

# PROMOTING EQUITY

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER PROVIDING  
RESEARCH, TRAINING, AND OUTREACH  
UPDATES FROM THE CURTIS CENTER



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK  
CURTIS CENTER FOR HEALTH EQUITY  
RESEARCH AND TRAINING  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

## WINTER 2024 DIRECTOR'S CORNER



### Letter from our New Director

Dear Curtis Center Community,

I hope this letter finds you well and still refreshed from holiday breaks even though we are (already!) well into 2024. As the new director, I am excited to continue and expand our work toward health equity.

Having already served as a Curtis Center Signature Program Initiative Faculty Lead and Faculty Affiliate (Feb. 2020 - Dec. 2022), Associate Director (Aug. 2021 - Dec. 2023), and Acting Director (Sept. 2022 - May 2023), I am familiar with and directly connected to the past work of the Center and committed to continuing to nurture the groundwork that has already been laid and taking the Center in new directions. I see great potential for cultivating new areas of health equity research, training and outreach at the School of Social Work, the wider university, and beyond.

As we embark on changes in the new year, I am thrilled to lead a new era with our new Associate Director, **Dr. Anao Zhang**, who has demonstrated sincere commitment to the Curtis Center through his health equity work for adolescent and young adult cancer survivors, and as Curtis Center Signature Program Initiative Faculty Lead and Faculty Affiliate. **Dr. Zhang** has been a committed member of the Curtis Center for four years and we are grateful to him for taking on this new role.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our [outgoing Director, Dr. Daphne C. Watkins](#), who has transitioned to the role of a Faculty Affiliate. She has played a pivotal role in the Curtis Center's journey, and we are fortunate to retain her valuable insights and guidance.

As we embark on this journey together, I encourage each of you to embrace the opportunities that change brings. The new year is a time for fresh perspectives, renewed energy, and collaborative efforts. Together, with your

passion and commitment to health equity, we can all make the Curtis Center even more impactful and successful, and we will reach new heights of excellence together.

Since [our last newsletter](#), we have been busy working on preparations for 2024. On March 21st, we'll host the sixth seminar in our Health Equity Seminar Series, a presentation by Curtis Center External Advisory Board Member **Dr. Derek Griffith**, titled, "A Vision for Black Men's Health and Well-Being". Announcements are being distributed for our contribution to the Michigan Medicine Health Care Equity Month, titled, "Curtis Center Art for Equity Contest: What does Health Equity Mean to Future Leaders?" This competition is for undergraduate students (see details below). We are expanding our collaborations with the Caswell Diabetes Institute, as well. Our students, staff, and faculty are busy working on increasing our partnerships to broaden the scope of our impact on health equity, and we will be excited to continue [our mission](#)-driven work.

Thank you for your continued dedication and hard work. I look forward to a year filled with achievements, growth, and shared success.

Jaclynn M. Hawkins, PhD, MSW  
Associate Professor, University of Michigan School of Social Work  
Director, Curtis Center for Health Equity Research and Training  
Co-Director, Pilot and Feasibility Program, MCDTR

## WELCOME NEW ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, DR. ANAO ZHANG!

Assistant Professor of Social Work, **Dr. Anao Zhang**, has been a valued member of the Curtis Center for four years, as a Signature Program Faculty Lead and a Faculty Affiliate. We are thrilled to work with him in his new capacity as our new Associate Director.



## CURTIS CENTER SPOTLIGHT

We would like to highlight Curtis Center Graduate Student Research Assistant & MSW Field Placement Student **Reagan Warnock**! Click the video below to hear **Reagan** talk about her experiences at the Curtis Center.

Featuring!

**Reagan Warnock**

University of Michigan Master of Social Work Candidate (2024),  
Curtis Center MSW Field Placement Student, and  
Curtis Center Graduate Student Research Assistant



## HIGHLIGHTS



The Curtis Center co-sponsored the successful **34th Annual Health Science MLK Lecture: Rhythm, Processing, and the Anti-Racist Psychotherapy Perspective** that featured social worker and family therapist David Archer, MSW, MFT.



## NEW FACULTY AFFILIATES

We want to thank **Dr. Daphne C. Watkins** for her leadership over the Curtis Center for the last 5 years. We are thrilled that she will remain working with us as a Faculty Affiliate.



**Dr. Daphne C. Watkins, PhD**  
*Curtis Center Faculty Affiliate,  
University of Michigan, University Diversity and Social  
Transformation Professor and Professor of Social Work*

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

CELEBRATING  
**BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH**



February is **Black History Month**, which is an annual commemoration of the remarkable achievements by African Americans and a dedicated period to recognize their pivotal role in U.S. History.

