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice and Criminology*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.21428/88deo4a1.761f53f4>

O'Dare, K., Atwell, L., King, E., **Dillard, D.**, Herzog, J., & Rotunda, R. (2024). Subjective experiences, perceptions, and meanings associated with barriers to seeking mental health care among first responders. *Advances in Mental Health*, Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/18387357.2024.2320635>

O'Dare, K., **Dillard, D.**, King, E., Dilks Jr, J., Herzog, J., Rotunda, R., Close, F., & Hartman, M. (2024). The 2nd Alarm Project: Bridging social work and public health to improve mental wellness in the fire service. *Social Work in Public Health*, 39(1), 93–104. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19371918.2024.2318382>

Ramanathan, C., Colvin, M. L., **Dillard, D.**, Stephens, N., & Vitolo, T. (2023). Social work and human rights: Learning from COVID-19. *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work*, 8(4), 449–459. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41134-023-00278-9>

Ricciardelli, L. A., **Dillard, D. R.**, Quinn, A. E., Skinner, J., & Nackerud, L. (2023). U.S. social work students' attitudes on social media as treatment modality: A prepandemic national survey. *Journal of Social Work*, 24(1), 58–72. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14680173231197796>

O'Dare, K., Johnson, T. M., King, E. A., Herzog, J., **Dillard, D. R.**, Powell, K., Kirby, A., & Atwell, L. (2023). Workplace traumatic stress and mental health sequelae among public safety telecommunications officers in Florida. *Florida Public Health Review*, 20(1), 6. <https://digitalcommons.unf.edu/fphr/vol20/iss1/6/>

O'Dare, K., Bator, C., Butler, L., Orrange, J., Porter, L., Rehbein, M., Dilks, J., **Dillard, D.**, King, E., Herzog J., & Rotunda, R. (2023). From EAP to BHAP: A conceptual framework to develop and implement a comprehensive behavioral health access program within the fire service. *International Journal of Emergency Services*. Advance Online Publication. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJES-11-2021-0078>

Herzog, J., O'Dare, K., King, E., Rotunda, R. & **Dillard, D.** (2022). Trauma symptoms and suicidal ideation in firefighters with consideration of exposure to natural disaster. *Traumatology*, Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/trm0000413>

Walker, A., James, S., **Dillard, D.**, Hoffman, C., Wirth, C., Nelson, A., & Barrington, P. (2021). Taking responsibility to create a trauma and social justice-informed workforce. *Journal of Higher Education Theory and Practice*, 21(9), 71-81. <https://doi.org/10.33423/jhetp.v21i9.4590>

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS [Revise and Resubmit and/or Under Review]

O'Dare, K., Johnson, T., Herzog, J., Atwell, L., **Dillard, D.**, & King, E. (Revise & Resubmit). Addressing the silent struggles: Mental health challenges and trauma exposure among law enforcement officers. *The Police Journal: Theory, Practice, Principles*.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Dillard, D., Kolomer, S. R. & Hanavan, K. (2019). Social work researchers go to camp. In Scher, S. & Nadel, M. (Eds.), *Not just for play: Summer camp and the profession of social work*. Oxford University Press.

Dillard, D. & Tarquinio, M. (2017). Case management in a senior resource center in North Carolina. In Holosko, M. (Ed.), *Social work case management: Case studies from the frontlines* (pp. 333-344). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc.

BOOK REVIEWS

Dillard, D. (2016). [Review of the book *Introduction to biosocial medicine: The social, psychological, and biological determinants of human behavior and well-being* by D.A. Barr]. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 26(4), 470-471. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1049731516645195>

PEER REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS [*Undergraduate Student, **Graduate Student]

Abrams, T., **Dillard, D.**, & Moulick, A.** (2025). Social workers as members of burn care teams: Perspectives from interdisciplinary teammates [Poster presentation]. **American Burn Association Annual Meeting**. Phoenix, Arizona, United States.

Abrams, T., **Dillard, D.**, & Moulick, A.** (2025). Social workers as members of burn care teams: Perspectives from interdisciplinary teammates [Paper presentation]. **John A. Boswick Burn & Wound Care Symposium**. Wailea, Hawaii, United States.

