

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

SPECIALIZATIONS

Community advocacy
Medical and health equity
Suicide and suicidal self-harm
Mental health
Disabilities
Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT): Law Enforcement and First Responders
Factors contributing to police-court-penal procedures
K-12 curriculum and course materials
College curriculum and course materials
Integrating economic approaches
Cooperative economic development
Academic program evaluations and assessments
Evaluating and assessing policies, procedures, budgets, and laws

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Affiliate Instructor	Loyola University Maryland Department of Sociology Spring 2025
Adjunct Faculty	Morgan State University College of Interdisciplinary and Continuing Studies Spring 2025
Adjunct Faculty	Baltimore City Community College Sociology Spring 2023 Fall 2023
Adjunct Faculty	University of West Georgia Sociology Spring 2021—Fall 2024
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

Associate Professor	Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies Salem College Fall 2017—Spring 2019
Research Fellow	Center for the Study of Economic Mobility (CSEM) Winston-Salem State University January 2018
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, teaching courses began in 2004

ACADEMIC AWARDS

2018, Salem College Distinguished Professor Award: teaching, community work, conference presentations, and qualitative research.

2017, Tenured Associate Professor, Salem College

December 2017-January 2018, Economics Faculty Megan Regan and Sociology and Criminal Studies faculty Kimya N. Dennis, Research Fellows, Winston-Salem State University Center for the Study of Economic Mobility (CSEM): surveys and interviews of residents of East Winston to address component of housing costs, housing conditions and poverty in East Winston.

2017, Economics faculty Megan Regan, Sociology and Criminal Studies faculty Kimya N. Dennis, and Salem College student Keiry Bonilla Valladeres, Patricia Flynt C'57 Faculty/Student Summer Research Project Grant.

2015, Faculty Summer Research Sabbatical

2014, Faculty Summer Research Sabbatical

DEPARTMENTAL AND COLLEGE SERVICE

Spring 2026, Sociology Panel, Community College of Baltimore County, Essex Campus
Summer 2018, Co-Recipient (Dr. Megan Regan and student Keiry Bonilla Valladeres), Patricia Flynt C'57
Faculty/Student Summer Research Project Grant
Spring 2016, "Comparing Suicide and Depression between Asian Americans/Asian
Diaspora," WSSU Sociology: Dr. Tangela Towns and student Jeri Craddock
Spring 2016, Co-Planner (Monica Boyd), screening with Clay Cane of "Holler If You Hear Me: Black and
Gay in the Church"
2015-2018, General Education Committee, Subcommittee: Senior Capstone Course
Summer 2015, \$1,200 Summer Sabbatical
Spring 2015, Panelist, "Feminism and Today's Popular Culture," Whitney Campbell Communications
Senior Project, Salem College LAR
Fall 2014-Fall 2018, Faculty Advisor, Salem College Out of the Darkness Campus Walk AFSP
Fall 2013-Fall 2018, Faculty Advisor, Salem College Chapter of Empower (Stop Child Trafficking Now)
Fall 2014, Sociology Search Committee
Summer 2014, \$1,000 Summer Sabbatical
Fall 2014, Faculty Appreciation Honor, Basketball Game
Fall 2014-Fall 2018, Coordinating Committee
Spring 2014, Spring 2013, Criminal Studies Department Events
Fall 2013-Spring 2014, Communication Department Search Committee
Spring 2013-Spring 2014, Faculty Research Fund Committee, Member-at-Large
Fall 2012-Spring 2013, Committee on the Community
Fall 2011-Spring 2015, Curriculum Committee, Chair, Fall 2013-Spring 2015
Subcommittee: Credit Review Committee/Credit Hour Taskforce, Fall 2014-Spring 2015
Fall 2011-Spring 2014, Strategic Council for College Programs
Spring 2013, Presidential Scholarship Committee
Spring 2012, Faculty Project Advisor, Ana Alicia-Farrar "The Fair Housing Act" CAE
Spring 2012, Full-Tuition Scholarship Committee
Spring 2011, Sociology Search Committee

COURSES TAUGHT

American Class System
Corrections in America
Criminological and Criminal Justice Theory
Criminal Studies Senior Seminar
Cultural Anthropology
Gender and Crime
Independent Study: Applied Qualitative Research
Introduction to African American Studies
Introduction to Criminal Justice
Introduction to Criminology
Introduction to Sociology
Juvenile Delinquency
Media and Crime
Medical Sociology/Sociology of Medicine
Mental Health: Cultural Competence and Community Outreach
Race and Crime
Race and Ethnic Relations
Race, Class, and Gender
Roots of Health Inequity (medical school, medical graduate students, MDs in residency)
Serial Killers
Social Problems
Social Stratification