*Here are a few different ways to get involved:*

[Read](#) Black History Month: Dr. Marie Bernard Talks with Dr. Manu Platt

[Attend an event](#) hosted by The University of Michigan's Office of Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs


[Check out](#) these events in Washtenaw County

[Celebrate](#) at a Local Metro-Detroit Event

## SAVE THE DATES

**THE CURTIS CENTER HEALTH EQUITY SEMINAR SERIES** ZOOM REGISTRATION LINK TO COME

# A VISION FOR BLACK MEN'S HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



1 CE UNIT

THURSDAY MARCH 21ST, 2024 | 1:00 - 2:00 PM

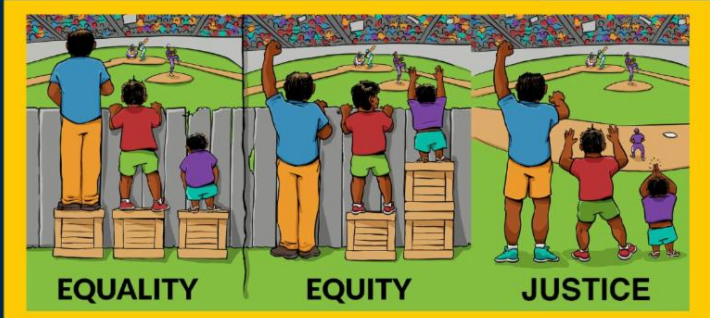
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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

**DR. DEREK M. GRIFFITH**

CURTIS CENTER

## ART FOR EQUITY CONTEST:

What does Health Equity mean to Future Leaders?



**EQUALITY** **EQUITY** **JUSTICE**

**M** SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK  
CURTIS CENTER FOR HEALTH EQUITY  
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The School of Social Work Curtis Center for Health Equity Research and Training,

in partnership with Michigan Medicine's Healthcare Equity Month, is hosting a creative Art for Equity Contest for **undergraduate students** to showcase what health equity means to them. The goal of the contest is to engage undergraduate students across the University of Michigan in thinking about health equity in a meaningful and creative way. The Curtis Center Art for Equity Contest will educate and increase engagement with health equity, but also highlight how individuals define it in their own context.

An [initial webinar](#) to introduce the contest will be held **Wednesday, February 21st, 2024 at 12:30 pm**. This webinar will explain the contest, the submission process and criteria, and serve as a Q & A session. This session will be recorded and shared.

Undergraduate students will be asked to submit a piece of art in the medium of their choice (video, poem, audio, photo book, painting, graphics, comic, etc.) that showcases what health equity means to them, by **Monday, April 1st, 2024**. Submissions will be accepted from both individuals and pairs. Along with their submission, students will be asked to provide a brief explanation of their piece and how it represents what health equity means to them. For more information on submission guidelines and the information session please visit [here](#).

At the Healthcare Equity Month event on **Friday, April 19th from 12:30 - 1:30 pm**, **Dr. Jaclynn Hawkins**, Director of the Curtis Center, will define health equity in the context of Curtis Center research and training, as well as announce the top 3 winners! \$1000 cash prizes will also be awarded to the top 3 submissions. You can register to attend the award ceremony [here](#).



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK  
CONTINUING EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ONLINE CERTIFICATE IN  
MIXED METHODS RESEARCH

20  
CEs

Preparing researchers and practitioners to integrate qualitative and quantitative methods, designs, and results for mixed methods projects

**Led by Dr. Daphne Watkins, PhD**  
**June 3rd - 6th, 2024**  
**6:00 - 8:00 pm via Online Sessions**



Register for the Online Certificate in Mixed Methods Research [here!](#)

EDUCATIONAL IMPACT

WORLD'S TOP

2%

SCIENTISTS' LIST  
STANFORD UNIVERSITY



**Dr. Daphne C. Watkins** is one of the fifteen faculty from the University of Michigan School of Social Work who were named in [Elsevier's 2024 list of the world's top 2% of scientists](#). Congratulations, **Dr. Watkins**!

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Several of our Faculty Affiliates presented papers and moderated talks at the [American Public Health Association 2023 Annual Meeting and Expo](#) in Atlanta in November 2023, including **Dr. Jade Burns** and **Dr. Fernanda Cross**, as well as one of our External Advisory Board members, **Dr. Derek Griffith**.

