

Summary of Profile and Qualifications

Highly motivated researcher and successful team leader with over 20+ years' experience as a community practitioner in areas such as psychology, public health, and criminal justice research. Exceptional skills in time management, critical thinking, management, and the ability to create scalable research models. Skilled facilitators of didactic workshops and training in public and behavioral health research. Trained qualitative researcher in implementation science, intervention design, and grant writing. Excellent communication and writing skills with the ability to create a classroom environment conducive to experiential and project-based learning in the academic environment. Outstanding skills in curriculum design in accordance with educational institutions mission and goals relevant to students expected outcomes. Encourages diversity in STEM to promote multiculturalism and inclusion for underrepresented populations in the research field.

Educational Achievements and Awards

Doctoral Research Fellow, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, 2021 - Present
Award of Dissertation Distinction – *Saybrook University*, Pasadena, CA., 2017
Presidential Fellow – *Saybrook University*, Pasadena, CA., 2018 - 2019
PhD, Philosophy of Humanistic Psychology, *Specialization: Transformative Studies*, Saybrook University, Pasadena, CA., 2017
Masters, Transpersonal Psychology, Sofia University, Palo Alto, CA., 2009
Masters, Certificate Transpersonal Studies, Sofia University, Palo Alto, CA., 2009
Bachelor, of Science Community Counseling, St. Louis Christian College, St. Louis, MO., 2007

Coursework Instructed

- Community Psychology
 - Social Justice
 - Behavioral Health
 - Ethics in Healthcare
 - Social Justice
 - Dissertation
 - Integrative Health Studies
 - Mind Body Medicine
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Employment Experience

University of Arkansas Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR 8/2021 - Present

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

- Conduct, analyze, and disseminate rigorous research.
- Inform and report to the community of findings that impact their wellbeing.
- Conduct research on public health disparities within the context of criminal justice settings.
- Work in a collaborative manner with community stakeholders and researchers to address public health disparities of marginalized populations.
- Ensure research projects include DEI considerations and practice.
- Supervise and mentor master level students who are matriculating towards a research career in public health and psychology.
- Teach classes in public and behavioral health education to students who are matriculating towards a masters or doctorate degree in public health.
- Write grants to NIH as well as other grant making institutions for funding health disparities research.

Saybrook University, Pasadena, CA

2/2020 - Present

Adjunct Professor

- Teach introduction to community psychology, and the historical exploration of all aspects of psychology origination.
- Teach community psychology with an emphasis on public health, community building, sociology, and policy advocacy to bring a keen understanding of the social issues that negatively impact communities, and what is needed to effectively resolve them.
- Help students understand how to use protective factors while working with groups, families, and communities to prevent, and or reduce harm.

- Teach students the skills to identify the needs of a community and design interventions that will lead to positive outcomes and sustainable results.
- Teach students the importance of social action, inclusiveness and participation, the value of diversity, collaboration, prevention with focus on their strengths.
- Teach students discipline in meeting people where they are by honoring their individualities of culture, traditions, and beliefs within their social and cultural construct.
- Provide instructions aimed to promote community well-being through action and solution-based research.
- Provide instructions to help students choose the right career path in the social sciences field.

Research Institute for Social Equity, Redwood City, CA

2/2017 – 8/2021

Founder/CEO

- Oversaw and managed all day-to-day operations.
- Administered project and contract development.
- Maintained relationships through building and sustaining community partnerships.
- Provided mental health consulting services to carceral institutions.
- Developed, designed, and implemented, innovative programs for pre/post reentry programs.
- Provided culturally responsive training to criminal justice practitioners/administrators, clinicians, CBOs, and corporations.
- Conducted research, surveys, and program evaluations for corporations, governments, educational institutions, CBOs, and philanthropic organizations.
- Provided oversight of policy and advocacy initiatives.
- Coordinated all media information dissemination.
- Hired and managed all staff.

San Francisco Housing Development Corporation, San Francisco, CA

1/2016 – 4/2018

Interim Director of Supportive Services and Residents Engagements

- Managed a staff of 28 staff including 18 resident's services coordinators, 6 administrative assistants, and 3 program assistants.
- Managed and provided supportive social services to 420 households in low-income housing community comprised of 6000 adults and children in the Bayview Hunters Point communities.
- Established partnerships with various community-based organizations to provide an array of social supportive services that address the diverse magnitude of social and personal challenges.
- Managed supportive services budget of 1.2 million.
- Coordinated, organized, and managed community-based partnerships in areas of property management, community building, relocations, and other resources for Bayview Hunters Point residents.
- Managed employee development and training specific to community needs.
- Oversaw fund development and contract/fund management.

Abode Services, Hayward, CA

7/2014 – 1/2016

Research Associate: Project Welcome Home

- Provided research support to *"Provision of Permanent Supportive Housing for Chronically Homeless Individuals in Santa Clara County California"* project under *"Project Welcome Home."*
- Coordinated all behavioral health services of assigned clients.
- Implemented and adhered to "Harm Reduction" model of procedures/practices.
- Collected data for analysis and billing.
- Tracked and monitored individual clients through HMIS systems.
- Acted as court liaison advocate representative during reentry processes.
- Worked closely with Santa Clara County and Valley Hope Medical Center's research team members cross- collaborative during consent, intake, and psychological assessments.

One East Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, CA

10/2009 – 5/2014

Associated Director

- Developed and coordinated all mental/behavioral health and housing services city-wide.
- Facilitated direct and group counseling for families and individuals.
- Provided substance abuse counseling, prevention, intervention, and community outreach for youth & adults.
- Provided case management to youth and adults challenged with substance abuse.
- Provided life skills training, personal development, and leadership training skills to youth & adults.

