
JESSICA K. MCCABE JOHNSON, PHD, MPA, LCSW
SOCIAL SCIENTIST
Email: jesskmjohnson@gmail.com

CURRENT POSITION

Family Housing Hardship Program Director
Boston College School of Social Work Center for Social Innovation

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Hartford Doctoral Fellow
Boston College School of Social Work, Chestnut Hill, MA

Master of Science in Social Work
Columbia University School of Social Work, New York, NY

Master of Public Administration
Columbia University School of Public and International Affairs, New York, NY

Bachelor of Arts, Major in Psychology
Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2014 - 2022 **Part-Time Faculty**
Boston College School of Social Work
Courses: International and Comparative Social Welfare Policy (doctoral level); Program Evaluation; Health and Mental Health Policy; Basic Skills in Macro Practice; Literature Review Proseminar (doctoral level); Teaching Practicum (doctoral level)
- 2012 - 2013 **Part-Time Faculty**
Boston University School of Social Work
Course: Research I
- 2009 - 2011 **Part-Time Faculty**
New York University Silver School of Social Work
Courses: Research I; Research II

FUNDED RESEARCH

1. Program Director, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Co-Investigator (2024 – 2026). (PI: Gautam Yadama) *Mixed Methods Research to Identify Best Practices in School-Housing Partnership-Based Family Homelessness Prevention*. Funders: William T. Grant Foundation, Doris Duke Foundation, Spencer Foundation. \$350,000
2. Program Director, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Co-Investigator (2020 – 2024). (PI: Gautam Yadama) *The Impact of Upstream Prevention of Homelessness on Youth Educational and Developmental Outcomes*. Funders: William T. Grant Foundation, Doris Duke Foundation, Spencer Foundation. \$650,000

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3. Principal Investigator (2007 – 2009). *A Cross-National Analysis of Employment and Life Expectancy among Older Adults*. Funder: Gerontological Society of America. \$70,000

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2008 **Research Excellence Award**, Boston College
- 2004 – 2007 **Doctoral Fellowship**, Boston College School of Social Work
Full tuition plus stipend for three years
- 2006 **Travel Award Grant**, American Sociological Association and National Science Foundation
Travel to International Sociological Association World Congress of Sociology in Durban, South Africa, July 23-29
- 2006 **Han Emanuel Scholarship**, Foundation for International Studies on Social Security
Participation in Foundation for International Studies on Social Security International Research Seminar on Social Protection in an Ageing World in Sigtuna, Sweden, June 16-18
- 2005 – 2006 **John A. Hartford Pre-Dissertation Fellowship**, Gerontological Society of America
- 2000 – 2002 **Graduate Education Scholarship**, Leopold Schepp Foundation
- 1999 **Marshal of the Order of the Cross and Crown**, Boston College
- 1999 **William J. Kenealy, S.J. Award**, Boston College

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Byrne, T., **McCabe Johnson, J. K.**, & Saran, I. (in progress). Using administrative data to assess the relationship between school-based housing assistance and student outcomes.

Werner, K. & **McCabe Johnson, J. K.**, Dickenson, E., Seamans, L., Harris, K. A., Marques, B. S., Bartley, S., Yadama, G. N. (in progress). A community-based system dynamics approach to understanding the complexity of research-practice partnership: Lessons learned from family homelessness prevention.

Byrne, T., **McCabe Johnson, J. K.**, & Saran, I. (in progress). Housing outcomes among housing unstable families served by a novel school district - housing agency partnership.

Saran, I., **McCabe Johnson, J. K.** & Byrne, T. (in progress). The relationship between housing status and parent and child well-being: Evidence from a research-practice partnership.

McCabe Johnson, J. K., Saran, I., Byrne, T., Harris, K.A. & Marques, B.S. (under review). Identifying students at risk of homelessness: Evidence from Boston. *Child & Schools*.

Saran, I., **McCabe Johnson, J. K.**, & Fusaro, V. (under review). The relationship between housing insecurity and adolescent academic outcomes. *Journal of Social Distress and Homelessness*.

