

Ashley White Jones, PhD, MPH, CHES
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EDUCATION

The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
Doctor of Philosophy, Health Education and Promotion 2017
Dissertation: *The Role of Social and Cultural Factors on Preventive Health Service Use among Young, Rural, African American Men: A Narrative Inquiry*

Jackson State University, Jackson, MS
Master of Public Health, Public Health 2012
Areas of Concentration: Health Policy and Management, Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Master Project: *Assessment of Access to Care for Hispanic/Latino populations in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi*

Jackson State University, Jackson, MS
Bachelor of Science, Chemistry 2010
Magna Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) 2017
National Commission for Health Education Credentialing

AWARDS

MSU Community Engaged Learning Fellow 2020
Receptivity Award, One Voice, MBLI 2018
Graduate Research Symposium Merit Award 2017
Health Professionals Scholarship Recipient 2011
Jackson State University Lackey Scholar 2010
Jackson State University Alumni Scholar

PROFESSIONAL AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Mississippi State University, Meridian, MS
Assistant Clinical Professor, Program Coordinator January 2019 – July 2021
Educate students through lectures and demonstrations in an undergraduate kinesiology program; served as coordinator for clinical kinesiology internship program. Advised undergraduate students on the appropriate courses to take based on graduation timelines and career plans. Serves as faculty advisor to departmental student group, Kinesiology Student Association, and the Kinesiology Ambassadors. As Program Coordinator, serve as the point of contact and coordinate program related initiatives including admission of new students, orientation of new students, scheduling Student Disciplinary Meetings with students/faculty to discuss academic, professional dispositions, and personal progress/concerns– ensure that classes are offered according to the approved plan and adjusted as needed for enrollment demand; support faculty; institutional effectiveness report; serve as the point of contact for field based experiences and build relationships with partners; Marketing – assist with

generating ideas about how to market the program; ensure that faculty do their part; making sure that website is up to date; work with faculty to develop new initiatives; Handbook/Policy Revisions – advocating for any revisions that may be necessary for the Meridian campus

Community Health Improvement Network, Meridian, MS

Executive Director

August 2018 – June 2020

First Executive Director for Community Health Improvement Network. Work with partners to seek new opportunities for CHIN within its scope and mission, write grant proposals, and manage grant-related projects. Build and maintain positive relationships with potential funders and with public and private organizations across CHIN's service region. Conduct research to identify innovation useful to partners, to find related grant opportunities, and to gather and analyze relevant data. Ensure expenses and payments are handled properly by CHIN's fiscal agent. Perform other duties as may be assigned by the Chairman, Executive Committee, and/or Board of Directors.

Hurdle Health, Washington, DC

Founding Member and Strategic Advisor

October 2017 – October 2019

Oversee daily operations of self-care content curation for the mobile application development for the Henry Health. Henry Health is a digital startup that provides self-care support and mental health services for Black men.

Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS

Assistant Professor, Health Education (tenure track)

August 2017 – December 2018

Taught undergraduate health education courses via online learning. Advised undergraduate students on the appropriate courses to take based on graduation timelines and career plans; served as Gordy Honors College Faculty for junior and senior level honor student research projects and taught a semester honors research course.

Mississippi State Department of Health, Jackson, MS

Special Projects Officer, IV-Contract

August 2016 – June 2017

Worked as program management staff for Mississippi State Department of Health's statewide teen pregnancy prevention program, Personal Responsibility and Education Program (PREP) in the Office of Preventive Health, STD/HIV division in Public Health District I; Duties include working with school districts and community-based organizations across public health District I to implement evidence-based abstinence-plus sexuality education programs in middle and high school settings. Trained facilitator for middle school intervention, Draw the Line/Respect the Line and high school intervention, Reducing the Risk; communicate with school program coordinators to ensure facilitators are implementing interventions with fidelity.

