

EMILY D. LEMON, PhD, MPH

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences
UTHealth Houston School of Public Health in Brownsville, 2023–present

Adjunct Instructor, Behavioral, Social, Health and Education Sciences
Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, 2023

EDUCATION

PhD, Behavioral, Social, and Health Education Sciences, 2023
Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University

MPH, Global Health, Certificate in Maternal and Child Health, 2015
Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University

BA, International and Global Studies, 2010
University of the South

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

- Community-engaged and participatory research with Latinx and immigrant youth
- Structural determinants, immigration enforcement, and adolescent mental health and suicidality
- Community health worker (CHW) workforce and primary/secondary prevention of depression and suicide among youth
- Qualitative and mixed-methods research

GRANT FUNDING

A. Extramural – Active

NECHMR RGV0002334 | *Garza & Lemon* (MPIs) | **Role:** MPI

Title: Evaluating Texas CHW Readiness Youth Mental Health Care

Sponsor: Network for Emotional and Cognitive Mental Health Research (NECHMR)

Total Award: \$475,000 | **Period:** 2025–2027

Brief study of community health workers' readiness to address adolescent depression, trauma, and suicide as a frontline prevention workforce in Texas.

TP1AH000324 | *Peskin & Baker* (MPIs) | **Role:** Co-Investigator

Title: Green to Grown: Replicating Evidence-Based Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Programs to Scale in Multiple Settings to Advance Equity through the Adolescent Lifespan

Sponsor: Office of Population Affairs

Five-year program scaling evidence-based TPP interventions to improve sexual and reproductive health outcomes among adolescents in Harris County, TX, with a focus on equitable, culturally affirming care. Responsibilities include evaluation and Youth Advisory Board.

UG3NR021232 | *McKay & Testa* (MPIs) | **Role:** Co-Investigator

Title: Incorporation of a Health Equity Approach to Hospital Violence Intervention Programs

Sponsor: National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)

Establishes a hospital-based violence intervention program at Memorial Hermann Hospital (Houston, TX) by integrating community- and hospital-based initiatives to reduce firearm violence.

R01MD012928-05 | *Fernandez-Esquer & Diamond* (MPIs) | **Role:** Co-Investigator

Title: VALE+TU SALUD: Corner-Based Randomized Trial to Test a Latino Day Laborer Program

Adapted To Prevent COVID-19

Sponsor: National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)

Community-driven trial addressing COVID-19 mitigation and health disparities among Latino day laborers in Harris County, TX.

B. Extramural – Completed

R36MH127827 | *Lemon* (PI)

Title: Immigration Policy Enforcement and Latinx Adolescent Mental Health

Sponsor: National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

Total Award: \$88,203 | **Period:** 2021–2023

Mixed-methods study combining difference-in-difference analyses of 287(g) arrests with youth photovoice and interviews to identify mechanisms linking immigration enforcement to depression and suicidal ideation among Latinx adolescents.

C. Intramural / Institutional – Completed

Cell to Community Impact Collaborative: Needs Assessment on Migrant Health in the Rio Grande Valley

No Number | *Lemon & Montoya-Zamora* (MPIs)

Sponsor: UTHHealth Houston / internal funding

Total Award: \$6,000 | **Period:** 2023–2024

Mixed-methods needs assessment using qualitative and geospatial methods to characterize health needs among Hispanic immigrants in the Rio Grande Valley.

RSPH Pilot Grant | *Woods-Jaeger* (PI), *Lemon* (Co-I)

Title: Examining the Psychosocial Impact of COVID-19 on Undocumented Latinx Immigrant Families

Sponsor: Emory University, Rapid COVID Pilot

Total Award: \$70,000 | **Period:** 2020–2021

CBPR study examining COVID-related stress, immigration policy effects, and community resources among Latinx immigrant families to inform resilience-promoting interventions.

RSPH Global Field Experience Award | *Lemon* (PI), Amparo Can (Co-I)

Title: Sociocultural Influences on Adolescent Pregnancy in Sololá, Guatemala

Sponsor: Emory University Rollins School of Public Health

Total Award: \$2,500 | **Period:** 2014–2016

CBPR study using qualitative methods to explore drivers of adolescent pregnancy in Sololá, Guatemala, and dissemination of findings to >1,000 youth and teachers.

