



Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis, Ph.D. is a community advocate, sociologist and criminologist, educator, and qualitative researcher collaborating with—and contributing to—communities, organizations, and K-12 schools and colleges-universities to improve materials, resources, and services. This includes cultural-collective-community-family health outreach, teaching and training medical and health students and professionals, job skills and economic development, cultural-collective-community-family education outreach, changing school curriculum and course materials, and conducting 6-month or annual assessments for policies and outcomes.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. 2010 Sociology, North Carolina State University
 Concentrations: Crime, deviance, and social control (criminology)
 Inequality: Class, race, and gender

Doctoral Dissertation [Black Political and Socioeconomic Status Attainment and the Direction of Lethal Violence: Comparing the Suicide of Young Black and White Males in U.S. Counties](#)

M.S. 2003 Criminal justice, Virginia Commonwealth University

B.A. 1999 Political science, criminal justice minor, pre-law, University of Richmond

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Community advocacy
 Medical and health equity
 Suicide and suicidal self-harm
 Mental health
 Disabilities
 Police-court-penal
 K-12 curriculum and course materials
 College curriculum and course materials
 Academic program evaluations and assessments
 Policy, procedure, budget, law evaluations and assessments

RECENT CERTIFICATES AND TRAININGS

2023 Baltimore County Department of Health, Baltimore County Peer Conference
 2023 District of Columbia Department of Health Narcan (Naloxone) Community Education Course
 2022 American Heart Association Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED
 2019 Inaugural Cohort, Connection Academy Scholars Program, Cone Health
 2019 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) New Connections Capstone
 2019 SafeZone, North Star LGBT, Winston-Salem, NC
 2018 WRAP: Wellness Recovery Action Plan, Mental Health Association in Forsyth County and Cardinal Innovations
 2018 Policy Engagement Training for Researchers: How to Build Relationships for Long-term Impact, Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy and SSN: Scholars Strategy Network
 2010, 2017 Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (A.S.I.S.T.), NC AFSP
 2016 Wake Forest School of Medicine Health Equity Research Opportunity (HERO) Fellowship
 2016 Advanced Issues in Suicide Intervention, Northwest AHEC and Wake Forest School of Medicine

RELEVANT AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

2023 Supporter Level, Virtual Childfree Convention, July 2023 <https://childfreeconvention.com/2023-sponsor/>

Translation and WiFi Sponsor, “Get Free: A Black Feminist Reunion,” Black Feminist Future,” June 2023 <https://www.blackfeministreunion.com/sponsorships>

2022 Sponsor, Virtual Childfree Convention, July 2022 <https://childfreeconvention.com>

Association of Black Sociologists, Life Member

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS): 2008-2020; Public Policy Committee 2015-2018, 2019—2020; Elections & Nominations Committee 2017

The American Society of Criminology (ASC): 2008-2020

RELEVANT RECENT COMMUNITY AND ORGANIZATION CONTRIBUTIONS

July 2023, 365 Diversity Health-Education-Economics Resource Table, 20th Annual Happy Nappy Day, Baltimore

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-concert-poor-righteous-teachers-tickets-657308737127?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

July 8, 2023, Livestream, Demystifying the Mind: Understanding Mental Health vs. Mental Illness, Black Mental Health Matters

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9JCGtHsxvs&t=1s>

July 1, 2023, Livestream, Social Media and Cognitive Overload: Understanding the Impact on Mental Well-Being, Black Mental Health Matters

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ay2XQKeIvPA>

June 2023, 365 Diversity Health-Education-Economics Resource Table, Justice4Donnell Community Event, Baltimore

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/in-honor-of-donnell-we-will-celebrate-who-he-was-tickets-637827307647?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

June 2023, 365 Diversity Health-Education-Economics Resource Table, Spring Mini-Health & Beauty Expo, Baltimore

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sis-building-a-better-youspring-mini-health-beauty-expo-2023-tickets-592062774697?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

May 2023, Virtual Mental Health Panel, Divine 9 NC Legislative Day, NC Black Alliance