The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

Graduate Student Assistant

August 2014 – May 2017

Supported faculty with health disparities related research including data collection and analysis; Major projects included developing instrument to assess college students' perceptions of health equity and social determinants of health; examined food insecurity in older African American adults in Tuscaloosa County; in addition to engaging in research, taught undergraduate public health courses.

Forward Solutions, Washington, DC

Research Associate/Project Manager

April 2013 – December 2016

Worked as project management for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Disparities Team strategic planning goals; Conducted support research for project leaders that included literature reviews and online research; Conducted an environmental scan of major philanthropic, business, governmental support partners who are engaged in health disparities research and funding; Managed client relationships to help ensure the project deliverables and project deadlines are met; Assisted in day-to-day administrative operations to ensure the successful execution of project goals and deliverables. Strategic development for philanthropic support of My Brother's Keeper, an initiative launched by President Barack Obama to address persistent opportunity gaps faced by boys and young men of color. I also worked as Project Lead developing an environmental scan for organizations involved in health equity networks for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. I led team meetings and was instrumental in developing the final report for identifying and weaving together health equity networks.

i-Think Group, Jackson, MS

Associate Consultant

February 2013 – May 2014

Worked as project management for state agency contracts which included the Mississippi State Department of Health Disparity Elimination and Office of Oral Health; Developed a statewide outreach model for engagement in the Health Insurance Marketplace in Mississippi; worked with project leads to train state public health department district staff; provided technical assistance to University of Mississippi Medical Center navigators and Office of Health Disparity Elimination staff by developing training guides to assist with implementation of the Affordable Care Act Health Insurance Marketplace in the state of Mississippi; Led county-wide informational sessions on the Affordable Care Act for Mississippi residents. Assisted University of Mississippi navigators with public informational sessions in the 10-county focus area. Additional work was done with the Mississippi Department of Health, Office of Oral Health which primarily focused on the development of a comprehensive plan to create a medical-dental partnership to promote primary oral health care using a network of medical and dental providers in the state of Mississippi. Completed program evaluation for the Foundation for the Mid-South's Healthy Southern Cities meeting; assessed Foundation for the Mid-South's sub-grantee social media usage.

Mississippi Health Advocacy Program, Jackson, MS

*Independent Contractor (2-month contract)***June 2013 – July 2013**

Aided in preparing outreach, marketing and educational materials for the Mississippi Affordable Care Act Implementation Project; Coordinated logistics to ensure the execution of project goals and project events including internal and external events; Served as point of contact for community-based organizations; Provided consultation to Mississippi Health Advocacy Program staff in meeting all project grant objectives and the development of policy briefs.

Central Mississippi Health Education Center, Jackson, MS*Project Coordinator***September 2012 – August****2013**

Coordinating and overseeing pipeline programs, Youth Health Service Corps; Assisted with field research for Community Health Worker certification program for the state of Mississippi; Implemented program activities for the Mississippi Affordable Care Act Implementation Project which including writing public service announcements, community outreach, and report writing; Produced media advisories, brochures, fact sheets, print ads and newsletters; Facilitated workshops teaching Mississippi residents in the Clarksdale, Greenville and Jackson metro area about health reform through the Mississippi Affordable Care Act and created ongoing dialogue with the general public about health insurance coverage options in the state through local radio broadcast.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

EP 4123- Aging and Physical Activity. *3 credit hours.* The effects on normative aging process on homeostatic mechanisms and how these changes relate to exercise and sport performance in later life. *Mississippi State University. Fall 2020.*

EP 4133-Exercise Programs for Clinical Populations. *3 credit hours.* This course provides practical information on exercise for persons with a wide range of special diseases and disabilities. An overview of each unique physiology, effects of the condition on the exercise response, effects of exercise training on the condition, and recommendations for exercise testing and programming is presented in selected topics format. *Mississippi State University. Summer 2019. Summer 2020.*

