



Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis  
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Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis is a community advocate, sociologist and criminologist, educator, and researcher specializing in community outreach, community-patient advocacy, changing demographics and cultures represented in curriculum and course materials in medical and health academic programs, medical and health career trainings, and medical and health funding, policies, and actions for organizations and facilities.

Services provided by 365 Diversity are listed on the 365 Diversity website.

#### **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

Community advocacy  
Medical and health equity  
Suicide and suicidal self-harm  
Mental health and physical health  
Reproductive freedom  
Permanent childfree-by-choice  
K-12 curriculum and materials  
College curriculum and materials  
Annual school evaluation and assessment  
Library materials  
Grant writing  
Quarterly and annual funding reports  
Qualitative and quantitative funding assessments

#### **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    Pre-law, Political science, criminal justice minor, University of Richmond

**RECENT CERTIFICATES AND TRAININGS**

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 ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS**

Black Mental Health Alliance, <https://blackmentalhealth.com/>

**RECENT COMMITTEES AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

2017-2019, Writer/Contributor, Mental Health America of Virginia

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, Presenter, and Black Mental Health Vendor. Juneteenth Annual Festival, Triad Cultural Arts, Inc., Winston-Salem, North Carolina  
<https://wschronicle.com/2016/06/juneteenth-festival-offer-special-tributes/>  
<https://wschronicle.com/2016/06/33567/>  
<https://wschronicle.com/2017/06/juneteenth-festival-includes-serious-discussions/>  
<https://wschronicle.com/2018/06/juneteenth-festival-celebrates-freedom/>

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.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>

2012-2015, Volunteer, Forsyth County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Trainings, The Mental Health Association (MHA) in Forsyth County, North Carolina

### **RECENT PUBLIC WRITINGS**

January 2019, MHA Virginia Blog, "From the Desk of Dr. Kimya Dennis: Connecting Our Communities with Medical-Health Professionals"

<https://mhav.org/1529-2/>

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

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

July 2018, MHA Virginia Blog, "Minority Mental Health: Important Every Month and Every Day"

<https://mhav.org/minority-mental-health-important-every-month-and-every-day/>

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

November 2017, MHA Virginia Blog, "Demographic and Cultural Variance in this 'Opioid Crisis'"

<https://mhav.org/demographic-and-cultural-variance-in-this-opioid-crisis/>

July 2017, MHA Virginia Blog, "First Responders Need Mental Health Too"

<http://mhav.org/first-responders-need-mental-health/>

April 2017, MHA Virginia Blog, "Mental Health and Substance Abuse"

<http://mhav.org/mental-health-substance-abuse/>

March 2017, MHA Virginia Blog, "How will Virginia Address Mental Illness in Jails and Prisons?"

<http://mhav.org/will-virginia-address-mental-illness-jails-prisons/>

October 2016, "The childfree, cultural identity and intracultural diversity," Laura Carroll

<https://www.lauracarroll.com/childfree-cultural-identity-intracultural-diversity/>

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](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](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>

### **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>

August 2019, “Seventeen homicides and a rash of shootings have occurred in the city this year,” Winston Salem Journal  
[https://www.journalnow.com/news/crime/homicides-and-a-rash-of-shootings-have-occurred-in-the/article\\_aedf44af-85d4-59f0-a0b6-7891363547e0.html](https://www.journalnow.com/news/crime/homicides-and-a-rash-of-shootings-have-occurred-in-the/article_aedf44af-85d4-59f0-a0b6-7891363547e0.html)

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>

June 2016, “Professor Kimya Dennis on Year 2 of Her Course, The Childfree,” Laura Carroll <https://www.lauracarroll.com/kimya-dennis-year-2-the-childfree-course/>

March 2016, “Professor Kimya Dennis on her College Course, The Childfree” <http://www.lauracarroll.com/professor-kimya-dennis-college-course/>