D. Other Funded Research & Evaluation Projects

Healing Through Education, Affirmation and Rising Together (HEART) Intervention

Woods-Jaeger (PI) | **Role:** Consultant (2022–2023)

Period: 2022–2025

Multi-level intervention addressing racial trauma among Black and Latinx youth; consulted on Latinx youth engagement, community partnerships, and survey measures.

Safety and Justice Accelerator – Data Literacy Training

Center for Civic Innovation & Injury Prevention Research Center at Emory University | **Role:** Consultant (2023)

Developed and implemented a five-session data literacy curriculum for community leaders addressing inequity, integrating evaluation tools into the CCI fellowship model.

United Way of Greater Atlanta: Fostering Family Leaders Evaluation

United Way of Greater Atlanta | **Role:** Consultant (2019–2022)

Supported survey development and evaluation of a 2GEN caregiver-focused leadership program; trained CBOs on data use and photovoice for evaluation.

Building Social Environments that Promote Resilience among Youth Exposed to Violence

Woods-Jaeger (PI) | **Role:** Project Lead & Photovoice Facilitator (2020–2021)

Youth participatory action research project using photovoice to explore how racism and community violence shape Black youths' environments in Kansas City and Atlanta.

Assessment of Community Perceptions and Feasibility of Child Mortality Surveillance

South Africa, Bangladesh, Sierra Leone | **Role:** Research Associate (2016–2018)

Provided training and technical assistance on participatory formative research and community engagement for child mortality surveillance.

Mobility Strategies among Latin American Immigrants in the South

National Science Foundation; *Brown* (PI) | **Role:** Consultant (2016)

Qualitative study of economic mobility strategies among Mexican and Dominican immigrants in Georgia.

Use and Impact of M-Shwari as a Financial Product in Urban and Rural Kenya

Kiti (PI) | **Role:** Consultant (2016)

CDC DHAP 200-2011-41314 – Evaluating National Dissemination of Evidence-Based HIV Prevention Interventions

SciMetrika | **Role:** Public Health Specialist (2015–2016)

Supported evaluation of national dissemination of EBIs for HIV prevention, including data quality monitoring, communication with CDC project officers, and dissemination.

CDC DVP – Essentials for Childhood Evaluation (North Carolina)

SciMetrika | **Role:** Qualitative Researcher (2015–2016)

Led qualitative process evaluation for a collective impact ACEs intervention, including ongoing data collection and reporting on child development and wellbeing indicators.

Qualitative analysis of perceptions and impact of mobile banking (M-Shwari) among informal sector workers in Kenya.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

First-authored

1. **Lemon, E.**, L. S. Laguna, K. M. Nieto, et al. (2025). “Just Being Connected, It's Like a Way of Resisting’: Latinx Youth Strengthening Cultural Ties as Resilience and Resistance in the Deep South.” *Journal of Community Psychology*, 53, 1–12.
2. **Lemon, E. D.**, Ruiz, K., Ling, A., Campos, J. P., Roche, K. M., Suglia, S., Livingston, M., & Woods-Jaeger, B. (2025). “Together we are stronger”: YPAR and Latinx immigrant youth resilience and resistance to oppressive immigration policies. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 1–14.
3. **Lemon, E.**, Mera Nieto, K., *Serrano Laguna*, L., Flores, Y., *V. Nino*, M., Peraza-Campos, J., Fuentes, Lozada, K., Ling, A., & Woods-Jaeger, B. (2023). “I can never feel safe”: Latinx youth voices on the psychosocial health impacts of 287(g) in Georgia. *Health Education & Behavior*, 51(1), 71–81.
4. **Lemon, E. D.**, Flores, Y., *Crookes*, D. M., *Sainz*, M., Santiago, C., Urbina, B., & Woods-Jaeger, B. (2023). The toll of the COVID-19 pandemic on Latinx mixed-status immigrant families in a restrictive immigration policy climate in the Southeast. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 107254.
5. **Lemon, E.**, Crookes, D. M., Del Carmen Chacón, L.*, Santiago, C., Urbina, B., & Woods-Jaeger, B. (2023). Facing a dual threat: Pandemic stress and immigration policy vulnerability on mental health among Latinx immigrant parents. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*.
6. **Lemon, E.**, Vu, M., Roche, K. M., Hall, K. S., & Berg, C. J. (2021). Depressive symptoms in relation to adverse childhood experiences, discrimination, hope, and social support in a diverse sample of college students. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*.
7. **Lemon, E.**, Hennink, M., & Can Saquic, N. A. (2017). Pathways to adolescent childbearing among Kaqchikel women in Guatemala. *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 1–16.