Sociological Theory
Sociology of Family
Sociology of Gender
Sociology of Mental Health
Sociology of Race
The Childfree
The Sociology of Race, Ethnicity, and Culture
Urban Community

PUBLICATIONS

Dennis, Rutledge M. and Kimya Nuru Dennis. 2026. The Making of Black Urban Entrepreneurs. NIVA Journal: Official Journal of the New International Virtual Association. April: 1(2). [NIVA Journal 2026 Volume 1 Number 2](#)

Dennis, Rutledge M. and Kimya Nuru Dennis. 2024. "Alma Barlow: Grassroots Leadership and the Rise of the Richmond Tenants Organization." Virginia Social Science Association. Spring: Vol. 72, pp. 1-18. https://www.virginiasocialscience.org/uploads/1/3/5/1/135131919/vssj_volume_57_2024_.pdf

Dennis, Rutledge M. and Kimya Nuru Dennis. 2024. "Harold Cruse, Black Intellectuals, and Reconstructing Black America." The Sociologist, February. <https://thesociologistdc.com/all-issues/harold-cruse-black-intellectuals-and-reconstructing-black-america/>

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*. 2(3): 8-33.

Patrick Webb, Jason Chin, Cynthia-Lee Williams, Kimya Nuru Dennis. 2021. "Technological Advocacy and Crime Reporting in an HBCU Setting: Addressing the Prospect of Legal Cynicism in the Ebony Tower." *Journal of Black Studies*. 53(2).

Darrell N. Burrell, Jorja B. Wright, Mindy Perot, Delores Springs, Shanel Lu, Amalisha Sabie Aridi, Kimya Nuru Dennis, Rajanique Modeste and Darrell Ezell. 2021. "Financial Management Education Courses as Social Societal Learning Tools at Minority-Serving Colleges and Universities." *International Journal of Public Sociology and Sociotherapy*. <https://www.igi-global.com/gateway/article/269516?ct=8585920633548088039>

Rutledge M. Dennis and Kimya Nuru Dennis. 2020. "Confrontational Politics: The Black Lives Matter Movement." *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism*, First Edition. https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Rutledge-Dennis/publication/343672819_Confrontational_Politics_The_Black_Lives_Matter_Movement/links/5f596e3f92851c0789585980/Confrontational-Politics-The-Black-Lives-Matter-Movement.pdf

Kimya Nuru 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.ctv4glqgh?fbclid=IwARlQGtQgbOuKKk6GCiDY0LLODPjBirr53b0LNc5laLkCiWFECDF9P8xb8Q>

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*. [Dennis and Jason 2018](#)

WORK IN PROGRESS

Health Equity, Law Enforcement Crisis De-Escalation, and Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT)
Black Political and Economic Power: The Stream of Violence for Suicide and Homicide
Converging Narratives: How Self-Identity Shapes Black Men's Health Experiences and Outcomes
Childfree Black Women: Black Power and Reproductive Freedom

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS AND BOOK REVIEWS

Journal of Black Studies
Sociology of Race and Ethnicity
Sociological Spectrum
Michigan Family Review: University of Michigan-Flint
The Truth about (M)otherhood: Choosing to be Childfree
IGI Global: Mental Health

EXAMPLES OF PUBLIC WRITINGS

July 2026. Cultures in women's holistic wellness and health. Vitality Digest Magazine. She Rises Studios.
Pp. 31-32. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bTzkfIRtuFCBVPKSKdsFUIHIYAT7TclK/view?usp=sharing>

January 2026. "Never abandon women's empowerment and women's economic development." Pp.63-64.
Sheconomy Magazine. She Rises Studios. https://drive.google.com/file/d/12dlmgZNA_m4QWiNJXwKo-vZ3L2m42Qd/view?usp=drive_link

Dennis, Kimya Nuru and Rutledge M. Dennis. Summer 2025. "The Poetic in Du Bois's Sociological Imagination," Association of Black Sociologists. [ABS The Griot Summer 2025](#)

Winter 2023, "Harold Cruse: Cooperative Economic Association," the economic section of "The Intellectual Legacy of Harold Cruse," Kimya Nuru Dennis and Rutledge M. Dennis, The Griot, Association of Black Sociologists

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: The Newsletter for the Association of Black Sociologists.

