



## **ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

**Assistant Professor, Tenure Track** 2023-Present  
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston  
Department of Management, Policy & Community Health  
Center for Health Equity

**Adjunct Professor, College of Social Work** 2021-2023  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

## **PROFESSIONAL LICENSE**

Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) 2011-Present  
Texas State Board of Social Work Examiners

## **GRANTS, FUNDING, and FELLOWSHIPS**

Loan Repayment Program (LRP) 2023-2025  
NIH/National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities  
Total: 100,000

University of California, San Francisco 2022  
Department of Family and Community Medicine  
Research Funding  
Total: \$2,000

University of California, San Francisco 2021-2023  
California Preterm Birth Initiative  
Research Funding  
Total: \$25,000

NIH, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute 2019-2021  
Diversity Supplement, R01 HL135218-03S1  
Total: \$83,808

University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work 2021  
Dissertation Funding  
Total: \$500

University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work/Department of Psychiatry 2020-2021  
Center for Interventions to Enhance Community Health Fellow  
Total: \$1,500

University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work 2019  
Joseph and Helen Eaton Award Research Funding  
Total: \$600

National Council for Black Studies 2018-2020  
Keto Student Leadership Development and Mentoring Program Fellow  
Total: \$1,000

University of Michigan, School of Social Work  
Graduate Mentoring Workshop on African American Research  
Total: \$1,000

2018

University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work  
John A. Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education Fellow  
Total: \$3,168

2007-2008

Georgia State University, Department of African American Studies  
Ye Ye Graduate School Scholarship  
Total: \$1,000

2006

## **GRANTS & CONTRACTS**

### **Funded**

Project Title: In-depth Analysis of Factors that Drive Teenage Pregnancy and the Intergenerational Cycle of Teenage Motherhood in South Africa  
Funder: UN Population Fund  
PI: Zamasomi Prudence Busisi Luvuno, PhD, University of Kwazulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa  
Role: Co-Investigator, 0% Effort

### **Applied: Not funded**

Project Title: Building Capacity for a Community-Level Intervention to Improve Black Maternal Health  
Funder: Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)  
Funding Type: Engagement Award  
Role: PI

Project Title: Substance Use in Young Pregnant and Parenting Bisexual People  
Funder: NIH  
Funding Type: R01  
Role: Subaward PI, University of Pittsburgh (De Genna, Natacha: PI)

Project Title: The Birthing Individuals (BI) Study of Bi+ Prenatal and Postpartum Health  
Funder: NIH  
Funding Type: R01 (re-submission)  
Role: Subaward PI, University of Pittsburgh (De Genna, Natacha: PI)

### **Submitted: Under review**

Project Title: Social Determinants of Cardiovascular Health in a Pregnant Population  
Funder: NIH  
Funding Type: R01  
Role: PI

Project Title: Cultural and Structural Factors Driving Teenage Pregnancy in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa  
Funder: Society for Research in Child Development  
Funding Type: 2025 Small Grants Program for Early Career Scholars  
Role: PI

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

LEAD Global Training Program Fellow Washington University in St. Louis Leadership Award	2024
Bay Area Association of Black Social Workers President's Award	2024
Georgia State University, Department of African American Studies Distinguished Alumni Award	2017
Georgia State University, Department of African American Studies John Henrik Clarke Award for Outstanding Service	2005

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

My interest in women's health is focused on eliminating racial disparities and achieving health equity in (1) maternal mortality and morbidity, (2) infant mortality, and (3) preterm birth incidence and outcomes. My research agenda is focused on: (1) work/employment as a social determinant of health, and (2) interventions that reduce racial disparities in pregnancy and birth outcomes.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

<b>Graduate Student Principal Investigator</b> University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work Project: Black Women's Work and Maternal Health Research Study Faculty Advisor: Dr. John M. Wallace, Jr.	2019-2021
<b>Graduate Student Researcher</b> University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health Postpartum Mothers Mobile Study (PMOMS) NIH, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute R01 HL135218-01 PI and Research Advisor: Dr. Dara D. Mendez	2019-2021
<b>Graduate Research Assistant</b> University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work Faculty Advisor: Dr. John M. Wallace, Jr.	2017-2019
<b>Research Assistant</b> Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Medical Center/Baylor College of Medicine Calmer Life Study PI: Dr. Melinda Stanley	2012-2013