EP 4603-Physical Activity Epidemiology. *3 credit hours.* Survey of the health-related aspects of exercise, physical activity and physical fitness from the perspective of epidemiology. Biological mechanisms for healthy adaptations to physical activity are addressed. The behavioral determinants of physical and regular participation in exercise are reviewed. *Mississippi State University. Spring 2020. Spring 2021.*

EP 4814- Clinical Exercise Physiology Internship *4 credit hours.* A supervised observation and experience in a facility appropriate to the course of study. *Mississippi State University. Spring 2019. Fall 2019. Spring 2020. Fall 2020. Spring 2021.*

KI 2023-Foundations of Health Education *3 credit hours.* This course is an introduction to the discipline of Health Education/Health Promotion. Students will review several prominent health education theories,

philosophical foundations and explore the occupation of a health education specialist. Students will examine fundamental concepts and required competencies of the health educator specialist in a variety of settings. *Mississippi State University. Spring 2019. Fall 2019. Fall 2020.*

KI 2603-Medical Terminology. *3 credit hours.* A working knowledge of terminology related to the human body through descriptive definitions, practical applications, and medical abbreviations will be developed. Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to comprehend a medical record report, communicate among medical professionals and have a high-level overview of medical terms. *Mississippi State University. Fall 2019. Fall 2020.*

KI 4990-Special Topics in Kinesiology: Physical Activity in Rural Populations. *3 credit hours.* Explores the physical activity needs of rural, underserved, and marginalized populations across the United States. *Mississippi State University. Summer 2020.*

PE 1000-Play, Fitness and Physical Activity. *3 credit hours.* The examination and practice of play, fitness, and physical activity as an important element of human culture and as means to health and well-being. *Mississippi State University. Spring 2020. Spring 2021.*

HED 299-Special Topics: Health Disparities *3 credit hours.* This course is designed to explore health inequities and health disparities in the United States and to understand the root causes that impact them. This includes exploration of the interplay of determinants of health (e.g., housing, income, transportation, food outlets, and crime), behavioral, social, cultural, political factors impact the health of communities. This course will provide students with a foundation for understanding how history, power, privilege and structural inequality interact to produce health disparities. The course focus will also address cultural competency, cultural humility, and appropriate health education and promotion strategies needed to create healthier communities. *Mississippi University for Women. Spring 2018.*

HED 313-Adolescent Health *3 credit hours.* This course is designed to examine adolescent morbidity and mortality within a social context taking into account the influence of the social environment. Topics covered include the epidemiology of health problems, developmental issues, health services, and psychosocial influences on adolescent problem behaviors. Integrated into this will be the role of development and the unique period of adolescence. *Mississippi University for Women. Fall 2017. Spring 2018. Fall 2018.*

HED 314-Principles of Epidemiology *3 credit hours.* This course covers applications of epidemiologic methods and procedures to the study of the distribution and determinants of health and diseases, morbidity, injuries, disability, and mortality in populations. Epidemiologic methods for the control of conditions such as infectious unintentional injuries are discussed. Other topics include quantitative aspects of epidemiology, for example, data sources, measures of morbidity and mortality, evaluation of association and causality, and study design. *Mississippi University for Women. Fall 2017. Spring 2018. Summer 2018. Fall 2018.*

HED 315-Infectious Disease Epidemiology *3 credit hours.* This course presents an overview of the impact of infectious disease on public health, in this course, students will explore how a biological and molecular understanding of infectious disease can be incorporated into public health decision-making. This course will also cover basic epidemiologic methods central to the study of infectious diseases. *Mississippi University for Women. Fall 2017. Spring 2018. Fall 2018.*

HED 330-Stress Management 3 credit hours. This course is designed as an introduction to the relationship that exists between stress and health. Selected methods of relaxation and stress management will be discussed, demonstrated, practiced, and analyzed. *Mississippi University for Women. Fall 2017. Spring 2018. Fall 2018.*