March 2022, "Art and Black Health," FotoShoot Magazine.
<https://www.fotoshootmagazine.com/post/ifotc-art-and-black-health>

January 2019, Guest Column, "Connecting our communities with medical-health professionals"
<https://wschronicle.com/connection-our-communities-with-medical-health-professionals/>

2017-2019, Guest Writer, MHA Virginia
[From the Desk of Dr. Kimya Dennis: Connecting Our Communities with Medical-Health Professionals](#)

[Minority Mental Health: Important Every Month and Every Day](#)

[Demographic and Cultural Variance in this "Opioid Crisis"](#)

[First Responders Need Mental Health Too](#)

[Mental Health and Substance Abuse](#)

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/

October 2016, Guest Column, "Resources available to reduce stress, violence," Richmond Free Press

October 2016, Guest Column, "Some ways we can handle violence," Richmond Free Press

September 2016, Guest Column, "How communities decide 'enough is enough,'" Winston-Salem Chronicle

<https://wschronicle.com/34953/>

June 2016, Guest Column, "Obstacles to mental health care," Richmond Free Press

June 2016, Guest Column, "Commentary: Devon Davis and mental health in our community," Winston-Salem Chronicle

<https://wschronicle.com/33671/>

April 2016, Guest Column, "Mental-health outreach, spiritual communities can work together," Winston-Salem Journal

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, "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-b52fe5adfl56.html?mode=story

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

<https://scholars.org/contribution/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/>

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

<https://scholars.org/contribution/debunking-myths-about-mental-illness-among-blacks>

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 Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Economic Mobility (CSEM), Winston-Salem State University, January

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

2016 Certificate, Introduction to the Responsible Conduct of Research, Wake Forest School of Medicine
2016 Training for Trainers, Soul Shop: Ministering to Suicidal Desperation
2016 Trainee, Soul Shop: Ministering to Suicidal Desperation, Northwest AHEC
2016 Mental Health First Aid Certification Training, CenterPoint
2016 Community Contributor, safeTALK, NC AFSP
2015 Community Contributor, safeTALK, NC AFSP
2015 Trainee, safeTALK, NC AFSP

EXAMPLES OF AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS): 2008-2020; Public Policy Committee 2015-2018, 2019—2020; Elections & Nominations Committee 2017
Alpha Kappa Delta, International Sociology Honor Society
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (NCAFS), North Carolina Chapter, Board of Directors, 2014-2017, started the Salem College OOTD
Associated Black Charities Board Pipeline, Baltimore, 2021
Association of Black Sociologists, Life Member
Baltimore Health Corp Reviewer, 2020
Consulting Group and Working Group, NC Suicide Prevention Plan, Injury and Violence Prevention (IVP) Branch and UNC Department of Health Behavior, 2014-2015
<https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/preventionResources/docs/2015-NC-SuicidePreventionPlan-2015-0505-FINAL.pdf>
DC Sociological Society, 2026—current
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated
Friends Enjoying Eating Together (F.E.E.T.), Baltimore, Board of Directors, 2026—current
friendsenjoyingeatingtogether.org
Health Equity Works (HEW) Speakers Bureau, 2026—current
Honorary Member, Gate City chapter of North State Law Enforcement Officers Association, 2018-2019
Living Wage Subcommittee, Program in Community Engagement and Implementation, Wake Forest School of Medicine, 2012-2014
Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity, Mental Health Contributor, FaithHealth Committee, 2017—2018
NAACP, Baltimore, 2020-2021
North Carolina Alliance for Health, Individual Member, 2017
North Carolina Criminal Justice Association (NCCJA), 2016-2020
North Carolina Sociological Association (NCSA): Council Member, 2016-2020
Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International
Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, Winston Salem, Education Committee, Standing Strong Committee, 2018-2019
Pro Bono Counseling, Baltimore, Board of Directors, 2022
Scholars Strategy Network, 2014—current
Statewide Suicide Prevention Coalition, 2025—current
Taking Care of Us Toolkit, Community and Faith, Maryland Behavioral Health Administration, 2025—current
The American Society of Criminology (ASC): 2008-2020
The Mental Health Association in Forsyth County, North Carolina (MHA Forsyth), Board of Directors, 2014-2019
The Women's Fund of Winston-Salem, Associate Individual Member, Research, Education, and Advocacy (REA) Committee, 2016-2019
Urban League, Baltimore, 2024
Urban League, Winston-Salem chapter, Young Professionals, 2016-2019
Volunteer, Forsyth County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Trainings, MHA Forsyth, 2012-2015
Wake Forest School of Medicine Health Equity Research Opportunity (HERO) Fellowship, 2016
[Working America NC](#): Living/family wage and social inequities, Committee, 2015-2016
Youth Empowered Society (YES), Baltimore, Board of Directors, 2022

