

TRANSLATING KNOWLEDGE INTO ACTION

Annual Report

2014-2015

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About the McSilver Institute

The McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University Silver School of Social Work is committed to creating new knowledge about the root causes of poverty, developing evidence-based interventions to address its consequences, and rapidly translating research findings into action.

The McSilver Institute employs collaborative research methods via partnerships with policymakers, service organizations, consumers, and community stakeholders.

An understanding of the significant link between individuals, families, communities, and their external environments, as well as the interrelatedness of race and poverty guide the McSilver Institute's research efforts.

About the Design

The design of this report reflects the ripple effect of the McSilver Institute's translation of community-based, participatory research into action. Like a stone dropped in water, when evidence-based interventions to mitigate poverty are collaboratively developed and disseminated in real world settings, there is an expanding social impact.

Dean's Greeting

Dear Friends,

Soon after I took office as Dean of the Silver School of Social Work in September 2009, I engaged the Silver School faculty in a collaborative strategic planning process in order to realize the potential of Connie and Martin Silver's transformative gift, which renamed the school and established the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research within the school. The resulting strategic plan had five goals: 1) to become a scholarship leader in social work and related fields, including public health and poverty research; 2) to advance our reputation for superior BS, MSW, and PhD programs; 3) to be a full-fledged part of the NYU Global Network University and member of the global community; 4) to be more engaged with local agencies providing social services to New Yorkers, and 5) to rededicate ourselves to diversity and social justice.

In addition, I brought together a distinguished group of advisors—Larry Aber, Phyllis Barasch, Alma Carten, Phil Coltoff, Robert Hawkins, Paul Light, Linda Mills, Deborah Padgett, Mary Pender Greene, Connie Silver, and Nancy Wackstein—to develop the mission of the McSilver Institute in alignment with the school's strategic plan.

Over the past six years the McSilver Institute has stayed true to its mission and made significant contributions towards helping the Silver School achieve its goals. It has a robust, externally-funded research portfolio; it is developing outstanding poverty-focused social work scholars; it is highly engaged globally; it is helping local New York agencies evaluate their programs and build capacity to better serve poverty-impacted children, families and communities; and it is a beacon of dedication to social justice and diversity.

The McSilver Institute is an integral part of the Silver School, and I could not be more proud to share this annual report highlighting its recent significant achievements.

Sincerely,



Lynn Videka, PhD
Professor and Dean
NYU Silver School of Social Work

Director's Greeting

Dear Friends,

Just four years ago, in September 2011, I became the inaugural Director of the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University Silver School of Social Work, with its charge to further our understanding of poverty and advance actionable, evidence-based interventions to address its consequences. Today, at the close of the 2014-15 academic year, the institute has 50 full-time employees and has been awarded nearly \$20 million to conduct research and leverage knowledge that translates directly into policies and practices assisting people living in poverty. The McSilver Institute's growth accelerated dramatically over the past twelve months, and I am proud that it has been matched by our impact on the lives of poverty-impacted children and families in New York, across the U.S., and around the world.

One way the McSilver Institute improves the lives of those living in poverty is by creating evidence-informed training and tools that enable service providers to deploy highly effective research-based practice. This past year, the McSilver Institute-directed, New York State-funded Community Technical Assistance Center of New York (CTAC) and Managed Care Technical Assistance Center (MCTAC) expanded their reach to offer free training and resources to all of New York State's mental health, substance abuse, and child welfare providers to help them maintain the health of their organizations and improve service delivery to their low-income, medically-underserved clients. To date, CTAC and MCTAC have each had more than 22,000 participants in their programs.

We scaled up our National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded VUKA Family Program study, which aims to address health and behavioral health needs of perinatally HIV-infected youth and their families in South Africa. The family-based intervention, which uses illustrated cartoons to convey information to families, is meant to promote overall physical and mental health, and reduce behavioral risk, and is now at full capacity, involving 360 children and their families at four sites in impoverished Durban neighborhoods in an experimental impact study.

Also in the past year, we were awarded a new \$3 million, multi-year grant from the NIH to study the implementation, integration, and outcomes associated with a Multiple Family Group (MFG) service model for reducing disruptive behavior disorders among urban youth impacted by poverty.

In January, 2015, I was honored to be named to New York State's Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Project Approval and Oversight Panel, giving the McSilver Institute a vital seat at the table as New



York restructures the healthcare delivery system for our most vulnerable residents. In this capacity, I am helping to ensure this \$7.3 billion Medicaid reform initiative fulfills its promise of improving health outcomes for Medicaid recipients while creating a high quality, cost-efficient, sustainable Medicaid system.

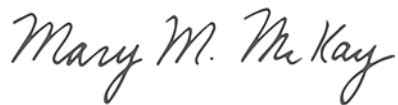
The 2014-15 academic year also saw the expansion of Step-Up, the McSilver Institute's multi-component youth development and mental health support program for teens experiencing significant environmental, academic, social, and emotional challenges. The New York City Department of Education joined the Robin Hood Foundation in funding the program, which was implemented in eight public high schools in East Harlem, Central Brooklyn and the South Bronx, up from just three schools in 2013-2014. The rigorously evaluated, evidence-based program has now served over 450 students, 56% Latino and 37% African American, and achieved a graduation rate of 84%, setting these students on a path out of poverty.

The McSilver Institute continued to collaborate with the Silver School of Social Work to provide an independent study program engaging students in community-based participatory research in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and developed the school's first full-semester, graduate-level study abroad program—fusing education, research, and practice—in Buenos Aires starting in Fall 2015.

Furthermore, on April 27 and 28, 2015, hundreds of philanthropists, researchers, practitioners, advocates, and consumers came together at the Third Annual McSilver Symposium and Awards, which featured six thought-provoking panels, two poignant films, and five inspiring honorees emphasizing poverty, trauma, and resilience.

These are just some of the McSilver Institute's many accomplishments over the past year. None of them would have been possible without the tremendous partnership of Silver School Dean Lynn Videka, our founding benefactors Constance and Martin Silver, and the entire McSilver Institute staff, Community Collaborative Board, Faculty Fellows, Advisory Board and our many policy and government colleagues, community partners, and funders. I am grateful for all of the support the institute has received in our effort to fulfill our critically important mission.

Sincerely,



Mary McKernan McKay, PhD
Director
McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research
NYU Silver School of Social Work

Deputy Director's Greeting

Dear Friends,

The past year's spate of videotaped police killings of unarmed Black men and boys, and the widely reported deaths of Black women in police custody, underscore the continued need to confront the insidious and deadly structural racism pervading our society.

I am grateful that the McSilver Institute's founding board of advisors had the wisdom and commitment to develop a mission that explicitly states that, "An understanding of the links between individuals, families, and communities to their external environments, as well as the interrelatedness of race and poverty guide McSilver's research efforts."

Persistent structures of power and privilege contribute to racial disparities in areas including, but not limited to, health status, educational achievement, employment, exposure to violence, incarceration, and child welfare involvement, which themselves are both causes and consequences of poverty.



In keeping with our mission, in the 2014-15 academic year, the McSilver Institute released two special edition news briefs addressing structures of power and privilege that hinder social equity, and accumulated disadvantage at the macro level that contributes to chronic racial disparities. We built on that work to release a three-part report entitled, *Facts Matter! Black Lives Matter! The Trauma of Racism*, which includes a new section analyzing the cumulative negative impact racism has on the lives of people of color, and defining it as a collective as well as individual trauma. The Trauma of Racism was also a core theme running through our 2015 McSilver Symposium and Awards, and was the title of our keynote panel, which began with remarks from Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams, who has been at the forefront of the discussion of structural racism in law enforcement and society as a whole.