<https://ncblackalliance.org/nc-divine-9-legislative-day-sets-record-participation/>

April 2023, 365 Diversity Health-Education-Economics Resource Table, IBW21 State of the Black World Conference, Baltimore <https://ibw21.org/sobwcv/>

April 2023, 365 Diversity Health-Education-Economics Resource Table, Community Block Party, Baltimore

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/generation-now-easter-block-party-extravaganza-egg-hunt-tickets-571921672117?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

March 2023, 365 Diversity Health-Education-Economics Resource Table, B’More Healthy Expo

<https://bmorehealthyexpo.com/>

February 2023, 365 Diversity Health-Education-Economics Resource Table, Baltimore UNIA-ACL Division 106 Barca-Clarke

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/our-story-365-event-supporting-african-culture-and-black-entrepreneurs-tickets-555985827577?aff=efbneb>

November 2022, 365 Diversity Health-Education-Economics Resource Table, Small Business Saturday Pop Up, Greater Baltimore Urban League, Langston Hughes Community Business and Resource Center

2014-2019, Board of Directors, The Mental Health Association in Forsyth County, North Carolina
Contribution: Chair, Community Health Advocacy

2016-2019, Co-Chair for Medical-Health Committee, Black Health Presenter, and Black Mental Health Resource Table. Juneteenth Annual Festival, Triad Cultural Arts, Inc., Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

<https://wschronicle.com/juneteenth-festival-celebrates-freedom/>

<https://wschronicle.com/juneteenth-festival-includes-serious-discussions/>

<https://wschronicle.com/33567/>

2018-2019, Standing Strong Committee, Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, North Carolina
Contribution: Community outreach, Black sexual and reproductive freedoms-rights-resources

2018-2019, Education Committee, Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, North Carolina

Contribution: Community outreach, Black sexual and reproductive freedoms-rights-resources

2016-2018, Board of Directors, LEAD Girls of NC, North Carolina Contribution: Community outreach and presentations with Black girls in Winston-Salem, NC

<https://wschronicle.com/2016/08/34434/>

2014-2017, Board of Directors, North Carolina Chapter, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
Contribution: Community Outreach and Black Suicide

<https://wschronicle.com/2015/04/salem-college-students-hold-walk-raise-awareness-suicide/>

2016, Co-Planner and Co-Moderator, Winston Salem Urban League Black & Blue Town Halls

<http://www.wsurban.org/community-partners-host-community-police-town-hall-series/>

http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/civilians-police-officers-have-racial-bias-against-black-males-researcher/article_44997bbc-0d77-5a29-a2ba-057bd88aa754.html

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/11/final-urban-league-town-hall-tackles-implicit-bias/>

2014-2015, Consulting Group and Working Group, NC Suicide Prevention Plan, Injury and Violence Prevention (IVP) Branch and UNC Department of Health Behavior, Raleigh, NC.

<https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/preventionResources/docs/2015-NC-SuicidePreventionPlan-2015-0505-FINAL.pdf>

September 2013, Co-Planner and Panelist, Gun Violence: A Campus and Community Discussion. Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

https://journalnow.com/news/local/article_512e0e42-2198-11e3-9bae-0019bb30f31a.html

2012-2015, Volunteer, Forsyth County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Trainings for first responders, mental health professionals, and law enforcement, MHA Forsyth, North Carolina.

RELEVANT RECENT PUBLIC WRITINGS

Winter 2022, "Sociology of Black health," pp. 18-19, The Griot, Association of Black Sociologists

<https://blacksociologists.wildapricot.org/resources/Pictures/The%20Griot%20-%20Winter%202022.pdf>

Summer 2022, “Black suicide and Black suicidal self-harm: Holding suicide prevention and mental health students and professionals accountable for centuries of medical racism and scientific racism,” The Griot, Association of Black Sociologists

March 2022, “Art and Black Health,” FotoShoot Magazine

<https://www.fotoshootmagazine.com/post/ifotc-art-and-black-health>

2017-2019, Guest Writer, MHA Virginia

<https://mhav.org/?s=kimya+dennis>

January 2019, Guest Column, “Connecting our communities with medical-health professionals”