EXAMPLES OF SPEAKER, PRESENTER, TRAINER

June 2026, Kimya Nuru Dennis, “Black Power, Black Suicide, Black Homicide,” New International Virtual Association, Summer Virtual Conference, Ethnic Studies Session.

February 2026, Kimya Nuru Dennis, “Comparing Suicide and Homicide: Black Political and Socioeconomic Status Attainment and the Direction of Lethal Violence,” New International Virtual Association, Spring Virtual Conference, Ethnic Studies Session.

February 2026, Rutledge M. Dennis and Kimya Nuru Dennis, “The Socialization of Black Academic Intellectuals,” New International Virtual Association, Spring Virtual Conference, Ethnic Studies Session.
October 2025, Rutledge M. Dennis and Kimya Nuru Dennis, “The Making of Black Urban Entrepreneurs,” New International Virtual Association, Fall Virtual Conference, Ethnic Studies Session.

December 2023, “Increasing Preventive Measures and Deterrents on College Campuses,” Campus Safety Online Summit.

<https://campussafetysummit.com/>

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>

October 2022, Presenter, “The Impossibility of Criminology Academic Programs and Criminology Organizations to Reflect the Racial Demographics of the World.” <https://crimcon.org/>.

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.

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

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

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

November 2019. Presenter and Chair, session title: “Perils and Promises of Mental Health and Health Services,” presentation title “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.

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

November 2019. Critic and Moderator, Author Meets Critics: Dr. Andrea S. Boyles’ You Can’t Stop the Revolution: Community Disorder and Social Ties in Post-Ferguson America, American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.

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.

April 2019, Presenter, Deciding to never have children is mentally-emotionally healthy for some Black women, Women's Health Research Day, Wake Forest School of Medicine, Faculty Affairs.
<https://school.wakehealth.edu/-/media/wakeforest/school/files/about-the-school-of-medicine/wims-womens-health-research-day/womens-health-research-day-agenda.pdf>

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

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, 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.

June 2018, Presenter, "Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT): Connecting Communities and Law Enforcement," Conference Banquet for Gate 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/>

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.
<https://www.ednc.org/conference-encourages-minority-males-in-community-college-system/>

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

February 2018, 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, LA.

2018, Trainer, "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/>

November 2017, Co-Presenter with Economist Dr. Megan Regan, "Racial and Economic Segregation: A Spatial Perspective of Persistent, Concentrated Poverty," Class, Power, Gender, and Poverty Session. Southern Economic Association Conference.

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

February 2017, Presenter, "Black 'Boys II Men': Re-conceptualize and Re-categorize." North Carolina Sociological Association Annual Meeting. High Point University.

2017, Honorarium Speaker, "Health and Freedoms: Sociocultural Identities and Experiences," Maya Angelou Center for Women's Health and Wellness: International Women's Health Summit 2017 - A Global Priority, Winston-Salem, NC.

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

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

2016, Honorarium Speaker, Plenary Session "Expanding Perspectives of Black Suicide and Black Suicidal Self-Harm." Cleveland Urban Minority Alcoholism Drug Abuse Outreach Project (UMADAOP), Cleveland, Ohio.

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

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, PA.

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, NC.

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

2012, Session Co-Presenter, "Understanding the Role of Faculty Mentors for Black Women in Academia," Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

2007, Session Co-Presenter, “Ebony in the Ivory Tower,” Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, New York.

2007, Session Presenter, “Discrimination as a Source of Strain,” Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, New York.

2005, Co-Moderator, “The Black Bourgeoisie in the 21st Century,” Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

2005, Co-Moderator, “The Black Church from Du Bois to the 21st Century,” Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

2005, Roundtable Co-Presenter, “Strain and Delinquent Outcomes: Assessing the Impact of Racial Discrimination and Other Types of Strain on African American and White Adolescents,” American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY AND ORGANIZATION CONTRIBUTIONS

2026, Resource Provider, Donnell’s Day, Baltimore, June.