Herzog, J., King, E., **Dillard, D.** (2023). *Examining the relationship between religious volunteering and mental health screeners among firefighters* [Paper presentation]. **International Conference on Spirituality and Social Work**. Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

- Rotunda, J., Herzog, J., King, E., & **Dillard, D.** (2023). *Alcohol misuse and correlates with mental health indicators among firefighters* [Paper presentation]. **Southeastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting**, New Orleans, Louisiana, United States.
- Dillard, D. R.**, Lewis, N.*, & Samuel, I.* (2023). *Exploring environmental justice challenges through creative reflection modalities* [Panel presentation]. **Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Meeting**, Birmingham, Alabama, United States.
- Rotunda, J., Herzog, J., **Dillard, D.**, & O'Dare, K. (2022). *Behavioral health problems among firefighters and overview of multilevel response strategies: The Northwest Florida Resiliency Project* [Paper presentation]. **Southeastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting**, Hilton Head, South Carolina, United States.
- Dillard, D.**, King, E., O'Dare, K., & Rotunda, R. (2022). *Firefighter resiliency project: Survey findings and implications for a program model* [Poster presentation]. **University of West Florida Office of Undergraduate Research Student Scholars Symposium**, Pensacola, Florida, United States.
- Dillard, D.**, King, E., O'Dare, K., & Rotunda, R. (2022). *Firefighter resiliency project: Survey findings and implications for a program model* [Poster presentation]. **American Burn Association Annual Meeting**, Las Vegas, Nevada, United States. *Journal of Burn Care & Research*, 43 [Supplement 1], S150-151. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jbcr/iraco12.246>
- Dillard, D.**, Ramanathan, C., & Colvin, M. (2021). *Human rights, social justice, and COVID-19: Domestic/Global lessons for the classroom* [Paper presentation]. **Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting**, Orlando, Florida, United States.
- Dillard, D.**, O'Dare, K., Herzog, J. & McNabb, B. (2021). *The 2nd Alarm Project: Promoting cultural awareness and behavioral health resources for the fire service* [Workshop]. **National Association of Social Workers Florida Annual Meeting**, Virtual, United States.
- Walker, A., James, S., **Dillard, D.**, Hoffman, C., Wirth, C., Nelson, A., & Barrington, P. (2021). *Taking responsibility to create a trauma and social justice-informed workforce* [Paper presentation]. **American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting**, Virtual, United States.
- Nelson, M.** , **Dillard, D.** & King, E. (2021). 2nd Alarm Project [Poster presentation]. **University of West Florida Office of Undergraduate Research Student Scholars Symposium**, Virtual, United States.
- Hoffman, C., **Dillard, D.** & Blackburn, A. (2020). *Situational ethics: Lessons learned from the community action poverty simulation* [Panel presentation]. **Southern Criminal Justice Association**, Biloxi, Mississippi, United States. (Conference proceedings canceled, COVID—19; presented as poster on the organization's website)
- Dillard, D.** (2020). *Childhood burn injuries: The uninjured sibling perspective* [Conference podium presentation]. **American Burn Association Annual Program Meeting**, Virtual, United States. *Journal of Burn Care & Research*, 41 [Supplement 1], S21. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jbcr/iraa024.032>