<https://www.wschronicle.com/2019/01/connection-our-communities-with-medical-health-professionals/>

February 2018, “Suicide isn’t just a ‘white people thing,’” The Conversation: Academic rigor, journalistic flair <https://theconversation.com/suicide-isnt-just-a-white-people-thing-77367>

Featured <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/5-important-stories-that-have-nothing-to-do-with-the-trump-kim-summit>

Republished https://tonic.vice.com/en_us/article/evmzxn/suicide-research-underrepresents-people-of-color

Republished https://www.salon.com/2018/02/15/suicide-is-not-just-a-white-people-thing_partner/

2013-2016, Black childfree interviews and guest writing, Laura Carroll

https://lauracarroll.com/?s=kimya+dennis&et_pb_searchform_submit=et_search_process&et_pb_include_posts=yes&et_pb_include_pages=yes

October 2016, Guest Column, “Resources available to reduce stress, violence”

<http://richmondfreepress.com/news/2016/oct/31/resources-available-reduce-stress-violence/>

September 2016, Guest Column, “How communities decide ‘enough is enough’”

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/09/34953/>

September 2016, “Rates for Black Kids Increase,” Afro News: The Black Media Authority

<http://www.afro.com/rates-for-black-kids-increase/>

June 2016, Guest Column, “Obstacles to mental health care”

<http://richmondfreepress.com/news/2016/jun/17/obstacles-mental-health-care/>

June 2016, Guest Column, “Commentary: Devon Davis and mental health in our community”

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/06/33671/>

June 2016, Guest Column, “Criminal InJustice: The Meaning of Juneteenth in the 21st Century”

<http://criticalmassprogress.com/2016/06/22/criminal-injustice-the-meaning-of-juneteenth-in-the-21st-century/>

April 2016, Guest Column, “Mental-health outreach, spiritual communities can work together”

http://www.journalnow.com/opinion/columnists/kimya-n-dennis-mental-health-outreach-spiritual-communities-can-work/article_cf46ceb8-3b7b-501d-9d88-7fb947dd5cfa.html

March 2016, Guest Column, “Self-Harm and Suicide among Blacks: Redefining and Re-Categorizing Behaviors”

<http://criticalmassprogress.com/2016/03/16/criminal-injustice-self-harm-and-suicide-among-blacks-redefining-and-re-categorizing-behaviors/>

March 2016, Guest Column, “The larger implications of the death of Darryl Hunt”

http://www.journalnow.com/opinion/columnists/kimya-n-dennis-the-larger-implications-of-the-death-of/article_cc1188c3-1937-50cd-bc02-b52fe5adf156.html?mode=story

September 2015, Guest Column, Basic Facts: “The Complexities of Black Youth Suicide”

<https://www.scholarsstrategynetwork.org/content/complexities-black-youth-suicide>

Republished <http://blackdoctor.org/486961/the-complexities-of-black-youth-suicide/>

Republished <http://milwaukeeblack.us/2016/04/21/the-complexities-of-black-youth-suicide/>

March 2015, Guest Column, Basic Facts: “Debunking Myths about Mental Illness among Blacks”

<http://www.scholarsstrategynetwork.org/content/debunking-myths-about-mental-illness-among-blacks>

RELEVANT RECENT MEDIA INTERVIEWS AND FEATURES

January 2022, featured in “In ‘My So-Called Selfish Life,’ Therese Shechter Tackles What It Means to Be Child-Free,” Ms. Magazine

<https://msmagazine.com/2022/01/25/child-free-my-so-called-selfish-life-therese-shechter/>

September 2019, “One size doesn’t fit all: The alarming rates of suicide in the Black community,” RTV6 Indianapolis

<https://www.theindychannel.com/lifestyle/health/one-size-doesnt-fit-all-the-alarming-rates-of-suicide-in-the-black-community>

