OUR IMPACT

- Strategic Initiatives at the City, State and Federal Levels
- 20+ Years of Participatory Research Directed by the Community Collaborative Board
- 700 Students Served by the Step-Up Program
- 85% Step-Up Students Graduated High School
- 15,134+ Participants Trained by McSilver Institute Technical Assistance Experts in 2018 and 2019
- 1,012 Organizations Trained by Us in 2018 and 2019
- 65.5% Of All NYS Mental Health, Substance Use and I/DD Organizations Trained by Us in 2018 and 2019
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Dear Friends:

As we enter a new decade, I am pleased to report that the combined fiscal years of 2018 and 2019 marked a pivotal period in the growth of the NYU McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research. As we strove to disrupt generational poverty and address inequality through research, policy, training, interventions and forums, our scholarship achieved new prominence. We also educated a wider audience and shaped policy goals at the local, state and federal levels.

Building upon a proud tradition of research relating to poverty, trauma, food insecurity and mental health, our research entered the national conversation with the publishing of a study in the journal of Pediatrics titled, “Trends of Suicidal Behaviors Among High School Students in the United States: 1991–2017.” Media coverage of the study findings have appeared in dozens of news outlets around the world.

We also received a three-year NIMH grant to study the effectiveness of a novel intervention for keeping Black adolescents engaged in depression treatment. In all, over the two-year period, researchers at NYU McSilver published their work in over 30 journal articles and shared their knowledge in over 65 live presentations.

Our policy-advancing activities made an impact, hand-in-hand with our research. After advocating for greater attention by policy makers to rising rates of Black youth suicide, we played a key role in producing a report by the Congressional Black Caucus Emergency Taskforce on Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health, titled Ring The Alarm: The Crisis of Black Youth Suicide in America.

Companion legislation was introduced in the U.S. House of Representative to address the mental health needs of youth of color. Similar efforts at the New York State level sparked a vital conversation about the needs of young Black New Yorkers.

Meanwhile, the reach our training and technical assistance for child welfare and mental health agencies has expanded greatly within New York State. In 2018 and 2019 we provided training and technical assistance
to 65.5% of all organizations in New York State that provide services for mental health, substance use and individuals with developmental disabilities, reaching an audience of more than 15,000 individuals. We also saw the renewal of our Community Technical Assistance Center (CTAC) contract for an additional five years.

NYU McSilver curated important conversations about poverty, race, policing, civic participation and economic inequality. The New York Times Magazine 1619 Project Creator Nikole Hannah-Jones, MoveOn.org Chief Public Affairs Officer Karine Jean-Pierre, Georgetown Law scholar Peter B. Edelman, as well as U.S. Representatives Carolyn Maloney and Adriano Espaillat are just a few of the speakers we have hosted over the past two years at community forums. The institute marked Martin Luther King Jr. Day 2018 with the launch of our podcast series, Black Boys and Men: Changing the Narrative. As well, we co-hosted a youth summit on policing with the NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board attended by hundreds of middle- and high-school students.

In addition, our leadership of NYU’s university-wide Strategies to Reduce Inequality initiative broke new ground, with the successful launch of several initiatives, including research-focused interdisciplinary working groups, the New York City Reducing Inequality Network and a dedicated course in Inequality Studies. Tomorrow’s leaders will be better equipped to be agents of change in their chosen fields, with a better understanding of how inequality shapes our world.

Finally, through programs such as Step-Up, our Community Collaborative Board and our Sustaining Futures community of practice, NYU McSilver continues to make an impact on youth and educators in a way that is always guided by the communities we serve.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Lindsey, PhD, MSW, MPH
Executive Director
NYU McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research
Aspen Health Innovators Fellow, The Aspen Institute
The NYU McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research is committed to creating new knowledge about the root causes of poverty, developing evidence-based interventions to address its consequences, and translating research findings into action through policy and best practices.

Established in 2007, the McSilver Institute is the vision of Dr. Constance McCatherin Silver, a New York University alumnus and trustee who was determined to establish a top-notch research institute to not only contribute to the intellectual discourse, but also to find solutions that would disrupt generational poverty in communities most affected by inequality and injustice.

In 2011, Dr. Mary McKay was appointed to guide NYU McSilver in this mission as its inaugural director. Dr. Michael A. Lindsey succeeded her as director in 2014 and now leads the institute as its executive director.