Since our inception, the McSilver Institute has recognized the urgent need for policies and programs that immediately address social inequalities that

are driven by race, and make people of color more likely to live in poverty. To ensure that this commitment to combating structural oppression and racism infuses all aspects of our work, we launched an Anti-Oppressive Steering Committee that identifies opportunities for addressing systemic inequities in the institute's public workings (research, trainings, service delivery, communications, and education) as well as our behind-the-scenes operations (organizational development, management, and administration). We are also grateful for the invaluable, ongoing counsel of Mary Pender Greene, a NYU Silver School of Social Work alumna, McSilver Institute Advisory Board Member, Anti-Racist Alliance Cofounder, and renowned expert on institutional racism and multiculturalism. Both internally and externally, the McSilver Institute will continue to shine an empirical light on the tyranny of racism and seek to dismantle the structures that perpetuate it.

Thank you for your support in this, and all of the McSilver Institute's efforts to seek new knowledge about the root causes of poverty, develop evidence-based interventions to address its consequences, and rapidly translate research findings into action.

Sincerely,



Gary Parker
Deputy Director
McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research
NYU Silver School of Social Work

Community Collaborative Board-Directed Research

Community-level collaboration with policymakers, service organizations, and community stakeholders is an underpinning of all of the McSilver Institute's work.

The McSilver Institute's Community Collaborative Board (CCB) is an ongoing partnership between community members from neighborhoods impacted by poverty and researchers that guides the implementation of the institute's research projects concerned with evidence-based prevention and intervention services for youth and their families. The CCB, which meets twice monthly, ensures the cultural appropriateness and sustainability of the institute's initiatives in poverty-impacted communities and is active in disseminating knowledge gained through these efforts to parents, adolescents, and other community members.

Community Collaborative Board Members

Ervin Torres, Chair
Hadiza L. Osuji, PhD, Vice Chair
Ana Miranda, Secretary
Maria M. Maldonado, MSW,
Assistant Secretary
Geraldine "Jerry" Burton
Nomie Byndon
Indamora Castro
Daniel Ferris, MPA
Chandelle Fowler
Sashana Fuller
Kerby Jean
Ammu D. Kowolik, LMSW
Mary McKernan McKay, PhD
Micaela Mercado, PhD
Aida Ortiz
Gary Parker, MSW
Nancy Parker
Angela Paulino, MSW
Rhina Paulino
Sabine Phineus
Anita Rivera
Jaime Rivera
Priscilla Shorter
Latoya Small, PhD
Ervin G. Torres
Janet Watson



Anti-Oppressive Research, Policy, and Practice

The McSilver Institute is defined by its commitment to anti-oppressive research, policy, and practice. For each of the past two years, the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond has conducted a two-day Undoing Racism® training for the entire staff. The McSilver Institute also offers scholarships to its student interns to attend Undoing Racism® trainings and has invited facilitators from the People's Institute to provide onsite trainings specifically for interns.

After the institute's 2013 Undoing Racism® training, the Anti-Oppressive Steering Committee (AOSC) was established to ensure anti-oppressive practices, policies, and procedures are incorporated in every aspect of the McSilver Institute's operations, both internal and external. The AOSC, which has members from every corner of the institute, meets biweekly and plays an integral role in the institute's governance.



Anti-Oppressive Steering Committee Members

Zoila A. Del-Villar, CASAC, LMHC-permit,
Co-Chair

Jayson K. Jones, LMSW, Co-Chair
Amanda Alcantara, Co-Administrator
Briana Gonçalves, Co-Administrator

Andrew F. Cleek, PsyD

Kara Dean-Assael, LMSW

Richard Embry, PhD

Dan Ferris, MPA

Lydia M. Franco, LMSW

Ammu D. Kowolik, LMSW

Dottie Lebron, MPA

Morgan McGuire

Mary McKernan McKay, PhD

Micaela Mercado, PhD

Laura Morrison, MA

Aida Ortiz

Hadiza Ladidi Osuji, PhD

Gary Parker, MSW

Ozge Sensoy Bahar, MSW, PhD

Ervin Torres

Janet Watson



McSilver Institute Values Statement

This statement of values was collaboratively developed and ratified by every member of the McSilver Institute staff.

We are inclusive

We honor, appreciate, and encourage diversity, inclusion, and a culture of respect and open communication.

We are committed to a workplace culture where diversity is celebrated and a flexible, comfortable, and safe environment is provided for people of all backgrounds and histories.

We are collaborative

We are fueled through collaborative decision-making processes.

We value input both internal and external in all that we do and believe that all voices must be heard.

We are invested in individuals and communities impacted by poverty

We are dedicated to working with and empowering communities and organizations that are directly affected by or are working to address the root causes and consequences of poverty in a form that is respectful, consensual, and bi-directional.

We are translating knowledge into action

We are motivated by a commitment to social justice and equality and therefore continuously strive towards implementation of evidence-informed systems, practices, and policies that acknowledge all and oppress no one.

We are rising together

We strive towards a world where the basic human needs of all people are met and communities are able to participate in the decision-making processes that affect them.

We pledge to dismantle structural oppression in all of its manifestations, including but not limited to racism, classism, sexism, ageism, ableism, xenophobia, homophobia, transphobia, and religious intolerance.

A pplied Research

The McSilver Institute conducts original research that furthers understanding of poverty's root causes and establishes evidence-based interventions and policy recommendations to address its consequences. At every stage of the process, the McSilver Institute's studies are defined by collaboration with stakeholders, including community members, public policy makers, and organizations providing direct services to poverty-impacted individuals and communities. Research projects range from large, multi-year initiatives funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to small, pilot studies funded directly by the institute.

The McSilver Institute currently has been awarded five multi-year, NIH-funded research projects:



VUKA Family Program: Supporting HIV-Infected Youth in South Africa

R01HD074052 Principal Investigator: Mary M. McKay, PhD

The study uses a culturally tailored, cartoon-based curriculum to meet the urgent need for theory-driven, empirically informed, effective, and sustainable HIV prevention and care approaches for the unprecedented numbers of perinatally HIV-infected youth in South Africa.

Improving Child Behavior Using Task-Shifting to Implement MFGs in Child Welfare

R21MH102544-01 Principal Investigator: Geetha Gopalan, PhD

The purpose of this study is to refine and pilot-test task-shifting strategies to support the implementation of a family-focused, Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) to reduce child behavioral difficulties in low-resourced child welfare settings.

Mobile Health Solutions for Behavioral Skill Implementation through Homework

R34MH100407 Principal Investigator: Anil Chacko, PhD

This study involves creating and testing a phone application ("app") to supplement treatment individuals are receiving for mental health issues. The new app provides educational, interactive games that patients can do between treatments in order to promote skill acquisition.

CHAMP+Asia: Supporting HIV-infected Youth in Thailand

3R01HD074052-03S1 Principal Investigator: Mary M. McKay, PhD

This study, which aims to determine comparative effectiveness of adolescent treatment services in increasing adherence, retention, and acceptability among perinatally HIV-infected youth, as well as to develop effective models to scale-up and test strategies for training of non-physicians, extends the work of the VUKA Family Program from South Africa to Thailand.

Family Groups for Urban Youth with Disruptive Behavior

R01MH106771-01 Principal Investigator: Mary M. McKay, PhD

The study is being conducted across New York City's state-licensed child behavioral health clinic system to examine the short-term and longitudinal impact of Multiple Family Groups (MFG) on urban youth with Oppositional Defiant Disorder and Conduct Disorder; family-level mediators of child outcomes; clinic and provider level moderators of MFG implementation and integration; and the impact of Core Implementation Teams on clinic and provider level moderators of MFG implementation and integration. See research spotlight on the next page.