- Coordinated, advocated, and implemented environmental health services community-wide.
- Oversaw budget expenditures for the financial health of programs and company.
- Participated in grant writing and reporting to stakeholders.
- Developed and organized community wellness programs for city residents.
- Managed a staff of 4 associates.
- Coordinated and facilitated 2 community collaborative coalitions with other Community-Based Organization to address community-wide needs health needs.
- Collected, managed, and disseminated research data to stakeholders.
- Worked closely with state, county, and local governments for best practices in the delivery of community-wide mental, behavioral, and physical health services.

Sofia University, Palo Alto, CA

5/2007 – 10/2009

Admissions & Academic Advisor

- Provided educational guidance and assistance for students.
- Recruited students by developing alumni networks and community partnerships.
- Evaluated recruiting techniques and materials by interviewing prospective students.
- initiated campaigns to increase student enrollment.
- Worked closely with Department Chairs in the recruitment process.
- Planned schedules, recommended courses, and determined appropriate education solutions.
- Followed through and tracked the advancement of students.
- Provided case management to students with various social and economic challenges.
- Provided admission support to prospective students.
- Conducted education fairs at various universities.
- Provided educational support to at-risk students.
- Increased minority enrollment by 30% over a 2-year span.

Midwest Diagnostic and Resource Institute, St. Louis, MO

4/2004 – 5/2007

Managing Director, Neuro-biofeedback Specialist

- Developed a working platform that opens access to low-income children diagnosed with ADD/ADHD.
- Provided neuro-assessments to over 350 low-income youth and adults from ages 6 – 18 who were diagnosed with ADD/ADHD using bio-feedback therapy.
- Provided case management, group therapy, and individual counsel.
- Managed fund development.
- Established community partnerships with community stakeholders.
- Recruited and managed staff and consultants.
- Established market presence, branding, and public relations.
- Conducted training for counselors and case managers.
- Facilitated and coordinated grant writing with staff and consultants.
- Developed Children of “Incarcerated Parents Support Programs.”

Visiting Professor/Lecturer

Arkansas Baptist College – Visiting Professor: Psychology

Notre Dame de Namur University – Visiting Professor: Stress Reduction in Higher-Ed

Evergreen Valley College – Guest Lecturer: Race, Power & Inclusion

San Jose State University – Guest Lecture: Technology & Social Equity

Saybrook University – Guest Lecturer: Social Justice, and Critical Race Theory

Solano Community College – Guest Lecturer: Higher Education for Justice Impacted Persons

Professional Facilitation of Groups, Workshops, and Research

Sequoia Union High School District – Aggression Reduction, Substance Abuse Intervention and Prevention, Life Skills Development

Center for Wellness and Achievement in Education – Mindfulness in Schools, Correctional Institutions, and Community

Lincoln Child Center – Clinicians & Mindfulness

100 Black Men Community Day School – Mindfulness in Schools to Accelerate Adolescent Educational Persistence and Excellence

East Palo Alto Police Department Reentry Cease Fire Initiative – Violence and Crime Intervention

Ravenswood Family Health Center – Mindfulness for Therapy with Youth

East Palo Alto Teen Home – Mindfulness Integration in Transitional Youth Homes

Shirley’s Transitional House – Mindfulness in Justice Impacted Transitional Women Homes

San Mateo County Jail (Choices Program) – Mindfulness and Historical Trauma over the Lifespan

San Bruno County Jail (Five Keys Educational Program) – Mindfulness in Carceral Settings

Checkr Inc. – Principal Investigator: Efficacy of “San Francisco Fair Chance Hiring Ordinance” on the Justice Impacted Persons in the Tech industry.

Alchemy Inc. – Principal Investigator: Efficacy of “San Francisco Fair Chance Hiring” on Crime for Recently Released Individuals Serving Life Sentences.

Research

- 2023 Walters, S.M.; Liu, W.; Lamuda, P.; Huh, J.; Brewer, R.; **Johnson, O.**; Bluthenthal, R.N.; Taylor, B.; Schneider, J.A. A National Portrait of Public Attitudes toward Opioid Use in the US: A Latent Class Analysis. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* **2023**, *20*, 4455.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph20054455>
- 2022 Powell, N., Taylor, B., Flanagan, E., Lamuda, O., Schneider, J., Pyra, M., Brewer, R., Pollack, H., Hotton, A., **Johnson, O.** The relationship between substance use stigma and COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence Report*. Ms. No. DADR-D-22-00357.
- 2022 Pyra, M., Taylor, B., Flanagan, E., Hotton, A., Lamuda, P., **Johnson, O.**, Schneider, J., Pollack, H. A. Partisan affiliation and racial attitudes in support for policies to address opioid use disorders. *American Journal of Public Health*.
- 2022 Pyra, M., Taylor, B., Flanagan, E., Hotton, A., Lamuda, P., **Johnson, O.**, Schneider, J., Pollack, H. A., Support for evidence-informed opioid policies and interventions: The role of racial attitudes. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35339585>.
- 2017 **Johnson, O.** The Lived Experiences of African American Males Who Enter Reentry or Rehabilitation Programs After Incarceration: Culturally Informed Lessons Learned (Doctoral dissertation, Saybrook University). Proquest.

Professional Knowledge

- Registered Substance Use Counselor Little Rock, Ark
- Master Certificate: Mind/Body Medicine – Chopra University, Carlsbad, CA
- Certification: Neuro-Biofeedback Specialist – Specializations: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Depression, Anxiety, Mild Head Injury, Pain, Attention Deficit Disorder/Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder – Biofeedback Federation of Europe, Biofeedback of Los Angeles, CA., 2002 and 2018