NYU McSilver recognizes the interrelatedness of race and poverty and is dedicated to dismantling structural racism and all forms of systemic oppression. We collaborate with community stakeholders, policymakers and service organizations to ensure our work is culturally and contextually appropriate.

Over the years our research has recognized the importance of well-being—in matters such as mental health, food security and social determinants of health—to disrupting generational poverty. Our policy work builds on that knowledge, informing efforts at the city, state and federal levels to address and end social, economic and health-related inequity.

Meanwhile, since 2011 we have provided training and technical assistance to 72.4% of all organizations in New York State that provide services for mental health, substance use and individuals with developmental disabilities, reaching more an audience of more than 31,000 individuals.

We also have recognized the importance of honoring those who lead the way in addressing inequity. In 2013, we launched the McSilver Awards. Each year we recognize Vanguards for Social Justice who are prominent in their fields and unafraid to use their platforms to help create a more equitable and just world.

In 2017, NYU McSilver was selected to lead the university-wide Strategies to Reduce Inequality Initiative. The team encompasses 80 faculty affiliates from schools and disciplines across NYU and 16 research centers, all working on issues of inequality with the aim of extending their impact through focus and collaboration. In 2019, SRI launched an Inequality Minor course of studies in collaboration with the Silver School of Social Work, as well as the New York City Reducing Inequality Network initiative for doctoral students at NYU, Columbia University and City University of New York.

Also in 2019, NYU McSilver extended its policy work to the federal level, leading the working group of experts for the Congressional Black Caucus Emergency Taskforce on Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health.

NYU McSilver enters 2020 more determined than ever to use our knowledge and platform to change lives for the better.
DEVELOPING EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS TO ADDRESS POVERTY

The McSilver Institute’s research focus is developing evidence-based interventions to address the consequences of inequality, racism and poverty. Our research efforts are guided by an understanding of the links between individuals, families and communities to their external environments, as well as the interrelatedness of race, gender, sexual orientation and poverty.

Making Connections Intervention (MCI)

**Funder:** National Institute of Mental Health  
**Principal Investigator:** Michael A. Lindsey, PhD

A pilot randomized controlled clinical trial is studying the effectiveness of the MCI in 60 Black adolescents who have depression symptoms and attend grades 6–12 within New York City Department of Education public schools.

The intervention has been devised to address barriers to engagement in youth, as well as their caregivers.

Safe Mothers, Safe Children (SMSC)

**Funder:** Robin Hood Foundation  
**Principal Investigator:** Michael A. Lindsey, PhD

This intervention seeks to reduce the risk of repeat child maltreatment through a multi-pronged intervention that enhances the identification, case management and treatment of mothers receiving preventive services.

The study intervention is adapted from Skills Training in Affective and Interpersonal Regulation (STAIR), which is designed to treat post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) to foster positive parenting, reduce child maltreatment and enhance maternal and child well-being.

Family Groups for Urban Youth (MFG)

**Funder:** National Institute of Mental Health  
**Principal Investigator:** Mary M. McKay, PhD  
**Co-Investigator:** Mary Acri, PhD

McSilver Institute is conducting the MFG study across New York State’s licensed child behavioral health clinic system to examine the short- and long-term impacts of Multiple Family Groups (MFG) on urban youth with Oppositional Defiant Disorder and Conduct Disorder.

The study also examines family-level mediators of child outcomes, as well as clinic and provider level moderators of MFG implementation and integration.

Family and Food Matters Family Program (FFM)

**Funder:** Ample Table for Everyone Foundation  
**Principal Investigator:** Andrew F. Cleek, PsyD  
**Co-Investigator:** Kara Dean-Assael, LMSW

Through FFM, evidence-informed, manualized curricula have been created with the aim of decreasing food insecurity in caregivers with kids and pregnant women in New York City while increasing the ability to address the well-being of the family units and pregnant women, as well as increasing support for them.
Step-Up

Step-Up is a youth development and mental health support program funded by the Robin Hood Foundation and the New York City Department of Education that aims to promote social-emotional development, key life skills, academic achievement, high school graduation and a positive transition to young adulthood. The program is embedded within two New York City high schools located in East Harlem and the Bronx.

Developed by NYU McSilver in collaboration with the Center for Collaborative Inner-City Child Mental Health Services Research (CCCR) at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, 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.