Co-authored

(*Student/mentee)

8. Flores, Y. A.*, **Lemon, E.**, Santiago, C., Urbina, B., & Woods-Jaeger, B. (2024). Migration-related trauma and PTSD among Latinx parents in the Southeast during COVID-19. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*, 16(Suppl 2), S446–S455.
9. Sainz, M.*, **Lemon, E.**, Flores, Y. A., & Woods-Jaeger, B. (2024). "Nos apoyamos mutuamente": Strategies to supporting community health workers addressing the emergency and chronic needs of Latinx families. *Psychological Services*.
10. Walker, A., Spencer, R. A., **Lemon, E.**, Woods-Jaeger, B., Komro, K. A., & Livingston, M. D. (2023). The impact of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families benefit requirements and sanctions on maternal material hardship, mental health, and parental aggravation. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 27(8), 1392–1400.
11. Crookes, D. M., **Lemon, E. D.**, Sainz, M., Del Carmen Chacón, L., Urbina, B., & Woods-Jaeger, B. (2023). Immigration enforcement climate in Georgia and the mental health of Latinx immigrants. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 34(2), 798–809.
12. Komro, K., **Lemon, E. D.**, Livingston, M. D., Spencer, R. A., & Woods-Jaeger, B. (2022). Does the safety net help prevent family and youth violence? *EconoFact*.
13. Jahangir, T., Lucas, D., **Lemon, E.**, Latimer, S., Obeide, I., Miller, T., Renfro, T., & Woods-Jaeger, B. (2022). Implementing photovoice online to promote critical consciousness, agency, and action among Black youth during a pandemic. *Journal of Participatory Research Methods*, 3(3).
14. Spencer, R. A., **Lemon, E. D.**, Komro, K. A., Livingston, M. D., & Woods-Jaeger, B. (2022). Women's lived experiences with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF): How TANF can better support women's wellbeing and reduce intimate partner violence. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19(3), 1170.
15. Mosley, E. A., Redd, S. K., Hartwig, S. A., Narasimhan, S., **Lemon, E.**, Berry, E., et al. (2022). Racial and ethnic abortion disparities following Georgia's 22-week gestational age limit. *Women's Health Issues*, 32(1), 9–19.
16. Woods-Jaeger, B., Livingston, M. D., **Lemon, E.**, Spencer, R. A., & Komro, K. A. (2021). The effect of increased minimum wage on child externalizing behaviors. *Preventive Medicine Reports*, 24, 101627.
17. Livingston, M. D., Woods-Jaeger, B., Spencer, R. A., **Lemon, E.**, Walker, A., & Komro, K. A. (2021). Association of state minimum wage increases with child maltreatment. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.
18. Woods-Jaeger, B., Briggs, E. C., Gaylord-Harden, N., Cho, B., & **Lemon, E.** (2021). Translating cultural assets research into action to mitigate adverse childhood experience–related health disparities among African American youth. *American Psychologist*, 76(2), 326–336.
19. Hall, K. S., Redd, S., Narasimhan, S., Mosley, E. A., Hartwig, S. A., **Lemon, E.**, et al. (2020). Abortion trends in Georgia following enactment of the 22-week gestational age limit, 2007–2017. *American Journal of Public Health*, e1–e5.

20. Blevins, J., Kiser, M., **Lemon, E.**, & Kone, A. (2017). The percentage of HIV treatment and prevention services in Kenya provided by faith-based health providers. *Development in Practice*, 27(5), 646–657.
21. Jeffries, W. L., Garrett, S., Phiels, M., Olubajo, B., **Lemon, E.**, Valdés-Salgado, R., & Collins, C. B. (2017). Implementation of evidence-based HIV interventions for gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men. *AIDS and Behavior*, 1–13.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

1. Huerta, J.*, Martinez, D., Ramirez, D., **Lemon, E.**, Vadaparampil, S., Gabram, S., Snyder, C., & Guan, Y. Understanding Hispanic and Latino perceptions on ancestry-targeted inherited cancer screening in Georgia via democratic deliberation. Under review at *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*.
2. Flores, Y., **Lemon, E.**, Sainz, M., Cummings, J., & Woods-Jaeger, B. “Then they got rid of me”: Belonging and safety at school for youth living in high deportation and anti-immigrant climate. Under review at *School Psychology*.