Research SPOTLIGHT

In April 2015, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) awarded a four-year, \$3 million grant to McSilver Institute Director Dr. Mary McKay to explore innovative family-centered approaches designed to strengthen the parenting skills of caregivers to effectively help youth with behavioral difficulties.

Co-investigators on the study are James Jaccard, PhD, Professor at NYU Silver School of Social Work; Anil Chacko, PhD, Professor at NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development; Kimberly Hoagwood, PhD, Professor at NYU School of Medicine; and Mary Acri, PhD, Senior Research Scientist at the McSilver Institute and Adjunct Assistant Professor at NYU School of Medicine.

Persisting behavioral difficulties in childhood often result in significant educational difficulties, substance use, criminal justice involvement, interpersonal challenges, and other functional difficulties associated with poverty. The risks for these negative outcomes are particularly profound among poverty-impacted urban youth and their caregivers, who confront numerous economic and social stressors that impede access to services that are in line with their life circumstances. Consequently, developing appropriate and effective services that strengthen families and enhance pro-social behavior in youth is critically important.

The new study builds on the McSilver Institute's evidence-based "4Rs and 2Ss for Strengthening Families" intervention, which focuses on the key characteristics of strong families including Roles, Responsibilities, Respectful communication, Relationships, Stress management and Social support. New York State's Office of Mental Health (OMH) is one of the key partners in the study, which will involve 268 providers and 2,688 adult caregivers of youth receiving care at 134 OMH-licensed child behavioral health clinics across New York City. The size of the study will enable the McSilver Institute to test the scalability of this intervention across a large publicly funded mental health system, and allow us to test modifications of the existing evidence-based model to align with the needs of children and caregivers in impoverished communities. Furthermore, because of our partnerships with OMH, as well as nationally focused research centers, the findings from this study will be immediately actionable.



Program Evaluation

The McSilver Institute leverages our analytic expertise to conduct program evaluation, performance monitoring, and outcome assessment for community-based organizations that provide support and care to children and families confronting poverty. Our goals are to help agencies use data and evaluation results to inform program decision-making and to use applied research to improve outcomes for the populations they serve. This work involves integrating validated survey tools with existing or new evaluation processes; analyzing quantitative and qualitative data; conducting focus groups and interviews with program participants and staff; and helping agencies build internal capacity for data collection and analysis.

Not-for-profit organizations for which the McSilver Institute has provided evaluation services in 2014-15 include BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music), Brooklyn Community Services, Educational Alliance, Institute for Family Health, National Alliance on Mental Illness-New York City Metro (NAMI-NYC Metro), National Council for Behavioral Health, Police Athletic League NYC, Sembrando Creatividad in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Queens Library, and YMCA of Greater New York.

In 2014-2015, the McSilver Institute completed a year-long evaluation of NAMI-NYC Metro's implementation of NAMI's Family-to-Family (F2F) educational program for family, caregivers, and friends of people living with serious mental illness (SMI). The free, peer-led program was designed to help those close to people with SMI gain mental health knowledge and coping and stress management strategies that make them better able to support the recovery of their loved ones and improve their own self-care. Research has found a significant association between poverty and mental illness in the United States. The strain caused by caring for a person with SMI is also well documented.

Although several published studies had established the efficacy of the F2F program, it had never been tested in such a demographically diverse, high-poverty urban environment. The McSilver Institute developed a replication study for the distinct population served by NAMI-NYC Metro, deploying validated tools to measure participants' mental health knowledge, emotional distress/displeasure, coping strategies, emotional self-care, family functioning, and family empowerment at baseline and completion of the program. Similar to prior findings, the McSilver Institute evaluation found improvement across all indicators, confirming the suitability of F2F without any revisions for NAMI-NYC Metro's constituency.



Evidence-Informed Training and Technical Assistance

The McSilver Institute improves the lives of those impacted by poverty by developing and disseminating a unique array of trainings, tools, and other resources targeted to providers in service systems so that they can deploy highly effective, research-derived interventions. Each of our evidence-informed offerings is designed to deliver practitioners and organizations tools to enhance engaging, person-centered, and trauma-informed care. The McSilver Institute has partnered with various national, state, and local organizations over the past year, including the National Council for Behavioral Health, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services, Coalition for Supportive Housing, Services for the UnderServed, and The Bridge.

Training SPOTLIGHT

In Spring 2015, the McSilver Institute collaborated with the Behavioral Healthcare Resource Program at the University of North Carolina School of Social Work to train mental health providers across the state of North Carolina on evidence-based child and family engagement practices. Child mental health professionals affiliated with nine North Carolina Managed Care Organizations participated in a series of webinars the McSilver Institute designed to explain the range of barriers socioeconomically disadvantaged families face in accessing mental health services and to provide strategies and resources for overcoming them.

Participants learned about the role of caregivers in service delivery and were taught straightforward steps to utilize from the first



to the last contact with families. Supervisors were provided additional training in techniques needed to coach and mentor clinicians in applying the knowledge they have acquired, and to develop action plans for sustainable post-training implementation.

The McSilver Institute leveraged its tremendous body of research, spearheaded by Director Mary McKay, which shows that utilizing focused engagement strategies as early as the initial contact with help-seeking families can increase the involvement and reduce the dropout rates of youth who need mental health services. As a result of the trainings, hundreds of members of North Carolina's child mental health workforce are now deploying evidence-based practices that improve patient outcomes and create a more efficient, cost-effective system.

Technical Assistance

SPOTLIGHT

The McSilver Institute is also the lead agency directing several New York State and New York City funded technical assistance centers to help maintain and build the public safety net serving those made vulnerable by poverty. These include the **Community Technical Assistance Center of New York (CTAC)**, funded by the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) to help the state's mental health clinics address the challenges associated with the recent changes in clinic regulations, financing, and overall healthcare reforms; the **Managed Care Technical Assistance Center (MCTAC)**, funded by OMH and the state's Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services to help the state's behavioral health agencies successfully transition to Medicaid managed care; and **Individualized Technical Assistance Consultations (iTAC)**, funded by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to provide customized, consultant-level services to fiscally distressed, community-based clinics that operate in geographic isolation, provide culturally and linguistically congruent services for underserved communities, and/or serve constituencies that have historically experienced serious service disparities.



EMBRACING CHANGE TOGETHER PARTNERING FOR SUCCESSFUL CHILD & FAMILY OUTCOMES

At the end of June, the McSilver Institute produced CTAC and MCTAC's 2015 New York State Children's Summit—*Embracing Change Together: Partnering for Successful Child & Family Outcomes*. The full day event was held in both New York City and Albany for agencies providing mental health, child welfare, substance use, and physical health services to children and families. Nearly 800 providers from across the state attended to hear presenters including New York State government officials, family peer advocates, youth leaders, and national leaders of child-serving organizations demystify the forthcoming transformation of the state's child-serving system and share innovative and successful approaches for adapting to an environment that demands greater accountability, increased efficiency in delivering services, and reduced variations in care.

The keynote address by Susan Dreyfus, President and CEO of the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities, gave a national perspective on the trends, issues, challenges, and opportunities confronting the human services sector. A panel of providers from other states which have already transformed their child systems presented innovative and successful service delivery models, and a panel of youth and family advocates and service providers discussed disruptive forces leading to opportunities in New York State. A series of ten workshops enabled participants to focus on topics related to aligning child and family needs with new service delivery models, gaining knowledge in successful integration of health and behavioral health systems, data-driven clinical decision-making, and fiscal strategies for long term sustainability. With the redesign of New York State's entire child system underway, McSilver Institute Director and CTAC Co-Director Mary McKay concluded the event with a charge for providers to embrace the change ahead and partner with children and families to achieve successful outcomes.