<https://www.wrtv.com/lifestyle/health/one-size-doesnt-fit-all-the-alarming-rates-of-suicide-in-the-black-community>

October 2018, “It doesn’t have to make sense to other people: An interview with African Diaspora Childfree Sociologist, Dr. Kimya N. Dennis,” Black Youth Project

<http://blackyouthproject.com/it-doesnt-have-to-make-sense-to-other-people-an-interview-with-african-diaspora-childfree-sociologist-dr-kimya-n-dennis/>

August 2018, “USA leads world in gun-related suicides, study says,” USA Today

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2018/08/28/new-study-shows-u-s-leads-world-gun-suicides/1128184002/>

April 2018, “Benefits of yoga at Triad Cultural Arts,” Winston-Salem Chronicle

<https://wschronicle.com/benefits-yoga-triad-cultural-arts/>

April 2017, “Interdisciplinary work in suicide, self-harm and mental health,” Ourselves Black

<https://ourselvesblack.com/journal/2017/4/29/ourselves-black-professional-spotlight-and-dialogue-dr-kimya-dennis>

March 2017, “Why a 15-year-old Girl’s Death Should Raise Alarm Bells among Black Parents,” The Reporters

<http://www.thereporters.org/article/african-american-suicide/#more-1318>

February 2016, “Why Are So Many Black Kids Dying from Suicide?” Think Progress

<http://thinkprogress.org/health/2016/02/22/3750881/black-youth-suicide/>

December 2015, “The Mental Cost of Violence,” Capital Community News

<http://www.capitalcommunitynews.com/content/mental-cost-violence-0>

November 2015, “Cultural Variations in Healing: Mental Health Outreach,” Huffington Post

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/minaa-b/cultural-variations-in-he_b_8478822.html

RELEVANT RECENT AUDIO AND VISUAL RECORDINGS

February 2023, “Talking Life Honestly: Suicide in the Black Community,” Honestly Helen Podcast
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/honestlyhelen/id1538449736?i=1000598372534>

June 2022, “The Stigma behind Men’s Mental Health,” Born In Trouble
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-stigma-behind-mens-mental-health/id1543396746?i=1000565627239>

May 2022, “The Unique Challenges of Being Black and Childfree,” The Overpopulation Podcast, Population Balance
<https://www.populationbalance.org/episode-75-the-unique-challenges-of-being-black-and-childfree>

May 2022, “Talking Power and Black Mental Health with Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis,” That One Podcast!
https://open.spotify.com/episode/5RoNufrlz1420ISBmljUa?si=NMbdDeWiQ7OvydfyuLBFcA&utm_source=copy-link&nd=1

May 2022, “Filmmaker Conversations: Our Bodies...Our Choices,” Therese Shechter My So-Called Selfish Life—World Digital Premiere
<https://vimeo.com/707333716>

November 2021, “Suicide research, racism and what you can do,” The Lean to the Left Podcast
<https://www.notfakeneews.biz/post/racism-what-you-can-do>

August 2021, “Mental health within the Black Community,” Honestly Helen Podcast
<https://anchor.fm/helen-sustarich/episodes/Talking-Life-Honestly-Mental-Health-within-the-Black-Community-e14o9pj>

July 2021, “Black mental health and removing police” Hands Up Don’t Shoot
Part 1: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1572730/8822793>
Part 2: <https://www.hudspod.com/episodes/dr-kimya-part-2>

July 2021, “Black and Childfree, Featuring Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis,” The Simply King Podcast
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/black-and-childfree-ft-dr-kimya-nuru-dennis/id1046075885?i=1000528648591>

June 2021, “Black mental health, racism, and white dominance,” The Black Wall Street Today
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/okay-black-people-shut-up-now-dr-kimya-nuru-dennis-on-bwst/id1477565940?i=1000527382832>

June 2021, “Mental health and suicide,” The Squash Podcast
<https://www.listennotes.com/podcasts/the-squash/mental-health-and-suicide-Mak3Z78jFLo/>