COMMUNITY REPORTS

Lemon, E. D. (2022). *State immigration policy & Latinx youth mental health photovoice project: Findings from a youth participatory action research project* (community report). Emory University, Atlanta, GA. [Bilingual Report]

Siembra Lab at UTHealth with the PARA Jovenes Youth Action Board. (2025). Youth mental health in the Rio Grande Valley: Community report on photovoice findings. Brownsville, TX.

Castillo, C.*, Lemon, E. D., Montero-Zamora, P., Salvo, D., & Reininger, B. (2024). Immigrant and migrant health in the Rio Grande Valley: Needs assessment brief report. Cell to Community Impact (C2C) Collaborative, The University of Texas at Austin College of Education & UTHealth Houston School of Public Health, Brownsville, TX.

Woods-Jaeger, B., & Lemon, E. D. (2022). *COVID-19 pilot study report*. Community report prepared by THRIVE Lab, Emory University, in partnership with Ser Familia, Atlanta, GA.

THRIVE Research Lab at Emory University, & Ser Familia. (2020). *The impact of COVID-19 on Latinx immigrant families: Preliminary findings for the Latinx Summit 2020*. Atlanta, GA.

INVITED TALKS

Villamil Grest, C. and **Lemon, E.** (2025, November). *A multimethod approach to understand the ways in which structural forces shape individual lives*. Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Sciences (IAPHS) Professional Development Webinar Series, online.

Lemon, E., (2024, Feb). Cultivating a Culture of Resistance and Resilience with Latinx Youth Using YPAR – Child Study Center Innovation Hub Symposium, Penn State.

Lemon, E., (2023, May). “I Can Never Feel Safe in Places That I’m Supposed to Feel Safe”: Voices from Georgia Latinx Youth on the Psychosocial Impacts of Immigration Enforcement Policy – UTHHealth Houston SPH & Regional Campuses Virtual Broadcast.

Lemon, E., Chacon, L. Sainz, M., Flores, Y. Woods-Jaeger B. (2022, Feb). Understanding how COVID-19 stressors intersect with federal, state, and local immigration-related policies to affect the health of undocumented and mixed-status Latinx families in Georgia, *Toxic Equilibrium: Structural Racism and Population Health Inequities*, University of Michigan RacismLab Annual Symposium on Race and Racism.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

A. Organized Workshops and Symposia

1. Co-Leader. “*Contribute to a Greater Idea*”: *Strategies for Faculty and Researchers to Engage Youth as Research Partners*. Workshop accepted for presentation at the Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, April 24–27, 2026.
2. Organizer and Chair. *Latinx and Immigrant Youth Mental Health in Action across the U.S. South*. Featured panel within “Psychology at the Border: Resilience, Mental Health, and the Immigrant Journey,” National Latinx Psychological Association Conference, Edinburg, TX, October 17–18, 2025.
3. Co-organizer and Co-Chair. *When Systems Harm: Moral Injury in Latinx Immigrant Populations in the U.S.* [Round table]. National Latinx Psychological Association Conference, October 17–18, 2025, Edinburg, TX.

B. Panels & Oral Presentations

Presenter

1. **Lemon, E.** (2025, June). *Promoting Resilience and Resistance for Latinx Immigrant Youth in the South with Youth Participatory Action Research*. In Oberoi, A. (Chair), *Community Engaged Research with Migrant Populations: A Selection of Papers from the Special Issue of AJCP on Immigrant Justice*. Society for Community Research and Action (SCRA) Biennial Conference, East Lansing, MI.
2. **Lemon, E.**, & Castillo, C. “*It’s like going through a funeral*”: *Youth descriptions and depictions of family separation and the potential of YPAR as intervention among Latinx youth*. Panel presentation, International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, September 25–28, 2024, Boston, MA.
3. **Lemon, E.** *Who is Latinx? The impact of misclassification of racial/ethnic identity among U.S.-born youth on suicidal ideation disparity estimates*. Social Science Data Blitz panel presentation, National Hispanic Science Network Annual Conference, October 3–5, 2024, New Orleans, LA.
4. **Lemon, E.**, Serrano Laguna, L., Mera Nieto, K. S., Flores, Y., & Lozada, K. “*Just being connected, it’s like a way of resisting*”: *Latinx youth strengthening cultural ties as resistance to oppression*,

findings from a photovoice study. Panel presentation, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, November 12–15, 2023, Atlanta, GA.