- Dillard, D. & Kolomer, S. (2020).** *Childhood burn injuries: The parent perspective* [Poster presentation]. **American Burn Association Annual Program Meeting**, Virtual, United States. *Journal of Burn Care & Research*, 41 [Supplement 1], S131. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jbcr/iraa024.205>
- Dillard, D. & Kolomer, S. (2020).** *Childhood burn injuries: The parent perspective* [Poster presentation]. **University of West Florida Office of Undergraduate Research Student Scholars Symposium**, Virtual, United States.
- Dillard, D. & Kolomer, S. (2020).** *Childhood burn injuries: The parent perspective* [Poster presentation]. **University of North Carolina Wilmington College of Health and Human Services Research and Innovation Day**, Wilmington, North Carolina, United States.
- Rotunda, R., Herzog, J., McClendon, T., **Dillard, D.** & Conklin, B. (2020). *Stress, trauma, suicidal ideation, and barriers to help-seeking among firefighters: Implications for behavioral health training* [Conference symposium]. **Southeastern Psychological Association Annual Program Meeting**, New Orleans, Louisiana, United States. (Conference proceedings canceled, COVID-19)
- Rimmer, R.B., Bay, R.C., **Dillard, D.**, Chacon, D., Wise, D., Milken, M., Foster, K.N. (2019). *Young adult burn survivors burned as children self-report on wellbeing—How are they faring?* [Poster presentation]. **American Burn Association Annual Program Meeting**, Las Vegas, Nevada, United States. *Journal of Burn Care & Research*, 40 [Supplement 1], S109-110. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jbcr/irz013.185>
- Rimmer, R.B., Bay, R.C., **Dillard, D.**, Chacon, D., Wise, D., McCoy, N., Foster, K.N., Caruso, D.M. (2018). *Young adult burn retreats—Are they meeting the needs of survivors?* [Poster presentation]. **American Burn Association Annual Program Meeting**, Chicago, Illinois, United States. *Journal of Burn Care & Research*, 39 [Supplement 1], S190. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jbcr/iry006.358>
- Dillard, D. (2016).** *Survivor identity in the medical landscape: A conceptual model* [Poster presentation]. **Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting**, Atlanta, Georgia, United States.
- Briggs, H., Miller, S. & **Dillard, D.** (2016). *Family driven care: A capstone learning experience to enhance workforce capacity* [Conference breakout session]. **Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting**, Atlanta, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D. & Mowbray, O. (2016).** *Suicide and protective service occupations: Findings from a nationally representative sample* [Poster presentation]. **Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference**, Washington, District of Columbia, United States.
- Kolomer, S. & **Dillard, D.** (2015). *Burn injuries and stress: Experience from the family system's perspective* [Conference breakout session]. **International Conference on Community Mental Health: Trends and Challenges**, Bengaluru, India.
- Kolomer, S. & **Dillard, D.** (2012). *Retirement and volunteering: Burn camp and committed service by firefighters* [Poster presentation]. **Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference**, San Diego, California, United States.

- Kolomer, S. & **Dillard, D.** (2011). *Service-learning course enhancement: Taking burn camp to the next level* [Conference breakout session]. **Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Conference**, Portland, Oregon, United States.
- Kolomer, S., Williams, N.R., Himmelheber, S. & **Dillard, D.** (2010). *Service as self-care: Social work alumni return to burn camp* [Poster presentation]. **Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting**, Portland, Oregon, United States.
- Dillard, D.** & Gardin, D. (2010). *Treating burn victims and creating burn survivors* [Conference general session]. **John A. Boswick Burn and Wound Care Symposium Annual Conference**, Maui, Hawaii, United States.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS/PANELS

- Shoup, B., **Dillard, D.**, & Herrington, B. (2024). *Are we still bowling alone? Finding community and democracy in unexpected places*. [Annual Programming—2024 Theme, Building Community: The Humanities as Social Glue]. **MSU Institute for Humanities**, Starkville, Mississippi, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2024). *Being brain aware at camp*. [Children's Colorado Burn Camp Staff Training]. **Children's Colorado Hospital**, Aurora, Colorado, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2023). *Burn injuries and research overview*. [Fall Brown Bag Series for Clinical Psychology]. **MSU Department of Psychology**, Starkville, Mississippi, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2022). *Burn injuries: An overview and implications for social work practice and research* [Conference general session]. **MSU Annual Field Instructor Training**, Starkville, Mississippi, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2020). *Overlooked trauma: Perspectives on the burn injury experience from family members and suggestions for programs/services* [Conference general session]. **Canadian Burn Survivors Conference**, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. (Conference proceedings canceled, COVID-19)
- Dillard, D.** (2016). *Young adult retreat programming* [Conference breakout session]. **13th International Association of Burn Camps Workshop**, Fresno, California, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2016). *Creating a mental/behavioral health plan at camp—Why is it important? What should be considered? What resources are needed?* [Roundtable discussion]. **Camp Twin Lakes**, Atlanta, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D.** & Bailey, M. (2015). *Forward movement with a shared vision* [Conference breakout session]. **Georgia Fire Safety Symposium**, Forsyth, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2013). *Careers in non-profits* [Panel discussion]. **University of Georgia**, Athens, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D.**, Gardin, D., & Bailey M. (2013). *Creative fundraising* [Conference breakout session]. **Georgia Fire Safety Symposium**, Forsyth, Georgia, United States.

