



Dr. Ed-Dee G. Williams, MSW, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Boston College School of Social Work
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EDUCATION:

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Doctorates (Ph.D.), Social Work and Sociology
Joint Doctoral Program, PhD in Social Work and Sociology
August 2021

Dissertation Title: Black Boys Mental Health Help-Seeking: Exploring Perceptions, Barriers and Social Processes

Masters Social Work (MSW), Interpersonal Practice and Mental Health
Minor: Social Policy and Evaluation
December 2014

Bachelor of Arts (B.A), Sociology
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
April 2013

CERTIFICATION AND LICENSE:

Master of Social Work Limited License (ID #: 6801097727); State of Michigan

RESEARCH INTEREST:

- Black/African American Adolescents
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Mental Health and Depression
- Help-seeking and Service Utilization

ACADEMIC APOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor Boston College School of Social Work	2023 - Current
Visiting Scholar/Research Scientist Boston College School of Social Work	2023 - 2023
Postdoctoral Fellow (2-year appointment) Level Up Lab University of Michigan School of Social Work	2021- 2023
Research Associate Vivian A. and James L. Curtis Center for Health Equity Research and Training University of Michigan School of Social Work	2021 – 2023

CURRENT GRANTS AND AWARDS:

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) F32
Individual Postdoctoral Fellowship
F32 MH130033

Not Funded

Total Costs: \$180,023.00

Asking for Help: A Computerized Simulation to Enhance Help-Seeking Skills for Black Autistic Youth Experiencing Depression

This is a 2-year grant to fund a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan School of Social Work LEVEL-up Lab under the mentorship of Dr. Matthew Smith. Under this fellowship I will receive training in technology-based mental health intervention development and evaluation. This grant will fund the initial development of a virtual reality simulation-based help-seeking skill building intervention for Black autistic youth experiencing depression.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (ORCID # 0000-0003-3037-3484):

Published or In-Press

1. Roux, A., Voltaire, S., Steinberg, H., **Williams, E. G.**, Anderson, K., Hutson, T., & Shea, L. (2023). More Than Just a Variable: The Need to Explicitly Focus on Black Youth within Autism Transitions Research. *Autism in Adulthood. In Press*
2. **Williams, E. G.**, & Smith, M. J. (2023). Virtual Interview Training Among BIPOC Autistic Transition-Age Youth: A Secondary Analysis of an Initial Effectiveness RCT. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders. In Press*
3. Boyd, D. T., Gale, A., Quinn, C. R., Mueller-Williams, A. C., Jones, K. V., **Williams, E. G.**, & Lateef, H. A. (2023). Do We Belong? Examining the Associations Between Adolescents' Perceptions of School Belonging, Teacher Discrimination, Peer Prejudice and Suicide. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, 1-11.
4. **Williams, E.G.**, Lateef, H., Gale, A., Boyd, D., Albrecht, J. Paladino, J. & Koschman, E. (2023). Barriers to Black Boys School-Based Mental Health Resource Use. *Clinical Social Work. In Press*
5. **Williams, E.G.**, Cassanova, A., Watkins, D. (2023) Black Boys Perceptions of Depression and Mental Health: Findings from the YBMen Project. *Social Problem. In Press*
6. **Williams, E. G.**, Smith, M. J., & Boyd, B. (2023). Perspective: The role of diversity advisory boards in autism research. *Autism*, 27(3), 864–869. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13623613221133633>
7. Ribeiro-Brown, B., **Williams, E. G.**, Abelson, J. M., Chandrakapure, A., & Watkins, D. C. (2022). An Exploratory Case Study of the Types of Resources Black Boys Use to Support Their Mental Health. *Healthcare (Basel, Switzerland)*, 10(6), 1082. <https://doi.org/10.3390/healthcare10061082>
8. Boyd, D. T., Jones, K. V, Quinn, C. R., Gale, A., **Williams, E. G.**, & Lateef, H. (2022). The Mental Health of Black Youth Affected by Community Violence: Family and School Context as Pathways to Resilience. In *Children* (Vol. 9, Issue 2). <https://doi.org/10.3390/children9020259>
9. Lateef, H., Brugger, L., Boyd, D., Gale, A., & **Williams, E. G.** (2022). Affective Orientation and School Persistence Among African American Youth: Implications for Afrocentric Youth Research and Practice. *Journal of African American Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12111-021-09569-9>
10. Lateef, H., Gale, A., Boyd, D., Arab, H., Amoako, E. & **Williams, E.** (2022). A Content Analysis of African Centered Social Work: Implications to Advance Culturally Responsive Practice with Black Communities. *Social Work*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sw/swac041>
11. **Williams, E. G.**, Smith, M. J., Sherwood, K., Lovelace, T. S., & Bishop, L. (2021). Brief Report: Initial Evidence of Depressive Symptom Disparities among Black and White Transition Age Autistic Youth. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders* 2021, 1–6. <https://doi.org/10.1007/S10803-021-05242-Y>