Step-Up

SPOTLIGHT

Support for Step-Up participants does not stop with the end of the school year. Over the summer, Step-Up offers youth development activities, field trips, and career exploration events three days a week, and convenes a Youth Board once a week to review and revise the curriculum.

One of the highlights in summer 2015 was a programming workshop hosted by the cloud computing company Salesforce.com at its New York headquarters. A team of Salesforce.com technical architects led an “Hour of Code,” a one-hour, web-based introduction to basic computer science, and company volunteers provided one-on-one assistance to facilitate participants’ development of video games using tools provided by Code.org. The workshop met its goal of getting Step-Up students interested in computer science and exposing them to the possibility of a career in the fast-growing sector, where people of color are underrepresented.

Another highlight of the 2015 summer program was Step-Up Career Day, at which the students met young professionals in 18 different fields. The professionals talked about the work they do, the career paths they took, and the obstacles they had to overcome to get where they are today. Many of the speakers had faced some of the same challenges Step-Up students experience in their lives and all provided positive, inspiring adult role models who demonstrated that goals can be achieved.



Evidence-Informed Service Delivery: Step-Up

The McSilver Institute has harnessed its research findings and community collaborative approach to deliver Step-Up, a youth development and mental health support program funded by the Robin Hood Foundation and New York City Department of Education (NYC DOE) that aims to promote social-emotional development, key life skills, academic achievement, high school graduation, and a positive transition to young adulthood. Step-Up is currently embedded within seven NYC DOE schools located in East Harlem, the Bronx, and East New York.

Developed by the McSilver Institute in collaboration with the Center for Collaborative Inner-City Child Mental Health Services Research (CCCR) at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, and grounded in evidence-based practices and stakeholder investment, Step-Up was designed for youth experiencing significant environmental, academic, social, and emotional challenges. It is a multi-component, youth informed program that offers in-school life skills groups, one-on-one mentoring, mental health supports, structured opportunities for community service, and leadership development.

Since its inception, Step-Up has worked in partnership with youth, parents, and staff of participating high schools. The program has served over 450 students, 56% Latino and 37% African American, and achieved a graduation rate of 84%, among many other positive educational and mental health outcomes.

Education

Housed within NYU's Silver School of Social Work, the McSilver Institute contributes to high quality, science-informed, and poverty- and social justice-focused social work education.

The McSilver Institute is dedicated to readying the next generation of social workers and public health professionals. To that end, in 2014-15, the institute provided meaningful volunteer opportunities and internships to 54 master's and bachelor's levels students, provided exciting and enriching research and work development opportunities for six Pre-Doctoral and seven Post-Doctoral Research Fellows. Likewise, McSilver Institute staff and faculty continued to create and teach courses at NYU's Washington Square campus and around the globe.

In 2014-15, we were pleased to partner with the Silver School to launch a five-module, 80-hour Advanced Certificate in Integrated Primary and Behavioral Health specifically designed for physicians, social workers, peer specialists, and related healthcare professionals; teach a new January elective in Washington, DC on Social Work and Legislative Advocacy; and design the school's first full semester study abroad program in Buenos Aires, Argentina. As part of the Silver School, the McSilver Institute also created a Global Learning Opportunity, a program that fuses education, research, and practice in a hands-on learning experience open to juniors and seniors in the BSW program as well as first-year MSW candidates.

Education SPOTLIGHT

Developing a pipeline of diverse poverty scholars infused with the McSilver Institute's commitment to anti-oppressive research, policy, and practice is an institute priority. This year, three of our finest Pre- and Post-Doctoral Research Fellows, Dr. Latoya Small, Dr. Samira Ali, and Dr. Tricia Stephens, joined the faculties of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work, University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work, and Hunter College Silberman School of Social Work, respectively. Other members of the McSilver Institute staff who earned their doctorate this year include Pre-Doctoral Fellow Dr. Stacey Alicea and Chief Program Officer Dr. Hadiza Osuji, both of whom will be Post-Doctoral Fellows in the coming academic year. Not including our Fellows, five members of the institute staff are currently pursuing a doctorate, and three are pursuing a master's degree while they work full-time to advance the institute's mission.



From Left: Dr. Latoya Small, Director Mary McKay, Dr. Tricia Stephens, and Dr. Samira Ali

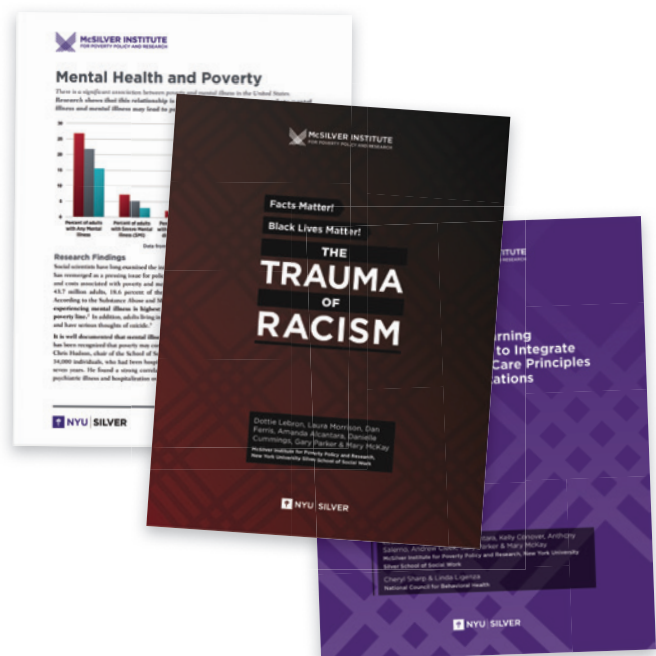
Policy and Research Dissemination

Through means including reports, policy briefs, journal articles, lectures, and legislative testimony, the McSilver Institute translates research findings into strong policy recommendations that will improve the lives of poverty-impacted populations.

In 2014-15, the McSilver Institute published four issues of its peer-reviewed academic journal, *Global Social Welfare: Research, Policy, and Practice*, including a special issue on adolescent health and economic strengthening in low resource communities that drew from lessons learned by researchers working in Sub-Saharan Africa over the past decade. The institute also published 14 Poverty Policy News Briefs, two special issue briefs entitled, *Facts Matter! Black Lives Matter! Research Supports Immediate Action to End Systemic Racial Oppression!* and *Facts Matter! Black Lives Matter! Place Matters!*, and a report entitled, *Facts Matter! Black Lives Matter! The Trauma of Racism*. The latter included a new analysis of the cumulative negative impact racism has on the lives of people of color, and built upon the institute's earlier work addressing structures of power and privilege that hinder social equity, and accumulated disadvantage at the community level that contributes to racial disparities in areas including health, educational achievement, exposure to violence, and economic prosperity.

In addition, the institute released a report entitled, *Harnessing the Learning Community Model to Integrate Trauma-Informed Care Principles in Service Organizations*, which defined Trauma-Informed Care, explained why it is important in service settings, and presented promising results from a yearlong Learning Community the McSilver Institute and National Council for Behavioral Health conducted to help organizations adopt and sustain trauma-informed practice.

The institute also hosted numerous lectures as well as the daylong 2015 McSilver Symposium, submitted testimony at New York City Council hearings on Ending Veteran Homelessness and Hunger, and Hunger in New York City, and held a round-table for Silver School faculty with Simon Tsike-Sossah, Project Coordinator of Disaster and Emergency Relief Services-West Africa, to discuss potential research partnerships to support long-term sustainability in West African communities in Ebola's wake.