- Dillard, D.** (2013). *Mental health and social services* [Conference breakout session]. **Georgia Fire Safety Symposium**, Forsyth, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2013). *Child abuse and neglect: Everything you never wanted to think about as a summer camp counselor* [Workshop general session]. **Camp Twin Lakes summer program staff orientation**, Winder, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D. & Kolomer, S.** (2012). *If camp makes a difference... Prove it!* [Conference breakout session]. **11th International Association of Burn Camps Workshop**, Alexander City, Alabama, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2012). *Careers in non-profits* [Panel discussion]. **University of Georgia**, Athens, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2012). *Child abuse and neglect: Everything you never wanted to think about as a summer camp counselor* [Workshop general session]. **Camp Twin Lakes summer program staff orientation**, Winder, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2011). *Careers in social work* [Panel discussion]. **University of Georgia**, Athens, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2011). *Careers in public service* [Panel discussion]. **University of Georgia**, Athens, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2011). *Stewards of children: 7 steps to protecting our children* [Conference breakout session]. **Georgia Fire Safety Symposium**, Forsyth, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D., Gardin D., Mabry, L.** (2011). *How the GFBF supports fire safety education and prevention efforts* [Conference breakout session]. **Georgia Fire Safety Symposium**, Forsyth, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2010). *Juvenile firesetter intervention programs* [Panel discussion]. **National Association of State Fire Marshals Summit**, Chicago, Illinois, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2010). *Georgia juvenile firesetter intervention program update* [Conference breakout session]. **Georgia Fire Safety Symposium**, Forsyth, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2010). *Stewards of children: 7 steps to protecting our children* [Conference breakout session]. **Georgia Fire Safety Symposium**, Forsyth, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D.** (2009). *Stewards of children: 7 steps to protecting our children* [Meeting session]. **Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention meeting**, Marietta, Georgia, United States.
- Dillard, D. & Baldwin, S.** (2005). *Rescue beyond the flames: Responding to burn injured children* [Conference breakout session]. **Georgia Fire Safety Symposium**, Forsyth, Georgia, United States.

TEACHING [*Online, ♦COVID-19 Online Transition from Face to Face, ‡New Course Developed]**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY****Assistant Professor**

Course Title	Semester	Program
Introduction to Social Work	Fall 2022, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025	BSW
Policy II	Spring 2023, Fall 2023	BSW
Professional Development in Social Work‡	Fall 2024	BSW
Research Methods in Social Work	Spring 2023	BSW
Seminar in Resilience	Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024*	BSW
Social Work in Health Care	Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024	BSW
Social Work with Communities and Organizations	Fall 2022	BSW

UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA**Assistant Professor**

Course Title	Semester	Program
Human Behavior in Organizations and Communities	Fall 2021, Spring 2020♦	BSW
Interviewing and Recording	Spring 2021*, Fall 2020*, Fall 2019	BSW
Introduction to Child Welfare	Summer 2020*	BSW
Social Work Field Instruction & Senior Seminar	Spring 2022*, Fall 2021*, Summer 2021*, Spring 2021*, Fall 2020*, Spring 2020♦	BSW
Social Work Foundation Year Field Seminar	Summer 2022*	MSW
Social Work Research Foundations	Spring 2022, Spring 2022*, Fall 2021, Spring 2021*, Fall 2020*, Spring 2020♦, Fall 2019	BSW
Social Work Practice in Integrated Healthcare‡	Summer 2022*, Summer 2021*, Summer 2020*	MSW

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY**Assistant Professor—Invited Guest Lecture**