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[Several of our team members](#) presented at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) 28th Annual Conference in Washington, DC, including our Associate Director **Dr. Anao Zhang**, Faculty Affiliates **Dr. Fernanda Cross**, **Dr. Katie Schultz**, and **Dr. Ed-Dee Williams**, and Postdoctoral Research Associate **Dr. Nina Francis-Levin**.

## GLOBAL IMPACT

**YBMenNT** (delivered by Curtis Center Faculty Affiliate **Dr. James Smith** at Flinders University) has received an additional round of funding from Movember, which now supports moving from adaptation to implementation. Read more about this exciting announcement [here](#).

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Faculty Affiliate **Dr. Daphne Watkins** (founding director of the YBMen Project) and Executive Advisory Board Member **Dr. Tanya Sharpe** (founding director of The Centre for Research & Innovation for Black Survivors of Homicide Victims) have collaborated to launch **RISE YBMen Toronto**. Read more about this incredible partnership [here](#).



THE CENTRE FOR RESEARCH &  
INNOVATION FOR BLACK  
SURVIVORS OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS



## COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Behavioral Health Collaborative of Black Men and Boys in Washtenaw County won the **2023 Washtenaw Health Initiative's Collective Impact Award!**

The Behavioral Health Collaborative of Black Men and Boys is a collaboration between Packard Health and the **University of Michigan School of Social Work Curtis Center for Health Equity's Young Black Men, Masculinities, and Mental Health (YBMen) Project**. Together, they developed a coalition of community organizations committed to services to address the behavioral health needs of young Black men and boys in Washtenaw County.



To read more about the coalition's success, visit [here](#).



In the fall, the **Curtis Center** partnered with A2 Advance for the 8th Annual Winter Clothing Drive for Washtenaw County. This drive collected 1,704 items, including nearly \$18K in purchases through an Amazon gift registry, for local community members in need.

## RESEARCH IMPACT

Abdelaziz, F. B., ... **Smith, J. A.** & et. al. (January 2024). [Advancing the Geneva Charter for Well-Being – Practical strategies for change](#). *Health Promotion Journal of Australia*.

Adsul, P., ..., & **Griffith, D. M.** (January 2024). [Challenges and Opportunities for Paving the Road to Global Health Equity Through Implementation Science](#). *Annual Review of Public Health*.

Baker, P.,... & **Griffith, D. M.** (December 2023). [Health Policies Must Consider Gender, Including Men](#). *The Lancet Global Health*.

East, P. L., **Delva, J.**, & et. al. (January 2024). [Associations Between Adolescent Alcohol Use and Neurocognitive Functioning in Young Adulthood](#). *Applied Developmental Science*.

**Ellis, J. M.**, & Helaire, L. J. (September 2023). [Self-Efficacy, Subjective Norms, Self-Regulated Learning: An application of the Theory of Planned Behavior with GEAR UP students](#). *Education and Urban Society*.

Fedina, L., ... **Schultz, K.**, & et. al. (September 2023). [Intimate Partner Violence, Economic Insecurity, and Health Outcomes Among American Indian and Alaska Native Men and Women: Findings from a national sample](#). *Violence Against Women*.

Fossa, A. J., ... **Zivin, K.**, & Adar, S. D. (February 2024). [Residential Greenspace and Major Depression Among Older Adults Living in Urban and Suburban Areas with Different Climates Across the United States](#). *Environmental Research*.

**Francis-Levin, N.** (February 2024). [Burning from the Outside In: Cancer patients in a hyperthermic world](#). *Anthropology-news.org*.

**Francis-Levin, N.**,... & **Zhang, A.** (October 2023). [Exploring the Relationship between Self-Rated Health and Unmet Cancer Needs among Sexual and Gender Minority Adolescents and Young Adults with Cancer](#). *Current Oncology*.

Gale, A., ... & **Williams, E. D.** (December 2023). [A Review of School-Based Interventions for Black Boys' School Success](#). *The Urban Review*.

Gibbons, J. B., McCullough, J. S., **Zivin, K.**, et. al. (February 2024). [Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Medication for Opioid Use Disorder Access, Use, and Treatment Outcomes in Medicare](#). *Journal of Substance Use and Addiction Treatment*.

**Goodwill, J. R.** (January 2024). [Measuring Hope and Joy Among Black Americans During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). *The Journal of Positive Psychology*.

**Goodwill, J. R.** (February 2024). [Reasons for Suicide in Black Young Adults: A latent class analysis](#). *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*.