12. Lateef, H., Smyth, H., Williams, M., Gale, A., **Williams, E. G.**, Boyd, D., Howard Howell, T., & Williams-Butler, A. (2021). Exploring the Impact of Skin Tone Perception on Race-Related Outcomes and Familial Functioning Among African American Youth: Implications for African-Centered Interventions. *Families in Society*, 102(4), 504–517. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10443894211027168>
13. Watkins, D. C., Goodwill, J. R., Johnson, N. C., Casanova, A., Wei, T., Allen, J. O., **Williams, E. G.**, Anyiwo, N., Jackson, Z. A., Talley, L. M., & Abelson, J. M. (2020). An Online Behavioral Health Intervention Promoting Mental Health, Manhood, and Social Support for Young Black Men: The YBMen Project. *American Journal of Men's Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1557988320937215>
14. Mitchell, J. A., **Williams, E. G.**, Li, Y., & Tarraf, W. (2020). Identifying disparities in patient-centered care experiences between non-Latino white and black men: results from the 2008-2016 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. *BMC health services research*, 20(1), 495. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-020-05357-5>
15. Mitchell, J., **Williams, E. G.**, Perry, R., & Lobo, K. (2019). “You Have to Be Part of the Process”: A Qualitative Analysis of Older African American Men’s Primary Care Communication and Participation. *American Journal of Men’s Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1557988319861569>
16. Mitchell, J., Hawkins, J., **Williams, E. G.**, Eggly, S., & Albrecht, T. L. (2019). Decoding the Role of Companions in Supporting the Health Communication of Older African-American Men with Cancer. *Journal of Patient Experience*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2374373519844098>
17. Goodwill, J. R., Anyiwo, N., **Williams, E. G.**, Johnson, N. C., Mattis, J. S., & Watkins, D. C. (2018). Media representations of popular culture figures and the construction of Black masculinities. *Psychology of Men & Masculinity*. Advance online publication. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/men0000164>
18. Mitchell, J. A., Johnson-Lawrence, V., **Williams, E. G.**, & Thorpe, R. (2017). Characterizing Mobility Limitations Among Older African American Men. *Journal of the National Medical Association*, 0(0). <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.jnma.2017.05.002>
19. Mitchell, J., Cadet, T., Burke, S., **Williams, E. G.** & Alvarez, D. (2017). The Paradoxical Impact of Companionship and on the Mental Health of Older African American Men. *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B*, gbx089, <https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbx089>
20. Miller, R., D. Patton, and **E. Williams** (2015) Rethinking Reentry. *Offender Programs Report* 19 (1) 1- 4.

Book Chapters

21. Thomas, A., Gale, A., & **Williams, E. G.** (2023). Depression Among Black and African American Individuals. *American Psychological Association Handbook of Depression*. In Press
22. Harding, D. J., Morenoff, J. D., Dobson, C. C., Lane, E. R., Opatovsky, K., **Williams, E. G.**, & Wyse, J. J. B. (2015). Families, prisoner reentry, and reintegration. In L. M. Burton, D. Burton, S. M. McHale, V. King, & J. Van Hook. *Boys and Men in African American Families*. New York: Springer

Manuscripts under Review

23. Benevides, T., Jaremski., **Williams, E. G.**, Song, W., Pham, H., Shea., L. (2023). Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Community Mental Health Use among Autistic Youth and Young Adults. *Psychiatric Services*. Under Review
24. Thomas, A., Gale, A., **Williams, E. G.**, (2023). Depression in Black and African American People". *American Psychological Association Handbook on Depression*. Under Review
25. Roux, A., Steinberg, H., Garfield, T., Anderson, K., **Williams, E.G.**, Shattuck, P., Shea, L. (2022). Experiences with Transition to Early Adulthood Among Parents of Autistic Youth from a Racially and Economically Diverse Urban School District: A Pilot Study. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*. Under Review

26. Gale, A., Lateef, H., **Williams, E. G.**, Boyd, D. (2022). A Review of School-Based Interventions for Black Boys' School Success. *The Urban Review*. Under Review
27. Gale, A., Anyiwo, N., Thomas, A., **Williams, E.G.**, Bruce, A. (2022). Examining the link between Perceptions of School Climate and Psychological Functioning in Black Youth: Do Gender and Income Matter? *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*.