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McCabe Johnson, J. K., Klein, E. K., Guterres, T. A., & Juste, A. (revise and resubmit). Observations from social work researchers on assessing a homelessness prevention research-practice partnership. *Journal of Community Practice*.

McCabe Johnson, J. K., Werner, K., Bartley, S., Dickenson, E., Woodsby, A., & Tine, E.R. (revise and resubmit). Impacts of organizational capacity and coordination on families experiencing homelessness: Insights from service providers engaged in community-based system dynamics modeling and implications for school-housing partnership. *Social Service Review*.

McCabe Johnson, J. K., Saran, I., & Byrne, T., Marques, B.S., Harris, K.A., Seamans, L., & Nelkin, G. (2024). Exploring the experiences of participants in a school-housing partnership. *Journal of Social Service Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01488376.2025.2471402>

Shen, C., **Johnson, J.K.M.,** Chi, Z., & Williamson, J.B. (2020). Does a universal non-contributory social pension make sense for rural China? *International Social Security Review* 73(2): 3-26.

Johnson, J.K.M., Sarkisian, N., & Williamson, J.B. (2015). Using a micro-level model to generate a macro-level model of productive successful aging. *The Gerontologist* 55(1): 107-119.

Johnson, J.K.M. & Williamson, J.B. (2008). An assessment of the importance and feasibility of universal non-contributory pension schemes for low-income countries. In P. Kemp, K. Van den Bosch, & Smith, L. (Eds.), *International studies on social security: Vol. 13. Social protection in an ageing world*. Antwerp, Belgium: Intersentia.

Kayser, K. & **Johnson, J.K.M.** (2008). Divorce. In T. Mizrahi & L. Davis (Eds.), *The encyclopedia of social work* (20th Ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.

Johnson, J.K.M. & Williamson, J.B. (2006). Do universal non-contributory old-age pensions make sense for rural areas in low-income countries? *International Social Security Review* 59(4): 47-65. This article was published in English, French, German, and Spanish versions of the journal. The page numbers given are for the English version.

REPORTS, BRIEFS, BLOG POSTS

McCabe Johnson, J.K., Saran, I., Marques, B. S., Seamans, L., Bartley, S., Dickenson, E., McNabb, M. E., & Yadama, G. N. (October, 2023). A school-based partnership for stability: Indications of success and opportunities for system change. *Boston College School of Social Work*. Chestnut Hill, MA. Located here: https://www.bc.edu/content/dam/bc1/schools/sw/Centers/Center%20for%20Social%20Innovation/EHIP%20Report%2011.6.23_updated-May%202025.pdf

McCabe Johnson, J. K. (April, 2023). FamilyAid case manager focus group discussion initial insights. *Early Homelessness Intervention and Prevention Partnership*. Boston, MA.

McCabe Johnson, J. K. (March, 2023). Insights from families referred for vouchers. *Early Homelessness Intervention and Prevention Partnership*. Boston, MA.

Werner, K., **McCabe Johnson, J. K.,** Bartley, S., Dickenson, E., Woodsby, A., & Tine, E. R. (April 18, 2023). Capacity, burnout, and trust: Insights from frontline housing crisis responders. *United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley*. Located here: https://unitedwaymassbay.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/23_CapacityBurnoutTrust_report_FINAL.pdf

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McCabe Johnson, J. K. (November, 2022). Boston Public Schools homeless liaison survey results. *Early Homelessness Intervention and Prevention Partnership*. Boston, MA.

McCabe Johnson, J. K. (November, 2022). FamilyAid staff survey results. *Early Homelessness Intervention and Prevention Partnership*. Boston, MA.

McCabe Johnson, J. K., & Guterres, T. A. (April, 2022). Survey trial run highlights and lessons learned. *Early Homelessness Intervention and Prevention Partnership*. Boston, MA.