**Goodwill, J. R.**, & Fike, K. J. (December 2023). [Black in the Pandemic: Comparing experiences of mistrust, anxiety, and the COVID-19 vaccine among Black adults in the US](#). *Social Science & Medicine*.

**Goodwill, J. R.**, & Hope, M. O. (January 2024). [Religion and Suicide in Black Emerging Adults: Examining pathways through hope and meaning in life](#). *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*.

**Griffith, D. M.**, & et. al. (November 2023). [Cultural Sensitivity and Cultural Tailoring: Lessons learned and refinements after two decades of incorporating culture in health communication research](#). *Annual Reviews of Public Health*.

**Griffith, D. M.**, & et. al. (December 2023). [Tailor Made: A pilot virtual weight loss intervention individually tailored for African American men](#). *Health Promotion Practice*.

Hall, S. V., **Zivin, K.**, & et. al. (December 2023). [Association of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act and the Affordable Care Act on Severe Maternal Morbidity](#). *General Hospital Psychiatry*.

Hall, S. V., **Zivin, K.**, **Piatt, G. A.**, & et. al. (January 2024). [The Impact of the Affordable Care Act on Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorder Diagnosis and Treatment Rates Among Michigan Medicaid Enrollees 2012–2018](#). *BMC Health Services Research*.

Ivanich, J.,.... **Schultz, K.**,... & Whitesell, N. R. (December 2023). [The Indigenous Connectedness Framework for Understanding the Causes, Consequences, and Solutions to Substance Misuse in Indigenous Children's Development](#). *Adversity and Resilience Science*.

Kim, H. M., ... & **Zivin, K.** (December 2023). [Autonomy in Work Location Decision and Burnout in Behavioral Health Providers: Lessons learned from COVID-19](#).

Krings, A.,... **Hawkins, J.**, & Austic, E. (December 2023). [How Early Social Work Faculty Experienced Support in their Doctoral Programs.](#) *Journal of Social Work Education.*

Kuei, L. Y., ..., **Piatt, G. A.**, & et. al. (December 2023). [Associations Between Hypoglycemia Awareness, Hypoglycemia Beliefs, and Continuous Glucose Monitoring Glycemic Profiles and Anxiety and Depression Symptoms in Adults with Type 1 Diabetes Using Advanced Diabetes Technologies.](#) *Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice.*

Martinez Jr., R. R., & **Ellis, J. M.** (December 2023). [A National Study Exploring Factors Promoting Adolescent College Readiness in Math and Science \(STEM-CR\).](#) *Educational Researcher.*

Opozda, M.J., Galdas, P.M, **Watkins, D.C.**, & **Smith, J.A.** (February 2024). [Intersecting Identities, Diverse Masculinities, and Collaborative Development: Considerations in creating online mental health interventions that work for men.](#) *Comprehensive Psychiatry.*

Opozda, M. J., ... **Smith, J. A.**, & et. al. (February 2024). [Facilitators of, Barriers to, and Preferences for E-mental Health Interventions for Depression and Anxiety in Men: Metasynthesis and recommendations.](#) *Journal of Affective Disorders.*

Petersen, J. M., ..., **Smith, J. A.**, & et. al. (January 2024). [Promoting Mental Health and Wellbeing Among Young Males in Sporting Contexts: A systematic review.](#) *Psychology of Sport and Exercise.*

Pfeiffer, P. N., Ganoczy, D., **Zivin, K.**, & et. al. (December 2023). [Guideline-concordant Use of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia in the Veterans Health Administration.](#) *Sleep Health.*

Rager, T. L.,... & **Mmeje, O.** (January 2024). [“PrEPping” Women’s Healthcare Providers: Motivational interviewing to support ending the HIV epidemic.](#) *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology.*

Renn, T., Moore, J., **Schultz, K.**, & Veeh, C.A. (March 2023). [Comparing Behavioral Health Outcomes and Treatment Utilization of Justice-involved and Non-justice-involved American Indian and Alaska Native Adults.](#) *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities.*

Saulnier, K. G., ... **Zivin, K.**, & et. al. (November 2023). [Depression Symptom Outcomes and Re-Engagement Among VA Patients Who Discontinue Care While Symptomatic.](#) *General Hospital Psychiatry.*

**Schultz, K.**, & et. al. (October 2023). [Examining the Longitudinal Relationship Between Metacognitive Beliefs and Psychological Distress in an Adolescent Population: A Preliminary Analysis.](#) *Child Psychiatry & Human Development.*

**Schultz, K.**, & et. al. (May 2023). [Exploring Strengths, Psychological Functioning and Youth Victimization Among American Indians and Alaska Natives in Four Southern States.](#) *Child Abuse & Neglect.*

Tabb, K. M.,... & **Zivin, K.** (December 2023). [Trends in Psychotherapy Utilization for Perinatal Mental Health 2008-2020.](#) *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica.*

Tan, C. Y., **Francis-Levin, N.**,... **Zhang, A.**,... & Zebrack, B. (December 2023).