5. **Lemon, E.**, Woods-Jaeger, B., Ruiz, K., & Ling, A. “*Together we are stronger*”: YPAR and Latinx Youth Resilience and Resistance to Oppression. Social Justice and Health Equity track, panel presentation, Society for Public Health Education 74th Annual Conference, March 21–24, 2023, Atlanta, GA.
6. **Lemon, E.**, Flores, Y.*, Santiago, C., & Woods-Jaeger, B. *Addressing ethno-racial trauma from immigration policies among Latinx youth and parents*, in Community-partnered approaches to addressing ethno-racial trauma among youth and families. Panel presentation, International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies Conference, November 9–12, 2022, Atlanta, GA.
7. **Lemon, E.** *Successes and challenges in qualitative inquiry of immigration-related policies with frontline workers during the pandemic*, in Measuring climate toward immigrants: Policies, public opinion, and community perspectives. Panel presentation, Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Sciences Conference, October 19–21, 2022 (virtual).
8. **Lemon, E.**, Del Carmen Chacón, L., Santiago, C., Sainz, M., Renfro, T., Crookes, D., Urbina, B., & Woods-Jaeger, B. *Addressing COVID-related psychosocial outcomes among Latino immigrant families: Lessons from a CBPR study in the Southeast*. Research Spotlight, Society of Behavioral Medicine 42nd Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions, April 12–16, 2021 (virtual).
9. **Lemon, E.**, & Kone, A. *Research on the influence of religion on stigma and access to HIV services to key populations in Kenya*. Workshop, International AIDS Conference – Global Village Networking Zone, July 2018, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Co-author

10. Ruelas, K.* (2025, October 17). Latinx and Immigrant Youth Mental Health in Action across the U.S. South. In E. Lemon (Chair), *Psychology at the Border: Resilience, Mental Health, and the Immigrant Journey*. National Latinx Psychological Association Conference, Edinburg, TX.
11. Garza, R. D.*; Castillo, C. A., Ruelas, K., Diaz, J., & **Lemon, E.** Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) Guided Analysis of Associations that Contribute to Latinx Youth Mental Health. Social Science Data Blitz panel presentation, National Hispanic Science Network Annual Conference, October 23–25, 2025, Miami, FL.
12. Diaz, J., **Lemon, E. D.**, & Castillo, C. A. Creating a Youth Action Board to address the mental health challenges in our community [Conference presentation]. Mental Health Breakout Session (1D.2), Texas Public Health Association Conference, May 14–15, 2024, Brownsville, TX.
13. Castillo, C. A., Diaz, J., & **Lemon, E. D.** Priority needs and actions for Latinx immigrant health in the Rio Grande Valley [Conference presentation]. Mental Health Breakout Session (1D.2), Texas Public Health Association Conference, May 14–15, 2024, Brownsville, TX.
14. Flores, Y.,* **Lemon, E.**, Sainz, M., & Woods-Jaeger, B. “Then They Got Rid of Me”: Belonging and safety at school for youth living in high deportation and anti-immigrant climate. Social Justice and Health Equity track, panel presentation, Society for Public Health Education 74th Annual Conference, March 21–24, 2023, Atlanta, GA.

15. Flores, Y.* **Lemon, E.**, Sainz, M., Chacón, L., Santiago, C., Urbina, B., & Woods-Jaeger, B. Amplified social isolation from COVID-19 policies amongst undocumented Latinx families. Panel presentation, APHA Annual Meeting and Expo, October 2021 (virtual).
16. Sainz, M.* **Lemon, E.**, Flores, Y., Santiago, C., Urbina, B., & Woods-Jaeger, B. Building resiliency: Organizational strategies that support community health workers during COVID-19. Panel presentation, APHA Annual Meeting and Expo, October 2021 (virtual).