April 2021, “How childfree-by-choice is shaped by underserved and minoritized identities and experiences,” Childfree Rallies, The Uprising Spark
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wTrCKdW2QRo>

October 2020, “This week in the conversation: The Breonna Taylor investigation is over. Now What?” 89.3 WFPL, Louisville, Kentucky NPR station
<https://music.amazon.com/es-co/podcasts/cf8e2129-d0ff-4097-b039-ca134f68292f/episodes/e2ec7eba-f002-401b-a34a-aa147762fe12/in-conversation-the-breonna-taylor-investigation-is-over-now-what>

June 2020, “Race and Childfreedom,” Childfree Girls <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vIZidVL1R4>

September 2019, Suicide Prevention Social Media (SPSM): Suicide in Marginalized Communities
<https://www.pscp.tv/w/1OwxWdybvWAKQ?t=57s>

2019, "Bullied" documentary about bullying and youth suicide, Dr. Thomas Keith
<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10597490/mediaviewer/rm671267329/>

2018, "The Cycle: Generational Curses," Dr. Terrence Graham, 5ft Productions
<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/thecyclemovie>

August 2018, "Suicide and Black America," Scholars Strategy Network, No Jargon
<https://scholars.org/podcast/suicide-and-black-america>

August 2018, "Shattering Mental Health Stereotypes," Susan Lambert, LCSW: In the Balance Podcast
<http://liftingtheself.libsyn.com/shattering-mental-health-stereotypes-a-conversation-with-dr-kimya-n-dennis>

June 2018, "Unclassified Woman, The Childfree with Dr. Kimya N. Dennis," Michelle Marie McGrath
<https://www.michellemariemcgrath.com/61-kimyadennis/>

May 2018, "Suicides across Cultures," The Matt Townsend Show, BYU Radio
<http://www.byuradio.org/episode/b7c00a8d-1815-4454-b700-359b7afd4c0d?playhead=752&autoplay=true>

March 2018, "Mental Health and Minority Communities," All Sides with Ann Fisher, WOSU-NPR
<http://radio.wosu.org/post/mental-health-and-minority-communities>

March 2018, "Seeing Suicide Through A Non-White Lens," Straight Fruit: 89.3 WFPL
<http://wfpl.org/strange-fruit-seeing-suicide-through-a-non-white-lens/>

February 2018, "Demographic and Cultural Variance in Suicide and Mental Health," All Sides with Ann Fisher, WOSU-NPR
<http://radio.wosu.org/post/wellness-wednesday-exercise-science-and-suicide-demographics>
<http://radio.wosu.org/programs/all-sides-ann-fisher#stream/0>

September 2016, "Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention," Blackdoctor.org
<https://blackdoctor.org/black-children-suicide-prevention-a-call-to-action/>

RELEVANT RECENT RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Kendra J. Jason, Sonyia Richardson, Kimya Nuru Dennis. Fall 2022. "Relieving the Burden of Self-Reliance: Centering the Experiences of Black Women Graduate Students in Predominantly White Institutions." Journal of African American Women and Girls in Education.
<https://jaawge-ojs-tamu.tdl.org/JAAWGE/article/view/95/40>

Patrick Webb, Cynthia-Lee Williams, Kimya Nuru Dennis, Jason Chin. 2021. "Technological Advocacy and Crime Reporting in an HBCU Setting: Addressing the Prospect of Legal Cynicism in the Ebony Tower." Journal of Black Studies.