Course Title	Semester	Program
Qualitative Research Methods	Fall 2022	PhD
Qualitative Research Methods	Spring 2022	PhD

UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA***Assistant Professor—Invited Guest Lecture***

Course Title	Semester	Program
General Practice II	Spring 2024	MSW
General Practice II	Spring 2023	MSW
Interdisciplinary Honors Seminar—Trauma & Resilience	Spring 2021*	Under-graduate

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA***Invited Guest Lecture***

Course Title	Semester	Program
Generalist Social Work Practice III	Spring 2016	BSW
Theory and Practice with Organizations/Communities	Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2016	MSW

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY***Invited Guest Lecture***

Course Title	Semester	Program
Perspectives on Child Maltreatment and Advocacy	Fall 2015	Human Services

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON***Invited Guest Lecture***

Course Title	Semester	Program
Generalist Social Work Practice with Groups	Fall 2020*	BSW
Ethical Principles in Social Work Practice	Fall 2016, Spring 2015	MSW

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY***Adjunct Professor***

Course Title	Semester	Program
Working with Children and Youth	Spring 2014	Human Services
Advanced Clinical Practice III	Spring 2013	MSW
Neurobiology	Fall 2013	MSW
Social Work Seminar (Co-Instructor)	Fall 2013	MSW

HIGH IMPACT/APPLIED TEACHING EXEMPLARS**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY****Golden Triangle Early College High School Program****February 2025**

I received an invitation to present a workshop on time management to students at the Golden Triangle Early College High School Program. The early college high school at East Mississippi Community College was the first model in Mississippi. These programs offer students a non-traditional high school experience, where they can earn their high school diploma, as well as a career technical certificate or an associate's degree. Students from the Fall 2024 Professional Development in Social Work course and Spring 2025 Practice with Groups course were offered the opportunity to participate. Overall, seven social work students from our program volunteered to assist. Specifically, they each were responsible for facilitating a small group, including developing an introductory activity and leading the small group activities/topics based on instruction I provide to the large group of approximately 80 students. The high school students responded positively to the MSU students,

which resulted in a subsequent invitation to return the next academic year. Upon conclusion of the workshop, I debriefed with the social work students, where they articulated lessons learned related to group dynamics and working with youth. Students in the Practice with Groups course used the experience to inform an assignment in their current course.

UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA

Office of Undergraduate Research Symposium

April 2022

Social work students in a foundations research course worked independently and in groups to design either a quantitative or qualitative research proposal. Students were placed into groups following the solicitation of their individual preferences from a comprehensive list of broad areas. Groups were subsequently randomly assigned to either a quantitative or qualitative methodology to demonstrate how areas can be researched from different approaches. Individual work products included an annotated bibliography and literature review, which also engaged a peer review activity. After completing independent research in their broad area, students worked in their small groups to distill one research question and a research design based on their randomly designated methodology. The final work product was a group research proposal presented as a scholarly poster at the OUR symposium. Poster expectations included: one overall introduction/literature review, at least one clear research question, sampling strategy, measurement concepts, data collection methods, ethical considerations, limitations, and social work implications. Students also participated in a peer/self-evaluation of the group process.

Opening Doors NWFL Point in Time Census

January 2020 & January 2022

Social work students in Human Behavior in Organizations and Communities and Social Work Research Foundations served as volunteers with the Pensacola non-profit Opening Doors of Northwest Florida to complete a Housing and Urban Development census count of individuals experiencing homelessness in either sheltered or unsheltered situations. Following their involvement with the census students were required to engage in a creative and/or critical reflection employing the Objective, Reflective, Interpretive, Decisional (ORID) Model.

Poverty Simulation

February 2020, November 2021 & February 2022

Social work students in Human Behavior in Organizations and Communities and Social Work Research Foundations participated in the Missouri Community Action Network’s Poverty Simulation with UWF students in nursing, education, criminal justice, and health promotion. Following the simulation students were required to write a creative and/or critical reflection employing the Objective, Reflective, Interpretive, Decisional (ORID) Model.