Policy and Research Dissemination

SPOTLIGHT

The 2015 McSilver Symposium—a full day of inspirational and informative sessions—took place at Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) on April 27th. The free event, emphasizing poverty, trauma, and resilience, featured six provocative panels and two documentary films, including the world premiere of *Under the Mango Tree*, about Tamale, Ghana’s Shekhinah Clinic Food Program, which feeds over 150 homeless people with mental illnesses each day.



More than 200 researchers, practitioners, advocates, and consumers turned out for sessions on topics including “The Trauma of LGBTQ Displacement in the US and Abroad,” “The Power of Trauma-Informed Care,” “Step-Up: Fostering Resilience, Life Skills and Academic Success,” and “Place Matters: A Community Based Approach to Understanding and Addressing Structural Poverty.”

The centerpiece of the day’s event was the panel on “The Trauma of Racism,” which explored the

cumulative negative impact of racial oppression on people of color individually and collectively. Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams’ opening remarks set the stage for a thoughtful and lively discussion that underscored the urgent need to dismantle structures of power and privilege that hinder social equity and have damaging effects on the emotional, psychological, health, economic, and social well-being of people of color (see photo).

Human Capital

Employees and Other Contributors 2014-15



48.5 Full-Time Equivalent Employees

42 full-time staff

13 part-time staff



6 Full-Time Equivalent Employees shared across institutions



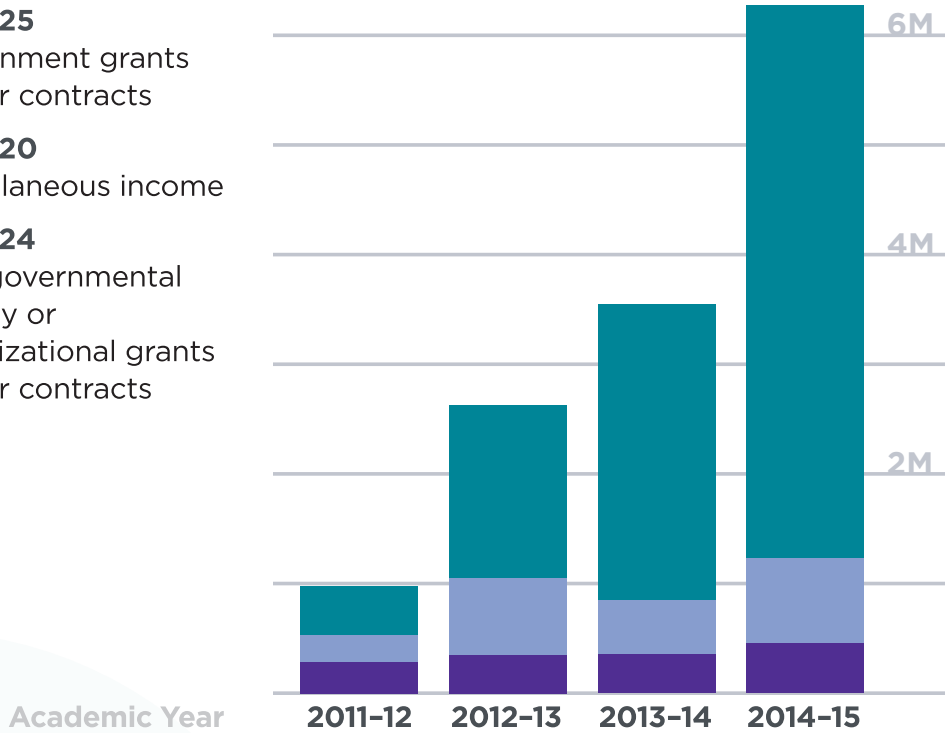
58 Interns and Volunteers

100+ Individuals working to support the
McSilver Institute's mission

Revenue

Sources of Income

- Fund 25**
Government grants and/or contracts
- Fund 20**
Miscellaneous income
- Fund 24**
Non-governmental agency or organizational grants and/or contracts



2011

\$19,762,081

Total funding committed to McSilver Institute projects

2017

Staff

Mary McKay, PhD, Director and Professor
 Gary Parker, MSW, Deputy Director
 Mary Acri, PhD
 Amanda Alcantara
 Samira Ali, LMSW, PhD
 Stacey Alicea, MPH, PhD
 Angel Algarin
 Patricia Batista, MPA
 Lindsay A. Bornheimer, MS, LCSW
 Geraldine “Jerry” Burton
 Peter C. Campanelli, PsyD
 Andrew F. Cleek, PsyD
 Kelly Conover, LCSW
 Kara Dean-Assael, LMSW
 Zoila A. Del-Villar, CASAC, LMHC-permit
 Richard Embry, PhD
 Daniel Ferris, MPA
 Rachel Flynn, PhD
 Lydia Franco, LMSW
 Ashley Fuss, LMSW
 Elene Garay, MSW
 Alex Gensemer, MSW
 Briana Gonçalves
 Priya Gopalan, LMSW
 Aminda Heckman Chomanczuk, LCSW, PhD
 Tomoko J. Iwaki, PhD
 Jayson K. Jones, LMSW
 Leyla Karimli, PhD
 Yvette Kelly, LMHC
 Evelyn Kleinbardt, MSW
 Ammu D. Kowolik, LMSW
 Dottie Lebron, MPA



Miles Martin
 Morgan McGuire
 Mandy McGuire-Schwartz, LCSW
 Micaela Mercado, PhD
 Laura Morrison, MA
 Kyle O’Brien, MSW, MSOT, LCSW, OTR/L
 Aida Ortiz
 Hadiza L. Osuji, MPA, PhD
 Tyrone Parchment, LMSW
 Gisselle Pardo, LCSW, MPH
 Angela Paulino, MSW
 Kassia Ringell, LMSW
 James Rodriguez, LCSW, PhD
 Anthony Salerno, PhD
 Jama Shelton, LMSW, PhD
 Ozge Sensoy Bahar, MSW, PhD
 Latoya Small, LMSW, PhD
 Tricia Stephens, LCSW-R, PhD
 Ervin Torres
 Laura Velez, MSW
 Boris Vilgorin, MPA
 H. Christian Villatoro, LMSW
 Janet Watson

People continued

Faculty Fellows

Mary C. Acri, PhD
Stacey L. Barrenger, AM, PhD
Clancy Blair, PhD
Alma J. Carten, MSW, PhD
Phil Coltoff, MSW
Patrick J. Egan, PhD
Liliana Goldín, PhD
Geetha Gopalan, LCSW, PhD
Judy Grossman, DrPH
Wen-Jui Han, MSW, PhD
Robert L. Hawkins, MPA, MA, PhD
Minchao Jin, MSW, PhD
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Pedro Noguera, PhD
Deborah Padgett, MPH, PhD
C. Cybele Raver, PhD
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Supporters

Benefactors

Constance and Martin Silver

Government

City of Philadelphia

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Mental Health

New York City Department of
Education

New York City Department of Health
and Mental Hygiene

New York City Mayor's Office to
Combat Domestic Violence

New York State Department of Health

New York State Office of Alcoholism
and Substance Abuse Services

New York State Office of Mental Health

Family and Friends

Julio Benitez

Victoria Benitez

Stacy Bone

Bella Browne

Jan Philip Browne

Carolina Cordero-Dyer

Marybec Griffin-Tomas

Dara Marsh

Cheryl Moskowitz

Diedre Moskowitz

Anthony Pardo

Nessa Ryan

Eric Santiago

Raushib Thomas

Clive Tregaskiss

John Tregaskiss

Foundations

Kaiser Family Foundation

New York State Health Foundation

Robin Hood Foundation

Non-Profit Organizations, Academic Institutions, and Corporations

Ample Table for Everyone (ATE)

Brooklyn Community Services

CCSI: Coordinated Care Services, Inc.