The program provides supportive services for teens experiencing challenges living within low-resource communities to promote academic achievement and a positive transition to adulthood. It aims to address ecological stressors that disproportionately affect Black and Latinx youth and their families who are impacted by poverty and violence.

Components of Step-Up include opportunities to participate in: (1) in-school youth group meetings centered on a life skills curriculum collaboratively developed with teens; (2) one-on-one meetings between diverse Step-Up staff and youth; (3) intensive outreach to families and adult supports; (4) incentivized engagement; (5) out-of-school activities, trips, skills-building retreats; and (6) summer internships. Collectively these components build life skills, promote positive youth development, identify and address individual student needs, and sustain engagement via opportunities for interaction with peers and staff throughout the program.

Outcomes

Over the past 11 years, Step-Up has worked in partnership with youth, parents and staff out of 8 high schools. The program has served over 700 students (89% are Black or Latinx — 38% Black, 50% Latinx) and achieved a graduation rate of 85%, among many other positive educational and mental health outcomes.
Clinical Education and Innovation

The Clinical Education and Innovation Department (CEID) focuses on a unique array of programs, trainings and tools to support practitioners and organizations working within poverty-impacted communities. The aim is to improve service delivery and business best practices within social service organizations. To do this, CEID uses a range of modalities based on the needs and learning styles of participants. These include in-person experiential training, webinars, online self-paced courses, consultation calls and podcasts.

Some of CEID’s core trainings include:

- **4 Rs and 2 Ss for Strengthening Families**, a curriculum-based practice designed to strengthen families, decrease child behavioral problems and increase engagement in care.

- **Engagement Strategies for Child, Family and Adult Services**, which focuses on best practices that can increase the initial and ongoing engagement of participants in services.

- **Workforce Resilience**, which provides helping professionals with tools to combat and cope with the myriad social challenges that they experience through their work.

- **Trauma-Informed Care**, a strengths-based movement focused on providing services grounded in an understanding of the pervasiveness of trauma and its impact on children, youth, adults, families and communities.

- **Social Determinants of Health**, which are the factors that impact health and well-being and encompass every aspect of individuals' lives.

- **Anti-Oppressive and Anti-Racist Practices**, which focus on issues of cultural humility, addressing microaggressions and exploring bias.

- **Family and Food Matters to Caregivers and Kids**, a 7-week program to strengthen family relationships and promote physically healthy lifestyles within families at risk for food insecurity.

- **Family and Food Matters to Pregnant Women**, a 4-week nutrition and wellness program that helps to increase support and decrease challenges around having sufficient and healthy foods to eat.
Food Insecurity Programs

The Family and Food Matters (FFM) interventions are grounded in the reality that food insecurity is rarely addressed in conjunction with the multiple adversities affecting those living in poverty. They simultaneously target food insecurity, family/caregiver stress or the access to nutritious and affordable food for future generations.

To develop them, the McSilver Institute collected qualitative and quantitative data following a community-based participatory research model with caregivers with children and pregnant women in NYC experiencing, or at-risk for, food insecurity. Community members, content experts, organizational representatives, social workers and researchers developed two curricula: Family and Food Matters to Caregivers and Kids (FFM-CK) and Family and Food Matters to Pregnant Women (FFM-PW). Both are evidence-informed manualized programs that aim to decrease food insecurity, increase the ability to address the well-being of the family units and pregnant women, as well as increase support.

FFM curricula were supported by grants from Ample Table for Everyone (ATE), a not-for-profit working to help the one in five New York City families living with food insecurity. FFM materials are available in English and Spanish.

Community Collaborative Board

Community-based participatory research and an awareness of the interrelatedness of race and poverty are cornerstones of the institute’s work. The Community Collaborative Board (CCB) is an ongoing partnership between researchers and community members from neighborhoods impacted by poverty.

The CCB participates in and shares power over the implementation of the McSilver Institute’s research projects concerned with evidence-based prevention and intervention services. The Board ensures programs are culturally- and contextually-relevant for populations served.

The CCB was originally established in the Bronx in 1999 to participate in the design, delivery and evaluation of the National Institutes of Health-funded Collaborative HIV and Adolescent Mental Health (CHAMP) study. The board has subsequently overseen more than a dozen multi-year research projects in low-resource neighborhoods across New York City. It has been based at various research institutions and housed at the McSilver Institute since 2011.