2025, Presenter, “Black Thinkers and Black Capitalism,” Profs & Pints, Guilford Hall Brewery, September 7, Baltimore, MD.

2025, Panelist, “Equity at Work: Mental Health Advocacy for Black Professionals,” session for a webinar series presented by the Association of Black Charities, Baltimore, August 26.

2025, Presenter: Financial Advice for Youth Ages 14-18, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center + Sweet Hope Summer, Baltimore, July-December.

2025, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Donnell’s Day, Herring Run Park, Baltimore, June.

2025, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Juneteenth Resource Event, The Weinberg Y in Waverly, Baltimore, June.

2024, Communiversity Presenter: Harold Cruse and the Intersection of Black Health, Education and Economic Development. TNAT Holistic Wellness Center, Baltimore, April.

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, 20th Annual Happy Nappy Day, Baltimore

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

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

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>

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Justice4Donnell Community Event, Baltimore

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Spring Mini-Health & Beauty Expo, Baltimore

2023, Virtual Mental Health Panel, Divine 9 NC Legislative Day, NC Black Alliance
<https://ncblackalliance.org/nc-divine-9-legislative-day-sets-record-participation/>

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, IBW21 State of the Black World Conference, Baltimore <https://ibw21.org/sobwcv/>

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Community Block Party

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, B'More Healthy Expo
<https://bmorehealthyexpo.com/>

2023, HEALTH—EDUCATION—ECONOMICS Resource Table, Baltimore UNIA-ACL Division 106 Barca-Clarke

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

2022, Co-Planner and Co-Presenter, "[Part 2: Afrikans with Epilepsy](#)," Shawna Divine and Kimya Nuru Dennis, BeMoreGreen, Baltimore
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reUI-E98s88&t=34s>

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>

2021, Presenter, "Interlocking Racial Inclusion, Racial equity, and Campus Safety," Campus Safety Educational Webcast Series. <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/webcast/interlocking-racial-inclusion-racial-equity-and-campus-safety/>

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

2020, Trainer, demographic and cultural diversity-inclusion. NAMI Metro Baltimore, Black Mental Health Alliance (BMHA), Baltimore, MD.

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

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

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

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).

2016-2018, Board of Directors, LEAD Girls of NC, Winston-Salem, NC

2019, Black Mental Health Resource Table, Annual Happily Natural Day, Richmond, VA
<https://thenaturalfestival.com/>

2013-2019, Black Health Resource Tables, community events, Winston-Salem, NC

2016-2019, Medical and Health Committee. 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/>

2016-2019, Black 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/>

2016-2019, Co-Presenter, Black Health Presentation. 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, Planner and Presenter, “Stress in Our Lives and Communities: Open Discussion and Relaxing Introductory Yoga,” Triad Cultural Arts, Winston-Salem, NC.

2018, Support Speaker, “Ways Patients and Consumers Can Communicate with Mental Health Practitioners and Medical Professionals,” Greentree Peer Center, Winston-Salem, NC.

2018, Support Speaker, “Self-Expression and Self-Improvement,” The Salvation Army Center of Hope Transitional Housing, Winston-Salem, NC.

2018, Planner and Presenter, two sessions of “Bring Your Lunch and Let’s Discuss: How Housing Conditions Affect Us,” Neighbors for Better Neighborhoods, Winston-Salem, NC.

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.

2018, Panelist, Law enforcement and community engagement, “Black Superhero Magic Mama,” NC Black Repertory Company, UNC School of the Arts, Winston-Salem, NC

https://www.journalnow.com/relishnow/events/community-discussion-will-follow-reading/article_dc410868-dfcf-11e8-8c8d-ff2a216948c6.html

2018, Evaluations for academic programs (history, psychology, sociology, political science, interdisciplinary studies, master’s in criminal justice, master’s in urban affairs, PhD in clinical psychology), 2017-2018 Annual Outcomes Assessment Report Evaluation, Department of History and Interdisciplinary Studies, Norfolk State University.

July 2018, Guest Lecturer, “Teaching medical students about community outreach: How to use art to explain neuroscience,” Wake Forest School of Medicine class for neuroscientist Dr. Siobhan Hoscheidt.

2017, Co-Presenter, “Community event to address mental health and suicide,” Sunrise Towers N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Winston-Salem, NC.

2017, Co-Presenter, “Suicide outreach and awareness,” Stokes County Wellness Center, NC.