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

Slatton, B. C., Cambrice, F. G., & **Omowale, S. S.** (2025). COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy Among Black Women in the US. *JAMA Network Open*, 8(1), e2453511-e2453511

**Omowale, S. S.**, Mangum, L. C., Joseph-McCatty, A., Cottrell-Daniels, C., Farris, K. A.\*, King, R., & Slatton, B. C. (2024). Work as a social determinant of maternal health: A qualitative

exploration of college-educated Black women's experiences at work during pregnancy and postpartum. *Women's Health*, 20, 17455057241304842

Mendez, D. D., Tapia, A., Manda, Sanders, S. A., Casas, A., Small, M., Davis, E., Rathbun, S. L., Gary-Webb, T. L., Burke, L. E., **Omowale, S. S.**, Wallace, Adodoadji, L., M. L., Gianakas, J., Feghali, M. (2024). Real-time experiences of racism and stress in association with postpartum weight retention: A longitudinal ecological momentary assessment study. *American Journal of Epidemiology*, kwae424.

Ashcraft, L. E., Hamm, M. E., **Omowale, S. S.**, Hruschak, V., Miller, E., Eack, S. M., & Merlin, J. S. (2024) The perpetual evidence-practice gap: addressing ongoing barriers to chronic pain management in primary care in three steps. *Frontiers in Pain Research*, 5, 1376462.

**Omowale, S. S.**, Gary-Webb, T. L., Wallace, M. L., Wallace, J. M., Rauktis, M. E., Eack, S. M., & Mendez, D. D. (2022). Stress during pregnancy: An ecological momentary assessment of stressors among Black and White women with implications for maternal health. *Women's health (London, England)*, 18, 17455057221126808. <https://doi.org/10.1177/17455057221126808>

Fussell-Ware, D. J., Ballentine, K., Flores, A., Mangum, L. C., **Omowale, S. S.**, MacKenzie, K., ... & Ashcraft, L. E. (2022). Using the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research to Promote Anti-Racism in Social Work Higher Education. *Advances in Social Work*, 22(2), 680-702.

Felder, J. N., Afulani, P. A., Coleman-Phox, K., **Omowale, S. S.**, McCulloch, C. E., Lessard, L., & Kuppermann, M. (2022). Pregnancy-related COVID worry, depressive symptom severity, and mediation through sleep disturbance in a low-income, primarily Latinx population in California's Central valley. *Journal of Psychiatric Research*.

**Omowale, S. S.**, Casas, A., Lai, Y., Sanders, S. A., Hill, A. V., Wallace, M. L., Rathbun, S. L., Gary-Webb, T. L., Burke, L. E., Davis, E. M., Mendez, D. D. (2021). Trends in Stress Throughout Pregnancy and Postpartum Period During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Longitudinal Study Using Ecological Momentary Assessment and Data From the Postpartum Mothers Mobile Study. *JMIR mental health*, 8(9), e30422. <https://doi.org/10.2196/30422>

- Media Highlight: [COVID-19 Restrictions Linked with Elevated Stress in New Moms and Moms-to-Be - UPMC & Pitt Health Sciences News Blog \(September 2021\)](#)

## REVISE & RESUBMIT

Sanders, S. A., **Omowale, S. S.**, Casas, A., Kiyanda, A., Smith, A., Lai, Y., Wallace, M., Rathbun, S., Gary-Webb, T., Davis, E., Burke, L., Mendez, D. D. Completion rates for ecological momentary assessments of dietary behaviors during pregnancy and postpartum. Resubmit in JMIR Human Factors.

Luvuno, Z., Chiya, W., Naidoo, D., Ngcobo, S., **Omowale, S. S.**, Zhandire, T., Joseph-Shehu, E., Ncama, B., Duma, S. Risk and protective factors associated with teenage pregnancy and intergenerational interventions: a scoping review protocol. Resubmit in BJM Open.

## UNDER REVIEW

**Omowale, S. S.**, Cottrell-Daniels, C., Miller, K.\*, Jones, L., Jones, T., Chand, M., McGhee, B., Slatton, B., Kuppermann, M. Community-based approaches to developing a community-level

intervention to improve black maternal and infant health. Under review in Maternal and Child Health.