Federally-funded research programs overseen by the CCB have resulted in evidence-based, peer-delivered and sustainable interventions addressing challenges such as:

- HIV/AIDS
- Mental Health and Behavior Disorders
- Substance Use
- Educational Achievement and Positive Youth Development
- Domestic and Community Violence
- Food Insecurity and Nutrition

The board aims to nurture and empower families and communities. The core mission of the board is to come together to develop and implement culturally-relevant intervention programs for communities. The CCB recognizes diversity as strength and the importance of learning from each other’s culture and respecting differences. The CCB is committed to developing leadership skills among board members and fostering collaboration with other community-based organizations through networking.
APPLYING RESEARCH-DERIVED KNOWLEDGE TO TRANSFORM SYSTEMS

The Technical Assistance Centers (CTAC, MCTAC, TTAC and MC-COP) are training, consultation and educational resources serving all mental health, substance use disorder, child welfare and intellectual and developmental disability-focused agencies in New York State, as well as infant and early childhood mental health providers throughout the state. The Centers help agencies strengthen their clinical and business infrastructure through training opportunities focused on implementing evidence-based practices and addressing the challenges associated with the recent changes in regulations, financing and overall healthcare reforms.

The Community Technical Assistance Center of New York (CTAC)

Funder: NYS Office of Mental Health

Since 2011, CTAC has advanced the effective and efficient delivery of services to children, adults and families who rely on public sector services to meet their mental health needs. CTAC offers a variety of trainings, tools and support to help improve direct services, program operations and development of the family and youth peer workforce.

The Managed Care Technical Assistance Center of NY (MCTAC)

Funder: NYS Office of Mental Health

MCTAC provides policy, administrative and implementation technical assistance to mental health, substance use disorder and child welfare agencies transitioning to managed care and value-based payment systems. CTAC and MCTAC share a mission of helping agencies develop strong business and financial models to ensure sustainability in the changing healthcare landscape.
The NYC Early Childhood Mental Health Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC)

**Funder:** NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

**Partnership Lead:** The New York Center for Child Development (NYCCD.org)

TTAC provides training and technical assistance to mental health professionals serving children ages 0–5 and their families in the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene-funded Early Childhood Therapeutic Centers, as well as professionals working in: New York City outpatient mental health clinics; Early Intervention, Universal Pre-K and ACS Early Learn sites; and other child-serving systems.

The Managed Care Community of Practice (MC-COP)

**Funder:** NYS Office of People with Developmental Disabilities

**Partnership Lead:** New York Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation (NYAlliance.org)

The McSilver Institute is a partner in the New York Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation-led technical assistance project to guide and assist all providers of New York State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities services through the transition to managed care. The Managed Care Community of Practice (MC-COP) in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) offers training, technical assistance and collaborative educational opportunities on managed care readiness, quality improvement and new reimbursement strategies to all New York’s I/DD providers to enable not-for-profit agencies to leverage their strengths in the new environment.
New York University Strategies to Reduce Inequality (SRI)

Persistent inequality requires an approach that is multidimensional to identify meaningful sustainable solutions. To that end, New York University faculty across schools and disciplines have come together to work on the Strategies to Reduce Inequality (SRI) initiative. The SRI faculty group explores ways to advance research, work collaboratively with practitioners, bring speakers to campus, identify courses that can help students deepen their understanding of inequality and promote equality and inclusion — all with the intention of creating new knowledge to impact policies, systems and communities. Among SRI’s many initiatives are the New York City Reducing Inequality Network; a dedicated course in Inequality Studies; and Blueprints for Progressive Change in Juvenile Justice, an interdisciplinary working group that addresses disparities in juvenile and criminal justice.

Fellow-in-Residence

The McSilver Institute Fellowship engages nationally recognized poverty and social justice scholars across disciplines to conduct research projects, publish books and papers, conduct courses, and participate in seminars, conferences and workshops.

Dr. Christina M. Greer

The 2018 McSilver Fellow-in-Residence, Dr. Greer is a highly regarded thought leader and is the author of *Black Ethnics: Race, Immigration, and the Pursuit of the American Dream*. She specializes in American and urban politics, quantitative methods and public opinion. Her investigation concerning the impact of racial identity as it pertains to policy choices and preferences for Black populations has produced significant findings.

Dr. Greer is also widely sought after for her commentary on national news programs and in print media including *The Root, The New York Times, The Daily Beast* and for MSNBC.