HHE 273-Community and Public Health 3 credit hours. This course is an introduction to the practice of community and public health. This course provides an overview of contemporary issues in community health builds the foundation for basic public health knowledge. Community health includes the study of the health status of a defined group of people and the actions and conditions that promote, protect, and preserve their health. Public health encompasses actions that society takes collectively to ensure that the conditions in which people can be healthy can occur. This course prepares students to facilitate learning and impact positive health change in community health settings. *The University of Alabama. Fall 2015. Spring 2016. Spring 2017.*

HHE-270 Personal Health 3 credit hours. This course seeks to facilitate a thoughtful discussion of individual, social, environmental, and political factors that influence personal health and well-being. This course is designed to involve the student in taking personal responsibility in health outcomes. This course also seeks to enable self-efficacy and increase a sense of competence and personal power regarding individual health and well-being. *The University of Alabama. Fall 2014. Spring 2015. Summer 2015. Summer 2016.*

HO 303-Honors Seminar: Qualitative Methods for Public Health Research 2 credit hours. This course is an introduction to health disparities in the United States through the lens of qualitative research in public health. Students will review several research studies that demonstrate different qualitative research methods that examine the interplay of the determinants of health (e.g., housing, income, transportation, food outlets, crime), behavioral, social, cultural, political factors impacting the health of communities. This course will provide students with a foundation for understanding the role of ethics, power, and representation within qualitative research designs. This course will introduce students to the field of qualitative research and provide them with the techniques and knowledge necessary to undertake research using this methodology through reading, discussion, and practice. *Mississippi University for Women. Spring 2018.*

Guest Lecturer- “Social Determinants of Health” Guest lectured for upper-level undergraduate public health course, HHE 446: Health Disparities course. *The University of Alabama. Fall 2015.*

Guest Lecturer- “The Journey to Public Health” Guest lectured for undergraduate level general health studies course. *The University of Alabama. Spring 2015.*

Guest Lecturer- “The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act” Guest lectured for undergraduate and master’s level health care administration course. *Jackson State University. Spring 2014.*

GRANTS AND FUNDING

2020 Grant-\$299,562-Health Resources & Services Administration, “Rural Health Network Development Program”, Community Health Improvement Network; Principal Investigator-Ashley White Jones; **Awarded**
2020 Grant-\$1500-United Way of East Mississippi, Community Health Improvement Network-**Awarded**
2019 Grant-\$10,000-NIH-National Institute of Drug Abuse, “\$100,000 for Start a SUD Startup” Challenge, Henry Health-**Awarded**

2019 Grant-\$787,093-HHS, Office of Minority Health, “Grow-Play-Sports (GPS): A culturally tailored community initiative to improve physical activity and nutrition among minority youth in rural Mississippi”-

Mississippi State University; Principal Investigator- Ashley White Jones, Co-Principal Investigator- Antonio Gardner; *Not Awarded*