Kimya N. Dennis. 2018. "Black Male Suicide: Inward-Expressed Frustration and Aggression" of Part 5 "The Criminal and Social Justice" In Ransaw, Gause, and Majors (eds.) Handbook of Research on Black Males. Michigan: Michigan State University Press.
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.14321/j.ctv4g1qgh?fbclid=IwAR1QGtQgbOuKKk6GCiDY0LLODPjBiiir53b0LNc5IaLkCiWFECDF9P8xb8Q>

Kimya Nuru Dennis and Kendra J. Jason. 2018. "Black women academics: Artistic expression through teaching, research, and activism," Association of Black Sociologists, Issues in Race & Society: An Interdisciplinary Global Journal. <https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/9decaa3f-e027-48c7-8f23-a99a0247d475/downloads/Kimya%20N.%20Dennis.pdf?ver=1577659556976>

RELEVANT RECENT SPEAKER, TRAINER, PRESENTER

May 2023, Virtual Presenter, "Ways to Prepare Black People for Mental Health Services and Physical Health Services," ClinicianFest

<https://www.clinicianfest.com/>

<https://www.clinicianfest.com/2023-presenter/dr.-kimya-nuru-dennis>

February 2023, Presenter, "Our lives are more than data representation: The urgency of substance use and suicide," [Students Recover](#) online recovering community.

October 2022, Co-Planner and Co-Presenter, "[Part 2: Afrikans with Epilepsy](#)," Shawna Divine and Kimya Nuru Dennis, Be More Green, Baltimore

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reU1-E98s88&t=34s>

July 2022, "Summer Speaker Series: Black Childfree Sociologist Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis,"

NoBibsBurpsBottles <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/summer-speakers-series-dr-kimya-nuru-dennis-tickets-383248696167>

July 2022, Co-Planner and Co-Presenter, "[Part 1: Afrikans with Epilepsy](#)," Shawna Divine and Kimya Nuru Dennis, TNAT Holistic Wellness Center, Baltimore <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-RpQq30TA0>

May 2022, Co-Planner and Co-Presenter, "To Thine Own Cellf be Trill: Black Families and Black Communities," Shawna Divine and Kimya Nuru Dennis, BeMore Green, Baltimore

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/274576063397>

October 2021, Co-Planner and Co-Presenter, "Virtual Lunchtime Discussion: Black Suicide and Black Life Stressors," Dr. Amy Pulliam and Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/168035513745>

October 2021, Presenter, "How Predominantly White and White-Controlled Local and National Suicide Prevention Organizations Must Go Beyond Surface-Level Racial Equity," Maryland 33rd Annual Suicide Prevention Conference

July 2021, Presenter, Epilepsy Health Disparities, Health Equity, and Cultural Competency, Epilepsy Foundation, AAP Community Health Workers ECHO.

April 2021, Presenter, "Racial equity and epilepsy," National Public Health Week (NPHW), Epilepsy

Foundation, AAP Community Health Workers ECHO https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_A1ZcXbFPs

March 2021, Trainer, "Redefining suicide and suicidal self-harm," Race and Mental Health Training, Suicide Prevention Training, Maryland Department of Health.

December 2020, Trainer, Systemic racism in all aspects of medical-health system, Acadia Healthcare Maryland, Black Mental Health Alliance (BMHA), Baltimore, Maryland.

December 2020, Trainer, Diversity and inclusion. NAMI Metro Baltimore, Black Mental Health Alliance (BMHA), Baltimore, Maryland.

October 2020, Co-Facilitator and Co-consultant, Black Mental Health Alliance (BMHA), Baltimore, MD.

July 2020, Presenter, A conversation: health equity, healthcare systems and next steps to achieve progress, Novant Health.

July 2020, Trainer, What behavioral health professionals must do to support Blacks disproportionately targeted and harmed by police, Black Mental Health Alliance (BMHA).

June 2020, Training Creator and Trainer: 365 Diversity's We Need H.E.L.P.: Introduction and July 2020, trainer, 365 Diversity's We Need H.E.L.P.: Train the Trainer, Black Mental Health Alliance (BMHA).

November 2019, Presenter and Chair, session "Perils and Promises of Mental Health and Health Services," presentation "Lack of Cultural Awareness and Inclusiveness in Health Services Contributes to Disproportionate Representation of African Americans in Criminal Justice System," American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.

May 2019, Keynote Lunch Presenter, Mental Health Seminar: User-Friendly Service, Winston-Salem Urban League, Continuing Education Credits provided by Northwest AHEC.