2017, Guest Speaker, “Just Keep Swimming: A Discussion on Mental Health in the Black Community and Coping with Stress and Anxiety”, WSSU Sociology Club.

2016, Presenter, “Self-Harm and Suicide among Blacks: Redefining and Re-Categorizing Behaviors”, Lunch and Learn on Mental Health, Community Outreach, and Resource Availability, CenterPoint Human Services, Eden, NC.

2016, Panelist, Community Relations with Police, North State Law Enforcement Officers Association Conference, Winston-Salem, NC.

2016, Speaker, WSSU Homecoming Colloquium, “Health Disparities in America: Working toward Social Justice,” Winston Salem State University.

2016, Panelist, “Suicide: A Public Health Issue in Adolescents & Young Adults,” Old Salem Visitors Center, James A. Gray Auditorium.

2016, Guest Expert, “Mental Health Promotion & Suicide Prevention: Black Youth Suicide,” Blackdoctor.org Facebook Q&A: <https://blackdoctor.org/black-children-suicide-prevention-a-call-to-action/>
Republished <http://blackdoctor.org/506662/black-children-suicide-prevention-a-call-to-action/>
Partially Republished <http://www.afro.com/rates-for-black-kids-increase/>

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/>

2015, Presenter, Mental Health and the Black Community, 9th Annual Nutrition, Health and Wellness Fair, NC A&T, Greensboro, NC.

2015, Panelist, MLK Day Town Hall: Solutions for Improving Police - Community Relations, WSSU, sponsored by The Minister’s Conference.

2014, Co-Presenter, “Need for understanding between civilian CIT trainers and law enforcement CIT trainees,” NC CIT State Advisory Committee, Raleigh, NC.

2014, Co-Organizer and Discussant, My Brother’s Keeper: Black Violence Breakfast Symposium, sponsored by Diggs Memorial Unity Holy Church, Winston-Salem, NC.

2014, Panelist, Stop the Violence: Community Meeting and Forum, sponsored by the City of Winston-Salem, Winston Salem State University.

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.

2013, Co-Planner and Panelist, Gun Violence: A Campus and Community Discussion, Winston-Salem, NC. https://journalnow.com/news/local/article_512e0e42-2198-11e3-9bae-0019bb30f31a.html

EXAMPLES OF MEDIA INTERVIEWS AND FEATURES

September 2026, “From Deputy Surgeon General To CDC Lead: Who Is Dr. Erica Schwartz?” Blavity <https://blavity.com/health/erica-schwartz-cdc>

July 2024 Release, WTTS 4 Epilepsy Presents a Docuseries about Epilepsy and the Families Impacted by Epilepsy. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=auPxXqkycNo>

October 2021, "Computer tablets and podcasts becoming the new normal in prisons nationwide," Yahoo News. <https://news.yahoo.com/computer-tablets-and-podcasts-becoming-the-new-normal-in-prisons-nationwide-090001826.html>

July 2021, "Police willing to talk, agree more work needs to be done," Concord Monitor. <https://www.concordmonitor.com/Organizers-say-Nashua-conversation-events-help-community-police-find-common-ground-41521498>

January 2021, "Some Winston-Salem residents see a double standard regarding law enforcement's treatment of Capitol rioters and Black Lives Matter protesters," Winston-Salem Journal. https://journalnow.com/news/crime/some-winston-salem-residents-see-a-double-standard-regarding-law-enforcements-treatment-of-capitol-rioters/article_f95f52d2-55cb-11eb-a662-db4a4943c178.html

2020, Anna Delvey: The Fake Heiress of New York, Part 2. Last Looks. Season 1, Episode 2. https://www.imdb.com/title/tt11248122/fullcredits/?ref_=tt_est_sm

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>

2019, "The Cycle: Generational Curses." Black Experiences & Black Mental Health. Terrence Graham, 5FT Productions, LLC, North Carolina.