2019 Grant-\$500-Walmart Foundation, “Community Grant Program”, Community Health Improvement Network-*Awarded*

2016 Grant-\$700-Mississippi Campaign for Teen Pregnancy Prevention-*Awarded*

2016 Travel Grant: \$300- The University of Alabama Graduate School-*Awarded*

2016 Travel Grant- \$300-Tide Together Mentoring Program, The University of Alabama-*Awarded*

SERVICE

- 2020** *Member.* CAS Maternal & Child Health Board. Mississippi State Department of Health
Advisor. Kinesiology Student Association, Mississippi State University-Meridian
Member. Mississippi State University Riley Center Program Advisory Committee
- 2019** *Advisor.* Kinesiology Student Association, Mississippi State University-Meridian
Member. Mississippi State University Riley Center Program Advisory Committee
Speaker. Aspiring Minorities in Health Professions, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
Panelist. Girls Rock STEM Conference, Mississippi Delta Community College, Greenville, MS
Reviewer. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting
Reviewer. American Journal of Men’s Health
Speaker. Mississippi State University, President’s Commission on the Status of Minorities Diversity Conference, Starkville, MS
Panelist. Third Annual II & C Conference, Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS
- 2018** *Panelist.* Mississippi Black Leadership Summit, One Voice, Jackson, MS
Reviewer. American Journal of Men’s Health
Scholarship Reviewer. Gordy Honors College Committee, Mississippi University for Women
Gordy Honors Forum Series Speaker. Gordy Honors College. Mississippi University for Women
Honors Reader. Gordy Honors College Committee, Mississippi University for Women
- 2017** *Panelist.* Health Equity in Mississippi: Multi-sector Approaches. Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
Panelist. Millennials, the Movement, the Protest and what’s next? Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, Jackson, MS
Panelist. Mississippi Black Leadership Summit, One Voice, Jackson, MS
Honors Reader. Gordy Honors College Committee, Mississippi University for Women
Reviewer. Health Equity
- 2016** *Reviewer.* Personal Health Textbook Selection Committee
Reviewer. American Public Health Association 144th Annual Meeting
Reviewer. Society of Public Health Education 68th Annual Meeting
- 2015** *Reviewer.* Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care
Reviewer. Society of Public Health Education 67th Annual Meeting
Speaker. Saving Lives Initiative- Lupus Awareness Presentation
Reviewer. The University of Alabama, Center for Community-based Participatory Research Academic Conference & Program Support Committee

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

Jones, A. & Gardner, A. J. [in review]. The role of black churches amid COVID-19 and the Jackson water crisis. *Journal of Urban and Rural Research*.

Gardner, A. J. & Jones, A. (in press). Using an HIV disclosure model to slow the spread of COVID-19. *Health Promotion Practice*.

Bhuiyan, A., Cannon-Smith, G., Leggett, S., McCoy, P., Barvie, M., & **Jones, A.** (2019). An analysis of acculturation status and healthcare coverage for the need of mental health service utilization among Latinos in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama. *Advances in Health, Social Psychology and Psychiatry*, 1, 460-468.

White, A. (June, 2018). Daddy lessons: Increasing access to mental health services for black men. Six Dimensions. Retrieved from <http://www.sixdims.com/?p=988>

White, A. (May 29, 2018). Tuning out. Henry Health. Retrieved from <https://henry-health.com/self-care/tuning-out/>

White, A. (November, 2017). There's no place like home: access to healthy foods, a health equity issue. American Heart Association. Retrieved from <https://voicesforhealthykids.org/healthyfoodhealthequity/>

Burton, W., **White, A.** & Knowlden, K. (2017). A systematic review of culturally-tailored obesity interventions among African American adults. *American Journal of Health Education*, 48 (3), 185-197. doi:10.1080/193525037.2017.1292876

White, A. N. (2017). *The role of social and cultural factors on preventive health services use among young, rural, African American men: a narrative inquiry* (Doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from <https://ir.ua.edu/handle/123456789/3245>

White, A. (June, 2017). The fork in the road: moving beyond cultural competence and towards cultural humility. American Heart Association. Retrieved from <https://voicesforhealthykids.org/the-fork-in-the-road/>

White, A. (April, 2016). Health and crime: The disappearance of the black male body. Retrieved from <http://forward-solutions.org/archives/4848>

PRESENTATIONS

Jones, A. (2020). Like Father, Like Son: The Influence of Fathers on Young Black Men's Health Seeking Behaviors," Society for Public Health Education. Atlanta, GA (virtual) (April 7, 2020).

White, A. N. (2018). Black bruthas voices from the margin: Race, health, and the po-po. Gordy Honors College Forum Series. Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS.