Institute for Community Living, Inc.

Institute for Urban Family Health

Health Management Associates (HMA)

Jericho Project

NAMI-NYC

National Council for Behavioral Health

Police Athletic League

Queens Borough Public Library

University of North Carolina School of
Social Work

Wells Fargo

YMCA

Events

NOVEMBER 10, 2014

Lunchtime Lecture: Do Social Workers Really Try to Influence Social Welfare Policy?

Dr. John Gal, professor and Dean at the Paul Baerwald School of Social Work and Social Welfare at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Dr. Idit Weiss-Gal, Associate Professor at the Bob Shapell School of Social Work at Tel Aviv University

NOVEMBER 18, 2014

Lunchtime Lecture: Food Insecurity and Risky Behavior

Dr. Susan Popkin, Senior Fellow and Director of the Neighborhoods and Youth Development Initiative in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center at the Urban Institute

DECEMBER 14, 2014

Lunchtime Lecture: Exploring Shame and Dignity in a Norwegian Context

Carolina Ohls, McSilver Institute, Visiting Lecturer enrolled in the PhD program in Social Work and Social Policy at Oslo University College

DECEMBER 17, 2014

Joint College of Global Public Health and McSilver Institute Lecture: Mental Health Issues in Ghana

Dr. Abdallah Ibrahim, Lecturer at University of Ghana School of Public Health

FEBRUARY 19, 2015

Researcher Round Table

Simon Tsike-Sossah, Project Coordinator of Disaster and Emergency Relief Services West Africa

FEBRUARY 19, 2015

Lunchtime Lecture: In Ebola's Wake: The Case for Social Workers Without Borders

Simon Tsike-Sossah, Project Coordinator of Disaster and Emergency Relief Services West Africa

MARCH 24, 2015

Lunchtime Lecture: Poverty as a Collective Trauma

Dr. Michal Shamai, Associate Professor at the University of Haifa School of Social Work

APRIL 14, 2015

Lunchtime Lecture: "Bringing the Political Back into Social Work"

Dr. Michal Krumer-Nevo, Associate Professor at the Spitzer Department of Social Work, and Director of the Israeli Center for Qualitative Research of People and Societies at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

APRIL 27, 2015

2015 McSilver Symposium

(See page 20 for more details)

APRIL 28, 2015

2015 McSilver Awards

Honorees: Carolina Cordero Dyer, Associate Executive Director, The Osborne Association; Tracie M. Gardner, Assistant Secretary of Health, New York State Executive Chamber, Office of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo; Reverend Dr. Jacqui Lewis, Senior Minister, Middle Collegiate Church and Executive Director, The Middle Project; Margarete Purvis, President and CEO, Food Bank For New York City; and Carlton Whitmore, Director, Office of Consumer Affairs, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

MAY 11, 2015

Lunchtime Lecture: Exile to Poverty: Exploring Poverty among Refugees in Poland

Dr. Karolina Łukasiewicz, McSilver Institute Visiting Scholar, and Researcher and Lecturer at the Center for Evaluation and Public Policy Analysis at the Jagiellonian University

MAY 28, 2015

Joint McSilver Institute and Community Technical Assistance Center of New York Webinar on Race and Trauma: Race-based Traumatic Stress and Psychological Injury

Dr. Robert T. Carter, Professor of Psychology and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University

Publications

- Acri, M.,** Gopalan, G., Lalayants, M., & **McKay, M.** (2015). Depression and service use among caregivers dually involved in the child welfare and mental health systems. *Social Work and Mental Health, 13*(5), 481-494.
- Acri, M.,** & Hoagwood, K. (2014). Addressing parental mental health within interventions for children: A review. *Research on Social Work Practice*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1177/1049731514546027
- Ali, S.,** Ghose, T., Jana, S., & Chaudhuri, S. (2014). Exceeding the individual: A qualitative examination of a community-led structural intervention and its implications for sex workers and their families. *Global Social Welfare, 1*(2), 53-63.
- Beharie, N., Lennon, M., & **McKay, M.** (2015). Assessing the relationship between the perceived shelter environment and mental health among homeless caregivers. *Behavioral Medicine, 41*(3), 107-114.
- Bornheimer, L. A.,** & Nguyen, D. (2015). Suicide among individuals with schizophrenia: A risk factor model. *Social Work in Mental Health*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1080/15332985.2014.946549
- Bornheimer, L. A.** (2015). Exposure and response prevention as an evidence-based treatment for obsessive-compulsive disorder: Considerations for social work practice. *Clinical Social Work Journal, 43*(1), 38-49.
- Chacko, A., Gopalan, G., **Franco, L., Dean-Assael, K.,** Jackson, J., Marcus, S., & **McKay, M.** (2015). Multiple family group service model for children with disruptive behavior disorders child outcomes at post-treatment. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, 23*(2), 67-77.
- Flynn, R.,** & Richert, R. A. (2015). Parents support preschoolers' use of a novel interactive device. *Infant & Child Development*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1002/icd.1911
- Gopalan, G., **Acri, M.,** Lalayants, M., Einbinder, E., & Hooley, C. H. (2014). Child-welfare involved caregiver perceptions of family support. *Journal of Family Strengths, 14* (1), 5.
- Gopalan, G., Chacko, A., **Franco, L., Dean-Assael, K.,** Rotko, L., Marcus, S., Hoagwood, K., & **McKay, M.** (2015). Multiple family groups for children with disruptive behavior disorders: Child outcomes at 6 month follow-up. *Journal of Child and Family Studies, 24*(9), 2721-2733.
- Greeson, J., Thompson, A., **Ali, S.,** & Wenger, R. (2015). It's good to know that you got somebody that's not going anywhere: Attitudes and beliefs of older youth in foster care about child welfare-based natural mentoring. *Children and Youth Services Review, 48,* 140-149.
- Greeson, J., Thompson, A., Evans-Chase, M., & **Ali, S.** (2015). Child welfare professionals' attitudes and beliefs about child-welfare based natural mentoring for older youth in foster care. *Journal of Social Service Research, 41*(1), 93-112.
- Ibrahim, A., Esena, R., Aikins, M., O'Keefe, A., & **McKay, M.** (2015). Assessment of mental distress among prison inmates in Ghana's correctional system: A cross-sectional study using the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale. *International Journal of Mental Health Systems, 9*(17), 1-6.
- Jarrett, R. L., **Sensoy Bahar, O.,** & Kersh, R. (2014). "When we do sit down together": Family mealtimes in low-income African American families with pre-schoolers. *Journal of Family Issues*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1177/0192513X14547417
- Jarrett, R. L., **Sensoy Bahar, O.,** & McPherson, E. (2014). "Do what you gotta' do": How low-income mothers manage food insecurity. In J. A. Arditti (Ed.), *Family Problems: Stress, Risk, & Resilience* (pp. 101-116). Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell Publications.
- Karimli, L.,** & Ssewamala, F. M. (2015). Do savings mediate changes in adolescents' future orientation and health-related outcomes? Findings from randomized experiment in Uganda. *Journal of Adolescent Health*. Advance online publication. DOI:10.1016/j.jadohealth.2015.06.011
- Karimli, L.,** Ssewamala, F. M., & Neilands, T. B. (2014). Poor families striving to save in matched children's savings accounts: Findings from a randomized experimental design in Uganda. *Social Service Review, 88*(4), 658-694.
- Karimli, L.,** Ssewamala, F. M., Neilands, T. B., & **McKay, M. M.** (2015). Matched children savings accounts in low resource communities: Who saves? *Global Social Welfare, 2*(2), 53-64.
- Kim, M., **Ali, S.,** & Kim, H. S. (2014). Parental nonstandard work schedules, parent-child communication, and adolescent substance use. *Journal of Family Issues*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1177/0192513X13518210
- Kutash, K., **Acri, M.,** Pollock, M., Armusewicz, K., Olin, S. S., & Hoagwood, K. E. (2014). Quality indicators for multidisciplinary team functioning in community based children's mental health services. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research, 41,* 55-68.