Non-Peer Reviewed Publications

28. **Williams, E. G.** (2018). Forced Manhood: The Removal of Adolescence and the Veil of Innocence. *YBMen Project E-Newsletter, Vol 1. (3)*. Retrieved from: <https://www.ybmenproject.com/so/bM08TMVZ#/main>

Manuscripts Under Development

Lateef, H., & **Williams, E.G.** (In Preperation). Assessing the psychosocial buffers of Young Black Men's Externalizing Behavior: the role of African Cultural Norms in Mental Health Treatment and Functioning.

Lateef, H., Gale, A., Parker, M., **Williams, E.** (In preparation). A Scoping Review of Afrocentric Construct Measures: Implications for Culturally Responsive Mental Health Research on Black Americans.

Williams, E. G., Watkins, D., Lateef, H., Gale, A. & Boyd, D. (In Preperation) Social Work Role in Black Boys Mental Health: A Systematic Review of Black Boy's Mental Health Research. *Youth Services Review*.

Williams, E. G. (In Preperation). The Intersection of Mental Health And Institutional Punishment: Unpacking The Medico-Legal Borderland In The Experiences Of Black Boys. *Youth and Society*

Williams, E. G., Smith, M. J., Sherwood, K., Mitchell, J., Sung, C., Humm, L., Steacy, C. (advisory board members) (2021). Implementing a Diversity Advisory Board for a Virtual Social Skills at Work Simulation.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Research Assistant

Fall 2018 – Winter 2019

Evaluation of trauma-informed interventions in youth residential facility
University of Washington/University of Michigan/Wayne State University
PI: Angelique Day, PhD

This project was an evaluation of an already established trauma-informed intervention, known as Monarch in a youth residential facility that houses court-involved youth. I have been responsible for assisting with focus groups, developing an initial coding scheme for qualitative data, and consulting on modifications to the intervention curriculum.

Project Manager

Fall 2016 – Winter 2018

Patient-Doctor Communication with African American Men
University of Michigan School of Social Work
PI: Jamie Mitchell, PhD

A qualitative research study that investigates Black men's communication and experiences with primary care and health specialist. I worked as the project manager for this project. My responsibilities included collaborating with the PI for development and submission, developing the interview questionnaire, introduction, and recruitment script, training research team in conducting a qualitative semi-structured interview as well as conducting interviews along with the research team. I additionally managed collected data and completed the initial coding scheme for data analysis.

Research Associate

Fall 2015 - Present

Young Black Men, Masculinities, and Mental Health (YBMen) Project
University of Michigan School of Social Work
PI: Daphne C. Watkins, PhD

The YBMen project is an educational and social support program designed for young Black men. It uses popular social media sites to deliver mental health information and materials to young Black men in the form of current pop culture, while also fostering a community of social support in private space for these men. I have worked as a research associate for YBMen since 2015 taking part in recruitment, consulting on data collection tools both qualitative questionnaires and quantitative interviews, conducting qualitative interviews, proctoring the social media sites, and consulting on material that is distributed through the

site.

Focus Group Facilitator

University wide Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiative
University of Michigan

PI: President and Provost Office

I was responsible for facilitating and conducting focus groups with various programs throughout the University of Michigan as part of the University of Michigan implementation of a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiative directed by University President, Mark Schlissel.

Fall 2015 – Winter 2016

Research Assistant

Prisoner Reentry and Residential Trajectories

University of Michigan Department of Sociology

PI: Jeffrey Morenoff, PhD and David Harding, PhD

Professor Morenoff conducted a longitudinal qualitative study of former inmates. He conducted on-going interviews with 40 former inmates over a three-year period. The interviews investigated the participant's residential trajectories and interactions with the criminal justice system over the first three years of their initial release. I was responsible for coding data using an already established coding scheme.