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

February 2015, “The Baby Matrix in College Coursework: Interview with Kimya Dennis, Ph.D. Part II,” <http://lauracarroll.com/kimya-dennis-part-ii/>

October 2014, “The Baby Matrix in College Coursework: An Interview with Kimya N. Dennis, Ph.D.” <http://lauracarroll.com/baby-matrix-college/>

December 2013, “Q&A with Kimya N. Dennis on her Childfree Research” <http://lauracarroll.com/qa-with-kimya-dennis-on-her-childfree-research/>

### **RECENT AUDIO AND VISUAL RECORDINGS**

March 2022, “Where Typical Diversity, Inclusion, and Antiracism Trainings Fall Short?” Becoming Bridge Builders <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1252394/9917924>

February 2022, “The typical DEI and antiracism trainings aren’t working: Here’s what we need instead with Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis,” DissectED <https://rss.com/podcasts/eddissected/393269/>  
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/dissected/id1573650842>  
<https://open.spotify.com/show/1YXp8dv7IkaB96DnamyoQL>

December 2021, “Tackling DEI By Going Beyond Ideas & Making Changes at Every Level with Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis,” Two Peas in a Podcast <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/episode-18-tackling-dei-by-going-beyond-ideas-making/id1581569417?i=1000545043640>

December 2021, “Inner self and social changes,” Minds Like Mine’s Podcast <https://www.mindslikemines.com/podcast/episode/4cc341cc/ep-59-dr-kimya-nuru-dennis>

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>

October 2021, “Race and Health Equity with Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis,” Brain Spaghetti Podcast  
Part 1: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/3jLILCPjzIyINvLZafBCE?si=f17309355aef4ad0&nd=1>  
Part 2: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/0LdYi91DQzOJn2PrdwP639?si=230ec7482fd74eaa&nd=1>

August 2021, "The lack of inclusion in today's society and its mental toll with 365 Diversity's Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis," ihealthradio

<https://rss.com/podcasts/theihealthchannelandihealthradiowithhurricaneh/254530/>

August 2021, "Discussing race and ethnic identities and race and ethnic relations," Gen Z with MacKenzie

<https://mackenzieamyx.com/index.php/2021/08/02/interview-with-dr-kimya-nuru-dennis/>

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://wfpl.org/this-week-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, FB Live, American Association of Suicidology (AAS)

<https://fb.watch/7MI-Cdihwq/>

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>

### **RECENT RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS**

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. 1-27.

Kimya N. Dennis. November 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>

### **RECENT SPEAKER, TRAINER, PRESENTER, EVALUATOR**

October 2021, Co-Planner and Co-Presenter, "Lunchtime Discussion: Black Suicide and Black Life Stressors," a virtual session for Black communities and Black medical and health professionals hosted by Dr. Amy Pulliam and Dr. Kimya Nuru Dennis

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](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).

April 2020, Presenter, Coronavirus (COVID-19) reiterates and proves what we already know, Public Allies: COVID-19 + Communities of Color, Baltimore Corps.

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 Super Hero 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](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.

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, Roundtable, "Developing and Strengthening Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

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

### **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

Dr. Dennis has years as academic faculty and staff and non-profit organization staff. The focus is on equity-based program creation, program evaluation, curriculum development, curriculum evaluation, library updates, and teacher hiring and teacher evaluating. Equity-based school improvements are needed despite often not required and not considered for school accreditation, school funding, and school rankings.

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 2018-2019
Tenured Associate Professor	Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies Salem College Fall 2017—Spring 2019

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
Academic Tutor	Student Athletes Services Wake Forest University Fall 2012—Fall 2018
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

The Childfree  
Mental health: Cultural competence and community outreach  
Independent Study: Applied Qualitative Research

RELEVANT COURSES TAUGHT

Medical Sociology/Sociology of Medicine  
Roots of Health Inequity  
Race and Ethnic Relations  
Social Stratification  
American Class System  
Urban Community  
Sociology of Family  
Sociology of Gender