Publications continued

- Lynn, C. J., **Acri, M. C.**, Goldstein, L., Bannon, W., Beharie, N., & **McKay, M. M.** (2014). Improving youth mental health through family-based prevention in family homeless shelters. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 44, 243-248.
- Mellins, C., Nestadt, D., Bhana, A., Petersen, I., Abrams, E., **Alicea, S.**, Host, H., Myeza, N., John, S., **Small, L.**, & **McKay, M.** (2014). Adapting evidence-based interventions to meet the needs of adolescents growing up with HIV in South Africa: The VUKA case example. *Global Social Welfare*, 1(3), 97-110.
- Mokrue, K., & **Acri, M.C.** (2014). Subjective health and health behaviors as predictors of symptoms of depression and anxiety among ethnic minority college students. *Social Work in Mental Health*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1080/15332985.2014.911238
- Montanez, E., Berger-Jenkins, E., **Rodriguez, J.**, McCord, M., & Myer, D. (2015). Turn 2 Us: Outcomes of an urban elementary school-based mental health promotion and prevention program serving ethnic minority youths. *Children & Schools*, 37(2), 100-107.
- Olin, S., Chor, B., Weaver, J., Duan, N., Kerker, B., Clark, L., **Cleek, A.**, **McKay, M.**, & Hoagwood, K. (2015). Multilevel predictors of clinic adoption of state-supported trainings. *Psychiatric Services*, 66, 484-490.
- Olin, S. S., Shen, S., **Rodriguez, J.**, Radigan, M., **Burton, G.**, & Hoagwood, K. E. (2015). Parent depression and anger in peer-delivered parent support services. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1007/s10826-015-0140-8
- Parchment, T. M.**, **Small, L.**, **Osuji, H.**, Bhana, A., & **McKay, M.** (in press). Familial and contextual influences on child pro-social behavior: South African caregivers as adult protective shields in increasing child mental health. *Global Mental Health*.
- Sensoy Bahar, O.** (2014). Kurdish migrant women negotiating the complex web of gender, class, and ethnicity in the city. In S. A. Jackson (Ed.), *Routledge International Handbook of Race, Class, and Gender* (pp. 73-83). New York, NY: Routledge.
- Sensoy Bahar, O.** (2015). How do low-income Kurdish migrant families in Turkey negotiate child/adolescent characteristics in child labor decisions? Insights from Kurdish migrant mothers. *Qualitative Social Work: Research and Practice*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1177/1473325015572941
- Smith, D., **Sensoy Bahar, O.**, Cleeland, L., & Davis, J. (2014). Self-perceived emerging adult status and substance use. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1037/a0035900
- Ssewamala, F. M., **Karimli, L.**, Han, C. K., Wang, J. S. H., Vilma, I., & Nabunya, P. (in press). Applying a family-level economic strengthening intervention to improve education and health-related outcomes of aid-orphaned children and adolescents within a universal primary education system: Lessons from a randomized experiment in southern Uganda? *Prevention Science*.
- Staiano, A. E., & **Flynn, R. M.** (2014). Therapeutic uses of active video games: A systematic review. *Games for Health Journal*, 3(6), 351-365.
- Stanhope, V., Thorning, H., Videka, L., & **McKay, M.** (2015). Moving towards integrated health: An opportunity for Social Work. *Social Work in Health Care*, 54, 383-407.
- Stephens, T.**, Akua, N., **Parchment, T. M.**, & **McKay, M.** (2015). Meeting the needs of children and families with communication and other developmental disabilities in Accra, Ghana—An assessment of the AwaaWaa2 community based program. *Global Social Welfare*, 2(3) 111-118.
- Swendeman, D., Fehrenbacher, A., **Ali, S.**, Mindry, D., Collins, M., & Ghose, T. (2015). "Whatever I have, I have made by coming into this profession": The intersection of resources, agency, and achievements in pathways to sex work in Kolkata, India. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 44(4), 1011-1023.
- Umpierre, M., Meyers, L., Ortiz, A., **Paulino, A.**, Rivera Rodriguez, A., Miranda, A., Rodriguez, R., Kranes, S., & **McKay, M.** (2014). Understanding Latino parents' child mental health literacy: Todos a bordo/All Aboard. *Research on Social Work Practice*. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1177/1049731514547907
- Wisdom, J., Lewandowski, R. E., Pollock, M., **Acri, M.**, Shorter, P., Armusewicz, K., Horwitz, S., & Hoagwood, K. E. (2014). What family support specialists do: Examining service delivery. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*, 41(1), 21-31.

Select Presentations

Ali, S. (2014, October). *The process of partnerships: Understanding collaborative research in a postcolonial context*. Poster session presented at the 60th Annual Program Meeting of The Council of Social Work Education, Tampa, FL.

Ali, S., & Chaudhuri, S. (2015, January). *Room for conversation: The salience of space in mother child sexual health communication*. Paper presented at the 19th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

Ali, S., & Chaudhuri, S. (2014, November). *We'll do it together: The CBPR process with a sex workers' collective in Kolkata, India*. Paper presented at the 142nd American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Exposition, New Orleans, LA.

Ali, S., Chaudhuri, S., & Ghose, T. (2015, January). *Community and family-based sexual health communication intervention with sex worker mothers: A pilot study*. Paper presented at the 19th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

Amador, R., Bloom, S., Jackson, T., Laub, J., **Pardo, G.,** & **Villatoro, H.** (2015, April). *Project Step Up: Fostering resilience, life skills and academic success through a positive youth development model*. Oral presentation at the 3rd Annual McSilver Symposium, New York, NY.

Atterbury, K., **Small, L.,** Munson, M. R., & Stanhope, V. (2015, January). *Housing for aging out youth: Developmental needs during the transition to adulthood*. Oral presentation at the 19th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

Bhana, A., Mellins, A., Nestadt, D., **Small, L.,** Petersen, I., Machanyangwa, S., Leu, C. S., & **McKay, M.** (2015, June). *The VUKA Family Program: Promoting resilience in perinatally HIV infected adolescents in South Africa*. Paper presented at Pathways to Resilience III Conference: Beyond Nature vs. Nurture, Halifax, Canada.

Chaudhuri, S., & **Ali, S.** (2015, January). *The expanding CBO: Recognizing need and optimizing resources*. Paper presented at the 19th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

Chaudhuri, S., & **Ali, S.** (2015, January). *Structures of violence: Exploring the risk environment of violence in GLBT individuals in India*. Paper presented at the 19th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

Chaudhuri, S., & **Ali, S.** (2014, November). *Environment of violence: Exploring risk of violence in LGBT in India*. Paper presented at the 142nd American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Exposition, New Orleans, LA.

Colon, N., & **Flynn, R.** (2015, April). *Examining developmental goals for children with special needs*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting for the Western Psychological Association, Las Vegas, NV.

Colon, N., & **Flynn, R.** (2015, April). *Executive functioning in special populations: The excluded subgroup*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting for the Western Psychological Association, Las Vegas, NV.

Colon-Wagner, R., & **Jones, J. K.** (2015, June). *Successful engagement: Enhancing skills to support motivation and engagement*. Oral presentation at the ACCES-VR Annual Mental Health Training: Building Stronger Support Systems, Albany, NY.