Differentiating Gender-Based Reproductive Concerns Among Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Patients: A mixed methods study. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*.

Tuitt, N. R.,... **Schultz, K.**, & et. al. (August 2023). [Preliminary Findings on Social Networks of American Indian Parents Participating in a Family-based Substance Use Prevention Program with their Children](#). *Journal of Child and Family Studies*.

Vance, A. J., ... & **Zivin, K.** (December 2023). [Identifying Neonatal Intensive Care \(NICU\) Admissions Using Administrative Claims Data](#). *Journal of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine*.

**Zivin, K.**, & et. al. (November 2023). [Relationship between Depression and Anxiety during Pregnancy, Delivery-Related Outcomes, and Healthcare Utilization in Michigan Medicaid, 2012–2021](#). *Healthcare*.

## AWARDS

Assistant Professor **Anao Zhang** has been named to the 2023 cohort of the [Sojourns Scholar Leadership Program](#). Established by the Cambia Health Foundation in 2014, the program advances the next generation of palliative care leaders across a range of disciplines — including nursing, social work, pharmacy, communications, health systems, psychology, and spirituality — with a goal of increasing palliative care access, awareness and quality across the nation. **Zhang** will receive a two-year, \$180,000 grant for his project “Developing and implementing an inclusive and equitable framework to integrate palliative care services in adolescent and young adult (AYA) oncology programs.”  
[From 1/26/24 UM-SSW Friday News]



## RECRUITMENT



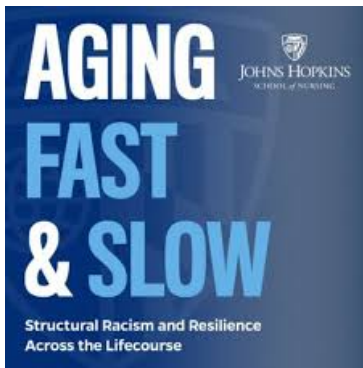
ADOLESCENT & YOUNG ADULT  
CANCER RESEARCH GROUP  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

A research team from the University of Michigan (co-led by **Dr. Anao Zhang**) and University of Rochester are leading a [project funded by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research](#) Institute (PCORI). The purpose of this project is to identify facilitators and barriers to recruiting and engaging underrepresented adolescents and young adults with cancer.

By “underrepresented,” we mean those historically not included in research — specifically BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) and LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, plus) adolescents and young adults (AYAs).

If you have any or are interested in the study's eligibility, please reach out to the Project Team at [michiganpcoriaya@umich.edu](mailto:michiganpcoriaya@umich.edu). More information can also be found on the project website [here](#).

## WHAT ARE WE LISTENING TO?



## Aging Fast & Slow: Reshaping Systems of Discrimination

Explore how neighborhoods and the policies that govern those communities can reveal long-standing issues of racism within our society. This episode features, Dr. Odis Johnson, Jr. from Johns Hopkins University, who is an expert in multiple fields, including health policy, education, and sociology. The podcast discusses how past discriminatory policies still impact us today and why we need significant changes in our systems.

*Podcast Description adapted from the Health Equity Podcast Channel*

Click here to listen to this podcast!

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Do you have questions about health equity? Click the button below to ask us your question(s)! We will provide answers in our next newsletter!

Click here to access our Health Equity Question Form!

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

"We acknowledge that The University of Michigan, named for Michigami, the world's largest freshwater system and located in the Huron River watershed, was formed and has grown through connections with the land stewarded by Niswi Ishkodewan Anishinaabeg: The Three Fires People who are the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi along with their neighbors the Seneca, Delaware, Shawnee and Wyandot nations."

## WHAT ARE YOU DOING TODAY TO PROMOTE HEALTH EQUITY?

### Connect with us!

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Twitter: [@center\\_curtis](https://twitter.com/center_curtis)

Website: <https://ssw.umich.edu/offices/curtis-center>



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