STUDENT MENTORING

Research Mentoring:

Fall 2021	Supervise Graduate Assistant
Summer 2021	Supervise Graduate Assistant
2020—2022	Mentor/Advise Psychology Student Undergraduate Research Project
2020—2021	Supervise Graduate Assistant Fall/Spring
Summer 2020	Supervise Graduate Assistant
2019—2020	Supervise Graduate Assistant Fall/Spring

SERVICE

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

- **Department of Sociology:**
 - 2025—present Advisory Council
 - 2025—Present Social Work Search
 - 2024—2025 Chair, Social Work Search
 - 2024—2025 Chair, Social Science Symposium Committee
 - 2023—2025 Undergraduate Curriculum and Policies Committee
- **Social Work Program:**
 - 2022—present Admissions Committee
 - 2022—present Awards Committee
 - 2022—present Curriculum Committee
 - 2022—present Scholarship Committee
 - 2022—2025 Social Work Phi Alpha Faculty Advisor
- **University:**
 - Fall 2025 Freshman Success Kickoff Carnival
 - Fall 2024 Career Services Dinner Etiquette Table Host
 - Spring 2022 Undergraduate Research Symposium Evaluator
 - Spring 2022 Safe Zone Certified Faculty Member

UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA

- **Department:**
 - Spring 2021 Search Committee
 - 2020—present Professional Behaviors Committee, Chair (Spring 2020—present)
 - 2019—present Bylaws Committee, Secretary (2019-2020, 2020-2021)
 - 2019—present Curriculum Committee
- **University:**
 - Spring 2022 OUR Program Award Reviewer
 - Spring 2021 OUR Explorers: Health Sciences Focused Mentor Panel
 - Spring 2021 OUR Faculty Guide
 - Spring 2020 OUR Explorer Program, Supervise 2 Students
 - 2020—present Interprofessional Poverty Simulation Planning/Research Team

COMMUNITY

- 2020—2024 International Associations of Fire Fighters Foundation Burn Fund: Behavioral health/psychosocial support program staff for 7-day residential youth leadership camp/program in Washington, DC area
- 2020—2022 2nd Alarm Project Grant, Co-Investigator: Fire service engagement and workshop/trainings (research dissemination, peer support trainings, public awareness/outreach/education programs, leadership workshops)
- 2017—2024 Burn Survivor and Reintegration/Psychosocial Special Interest Group Committee Co-Chair: Ongoing planning/collaboration of educational content for the American Burn Association's annual meeting

COMMITTEE/BOARD POSITIONS

American Burn Association

- 2019—2024 Burn Survivor and Reintegration/Psychosocial Special Interest Group Committee Co-Chair (Appointed)

2017—2019	Burn Survivor and Reintegration Special Interest Group Committee Co-Chair (Appointed)
2017—2019	Psychosocial Special Interest Group Committee Co-Chair (Appointed)
2017—2021	Aftercare and Reintegration Committee (Appointed)

Federation of Burn Foundations

2018—2019	Board Member (Elected), Secretary
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International Association of Burn Camps

2011—2018	Board Member (Elected 2011, Reelected 2013); Board Chair (2016-2018)
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SOCIAL WORK PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

GEORGIA FIREFIGHTERS BURN FOUNDATION

Atlanta, Georgia

Programs Director

January 2008—May 2019

Developed, executed, managed and evaluated agency programs that included: burn camp, family weekends, young adult retreats, fire department grants, and educational scholarships; instructed at conferences, events, and/or programs related to education, prevention, support and recovery within the context of the burn community; facilitated workshops, seminars, and retreats for those impacted by burn injuries; supervised interns; collaborated in budget preparation; managed website, including online forms/applications, and social media; and participated in fundraising activities and events.

VISITS INC

Metro-Atlanta, Georgia

Supervisor

June 2004—May 2014

Supervised visitation of noncustodial parents with their child(ren) in an appropriate setting that facilitated an opportunity for them to engage with their parent. Prepared written reports of their exchange, which were then utilized by attorneys, judges, and therapists to guide further interactions.

CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE OF ATLANTA

Atlanta, Georgia

Social Worker II (Scottish Rite Campus-weekends)

October 2007—November 2010

Triaged consults for the emergency department, as well as the entire hospital census, during the weekend shift when the hospital was at a minimal staff of two in-house social workers; assessed for resources, support, and child protection concerns to generate appropriate referrals as needed; and supported families, including areas of grief and loss, as they coped with their child's illness/injury.

COBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Marietta, Georgia

Certified School Social Worker

January—April 2003 (contract) & August 2003—July 2008

Liaised amid the home, school, and community to facilitate student success; conducted assessments for resources, support, and abuse/neglect to establish referrals intended to meet the student/family needs; contributed in multi-disciplinary teams to enhance academic performance; petitioned truancy cases to Juvenile Court; served on the Juvenile Court Citizen Review Panel; and participated on a district wide evaluation committee to develop measures assessing social worker job performance.

WELLSTAR HEALTH SYSTEM

Cobb/ Douglas/Kennestone/Paulding, Georgia

Social Services/Discharge Planning: System Wide

January 2003—August 2004

Assessed for resources, support, and abuse/neglect, as well as coordinated patient discharge needs—including arranging transportation and facilitating home health and durable medical equipment needs with the doctor and home health agencies to secure continuity of care.

**Social Services/Discharge Planning: Cobb Hospital
Children's ER, Pediatrics, Mother/Baby, NICU**

August 2001—January 2003
August 2000—May 2001 Intern

Assessed for resources, support, and abuse/neglect; provided emergency assessment for DFACS related to inpatient substance abuse concerns; coordinated patient discharge needs to ensure continuity of care; participated in weekly interdisciplinary rounds in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit; and developed handbooks and training manuals/materials for staff and patients.

Childbirth Educator—Women's Resource Center at Cobb Hospital

January 2005—May 2007

Instructed five-week series of childbirth education classes to expectant mothers and their partner/support person and facilitated tours of the family birthplace.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL COLORADO

Estes Park, Colorado

Children's Colorado Burn Camp

August 2024 & August 2025

Invited to serve as one of the psychosocial staff members for the weeklong summer camp program and provided in-service during staff training. Attended the program in person August 2024. Invited but unable to attend in 2025, though I provided materials for the staff orientation.

ILLINOIS FIRE SAFETY ALLIANCE

Ingleside, Illinois

Camp I Am Me

June 2024

Volunteered and served as one of the psychosocial staff members for the weeklong summer camp program.

SAFEPATH CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

Marietta, Georgia

Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention (CCAP) Volunteer

January 2003—December 2009

Invited member of the "Hearing Children's Voices" Silent Auction Committee for two years; designed and disseminated quarterly newsletter for CCAP.

GEORGIA FIREFIGHTERS BURN FOUNDATION

Atlanta, Georgia

Various Volunteer Roles

May 2000—December 2007

Supervised Camp Oo-U-La[®] volunteers, as well as MSW service-learning students from the University of Georgia; participated on "Children After the Fire" advisory board; and facilitated school assemblies and programs within Cobb County School System to assist with program development and public awareness/outreach.

PODCASTS & PRINT

Nicholas, S. (2024). MSU social worker shifts career path, serves 'burn community' with compassion, steadfast loyalty. *Vision Magazine*. https://issuu.com/msu-artssciences/docs/visionmagazine_issuu

Davis, R. (Host). (2024, February 14). Creating safe spaces for hidden populations on your social work journey [Audio podcast episode]. In *Goddesses of Social Work Podcast*. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/creating-safe-spaces-for-hidden-populations-on-your/id1727886870?i=1000645326102>

Brown, K. & Burrow, J. (Producers). (2023, July 11). Dr. Dana Dillard and burn injuries, the burn community (No. 54) [Audio podcast episode]. In *Vision Podcast*. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/vision-podcast/id1519532220>

TRAINED FACILITATOR

2020 Missouri Community Action Network Poverty Simulation
2008 Stewards of Children Darkness to Light

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS

American Burn Association
Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors
International Associations of Fire Fighters Foundation Burn Fund
National Association of Social Workers
Pi Iota, Mississippi State University Chapter of Phi Alpha Honorary Social Work Society