White, A. N. (2017). Hands Up, don't shoot: Using poetic transcription and critical race theory to re-present young, rural, black men's experience with police. ESPRMC Graduate Research Symposium. The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

White, A.N. (2016). Invisible bodies: Effects of incarceration on African American men's health upon re-entry. Society for Public Health Education, Charlotte, NC

Burton, W., **White, A.** & Paschal, A. (2016). Exploring the psychological and social components of food insecurity: Implications from a qualitative assessment in older African American adults. Society for Public Health Education, Charlotte, NC

White, A. (2015). Who's Taking Care of You? The Mental State of the Woman. Quitman County District Association 7th Annual Women's Conference, Lambert, MS.

Paschal A.M., Nickelson J, Burton W, **White A**, Agomo C. (2015). Designing culturally relevant programs to address food insecurity in older African American adults. Center for Community Based Partnerships 9th Annual Awards Program. The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Paschal A.M., Nickelson J, Burton W, **White A**, Agomo C. (2015) Fruit & vegetable intake & food insecurity among African American older adults. Society for Public Health Education, Portland, OR.

Paschal A.M., Nickelson, J, Burton W, **White A**, Agomo C. (2015). Digital media and culturally relevant programs to address food insecurity in African American older adults. American Academy of Health Behavior, San Antonio, TX.

Paschal A.M., Nickelson, J, Burton W, **White A**, Agomo C. (2014). Food Insecurity in Older African American Adults. American Public Health Association, New Orleans, LA.

Walker V, Green C, Moreno D, Funchess T, Wiggins C, **White A**. (2014). Partnerships with communities and local health departments to disseminate information about the Affordable Care Act. American Public Health Association, New Orleans, LA.

Cannon-Smith G, Bhuyian A, Leggett S, McCoy P, Barvié M, Agho E, **White A**. (2012). Prevalence, Correlates of Depression, and Mental Health Service Utilization among Hispanics in Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama. Mississippi Public Health Association, Jackson, MS.

Bhuyian A, Leggett S, Barvié M, McCoy P, Gray S, **White A**, Cannon-Smith G. (2012). Behavioral and Environmental Health Equity Project Tri-State Latino/Hispanic Community Health Needs Assessment. (Preliminary Data)

White A. (2008). Preparation of Bio-diesel from Waste Oil. Mississippi Academy of Science, Olive Branch, MS.

White A. (2006). Separation and Identification of *Vernonia amygdalina* and its key components. Science and Engineering Alliance, Gaithersburg, MD.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2021** **Consultant.** *Six Dimensions LLC*. Utilize academic and public health expertise to help develop the Health and Racial Equity in Maternal Care Curriculum
- 2018** **Evaluator.** *Tougaloo College-USDA Farm Aid 2501 Program*. Evaluated all project activities to ensure program staff met the goals and deliverables as outlined in the grant project activities.
- 2016-2017** **Lead Researcher.** *One Voice*. Claiborne County Health Impact Project. Provided data collection and analysis of data obtained from secondary sources to create a district health profile for AW Watson Elementary School in Claiborne County, MS. Provide other technical assistance, as

needed, that pertains to SABERS and the Health Impact Project.

2016-2017 Data Analyst. *Tougaloo College- MAN-UP Project (Mississippi Action Network for Uplifting Promise among Young Men and Boys of Color)* Provided data collection and analysis of data obtained from secondary sources to create a district profile for Jackson Public School District, Humphreys County School District and East Jasper School District. Conducted needs assessment and assessment mapping of the target areas.

2016-2017 Dissertation. The Role of Social and Cultural Factors on Preventive Health Service Use among Young, Rural, African American Men: A Narrative Inquiry. Dr. David Birch, dissertation chair.

2016 Moderator. Mississippi Campaign for Teen Pregnancy Prevention. Designed and facilitated focus group sessions with parents and children who participated in Growing Up Knowing, a sex education program for parents and children. Developed focus group guide for session with staff, stakeholders and partners of Mississippi Campaign for Teen Pregnancy Prevention.

MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Public Health Education

Delta SOPHE

Jackson State University National Alumni Association

Meridian-Lauderdale Alumni Chapter of Jackson State University

Mississippi Black Leadership Institute