

LESLIE D. WILLIAMS, Ph.D.  
Curriculum Vitae

Work: Division of Community Health Sciences  
University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health  
1603 West Taylor Street, Room 677  
Chicago, IL 60612  
(312) 996-8820  
[lesliedw@uic.edu](mailto:lesliedw@uic.edu)

EDUCATION

---

**New York University**, New York, NY  
Ph.D. in Psychology and Social Intervention with a concentration in Applied Statistics  
Graduation: May 2014  
Overall GPA 3.99/4.0

**The Ohio State University**, Columbus, OH  
B.A. in Psychology with Honors; B.A. in African American and African Studies with Honors; minors in Women's Studies and Dance  
Graduation: June 2007  
Summa Cum Laude; Phi Beta Kappa, 2007  
Overall GPA 3.97/4.0, Dean's List 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-2006, 2006-2007

- Summer 2006 short-term study abroad in Southern Africa (South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana); Spring 2007 short-term study abroad in Egypt

**Quantitative Training (New York University):** Statistics for Behavioral and Social Sciences; Intermediate Statistics for Behavioral and Social Sciences; Advanced Quantitative Methods: Topics in Multivariate Analysis; Advanced Quantitative Methods: Missing Data; Advanced Quantitative Methods: Causal Inference; Multi-Level Modeling: Growth Curves; Multi-Level Modeling: Nested Data

HONORS/AWARDS

---

- National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) Health Disparities Student Loan Repayment Program Award, 2016-2018
- Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (National Institute of Mental Health), 2012-2014
- Chein-Lehman Award (for best dissertation proposal in the Psychology and Social Intervention program), 2013
- Bernard Ackerman Scholarship (for research which contributes to the fields of psychological development and social intervention), 2013
- Steinhardt School Fellowship Proposal Development Award, 2011
- Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Development Fellowship, 2010-2012
- Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Development Graduate Assistantship, 2008-2010
- National Merit Scholar Fellowship, The Ohio State University, 2003-2007
- Ohio Board of Regents Fellowship, 2003-2007

**PUBLICATIONS**

---

1. **Williams, L.D.**, van Heerden, A., Friedman, S.R., Chibi, B., Memela, P., Avila Rodriguez, W., & Joseph, P. (2024). Comparison of a novel expanded social network recruitment intervention with risk network recruitment to HIV testing: locating undiagnosed cases in South Africa. *AIDS*, 1097. DOI: 10.1097/QAD.0000000000003976.
2. **Williams, L.D.**, van Heerden, A., Friedman, S.R., Chibi, B., Avila Rodriguez, W., & Memela, P. (2024). Changes in stigma and social support among participants in a randomized trial of a novel expanded social network-based HIV testing intervention in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. *AIDS and Behavior*, 28, 2619-2629.
3. **Williams, L.D.**, McKetta, S.C., Stall, R., Beane, S., Ibragimov, U., Tempalski, B., Hall, H.I., Satcher Johnson, A., Wang, G., & Friedman, S.R. (2024). Structural discrimination against and structural support for lesbian, gay, and bisexual people as a predictor of late HIV diagnoses among Black men who have sex with men. *Journal of Urban Health*, 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11524-023-00818-8>.
4. **Williams, L.D.**, van Heerden, A., Ntinga, X., Nikolopoulos, G.K., Paraskevis, D., & Friedman, S.R. (2023). Pilot testing two versions of a social network intervention to increase HIV testing and case-finding among men in South Africa's generalized HIV epidemic. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 21(1), 54.
5. Lin, Q., Rojas Aguilera, J.A., **Williams, L.D.**, Mackesy-Amiti, M., Latkin, C.A., Pineros, J., Kolak, M., & Boodram, B. (2023). Social-spatial network structures among young urban and suburban persons who inject drugs: A case study in Chicago. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 122, 104217.
6. **Williams, L.D.**, Nowlin, J., Avila Rodriguez, W., & Boodram, B. (2023). Testing the relationships between multiple domains of substance use-related stigma and depression among a sample of young (18-30 year old) people who inject drugs in the greater Chicago area. *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*, 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11469-023-01155-2>.
7. **Williams, L.D.**, Kolak, M., Ompad, D., & Tempalski, B. (2023). Creation and validation of a new built environment index measure of opioid overdose risk for use in both non-urban and urban settings. *Journal of Urban Health*, 100(5), 1048-1061.
8. Lee, E., Piñeros, J., **Williams, L.D.**, Mackesy-Amiti, M.E., Molina, Y., Boodram, B. (2023). Network ethnic homophily and injection equipment sharing among Latinx and non-Latinx white people who inject drugs. *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse*, 1-20. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15332640.2023.2181259>.
9. **Williams, L.D.**, Lee, E., Kristensen, K., Mackesy-Amiti, M.E., & Boodram, B. (2023). Community-, network-, and individual-level predictors of uptake of medication for opioid use disorder among young people who inject drugs and their networks: A multilevel analysis. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 244, 109782.
10. Friedman, S.R., **Williams, L.D.**, Jordan, A.E., Walters, S., Perlman, D.C., Mateu-Gelabert, P., Nikolopoulos, G.K., Khan, M.R., Peprah, E., & Ezell, J. (2022). Toward a theory of the underpinnings and vulnerabilities of structural racism: Looking upstream from disease inequities among people who use drugs. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19 (12), 7453.
11. Tempalski, B., **Williams, L.D.**, Kolak, M., Ompad, D.C., Kochinsky, J., & McLafferty, S.L. (2022). Conceptualizing the socio-built environment: An expanded theoretical framework to promote a better understanding of risk for nonmedical opioid overdose outcomes in urban and non-