April 2019, Presenter, Redefining suicide and suicidal self-harm: Cultural consciousness to better reach communities and better teach-train health students and health professionals-practitioners. American Association of Suicidology Annual Conference, Denver, CO.

March 2019, Presenter, Does CIT Training Help African Americans with Mental Illness? Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

December 2018, Presenter, "Redefining mental health and behavioral outcomes: Cultural consciousness to better reach communities and better teach-train health students and health professionals-practitioners," six-hour training, South Central Church of Christ, Raleigh, NC.

November 2018, Panelist, Discussion of Law Enforcement and Community Engagement, "Black Superhero Magic Mama," NC Black Repertory Company, UNC School of the Arts.
https://www.journalnow.com/relishnow/events/community-discussion-will-follow-reading/article_dc410868-dfcf-11e8-8c8d-ff2a216948c6.html

November 2018, Guest Lecturer, "Urban farming, food access, poverty, crime, and health outcomes," Green Infrastructure: The Functional Role of Plants in Urban Areas course, NCSU Department of Horticultural Sciences.

November 2018, Presenter, "Black men, mental health, and suicidal self-harm: Not 'criminals' and 'thugs'," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA.

September 2018, Presenter, "Throughout College and Careers: Teaching and Training about Demographic and Cultural Variance for Health Students, Health Professionals and Health Practitioners," 15th Annual Statewide Training Conference, Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence, Inc. (MACC), Columbus, OH <http://www.maccinc.net/training-conference/>

September 2018, Panelist, "The Black Health Forum: Embracing Black Mental Wellness." North Carolina Chapter of National Association of Health Services Executives. UNC Chapel Hill.

September 2018, Presenter, Mental Health Breakout Session, "The state of mental health among African Americans," State of Black Health National Conference. Atlanta, GA.

August 2018, Presenter, "Understanding Mental Health: Reach K-12 Children and Families," Guilford County Schools, Annual Conference of School Social Workers and School Counselors, Greensboro, NC.

July 2018, Presenter, "Personality or mental illness? Demographic and cultural variance in mental health," Guilford County Schools, Annual Conference of School Social Workers and School Counselors, Greensboro, NC.

July 2018, Presenter, "Mental health for mothers and daughters," Honorable Youth, SG Atkins Community Development Corporation, Winston-Salem, NC

July 2018, Presenter, "Community mental health," Summer Youth Employment Program, Winston-Salem Urban League.

June 2018, Presenter, "Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT): Connecting Communities and Law Enforcement," Conference Banquet for Furniture City Chapter of North State Law Enforcement Officers Association.

May 2018, Co-Presenter and Co-Facilitator, "Providing services for children/families in homes with substance use," Break Out Session for State and Research University Partnerships in the Opioid Crisis, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management, Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy. <https://www.appam.org/member-forum-state-and-research-university-partnerships-in-the-opioid-crisis/>

April 2018, Presenter, "No, we are NOT all the same: Being of African diaspora and childfree-by choice," Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, LA.

April 2018, Presenter, "Mental health and gender identity," Intersectional Feminist Exploration Day, UNC Charlotte.

March 2018, Co-Presenter, "'You Feel Me?'" Social-Emotional Intelligence and Mental Health among Men of Color," North Carolina Community College System, Minority Male Mentoring Conference, Bridging the Gap: Innovative Approaches to Minority Male Success, Durham, NC.

March 2018, Co-Presenter, "Suicide as the Ultimate Social Risk: Mental health and cultural correlates and how this impacts the juvenile justice population," North Carolina Juvenile Services Association Conference, Carolina Beach, NC.

February 2018, Presenter, Open Seminar, "Black 'Boys II Men': Masculinity shapes, and is shaped by, mental health and suicidal self-harm," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.

November 2017, Presenter, Policy Panel: Transitions in Public Policy for Mental Health, American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

November 2017, Session Chair and Presenter, "'Violent Criminals' or Suicidal: Re-conceptualizing Suicide and Suicidal Self-harm," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

September 2017, Presenter, "African Diaspora Life Stressors Contribute to Mental Health and Suicide," Black Mental Health Symposium, UNC-Charlotte.