(\*Indicates student authorship)

## **PRESENTATIONS (Peer-reviewed)**

### **International**

*(Oral Presentations)*

**Omowale, S. S.** (2024) Using Implementation Science to Develop a Community-Based Perinatal Mental Health Intervention. International Marcé Society for Perinatal Mental Health conference in Barcelona, Spain held September 4th – 7th, 2024.

### **Domestic**

*(Oral Presentations)*

**Omowale, S. S.** (2023) Work as a social determinant of health: Centering the perspectives of black women during pregnancy and postpartum. Society for Social Work and Research Conference. Phoenix, AZ.

**Omowale, S. S.,** Casas, A., Lai, Y., Sanders, S. A., Hill, A.V., Wallace, M. L., Rathbun, S. L., Gary-Webb, T. L., Burke, L. E., Davis, E. M., Mendez, D. D. (2021) A longitudinal analysis of stress during the covid-19 pandemic in a pregnant and postpartum population. American Public Health Association. Denver, CO. Presented Virtually.

**Omowale, S. S.** (2020) Workplace stress and discrimination: The experiences of black women at work during pregnancy and postpartum. American Public Health Association. Presented Virtually.

**Omowale, S. S.** (2019) Reconsidering risk: racial differences in maternal health and low birth weight among college-educated black and white women. Society for Social Work and Research. San Francisco, CA.

**Omowale, S. S.** (2019) Saving ourselves: Black maternal health in enslavement and freedom. National Council for Black Studies. New Orleans, LA.

**Omowale, S. S.** (2018). Maternal health and infant mortality among black women. National Council for Black Studies. Atlanta, GA.

*(Panel Presentations)*

**Omowale, S. S.,** Fussell-Ware, D., Thyberg, C. (2021) Using the consolidated framework for implementation research to promote anti-racism in academia. Council on Social Work Education. Orlando, FL.

*(Poster Presentations)*

Lai, Y., **Omowale, S. S.,** Sanders, S. A., Casas, A. D., Wallace, M. L., Rathbun, S. L., Gary-Webb, T. L., Davis, E. M., Burke, L. E., Mendez, D. D. (2021) Added sugar intake as measured by ecological momentary assessment versus 24-hour dietary recall during pregnancy. Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiological Research. Presented Virtually.

Ashcraft, L. E., Hamm, M., **Omowale, S. S.,** Hruschak, V., Miller, E., Eack, S., Merlin, J. (2021) Perceptions of evidence-based chronic pain management of primary care providers.

Society for Social Work and Research. Presented Virtually.

**Omowale, S. S.** (2020) Using geographic information systems technology in social work education. Council on Social Work Education. Presented Virtually.

Ashcraft, L. E., Hamm, M., **Omowale, S. S.**, Hruschak, V., Miller, E., Eack, S., Merlin, J. (2020) Dissemination and implementation of chronic pain evidence among primary care providers: A qualitative study. Academy Health 13th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health. Presented Virtually.

*(Symposia)*

Sampson, M., Boyd, R., Walton, Q., **Omowale, S. S.**, Parker, A. (2021). Towards a health equity narrative for black maternal health and well-being. Society for Social Work and Research. Presented Virtually.

**Omowale, S. S.** (2020) A black feminist approach to measuring maternal psychological distress.

Society for Social Work and Research. Washington, D.C.

*(Invited Presentation)*

**Special Sessions** (Panelist and Session Organizer)

**Omowale, S. S.**, Olaniyan, A., Mendez, D. D. (2021) Listen to Black voices: Black maternal and infant health equity.

American Sociological Association. Presented Virtually.

## **WORKSHOPS**

*(Invited Workshops)*

Mendez, D. D. & **Omowale, S. S.** (2018) Maternal mortality review: Lessons learned from Texas and insight for Pennsylvania. Healthy Start Cheryl Squire Flint Cultural Sensitivity Symposium: *This Woman's Work*. Pittsburgh, PA

**Omowale, S. S.** (2018). Centering black women's health. Healthy Start Cheryl Squire Flint Cultural Sensitivity Symposium: *This Woman's Work*. Pittsburgh, PA

## **ROUNDTABLE/PANEL**

*(Invited)*

Empowering Maternity: Navigating Maternal Health, Raising Our Voices, and Improving Access in Unserved Communities (2024). Virtual panel hosted by PEP!IN..