Harry Siegel

The 2019 McSilver Fellow-in-Residence, Harry Siegel is a senior editor at *The Daily Beast*, a weekly columnist at the *New York Daily News* and co-host along with Dr. Greer of the podcast *FAQ NYC*. A National Magazine Award finalist in 2014, Siegel has written about New York City and urban issues for outlets ranging from the *Village Voice* to the *Wall Street Journal* to *Vice*. He is co-author of *The Prince of the City: Giuliani, New York and the Genius of American Life*. Siegel has served previously as editor-in-chief of *New York Press*; an editor at *Politico*; an editorial board member of the *The New York Sun*, and then the *New York Daily News*. 
Partnership with Never Whisper Justice Films

In 2019 NYU McSilver embarked on a unique strategic partnership with Never Whisper Justice Films (NWJF), a disruptive social justice media company that fuses bold storytelling with concrete social impact. NWJF is co-producer of Black Boys Film, a documentary that seeks to illuminate the full spectrum of Black male humanity in America.

After Dr. Michael A. Lindsey was interviewed for the film, the institute and NWJF collaborated on a series of live and recorded conversations in 2019 centered on Black boys and men, belonging and mental wellness. They included the “Brain Health and Belonging” panel discussion at Morehouse College on January 29th and “The State of Black Boys and Men in America” panel discussion at the University of Arkansas, Clinton School of Public Service on April 19th, both with Dr. Lindsey; and a series of interviews recorded at both events and at other locations across the U.S. The McSilver Institute and Never Whisper Justice Films co-produced the second season of NYU McSilver’s podcast Black Boys and Men: Changing the Narrative, hosted by our Chief Operating Officer Rose Pierre-Louis.
The 2018 and 2019 McSilver Awards

**June 4, 2018 and June 10, 2019**

Our sixth and seventh annual McSilver Awards fundraisers at the NYU Kimmel Center’s Rosenthal Pavilion honored Vanguards for Social Justice who are using their platforms to make a difference in the world.

On June 4, 2018, we honored: Tarana Burke, #MeToo Movement Founder; Marley Dias, #1000BlackGirlBooks Founder; Erica Ford, Anti-Violence Activist; Maria Hinojosa, Emmy Award-Winning Journalist; Michael Hurwitz, Director, GrowNYC; Anna Deavere Smith, Tony and Pulitzer Prize-Nominated Playwright and Actress; Reverend Michael A. Walrond, Jr., Senior Pastor, First Corinthian Baptist Church.

On June 10, 2019, we honored: Yamiche Alcindor, White House Correspondent of PBS NewsHour; Sayu Bhojwani, Founder and President of New American Leaders; Malcolm Jenkins, Philadelphia Eagles Safety and Co-Founder of the Players Coalition; Reshma Saujani, Founder and CEO of Girls Who Code; Jose Antonio Vargas, Founder of Define American; Robert “Meek Mill” Williams, multiplatinum hip-hop artist and Founding Partner of The Reform Alliance.

2020 Census: Tech Revolution or Risk?

**June 18, 2018**

The McSilver Institute and New America hosted a forum at the NYU School of Law to discuss the unique ways the 2020 Census may impact marginalized communities. Among the panelists were Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Manhattan Deputy Borough President Aldrin Bonilla, U.S. Representatives Adriano Espaillat and Carolyn Maloney, Steven Choi of The New York Immigration Coalition, Leah Aden of NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Afua Bruce of New America, Joe Salvo of NYC Department of City Planning and Corinne Yu of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights. The forum was moderated by Dr. Christina Greer, 2018 McSilver Fellow-in-Residence.
**Monsters and Men Film Screening**  
**November 5, 2018**

The McSilver Institute co-hosted a free screening of the critically-acclaimed film, *Monsters and Men*, at the Cantor Film Center in Manhattan followed by a panel discussion about policed lives, policing and justice. Moderated by McSilver’s Executive Director, Dr. Michael A. Lindsey, the panel discussion included the director, NYU Tisch School of the Arts alumnus and adjunct professor Reinaldo Marcus Green; Jerika Richardson, Senior Advisor and Secretary to NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB); Harry Siegel, 2019 McSilver Fellow-in-Residence and FAQ NYC podcast co-host; and Vincent M. Southerland, Executive Director of the Center on Race, Inequality, and the Law at NYU Law School.