Yadama, G. N., Werner, K., Saran, I., **Johnson, J.**, Klein, E., Seamans, L., Bartley, S., & Dickenson, E. (July 28, 2021). Responding to complexity: Co-producing knowledge and interventions to improve the well-being of youth and families. *William T. Grant Foundation*. Located here: <http://wtgrantfoundation.org/responding-to-complexity-co-producing-knowledge-and-interventions-to-improve-the-well-being-of-youth-and-families>

McCabe Johnson, J. K. (July, 2021). Boston Public Schools homeless liaison focus group discussion initial insights. *Early Homelessness Intervention and Prevention Partnership*. Boston, MA.

Johnson, J.K.M., Pitt-Catsoupes, M., Besen, E., Smyer, M. A., & Matz-Costa, C. (2008). Quality of employment and life satisfaction: A relationship that matters for older workers (Issue Brief 13). *Sloan Center on Aging & Work at Boston College*. Located here: <http://hdl.handle.net/2345/3537>

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

McCabe Johnson, J. K., Saran, I., Byrne, T., Teixeira, S., & Yadama, G. N. (January, 2025). Advancing the science and capacity for preventing family homelessness in school settings. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, Seattle, WA. Located here: <https://sswr.confex.com/sswr/2025/webprogram/Session15301.html>

Byrne, T., **McCabe Johnson, J. K.,** & Saran, I. (January, 2025). Housing outcomes among housing unstable families served by a novel school district - housing agency partnership. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, Seattle, WA. Located here: <https://sswr.confex.com/sswr/2025/webprogram/Paper56607.html>

Werner, K., & **McCabe Johnson, J. K.** & Yadama, G. N. (January, 2025). Dynamics of a homelessness prevention research-practice partnership. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, Seattle, WA. Located here: <https://sswr.confex.com/sswr/2025/webprogram/Paper56611.html>

Saran, I., **McCabe Johnson, J. K.** & Byrne, T. (January, 2025). The relationship between housing status and parent and child well-being: Evidence from a research-practice partnership. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, Seattle, WA. Located here: <https://sswr.confex.com/sswr/2025/webprogram/Paper56604.html>

McCabe Johnson, J. K., Saran, I., Byrne, T., Harris, K., & Marques, B. (January, 2025) Identifying students at risk of homelessness: Evidence from Boston. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, Seattle, WA. Located here: <https://sswr.confex.com/sswr/2025/webprogram/Paper56612.html>

McCabe Johnson, J. K. (October, 2024). Early Homelessness Intervention and Prevention research update. Homeless Liaison Convening, Boston, MA.

McCabe Johnson, J. K. (April, 2024). Input on research to advance identification of families. Homeless Liaison Collaborative Learning Community Session #4, Boston, MA.

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McCabe Johnson, J. K. (March, 2024). Homelessness. Boston College Public Health Club, Chestnut Hill, MA.

McCabe Johnson, J. K. (February, 2024). A school-based partnership for stability: Indications of success and opportunities for system change. Homeless Liaison Collaborative Learning Community Session #2, Boston, MA.

Saran, I., **McCabe Johnson, J. K.**, & Fusaro, V. (Jan 2024). Housing hardship and adolescent academic outcomes: Examining the role of school mobility. Society of Social Work and Research Annual Conference, Washington D.C. Located here: <https://sswr.confex.com/sswr/2024/webprogram/Paper52472.html>

McCabe Johnson, J. K. (November, 2023). Complexity of observation in research-practice partnership. Advanced Qualitative Research, Lynch School of Education and Human Development, Chestnut Hill, MA.

McCabe Johnson, J. K., Bartley, S., Seamans, L., & Saran, I. (April 28, 2023). Family homelessness prevention for educational equity: Building evidence of collective impact and developing practice capacity. Greater Boston's Annual Insight-To-Impact Summit, Cambridge, MA. Located here: <https://cssh.northeastern.edu/bari/bari-conference-2023-greater-bostons-annual-insight-to-impact-summit/>

McCabe Johnson, J. K., Klein, E. K., Guterres, T. A., Juste, A. (November 12, 2022). Observations from social work researchers on assessing a homelessness prevention research-practice partnership. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Anaheim, CA.