Conover, K. (2015, June). *The process of self-regulation in adolescents: A narrative approach*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Jean Piaget Society, Toronto, Ontario.

Conover, K., Villatoro, H., Ringell, K., & Gopalan, P. (2015, April). *Positive youth development: An approach in Step-Up*. Oral presentation at the NASW-NYC Annual Conference, New York, NY.

Dean-Assael, K., & Franco, L. (2015, January). *Stressed out! Practical tips for managing stress everyday*. Oral presentation at the LiveOn NY 26th Annual Conference on Aging, New York, NY.

Dean-Assael, K., Franco, L., & Kelly, Y. (2015, April). *The first 30 days: The foundation for successful treatment*. Oral presentation at the National Council for Behavioral Health, NATCON Conference, Orlando, FL.

Dean-Assael, K., Sensoy Bahar, O., Jones, J., Arias, D., Latorre, M. C., & **McKay, M.** (2015, May). *Food and family matters! A collaborative approach to planning a curriculum for food insecure families*. Oral presentation at the 11th International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, Urbana, IL.

Dean-Assael, K., Sensoy Bahar, O., Jones, J., Latorre, M. C., Arias, D., Worthen, V., & **McKay, M.** (2015, May). *A web of challenges: Adversities and coping strategies of food insecure families*. Oral presentation at the 11th International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, Urbana, IL.

Presentations continued

- Fehrenbacher, A., **Ali, S.**, Ghose, T., & Swendeman, D. (2015, January). *Exploring pathways into sex work, stigma, and risk for HIV among female sex workers in India*. Paper presented at the 19th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.
- Ferris, D.**, & **Parker, G.** (2015, May). *Compulsory voting: An international approach to improving electoral participation in the United States*. Oral presentation at Policy Conference 2.0. Social Work as Action: Confronting Injustice, Austin, TX.
- Flynn, R.**, & Colon, N. (2015, April). *Executive functioning intervention for children with developmental disorders*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting for the Western Psychological Association, Las Vegas, NV.
- Flynn, R.**, & Richert, R. (2015, March). *Video game play improves executive functioning skills in children*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting for the Society for Research in Child Development, Philadelphia, PA.
- Flynn, R.**, & Richert, R. (2015, May). *Impact of video game versus exergame play on children's executive functioning*. Paper presented at the annual conference for the International Communication Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Flynn, R.**, Richert, R., & Colon, N. (2015, March). *Exergame play's impact on executive functioning at a summer camp for children with developmental disorders*. Poster session presented at the biennial meeting for the Society for Research in Child Development, Philadelphia, PA.
- Flynn, R.**, & Tazartes, L. (2015, February). *The impact of teacher professional development on classroom management skills*. Poster session presented at the annual National Association for School Psychologists Convention, Orlando, FL.
- Flynn, R.**, & Tazartes, L. (2015, April). *Professional development model improves teacher self-efficacy through increased behavior management strategies*. Paper presented at the annual meeting for American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Hoagwood, K.E., **Acri, M. C.**, & Morrissey, M. (2014, October). *Equine assisted therapy for adolescent depression: Research review and therapeutic curriculum*. Oral presentation at the 2014 PATH International Conference and Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Ismayilova, L., **Karimli, L.**, Tõ, A., Nanema, R., Sanson, J., & Gaveras, E. (2015, March). *Preventing family separation among ultra-poor families in Burkina Faso: Integrating economic strengthening and child rights sensitization components*. Selected case study presented at the USAID-funded Symposium on Preventing Family Separation and Supporting the Tracing, Reunification and Reintegration of Separated Children into their Families and Communities, Washington, DC.
- Mercado, M.** (2015, April). *What do we do with all this data? The role of data in program decision-making*. Oral presentation at the NASW-NYC Annual Conference, New York, NY.
- Mercado, M.** (2014, October). *Facilitating students' understanding of program evaluation process through field education*. Oral presentation at the Council of Social Work Education Summit on Field Education 2014, Tampa, FL.
- Mercado, M.** & O'Connor, B. (2015, June). *Data driven decision making: Driven by data*. Oral presentation at 2015 Children's Summit—Embracing Change Together: Partnering for Successful Child and Family Outcomes, Albany, NY.
- Mercado, M.**, & Smith, B. (2015, January). *How leadership teams identify and apply evidence to guide decision making*. Oral presentation at the 19th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.
- Nguyen, D., **Bornheimer, L. A.**, & Marsh, K. (2015, January). *Race, income, and aging in mental health: Implications for social work research*. Paper presented at the 19th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.
- Parchment, T. M.** (2015, April). *Best practices when interviewing vulnerable populations: A presentation*. Oral presentation at IDEO.org, New York, NY.
- Parchment, T. M.** & Evans, T.J. (2015, June). *Father's Matter: Engaging fathers in early childhood programs*. Oral presentation at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families, Region 2 Celebrating Fatherhood 2015 Looking Ahead: A Brighter Future for Fathers and Families, New York, NY.
- Schwartz, E., **Cleek, A.**, & **Jones, J. K.** (2014, September). *Enhancing skills to support motivation and engagement with peers*. Oral presentation at the NYAPRS 32nd Annual Conference: Recovery Moves to the Mainstream, Kerhonkson, NY.

Shelton, J. (2015, January). *Finding a gender home: Gender identity assertion and housing status among unstably housed transgender youth*. Paper presented at the 19th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

Shelton, J. (2015, January). *Understanding programmatic barriers for homeless transgender youth through the lens of cisgenderism*. Poster session presented at the 19th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

Shelton, J. (2015, June) *Human needs of street youth*. Panel presentation at the International Summit on the Legal Needs of Street Youth, London, England.

Shelton, J. (2015, May). *Access to Care for transgender youth experiencing homelessness*. Keynote presentation at the National Healthcare for the Homeless Council Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

Shelton, J. (2015, May). *Communities coming together to prevent LGBT youth homelessness*. Oral presentation at the National Stonewall Educational Symposium, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Shelton, J. (2015, April). *Trauma of LGBT displacement in the US and abroad*. Oral presentation at the 3rd Annual McSilver Symposium, New York, NY.

Shelton, J., McMillan, L., & Thibaudeau, E. (2015, July). *Beyond acronyms: Creating systems that are truly inclusive of LGBTQ youth*. Moderator at the National Alliance to End Homelessness Conference, Washington, DC.

Shelton, J., & Wood, C. (2015, March). *Saving LGBT homeless youth with technology*. Oral presentation at South by Southwest, Austin, TX.

Small, L., Nestadt, D., Machanyangwa, S., Shezi, S., Bhana, A., McKay, M., Petersen, I., & Mellins, C.A. (2015, June). *Challenges and barriers to the use of Wisepill to measure adherence among perinatally HIV-infected adolescents in the VUKA trial in South Africa*. Poster session presented at the 10th International Conference on HIV Treatment and Prevention Adherence: A Decade of Success, A World of Opportunities, Miami, FL.

Speier, S.E., & **Franco, L.** (2014, October). *Options for learning: Virtual training for field instructors*. Oral presentation at the 60th Annual Program Meeting of The Council of Social Work Education, Tampa, FL.

Stanton, M., **Ali, S.**, & Chaudhuri, S. (2015, October). *Social Work and HIV: Undoing a discourse of risk*. Paper accepted for presentation at the 61st Annual Program Meeting of The Council of Social Work Education, Denver, CO.

Stanton, M., Chaudhuri, S., **Ali, S.**, Walker, L., Shubert, G., & Ghose, T. (2015, January). *Beyond risk: Experiences of strength and resilience among transgender women living with HIV*. Paper presented at the 19th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

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41 East 11th Street, Seventh Floor
New York, NY 10003

212.998.4300

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