Fall 2014 - Winter 20

Research Assistant

University of Michigan - Curtis Center Program Evaluation Group

PI: Joseph Ryan, PhD and Brian Peron, PhD

Conducted case file reviews of currently incarcerated juvenile offenders in the state of Michigan as a part of a larger project investigating mental health and substance abuse rates among youth in the juvenile justice system in Michigan. I additionally completed data entry into SPSS and assisted in data cleaning.

Fall 2014 – Winter 2015

Research Assistant

University of Michigan School of Social Work

Rethinking Prisoner Reentry

PI: Reuben Miller, PhD

I conducted qualitative research on prisoner reentry organizations in Detroit, MI and Chicago, IL. I was responsible for coding qualitative data and developing a MS excel database where this data would be centralized. Additionally, I designed maps of reentry organizations using ArcGIS and overlaid census data on maps (e.g., income, racial demographics, employment, & crime rates)

Fall 2014 – Winter 2015

PRESENTATIONS:

Peer-Reviewed Presentations

1. Symposium: It happens in Schools: Examining Youths of Colors School Experiences, Health, and Well-being
 - a. **Williams, E.G.** (2023). Black Boys use of School-Based Mental Health Resources. Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference. Phoenix, AZ
2. **Williams, E.G.**, Marcel, A., Robinson., (2023). Roundtable: Black Men in Social Work. Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ
3. **Williams, E. G.** Gale., A. Lateef, H., Boyd, D. (2021). Panel Presentation. It Happens At School?: Examining Black Boy's School Experiences, Health, and Wellbeing. Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Conference
4. Symposium Organizer and Discussant. **Black Boys in Context.** Society for Social Work Research. Washington D.C.
 - a. **Williams, E.G.**, Watkins, D. (2019) Black Boys Perceptions of Depression and Mental Health: Findings from the YBMen Project. Society for Social Work Research. Washington D.C.
5. **Williams, E. G.**, Watkins, D., Mitchell, J. (2019) Social Work Role in Black Boys Mental Health: A Systematic Review of Black Boy's Mental Health Research. Society for Social Work Research. San Francisco, CA

6. Mitchell, J., Thompson, H., **Williams, E. G.**, Lobo, K. (2018) A Qualitative Analysis of E-Health Use Among African American Cancer Survivors. International Conference on Communication in Healthcare. Porto, Portugal.
7. **Williams, E.G.**, Mitchell J (2018) the Intersection of Pain, Mental Health, and Functional Ability for Older African American Men. Society of Social Work Research. Washington, D.C.
8. Tarraf, W., Mitchell, J., **Williams, E.G.** (2018) Healthcare Experiences of African American and Non-Latino White Males. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting Expo: Creating the Healthiest Nation. Atlanta, GA
9. **Williams, E. G.** (2017) *Predictors of Chronic Interfering Pain among Older African American Men and the Unique Role of Mental Health*. American Men's Studies Association: 25th Annual Conference on Men and Masculinities American Men's Studies Association. Ann Arbor, MI.
10. **Williams, E. G.** (2016) *Mental Health and Depression amongst Older Black Men: A Life Course Perspective*. Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research Community Outreach. Detroit, MI

Invited Presentations & Talks

11. Harrison, S., McElrath, M., Scott, E., Ware, D., & **Williams, E.G.**, (2022). Detroit Community Health Connection: May is Mental Health Awareness a Dialogue for and about Black Men. Panelist. Detroit, MI - Virtual Presentation.
12. **Closing Keynote Speaker.**
Supporting Black Male College Student Mental Health.
2022 Depression on College Campus Conference. Ann Arbor, MI
13. **Williams, E.G.** (2021). Racial Disparities Among Autistic Youth Experiencing Depression. International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) Special Interest Group.
14. **Williams, E. G.** (2021) Exploring Racial Differences in Mental Health. University of Michigan Depression Center Annual Peer to Peer Conference
15. **Williams, E. G.** (2020) Mental Health and Race. University of Michigan Depression Center annual Peer to Peer Conference
16. **Williams, E. G.** (2017) Depression and Life Disruption in African Americans. Lunch and Learn with Healthier Black Elders Center via Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research (MCUAAAR)
17. **Williams, E. G.** (2017) Mental Health of African American Men Black Male Symposium with Healthier Black Elders Center via Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research (MCUAAAR)
18. **Williams, E. G.** (2017) Intersectionality in Black Male Research: Diversity and Social Justice in Social Work. University of Michigan Massive Open Online Course (MOOC). Social Work Micro-Masters Initiative
19. **Williams, E. G.** (2017) Life in College & Introduction to sociology. Mock lecture and presentation to High School Freshmen. Mumford Academy Detroit, MI.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