**Speak Up, Speak Out: A Youth Summit on Policing in New York City**  
**February 26, 2019**

NYU McSilver co-hosted the first-ever youth summit of its kind in New York City, with the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board and the NYU Law Center on Race, Inequality and the Law. Approximately 300 young New Yorkers ages 10-24 shared their experiences with policing at the NYU Kimmel Center’s Rosenthal Pavilion. Through panels and roundtables, they identified problems in their communities and recommended solutions to public safety and police oversight practitioners and academics.

**The Criminalization of Poverty with Peter B. Edelman and Jennifer Jones Austin**  
**March 14, 2019**

A revealing dialogue about how poverty is criminalized took place on March 14, 2019. Professor Peter B. Edelman, Faculty Director of the Center on Poverty and Inequality at Georgetown Law and author of *Not a Crime to Be Poor: The Criminalization of Poverty in America* (The New Press) was interviewed by Jennifer Jones Austin, who is Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies (FPWA), with 150 in attendance. A book-signing followed.
Perspectives on a Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty

October 30, 2019

NYU McSilver co-hosted an evening of discussions about reducing childhood poverty with the NYU Institute of Human Development and Social Change, through the Strategies to Reduce Inequality initiative. It took place at the NYU Global Center for Academic and Spiritual Life and centered on the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine report, A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty. NYU professors Drs. J. Lawrence Aber and Benard Dreyer were among the report’s co-authors. They discussed it both individually and in conversation with Jennifer Jones Austin, CEO and Executive Director of FPWA and Dr. Xavier de Souza Briggs, Senior Advisor at the Ford Foundation.

In Conversation: Nikole Hannah-Jones

November 14, 2019

NYU McSilver and the Office of NYU President Andrew D. Hamilton hosted a fireside chat on November 14 with Nikole Hannah-Jones, Creator of The New York Times Magazine’s 1619 Project. She and Dr. Christina Greer, 2018 McSilver Fellow-in-Residence and FAQ NYC podcast co-host, discussed the project, which commemorates the 400th year of American slavery by examining the institution’s modern legacy and reframing the way we understand this history and the contributions of Black Americans to the nation. Their discussion took place before an at-capacity audience of over 300 people at NYU Kimmel’s Rosenthal Pavilion.

Moving Forward Book Launch with Karine Jean-Pierre

November 6, 2019

NYU McSilver and The Haitian Roundtable co-sponsored a fireside chat at Town Stages in Manhattan for the launch of Moving Forward, the memoir by renowned political strategist and MoveOn.org Chief Public Affairs Officer Karine Jean-Pierre. Moderated by CBS News and CBS This Morning correspondent Vladimir Duthiers, their discussion before an audience of 120 explored identity, politics and the Haitian immigrant experience. A book-signing followed.
Our policy-advancing activities made an impact in 2018 and 2019, informed by our research and work in poverty-impacted communities.

Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

NYU McSilver research has shown that self-reported suicide attempt rates for Black adolescents rose 73% between 1991–2017, while falling in other groups. This and outside research showing that the suicide rate for Black children 5–12 is roughly twice that of White children of the same age group spurred us to ring the alarm about this growing mental health crisis.

- On December 6, 2018, our Executive Director Dr. Michael A. Lindsey, who is a noted scholar in the field child and adolescent mental health, called for the creation of a task force on Black youth and suicide during a congressional staff briefing hosted by U.S. Representative Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ).
- On April 30, 2019, the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Emergency Taskforce on Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health launched and Dr. Lindsey was named to lead the working group of experts tasked with developing a report on the state of Black youth suicide and mental health, with policy recommendations developed by NYU McSilver.
- On June 4, 2019, Dr. Lindsey testified at a New York State Senate Joint Public Hearing on Suicide and Prevention before the Senate Standing Committee on Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, chaired by Senator David Carlucci; and the Senate Standing Committee on Health, chaired by Senator Gustavo Rivera.
- On June 20, 2019, a bill to establish a Black youth suicide prevention task force that was co-sponsored by Senator Carlucci and NYS Assemblymember Kimberly Jean-Pierre passed in the New York State legislature. It was not signed into law, but work continues within the state to focus policies and resources toward the mental health of Black youth.
- On December 17, 2019, the CBC Emergency Taskforce report was released, titled Ring The Alarm: The Crisis of Black Youth Suicide in America. Companion legislation was introduced in the U.S. House of Representative to address the mental health needs of youth of color.
Poverty to Prison Pipeline

NYU McSilver has partnered with the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies (FPWA) to recommend policies that disrupt the poverty to prison pipeline that dooms so many Black and Brown New Yorkers to justice-involved lives.