*(Invited)*

Overcoming Barriers: Transforming Black Maternal Health Through Research (2024). Virtual panel hosted by Alliance of Community Health Plans.

*(Invited)*

Research in Our Community and the Impact on Black Maternal & Mental Health (2023) Black Maternal Mental Health Summit Hosted by Shades of Blue Project. Houston, TX.

*(Invited)*

The State of Black Maternal Mental Health Roundtable (2022) Black Maternal Mental Health Week Hosted by Shades of Blue Project. Houston, TX. Virtual Roundtable.

## **SPEAKER**

*(Invited)*

Planning & Program Development (Master of Social Work Course). School of Social Work.  
(2023) Boston University

*(Invited)*

Africana Studies: The Foundation to Culturally Responsive Black Maternal and Infant Health  
Equity Work (2022). African American Studies, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

## **PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING**

### **Achievement in Teaching Pedagogy Badge**

2019

University of Pittsburgh  
Center for Teaching and Learning

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Instructor**

Fall 2024

UTHealth Houston, Houston, Texas  
School of Public Health  
PHM3620 Principles and Practice of Public Health  
MPH Level: 30 Students  
Format: Asynchronous

### **Instructor**

Fall 2024

UTHealth Houston, Houston, Texas  
School of Public Health  
PHD3620 Principles and Practice of Public Health  
DrPH Level: 8 Students  
Format: Asynchronous

### **Instructor**

Spring 2023

University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
College of Social Work, Master of Social Work Online Program  
SW 572: Evidence-based Policy and Practice with Older Adults

### **Instructor**

Spring 2023

University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
College of Social Work, Master of Social Work Online Program  
SW 563: Systematic Planning and Evaluation for Interpersonal Practice

### **Instructor**

Fall 2022

University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
College of Social Work, Master of Social Work Online Program  
SW 563: Systematic Planning and Evaluation for Interpersonal Practice

### **Instructor**

Spring 2022

University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
College of Social Work, Master of Social Work Online Program  
SW 538: Social Justice and Anti-oppressive Practice



**Instructor**

University of Houston  
 African American Studies Program  
 AAS: 4440 Model African Union Seminar  
 Undergraduate Course, Taught Hybrid

Fall 2016

**ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Facilitator for University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Clinical Experience Course Book Club Reading of Medical Apartheid for Medical Students 2020

Facilitator for University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Clinical Experience Women's Health Workshop for Medical Students 2020

Invited Guest Lecture, Topic: Aging Services 2014  
 Aging and Mental Health Psychology Course  
 University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX

Invited Guest Lecture, Topic: Aging Services 2013  
 Aging and Mental Health Psychology Course  
 University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX

**University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston****Student Advisees (Current)**

Kaiya Farris (PhD, Dissertation committee)  
 Rakima Parson (PhD, Dissertation committee)  
 Dana Santana (CHP-DrPH program advisor)  
 Rhanna Wilson (CHP-MPH program advisor)

**University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston****Student Supervisees**

Kaiya Farris (Graduate Research Assistant), 2023-Present  
 Aysha Zahidie (Teaching Assistant), Fall 2024

**Informal Mentoring (Current)**

Kobi Miller (former research assistant, supporting application to doctoral and MPH programs)  
 Davonte Lyons (PhD candidate, Howard University, African Studies)  
 Traveon Rogers (PhD student, UC Berkeley, African American Studies)

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE****Program Manager**

University of Houston, Houston, TX  
 African American Studies Program

2015-2017

<b>Social Worker II</b> Harris Health System, Houston, TX	2013-2015
<b>Care Manager and Elder Care Counselor</b> Neighborhood Centers Inc., Houston, TX	2011-2013
<b>Medical Social Worker</b> Amedisys Home Health, Atlanta, GA	2010-2011
<b>Senior Service Coordinator</b> The Family Center of South DeKalb, LLC., Decatur, GA	2010-2011
<b>Care Coordinator</b> Visiting Nurse Health System, Atlanta, GA	2009-2010
<b>Care Manager</b> Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging, Bridgeport, CT	2008-2009