Panelist May 2022
 Monthly Men's Health Series: Men's Mental Health Awareness
 Detroit Community Health Connection (DCHC)

Lead discussant February 2022
 Black Men's Mental Health: From Theory to Practice
 Presented by: HBCU-DAP & Rackham Graduate School

Keynote Speaker

Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency All Staff Conference	November 2021
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Guest Speaker on Adolescent Mental Health

Pathways to Success Alternative Education Program	March 2022
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Huron High School	February 2022
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Lincoln High School	February 2022
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Achieving College and Career Education Alternative Education Program	January 2020
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Avondale Academy Alternative Education Program	January 2020
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UM Depression Center Youth Peer to Peer Conference	December 2019
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CONSULTING:

Autism Transition Research Project	2022 – Current
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Funder: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Community engagement and parental mental health needs	2018 – 2019
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Center of Hope Family Services, Toledo, OH

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE:

Community Youth Behavioral Therapist	2016 - 2018
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Washtenaw County

Clinical Social Worker/Youth Behavioral Therapist	2014 - 2015
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Starr Commonwealth and Montcalm Schools - Albion, MI

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Lead Instructor	Spring 2022 – Summer 2022
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University of Michigan School of Social Work

Online MSW & Certificate Program

Social Work 505 Diversity and Social Justice in Social Work

This required foundation course is designed to increase students' awareness, knowledge, and critical skills related to diversity, human rights, social and economic justice. The topics of this course include developing a framework for 1) engaging diversity and differences in social work practice and 2) advancing human rights and social and economic justice.

Lead Instructor	Spring 2019 - Summer 2019
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University of Michigan Department of Sociology

School of Social Work Community Action and Social Change Program

Sociology/CASC 495. Youth and Society

Independently developed course.

This course has a primary focus on understanding the ways in youth are socialized, regulated, and interact with our changing society. This class was offered for both undergraduate sociology and Community Action and Social Change (social work minor) credit.

Graduate Student Instructor	Fall 2018 - Winter 2019
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University of Michigan Department of Sociology

Sociology 225. Project Community

Faculty Instructor: Rebecca Christenson, PhD

Responsible for leading two discussion sections per week in a hybrid service-learning course. Each student completed two hours a week of service-learning at a community site in either Washtenaw or Wayne County, MI. I graded writing assignments, developed individual lessons plan for each class, held office hours (2 hours per week) and was responsible for maintaining communication between students and their community sites.

Classroom facilitator

Healthy Adolescent Living

Fall 2014 – Winter 2015

Starr Commonwealth - Albion, Michigan

Led small classes in experimental integrative learning program. Presented sexual education courses to adolescents with neurological disorders (i.e. Autism Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit, Learning Disabilities)

HONORS AND AWARDS

W. K Kellogg Family Endowed Fellowship \$10,000	2019-2020
Rackham Pre-doctoral Research Grant \$3,000	2019
Faculty Allies for Diversity Manuscript Writing Fellowship \$2,000	2018
Rackham International Travel Grant \$1,500	2018
Mary A. Rackham Institute Graduate Student Research Assistantship \$24,000 + Healthcare	2017
Geriatric Learning Community Small Fund Stipend \$4,000	2017
Bobbe & Jon Bridge Research Support Award for Research in Child Welfare \$5,000	2017
Rackham Summer Graduate Award \$4,000	2017
Vivian A. and James L. Curtis Endowed Scholarship \$15,000	2016-2017
Rackham Merit Fellowship \$24,000 + HealthCare	2015

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE WORK

School of Social Work Dean Search Advisory Committee	2021-2022
University of Michigan School of Social Work Search/Hiring Committee	2017 - 2018
Social Work Doctoral Student Organization (DSO) - Chair	2016 – 2018
Program for Research on Black Americans (PRBA) Summer Program	2015

POFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

UM School of Social Work Gender and Health Research Lab

Society for Social Work and Research

National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)