McCabe Johnson, J. K. (October, 2022). An evaluation of the Early Homelessness Intervention and Prevention Program. Homeless Liaison Convening, Boston, MA.

Giunta, N. & **Johnson, J.K.M.** (January, 2013). Unmet needs of homebound urban elders: The role of economic security, living alone, and case management. Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, San Diego, California.

Johnson, J.K.M. (January, 2011). A cross-national analysis of productive aging. Society for Social Work and Research, Tampa, Florida.

Johnson, J.K.M. (July, 2009). A cross-national analysis of labor force participation and life expectancy among older adults. International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics, Paris, France.

Johnson, J.K.M. (July, 2006). Do universal non-contributory old-age pensions make sense for rural areas in low-income nations? International Sociological Association World Congress of Sociology, Durban, South Africa.

Johnson, J.K.M. (June, 2006). Old age security for rural areas in developing countries: An evaluation of the non-contributory pension alternative. Foundation for International Studies on Social Security International Research Seminar on Social Protection in an Ageing World, Sigtuna, Sweden.

Johnson, J.K.M. (February, 2006). Factors associated with life satisfaction among older workers. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Chicago, IL.

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PRACTICE AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2020 – **Family Housing Hardship Program Director** at Boston College School of Social Work
Postdoctoral Research Associate
- Coordinate staff of 20 at multiple levels in an interorganizational research-practice partnership to improve quality and use of research evidence in preventing homelessness to promote equity in child socioemotional and educational outcomes
 - Collaboratively design and manage all aspects of a multifaceted \$1M grant-funded mixed methods research program involving longitudinal telephone and online surveys, in-depth interviews, and community-based system modeling
 - Analyze qualitative and quantitative data and translate findings into products for multiple practice and academic audiences to build the knowledge base and secure funder and political support
 - Maintain compliance with all institutional review board, legal, and grant requirements
 - Recruit, supervise, and mentor highly skilled master's- and doctoral-level research assistants
 - Represent program at public, private, and academic convenings to generate support and advance impact
- 2018 – 2019 **Research Consultant** at Boston College School of Social Work
- Developed grant proposals for collaborative efforts to evaluate homelessness and HIV prevention interventions and supported early stages of research implementation
- 2011 – 2012 **Project Coordinator** at Hunter College
- Coordinated all aspects of a pilot study of a consortium model of service delivery to older adults living in New York City.
- 2007 – 2010 **Principal Investigator**
A Cross-National Analysis of Employment and Life Expectancy among Older Adults (Dissertation), Boston College
- Analyzed predictors of and the relationship between employment and life expectancy among older adults in Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development countries using cross-national data.
 - *Funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation Doctoral Fellows Program (\$70,000)*
- 2006 – 2007 **Doctoral Research Assistant** at Boston College
- Prepared panel data from The Health and Retirement Study for analysis of the relationship between help transfers within extended families and older workers' employment opportunities
- 2005 – 2006 **Doctoral Research Assistant**
Sloan Center on Aging & Work at Boston College
- Developed of primary data collection instruments
 - Analyzed quantitative data from the 2002 National Study of the Changing Workforce
 - Developed manuscripts for publication
- 2005 **Doctoral Research Assistant**
Sloan Work and Family Research Network at Boston College