Dr. Michael A. Lindsey, Rose Pierre-Louis and Dr. Andrew F. Cleek participated in the Ending the Poverty to Prison Pipeline Task Force, which was organized by FPWA and included faith leaders, criminal justice experts and academics. They produced the *Ending the Poverty to Prison Pipeline* report in April 2019, with NYU McSilver staff members contributing to the Strengthening Health and Mental Health Care Services recommendations. They called for a trauma-informed health and human services sector that prevents justice system contact due to trauma-related mental health and/or substance use issues; supports mental and long-term physical health outcomes; and addresses trauma experienced by low-income and justice-involved individuals and families.

Looking Forward

NYU McSilver continues to advocate for policies that will advance the well-being of families and youth of color, and those who are poverty-impacted. As we enter 2020, we will continue to call for having more social workers and mental health providers in schools, proportionate to the number of students. We will call for an end to the practice of disproportionately suspending and expelling Black children from school. Armed with the knowledge our researchers uncover, we will continue to push for policy solutions that benefit our communities.
$44 million
Total Amount Awarded in Grants and Other External Funding, 2012-2019

External Funding, 2018-2019

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Supporters

**Benefactors**
Constance and Martin Silver

**Foundations**
Robin Hood Foundation
The Ample Table for Everyone Foundation
Open Society Foundations
Five Together Foundation
The Marion E. Kenworthy–Sarah H. Swift Foundation
The W.T. Grant Foundation

**Government Agencies**
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Mental Health
New York State Department of Health
NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene
NY State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services
New York State Office of Mental Health

**Non-Profits, Academic Institutions and Corporations**
NYU Silver School of Social Work
NYU Global Inclusion, Diversity and Strategic Innovations
Amida Care
C-Suite Coach
CORE Services Group, Inc.
FPWA
The New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, Inc. (NYAPRS)
The IDEAS Center
Coordinated Care Services, Inc.
Urban Resource Institute
National Council for Behavioral Health
Yellow Block Bed & Breakfast
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FACTS & FIGURES
2018


Racial/ethnic measurement invariance of the School Success Profile (SSP)’s future orientation scale

Yuyue Xiao, Nina B. Kowalski, Michael A. Lindsey

1. Introduction

Future orientation (FO) has received increasing attention for its positive effects on academic well-being and academic success in school. Although many studies have examined the relationships between FO and academic achievement, few measures have been developed for adolescents in schools. The current study aimed to develop a measure of FO among children and adolescents. The FO measure was designed to evaluate the relationship between FO and academic performance. The measure was based on a sample of 372 students from a local middle school in the United States. The measure was administered to students in grades 6-8 and included 12 items that evaluated the relationship between FO and academic performance. The measure was found to be a valid and reliable tool for assessing FO in adolescents. The results suggest that FO is an important predictor of academic performance in adolescents.


2018


Lindsey, MA. Behavioral Health and Colorado’s Classrooms event hosted by the Colorado Health Foundation at the University of Northern Colorado. Dec. 11, 2018. Keynote presentation.

Lindsey, MA. Ending the Poverty to Prison Pipeline, panel discussion hosted by FPWA. Oct. 11, 2018.


Lindsey, MA. Why Equity? Keynote presentation at Houston Stronger: A Path to a More Equitable City, conference hosted by Rice University's Baker Institute for Public Policy. Aug. 31, 2018.


2019


Daugherty M., Vilgorin B. Supervision, Engagement and Improving Health Outcomes. Accepted Presentation for the CEO/Executive Leadership Preconference to the 2019 ASAP Annual Conference. Niagara Falls, NY. September 2019.


Lindsey, MA. A Panel Discussion on Brain Health and Belonging. Hosted by Black Boys Film Director Sonia Lowman with panelists including Dr. Michael Lindsey. January 30, 2019.


Weiskopf G., Cleek A. Preparing for Medicaid Managed Care and Value Based Payment in New York State. Supporting Whole Person Care Conference. Harrisburg, PA. August 2019.