### **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

Journal Reviewer: Maternal and Child Health Journal	2024
Journal Reviewer: Health Equity	2024
Journal Reviewer: BMJ Open	2023
Ad hoc Conference Abstract Reviewer American Public Health Association (APHA)	2022
Journal Reviewer Ethnicity and Disease	2022
Conference Volunteer Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)	2018-2019

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

UTHealth Houston, School of Public Health Community Health Practice	MPH/DrPH Admission Committee	2023-Present
University of California, San Francisco	First Generation Support Services Role: Mentor to first generation graduate student	2022-2023
University of California, San Francisco	Underrepresented Postdocs Realizing an Inclusive Scientific Environment (UPRISE), Leadership Team	2022-2023
University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health	Dean's Office Social Justice Action	2020-2021

	Committee, Leadership Team	
University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work	Anti-Racist Committee, Founding Member	2020-2021
University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work	Doctoral Student Organization, Secretary	2018-2019
University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health	Center for Health Equity, Facilitator for Journal Club on Black Maternal Health	2019
University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work	International Studies Committee, Member	2017-2020
University of Houston, African American Studies Program	Model African Union Conference, Student Advisor	2016-2017
University of Houston, African American Studies Program	Ankh Maat WEDU Honor Society, Student Advisor	2016-2017
University of Houston, African American Studies Program	Faculty Travel Grants Committee, Member	2016-2017

**COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICE, COMMITTEES**

Bay Area Association of Black Social Workers	Leadership Role: Member at Large (2022-2024), Scholarship and Student Outreach Committee Chair	2022-Present
Alliance for Community Health Plans PCORI Funded Project: Establishing a Research Agenda to Reduce Toxic Stress and Increase Maternal Health Equity	Leadership Committee Member	2023
Association of Black Social Workers Houston, TX Presentation	Title: Black Maternal and Infant Health Equity: Implications for Social Work Education, Policy, and Practice	2022

Association of Black Social Workers Oakland,CA Black Maternal Health Week 2022 Presentation	Title: Black Maternal and Infant Health Equity: Implications for Social Work Education, Policy, and Practice	2022
CityMatCH Equity Institute for Birth Outcomes, Allegheny County	Project Mentor	2020-2021
Healthy Start Pittsburgh Healthy Babies Zone Initiative	Research Team	2019-2020
Allegheny County Infant Mortality Collaborative	Executive Member and Research Lead	2017-2020
Houston Work Group: Reducing Maternal Mortality	Research Team	2017
Doctors for Change, Houston, TX	Access to Care Committee Member	2014-2017
Association of Black Social Workers Houston,TX	Mentor to BSW and MSW Students, Sankofa Mentoring Program Mentee: Belinda Stubblefield (BSW)	2013-2017
Impacting Maternal and Prenatal Care Together Collaborative Houston,TX	Committee Member	2013-2015
Mental Health America Houston,TX	Committee Member	2014-2015

### **TRAININGS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

Digital Storytelling Online Certificate Program Story Center		2023
University of California, San Francisco Study Designs for Intervention Research in Real-World Settings course		2022
University of Michigan, School of Social Work Mixed Methods in Research Online Certificate Program		2022
University of California, San Francisco Center for AIDS Research Monthly Mentoring Workshops		2021-2023

University of California, San Francisco California Preterm Birth Initiative Collaboratory Series	2021-2023
Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research Early Career Reviewer Program Mentor: Jonathan B. Singer, PhD, LCSW	2021-2023
Intensive Longitudinal Methods Statistical Horizons	2020
Multilevel Models Course Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health 38 <sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Summer Institute	2020
Maternal and Child Health Equity Scholars University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health Mentor: Dara D. Mendez, PhD, MPH	2018-2021

### **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIPS**

Academy Health  
 American Heart Association  
 American Public Health Association  
 National Association of Black Social Workers  
 Society for Research in Child Development  
 Society for Social Work and Research

### **SOFTWARE SKILLS**

Quantitative: STATA, SPSS  
 Qualitative: NVivo, DeDoose  
 Survey: Qualtrics  
 Concept Mapping: Concept Systems