2019, "Bullied," documentary, writer and director Thomas Keith <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10597490/>

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

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>

March 2019, "Two lawyers and a federal judge who appeared in WFU yearbook photos with Confederate flag apologize for their actions," Winston-Salem Journal https://journalnow.com/news/local/two-lawyers-and-a-federal-judge-who-appeared-in-wfu/article_2dc056c2-b05b-5619-b896-b2ec48f3cc83.html?mode=nowapp

August 2019, "Assessing 2020 Presidential Candidates on Criminal Justice Reform," Here & Now, Susan Davis, NPR <https://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2019/08/27/2020-candidates-criminal-justice-reform>

November 2018, "Historic Showing for Black Sheriffs Elected in The Piedmont and Beyond," 88.5 WFDD, NPR Wake Forest University. <https://www.wfdd.org/story/historic-showing-black-sheriffs-elected-piedmont-and-beyond>

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

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>

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/>

June 2018, "Should We Tell Fewer Stories About Suicide or Better Ones?" The Atlantic.
<https://www.theatlantic.com/membership/archive/2018/06/should-we-tell-fewer-stories-about-suicide-or-better-ones/562577/>

May 2018, "Suicides across Cultures," The Matt Townsend Show, BYU Radio
<https://www.byuradio.org/5962ce82-4a59-4595-948d-c7af00bc13bc/overconfidence-minority-suicides-childhood-emotional-neglect>

December 2017, "Winston-Salem experienced 25 homicides in 2017; community urged to join together to lower that number." http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/winston-salem-experienced-homicides-in-community-urged-to-join-together/article_84180633-56c1-5e64-b6f0-517c39bc6ad8.html

September 2017, "After shootings, Winston-Salem police vow to 'combat this stuff.'" http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/after-shootings-winston-salem-police-vow-to-combat-this-stuff/article_b961986b-5bb6-5e4a-a56b-e637b5ca1cf0.html

June 2017, "Authorities identify home invasion suspect shot to death at Lewisville home." http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/authorities-identify-home-invasion-suspect-shot-to-death-at-lewisville/article_b62767db-85bc-5fb7-a808-1c3534bdad6d.html

February 2017, "Winston-Salem police officials review recent chase on Business 40." http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/winston-salem-police-officials-review-recent-chase-on-business/article_ef15f311-7924-5b6d-a47a-141cdd7726d1.html

2017, "Birth of a 'Shooter' Roots of Black Violence Can Be Found in a Community's History, The Reporter
<http://www.thereporters.org/article/birth-of-a-shooter/#more-1472>

November 2016, "Our view: Down with death on our streets." http://www.journalnow.com/opinion/editorials/our-view-down-with-death-on-our-streets/article_5db68d9b-a6af-5c3d-a306-51ea13b90d88.html

October 2016, "Homicides climb in city of Winston-Salem." http://www.journalnow.com/news/crime/homicides-climb-in-city-of-winston-salem/article_bd8cd78e-231a-5bf9-a207-d5af6af3de07.html

July 2016, "Community leaders in Winston-Salem saddened, frustrated by week's violence." http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/community-leaders-in-winston-salem-saddened-frustrated-by-week-s/article_864ffa49-51d0-53c4-a221-de8633d0c93e.html

July 2016, "The economic approach of fighting injustice," Winston Salem Chronicle.
<https://wschronicle.com/33961/>

2016, "Changing the Way We Wait at Winston-Salem's Bus Stops," WFDD
<http://www.wfdd.org/story/changing-way-we-wait-winston-salems-bus-stops>

2015, "The Mental Cost of Violence," Capital Community News

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

2015, "First Amendment videotaped audit of police leads to investigation," Winston Salem Chronicle

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2015/03/1st-amendment-videotaped-audit-police-leads-investigation/>

2015, "To record law enforcement or not: Is it wrong?" Winston Salem Chronicle

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2015/03/record-law-enforcement-not-wrong/>

February 2014, "City, Residents Look for Solutions to Stem Deadly Violence," Winston-Salem Journal.

http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/city-residents-look-for-solutions-to-stem-deadly-violence/article_3ebec65e-0e6c-588a-b505-52660c267c0e.html

2014, "Number of Homicides in Winston-Salem Unchanged for 2014," Winston Salem Journal

http://www.journalnow.com/news/crime/number-of-homicides-unchanged-for/article_4a734b2e-939a-11e4-87bd-77cf449d3ab1.html

December 2013, "City Homicide Rate Nearly Doubles from 2012 to 2013," Winston-Salem Journal.

http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/city-homicide-rate-nearly-doubles-from-to/article_19ed288a-e16f-595f-9f6e-9a1303074e96.html

July 2012, "WFU Baptist Study: Taser Shots to Chest Don't Increase Risk of Death," Winston-Salem Journal.

http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/wfu-baptist-study-taser-shots-to-chest-don-t-increase/article_2bb22bef-61fb-500c-8763-48714bc111a8.html