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- 2002 – 2004 **Senior Staff Member, Special Assistant to Deputy Commissioner for Policy and Planning**
New York City Department of Homeless Services
- Collaborated with researchers and leadership at the Office of the Mayor, Department of Housing Preservation and Development, Human Resources Administration, and Office of Management and Budget to advance practice
 - Analyzed and advised agency leadership on homeless family census patterns and other data to inform policy
 - Oversaw a performance-based contracting program to encourage placement of families into permanent housing
 - Managed division budget and hiring processes for a staff of 65
- 2000 – 2002 **Public Relations Aide, Office of Legislative and Community Affairs**
New York City Department of Homeless Services
- Tailored press releases and speeches for the commissioner to educate and engage community members
 - Organized events at shelters, corresponded with community members, and represented the agency at local meetings to build support and facilitate discussion with community members about homelessness
- 2001 **Office of Budget Assistant**
New York City Department of Homeless Services
- Tracked contractual increases and revised fiscal year contractual budget proposals
- 2001 – 2002 **Social Work Intern, Project Liberty Office**
New York City Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Services
- Assisted in the development and administration of a state-wide crisis counseling program for persons in New York City affected by the September 11th World Trade Center Disaster
 - Assessed needs to enhance the cultural competency of programming in Chinatown
- 1999 – 2000 **Social Work Intern**
Hebrew Home for the Aged at Riverdale, Bronx, NY
- Counseled and advocated on behalf of residents

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2024 **Eighth Grade Graduation Planning Committee Member**
Brown Middle School
- 2023 – **Advocate**
Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Patient Advocates Group
- Review research funding proposals and suggest dissemination plans
- 2022 – 2024 **Member**
Boston College School of Social Work Equity Justice and Inclusion Committee
- 2020 – 2021 **Fifth Grade Planning Committee Co-Chair**
Mason-Rice Elementary School

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- 2018 – 2020 **Advisory Board Member**
Newton Council on Aging; Social isolation workgroup member
- 2016 – 2018 **Co-Chair at Mason-Rice Elementary School**
Creative Arts and Sciences in Newton Public Schools
- Oversaw the implementation and evaluation of over twenty enrichment programs annually
 - Managed \$18,000 annual budget
- 2014 – 2015 **Vice President of the Board**
The Children’s Cooperative Nursery School
- Raised funds to support school initiatives
 - Supported teachers and administration in daily operations and decision-making
- 2004 – 2005 **Sexual Assault Support Group Co-facilitator**
Boston College Women’s Resource Center
- 2003 – 2004 **Volunteer**
New York City Department of Homeless Services
- Helped count and identify the location of homeless individuals living in public places
- 1997 – 1999 **Oversight Council and Staff Member**
Boston College PULSE Service-Learning Program
- 1996 – 1997 **Volunteer**
Just a Start House, Somerville, MA
- Provided support to adolescent mothers and children experiencing homelessness

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS

Youth
International Journal of Social Welfare
Journal of Aging Studies

LICENSURE

- 2002 – **Licensed Certified Social Worker (#224662)**
Massachusetts

TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS

Microsoft Office, SPSS, STATA, NVivo, MAXQDA, REDCap, Qualtrics

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CONTINUING EDUCATION

Harvard Medical School

Research Data Management Seminars (2024 – present)

Boston College Office of Diversity

Cultural Competence Engagement Modules (2024 – present)

Coursera

Introduction to Probability and Data with R (2023)

Boston College School of Social Work

Research Grant Writing for the Health and Behavioral Sciences (2023)

Duolingo

Spanish Foundations 1 (2022 – present)

Boston College Center for Teaching Excellence, Chestnut Hill, MA

Becoming a White Antiracist Reading Group (2021-2022)

Boston College Continuing Education

OCD Deconstructed: Symptoms, Subtypes, and Treatments (2025)

The Neurobiology of Traumatic Exposure / PTSD (2025)

Treating Trauma Impacted Youth: An Introduction to Sensory Motor Arousal Regulation Treatment (2025)

Empowering Vulnerable Global Communities: Designing and Implementing International Training (2025)

Trauma Prevention: Toward a New Model (2025)

White Gatekeepers: How Systemic Racism and Oppression are Sustained in 21st Century America (2025)

Navigating Difficult Conversations with Gender Diverse Adolescents and their Caregivers (2025)

Dialectical Behavior Therapy (2019)

Narrative Therapy for Children, Youth, and Families (2019)

Substance Use Disorders for Adults (2019)