March 2017, Presenter, Open Seminar, "Ways to Reduce the Mental-Illness-to-Incarceration Pipeline", Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Kansas City, MO.

September 2016, Presenter, "Expanding Perspectives of Black Suicide and Black Suicidal Self-Harm." Cleveland Urban Minority Alcoholism Drug Abuse Outreach Project (UMADAOP), Cleveland, OH.

September 2016, Presenter, "Ways to Reach 'Our People' for Mental Health Outreach." Cleveland Urban Minority Alcoholism Drug Abuse Outreach Project (UMADAOP), Cleveland, OH.

March 29-April 2, 2016, Presenter, Roundtable, "Black Suicide and Self-Harm", Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

February 2016, Presenter, "Mental Health Outreach and Cultural Correlates." North Carolina Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Winston-Salem, NC.

November 2015, Thematic Panel Discussant, "Socio-Historical Explanations for Race and Perceptions of Criminality," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting. Washington, DC.

March 2015, Presenter, Roundtable, “Felon Disenfranchisement and Tension between Black Men and Law Enforcement: Illustrations of Disconnect between Criminal Justice Research, Policy, and Practice”, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL.

December 2014, Presenter, “CIT Training: Law Enforcement Practices and Mental Health Consumers.” Presenters: Kimya Nuru Dennis, Andy Hagler (MHA Forsyth), and Louise Whealton (NAMI NW Piedmont), NC CIT Committee, Raleigh, NC.

February 2014, Presenter, “CIT Training: Police Practices and Mental Health Consumers,” Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

January 2014, Trainer, Stokes County Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Six-Hour Seminar: “Proposed Transfer of 16-18 Years Old Offenders to Adult Courts in NC” and “Juvenile Recidivism and Rehabilitation,” Pilot Mountain, NC.

November 2013, Presenter, Roundtable, “Second Phase of a Preliminary Analysis of Forsyth County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training,” American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

October 2013, Presenter, “A Preliminary Analysis of Forsyth County CIT Training,” Presenters: Kimya Nuru Dennis, Andy Hagler (MHA Forsyth), Louise Whealton (NAMI NW Piedmont), NAMI NC Conference, Raleigh, North Carolina.

March 2013, Co-Presenter, “A Preliminary Analysis of Forsyth County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training,” Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Dallas, Texas, March 2013

SOME OF THE ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Adjunct Associate Professor	Wake Forest University School of Medicine The Roots of Health Inequity Summer 2019
Department Chair	Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies Salem College Spring 2019
Tenured Associate Professor	Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies Salem College Fall 2017—Spring 2019
Academic Tutor	Student Athletes Services Wake Forest University Fall 2012—Fall 2018
Creator and Coordinator	Criminal Studies Program Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies Salem College Fall 2011—Spring 2019
Assistant Professor	Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies Salem College Fall 2010—Spring 2017
Adjunct Faculty	Department of Sociology and Social Work Meredith College Fall 2009

Visiting Instructor Department of Sociology and Anthropology
North Carolina State University
Spring 2006-Spring 2009/Spring 2010

Teaching Assistant Department of Sociology and Anthropology
North Carolina State University
Fall 2003-Fall 2005

RELEVANT COURSES CREATED AND TAUGHT

Criminological and Criminal Justice Theory
Criminal Studies Senior Seminar
Gender and Crime
Independent Study: Applied Qualitative Research
Mental Health: Cultural Competence and Community Outreach
Race and Crime
Serial Killers

RELEVANT COURSES TAUGHT

American Class System
Corrections in America
Introduction to Criminal Justice
Introduction to Criminology
Introduction to Sociology
Juvenile Delinquency
Medical Sociology/Sociology of Medicine
Race and Ethnic Relations
Race, Class, and Gender
Roots of Health Inequity
Social Stratification
Sociological Theory
Sociology of Family
Sociology of Gender
Sociology of Mental Health
Sociology of Race
Urban Community