C. Poster Presentations

Presenter

1. **Lemon, E.**, Diaz, J., & Mera Nieto, K. Centering Latinx youth in community-based mental health solutions: A critical comparative case study of YPAR in the U.S. South. Poster presentation, National Hispanic Science Network Conference, October 24–26, 2025, Miami, FL.
2. **Lemon, E.**, Livingston, M. D., Roche, K. M., Suglia, S., & Woods-Jaeger, B. Paradox or post-traumatic growth? The psychosocial impacts of statewide immigration enforcement on Latinx youth in 19 U.S. cities. Poster presentation, National Hispanic Science Network Annual Conference, September 23–25, 2023, Washington, DC.
3. **Lemon, E.**, Flores, Y.* Fuentes, V., Peraza Campos, J., & Woods-Jaeger, B. “I can never feel safe in places that I am supposed to feel safe”: Voices from Latinx youth on the psychosocial impacts of immigration policies. Poster presentation, Society for Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting, April 26–29, 2023, Phoenix, AZ.
4. **Lemon, E.**, Haardörfer, R., & Stidham Hall, K. Stress outside the classroom: Exploring latent classes of out-of-class stressors among Latinx college students. Poster presentation, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, October 2020, San Francisco, CA (virtual).
5. **Lemon, E.**, Redd, S., Berry, E., Hartwig, S., Lanthrop, E., Haddad, L., Rochat, R., Cwiak, C., & Stidham Hall, K. Racial and ethnic differences in abortion trends by gestational age following implementation of Georgia’s 22-week ban. Poster presentation, National Abortion Federation Annual Meeting, May 2019, Chicago, IL.

Co-author

6. Diaz, J., Ruelas, K., Castillo, C., Garza, R., & **Lemon, E.** “Scrolling through the quiet helps when everything else feels too loud”: Latinx youth perspectives on mental health and their relationship to social media. Poster presentation, National Hispanic Science Network, October 23–25, 2025, Miami, FL.
7. Castillo, C. A.* Guzman, E. L., Diaz, J., & **Lemon, E. D.** Moral injury among Latinx adolescents in a setting with aggressive interior immigration enforcement. Poster presentation, National Latinx Psychological Association Conference, October 16–18, 2025, Edinburg, TX.
8. Castillo, C. A.* Garza, R. D., Diaz, J., & **Lemon, E. D.** Examining depictions of isolation among Latinx youth in South Texas. Poster presentation, National Hispanic Science Network, October 23–25, 2025, Miami, FL.

9. Ruelas, K.,* Diaz, J., Castillo, C. A., Garza, R. D., & **Lemon, E. D.** From voice to action: Youth changing narratives about mental health through youth-led seminar series. Poster presentation, National Hispanic Science Network, October 23–25, 2025, Miami, FL.
10. Diaz, J., Castillo, C. A., & **Lemon, E.** “Everyone’s going through something”: Latinx youth voices on generational, social, and cultural influences on mental health. Poster presentation, National Hispanic Science Network Annual Conference, October 3–5, 2024, New Orleans, LA.
11. Castillo, C. A.,* Diaz, J., **Lemon, E.**, Montero-Zamora, P., Salvo, D., & Reininger, B. Understanding Hispanic/Latinx health in the Rio Grande Valley. Poster presentation, National Hispanic Science Network Annual Conference, October 3–5, 2024, New Orleans, LA.
12. Kone, A., **Lemon, E.**, Blevins, J., Cossa, S., Hussain, F., Ochola, K., ... & O’Mara, E. Using participatory workshops to assess community alignment or tension for child mortality surveillance involving minimally invasive tissue sampling. Poster presentation, American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene Annual Meeting, 2018, New Orleans, LA.
13. Blevins, J., **Lemon, E.**, Kiser, M., Beckles, S., Corey, E., Plaster, M., & Thomas, S. Lea Toto: A faith-based model for a comprehensive adolescent sexual health program for children living with HIV in Kenya. Poster presentation, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, October 2017, Atlanta, GA.
14. Blevins, J., Mombo, E., Jones, R., Kiser, M., & Kone, A., **Lemon, E.** Impact of religion on stigma and access to HIV services for key populations in Kenya. Poster presentation, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, October 2017, Atlanta, GA.
15. Blevins, J., Olivier, J., Kamau, C., Kiser, M., **Lemon, E.**, & Kone, A. Faith-based health systems: Analyzing the proportion of HIV services rendered by non-networked faith-based organizations in Kenya. Poster presentation, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, October 2017, Atlanta, GA.
16. Jeffries, W. L., Phields, M., Garrett, S., **Lemon, E.**, Olubajo, B., Valdés-Salgado, R., & Collins, C. B. An evaluation of capacity building assistance trainings for HIV prevention interventions for men who have sex with men in the United States. Poster presentation, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, October 2016, Atlanta, GA.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

Youth Mental Health Seminar: “Our Lives, Our Voices”

Role: Faculty mentor and co-facilitator. PARA Jóvenes Youth Action Board–led seminar featuring youth presentations, community discussion, and a photovoice gallery on Latinx youth mental health in the Rio Grande Valley.

El Almacén Creative Space, Brownsville, TX, September 27, 2025.

Im/migrant Health in the Rio Grande Valley Forum

Role: Co-organizer and facilitator. Community forum sharing needs assessment findings on immigrant/migrant health; led roundtable discussions on priority areas, resource sharing, and next steps with local advocates.

UTHealth Houston School of Public Health, Brownsville, TX, June 18, 2024.

Latinx Youth Forum – Youth Photovoice Research & Action Project

Role: Co-organizer and facilitator. Community forum and photo gallery where Latinx youth presented photovoice findings on how immigration policies affect youth mental health, with music, food, and community conversations.

Norcross Public Library, Norcross, GA, October 16, 2022.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UTHealth Houston School of Public Health

Courses Taught

PH 1119 – Qualitative Analysis – Instructor, Spring 2026.

PH 5015 – Intro to Qualitative Research in Public Health – Instructor, Fall 2024, Fall 2025.

PH 1118 – Qualitative Methods – Co-Instructor, Fall 2024.

Guest Lectures

Engaging Youth in Mental Health Research – Public Health Research Seminar (Sept 2025)

Youth Mental Health in Context – Adolescent Sexual Health (Jan 2025)

Applying Photovoice to Public Health Promotion Community Health Promotion Theory and Practice (Apr 2024).

Curriculum & Training Design

Community-Based Participatory Research, Action Lab online module (2023)

Qualitative Analysis, 2025

Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University

Courses Taught

BSHE 540 – Qualitative Research Methods – Instructor, Spring 2023.

BSHE 557 – Addressing Racism as a Public Health Issue to Promote Health Equity –Co-Instructor, Spring 2023.

Guest Lectures

Participatory Analysis in Qualitative Research – Master in Development Qualitative Research Course (Dr. J. Kaneria), Emory University (Mar 2024).

Engaging Diverse Communities in Health Promotion – Program Planning in Health Promotion (Dr. Y. Guan), (Nov 2023).

Community Based Participatory Research, Research Design (Dr. M. Livingston) (Apr 2023)

Promoting Equitable Partnerships in Research and Action, Addressing Racism as a Public Health Issue (Dr. B. Woods-Jaeger) (Apr 2022)

CBPR Approaches to Address Racism and Promote Mental Health Equity, Qualitative Research Methods, (Dr. L. Walker) (Oct 2021)

Language Justice in Global Health Settings, Clinical Perspectives in Global Health (Drs. Suchdev and Downes), Emory University (Sept 2019)

Teaching Assistant or Associate

BSHES 525 – Qualitative Data Analysis – Teaching Assistant, 2021

BSHES 560 – Addressing Racism as a Public Health Issue to Promote Health Equity – Teaching Associate, Spring 2021

BSHES 532 – Quantitative Data Analysis – Teaching Associate, 2020

BSHES 542 – Socio-behavioral Measurement – Teaching Associate, 2019

GH 542 – Evidence-based Strategic Planning in Global Health – Teaching Assistant, 2015

GH 572 – Community Transformation – Teaching Assistant, 2015

MENTORSHIP

Doctoral Students – Primary Mentor

Jenna Arsuaga, HPBS, UTHealth Houston, 2025–present

Jacqueline Broshears, HPBS, UTHealth Houston, 2025–present

Doctoral Students – Committee Member

Hannah Stewart, HBPS, UTHealth Houston, 2025–present | Role: Committee member.

Master’s Students – Primary Advisor

Karla Ruelas, MPH, HPBS, Advisor; Capstone and Practicum mentor, 2024-present

Outcomes: 2 conference presentations (1 oral, 1 poster)

Other Master’s Students

Caleb Castillo, MPH, Epi, GRA Supervisor, Thesis Committee, 2024–present (3 posters, 1 oral)

Ramiro Garza, MPH, Epi, GRA supervisor, 2024–present (1 oral, 1 poster)

David Barrera, MD/MPH, Customized, Practicum and Capstone Mentor, 2025

Briana Cortez, MD/MPH, Customized, Capstone mentor, 2025

Youth & Community Mentees

Youth Action Board members (n=10), Rio Grande Valley, 2024–present.

Role: Adult ally and research mentor for youth-led mental health promotion and research.

YPAR youth collaborators (n=22), Georgia and Texas, 2022–present.

Role: Photovoice facilitator and research mentor; several youth are co-authors on refereed publications and national conference presentations (starred in publication list).

Youth Summer Science Internship

1 student intern, 2024

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Departmental & School Service

Doctoral Admissions Committee, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, UTHealth Houston School of Public Health, 2025–present

Faculty Council, UTHealth Houston School of Public Health, 2024–2025

Doctoral Student Advisory Board, RSPH, Emory University, 2022–2023

Student Representative (Elected), BSHES Doctoral Program, Emory University, 2022–2023

DEI Committee, BSHES PhD Program, Curriculum Workgroup Co-Lead, Emory University, 2020–2022

National/International Networks and Working Groups

Co-Founder and Member. Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) Learning Network, John Hopkins, University of Virginia, 2025–present.

Collaborative network of researchers and practitioners focused on advancing youth-partnered research methods, shared training resources, and cross-site learning.

Community Service

Member, Healthy Futures Texas RGV Pod, 2024–present

Young Center Child Advocate, 2024–2025

Latinx Youth Mental Health Community Action Board, 2022–present

Emory University Latinx Studies Working Group, 2021–2022

Living in the I.C.E. Age Podcast – Creator and Host, 2018–2019

Lifting Latinx Voices Initiative Leadership and Advocacy Committee, 2013–2019

HONORS & AWARDS

NIH Loan Repayment Program Award, National Institute of Mental Health (2025–2027)

National Hispanic Science Network Travel Award (2024, 2025)

APHA Latino Caucus Distinguished Early Career Professional (2023)

Health Equity SIG Student Research Award, Society for Behavioral Medicine (2023)

Emory Prevention Research Center Mini Grant for Community-Engaged Student Research (2022)

Everyday Hero Award, BSHES, Emory University (2022)

GLAHR Certificate of Recognition for Invaluable Support to Defense of Immigrant Communities (2019, 2022)

Rollins School of Public Health Global Field Experience Award (2014)

Volunteer of the Year, Feminist Women’s Health Center (2014)

Fulbright, Argentina (2011)

Phi Beta Kappa Academic Honor Society (2010)

Sigma Delta Pi Spanish Honor Society (2010)

Biehl International Research Fellow (2009)

Canale Community Service Award (2008)
Tonya Public Policy Award (2007, 2010)
Sewanee Regents Scholar (2006–2010)

FELLOWSHIPS, INSTITUTES & TRAINING GRANTS

Fragile Families & Child Wellbeing Study (FFCWS) Summer Data Workshop – Selected and funded participant, Summer 2024, Columbia University/Princeton University.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS), 2022–present
Society for Behavioral Medicine, 2021–present
National Hispanic Science Network, 2021–present
American Public Health Association, 2014–present

JOURNAL & EDITORIAL SERVICE

Guest Editor, Special Issue: “Health Promotion in Childhood and Adolescence”, *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 2025–present.

Ad hoc Reviewer for:

- *Health Equity*
- *Health Education & Behavior*
- *American Journal of Community Psychology*
- *Journal of Participatory Research Methods*
- *Child Development Perspectives*
- *International Journal of Qualitative Research*
- *Health and Social Care in the Community*
- *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*
- *Journal of Poverty*
- *Journal of American College Health*