- urban settings. *Journal of Urban Health*, 99, 701-716.
12. Mackesy-Amiti, M.E., Falk, J., Latkin, C., Kaufmann, M., **Williams, L.D.**, & Boodram, B. (2022). Egocentric network characteristics of people who inject drugs in the Chicago metro area and associations with Hepatitis C virus and injection risk behavior. *Harm Reduction Journal*, 19 (1), 1-13.
  13. **Williams, L.D.**, Lee, E., Latkin, C., Mackesy-Amiti, M.E., Kaufman, M., Copulsky, E., Kaplan, C., & Boodram, B. (2022). Economic challenges and behavioral and mental health risks for overdose during the COVID-19 pandemic among people who inject drugs. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19(9), 5351.
  14. **Williams, L.D.**, Tempalski, B., Hall, H.I., Satcher Johnson, A., Wang, G., & Friedman, S.R. (2021). Trajectories of and disparities in HIV prevalence among Black, white, and Hispanic/Latino high risk heterosexuals in 89 U.S. metropolitan statistical areas, 1992-2013. *Annals of Epidemiology*, 64, 140-148.
  15. Jenkins, W., **Williams, L.D.**, & Pearson, W.S. (2021). Sexually transmitted infection epidemiology and care in rural areas: A narrative review. *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, 48(12), e236-e240.
  16. **Williams, L.D.**, Stall, R., Tempalski, B., Jefferson, K., Smith, J.C., Ibragimov, U., Hall, H.I., Satcher, A., Wang, G., Purcell, D.W., Cooper, H.L.F., & Friedman, S.R. (2021). Trajectories of and disparities in HIV prevalence among Black, white, and Hispanic/Latino men who have sex with men in 89 large U.S. metropolitan statistical areas, 1992-2013. *Annals of Epidemiology*, 54, 52-63.
  17. **Williams, L. D.**, Mackesy-Amiti, M. E., Latkin, C., & Boodram, B. (2021). Drug use-related stigma, safer injection norms, and hepatitis C infection among a network-based sample of young people who inject drugs. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 221, 108626.
  18. Friedman, S.R.; **Williams, L.D.**; Guarino, H.; Mateu-Gelabert, P.; Krawczyk, N.; Hamilton, L.; ... & Earnshaw, V.A. (2021). The Stigma System: How sociopolitical domination, scapegoating, and stigma shape public health. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 1-24.
  19. Ibragimov, U., Beane, S., Friedman, S.R., Tempalski, B., **Williams, L.D.**, McKetta, S., Adimora, A., Wingood, G.M., Stall, R., Hall, H.I., Satcher Johnson, A., & Cooper, H.L.F. (2021.) Evidence for HIV transmission across key populations: A longitudinal analysis of HIV and AIDS rates among Black people who inject drugs and Black heterosexuals in 84 large U.S. metropolitan areas, 2008-2016. *Annals of Epidemiology*, 55, 69-77.
  20. Pampaka, D., Pantavou, K., Giallourous, G., Pavlitina, E., **Williams, L. D.**, Piovani, D., ... & Nikolopoulos, G. K. (2021). Mental Health and Perceived Access to Care among People Who Inject Drugs in Athens, Greece. *Journal of Clinical Medicine*, 10(6), 1181.
  21. **Williams, L.D.**, Tempalski, B., Ibragimov, U., Stall, R., Satcher, A., Wang, G., Cooper, H.L.F., & Friedman, S.R. (2020). Trends over time in HIV prevalence among people who inject drugs in 89 large U.S. metropolitan statistical areas, 1992-2013. *Annals of Epidemiology*, 45, 12-23.
  22. Hatzenbeuhler, M.L., McKetta, S., Goldberg, N., Sheldon, A., Friedman, S.R., Cooper, H.L.F., Beane, S., **Williams, L.D.**, Tempalski, B., Smith, J.C., Ibragimov, U., Mermin, J., & Stall, R. (2020). Trends in state policy support for sexual minorities and HIV-related outcomes among men who have sex with men in the United States, 2008-2014. *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes (JAIDS)*, 85(1), 39-45.
  23. Tempalski, B., Beane, S., Cooper, H.L.F., Friedman, S.R., McKetta, S.C., Ibragimov, U., **Williams, L.D.**, & Stall, R. (2020). Structural determinants of Black MSM HIV testing coverage (2011-2016). *AIDS and Behavior*, 1-16.

24. Vasylyeva, T. I., Zarebski, A., Smyrnov, P., **Williams, L. D.**, Korobchuk, A., Liulchuk, M., ... & Skaathun, B. (2020). Phylodynamics helps to evaluate the impact of an HIV prevention intervention. *Viruses*, *12*(4), 469.
25. **Williams, L. D.**, Aber, J. L., & SIZE Research Group. (2020). Using a multi-level framework to test empirical relationships among HIV/AIDS-related stigma, health service barriers, and HIV outcomes in South Africa. *AIDS and Behavior*, *24*(1), 81-94. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10461-019-02439-2>.
26. **Williams, L.D.**, Korobchuk, A., Smyrnov, P., Sazonova, Y., Nikolopoulos, G., Skaathun, B., Morgan, E., Schneider, J., Vasylyeva, T.I., Duong, Y.T., Chernyavska, S., Goncharov, V., Kotlik, L., & Friedman, S.R. (2019). Social network approaches to locating people recently infected with HIV in Odessa, Ukraine. *Journal of the International AIDS Society*, *22* (6), e25330. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jia2.25330>.
27. **Williams, L.D.**, Korobchuk, A., Pavlitina, E., Nikolopoulos, G., Schneider, J., Paraskevis, D. ... & Friedman, S.R. (2019). Experiences of stigma and support reported by participants in a network intervention to reduce HIV transmission in Athens, Greece; Odessa, Ukraine; and Chicago, Illinois. *AIDS and Behavior*, *23*(5), 1210-1224.
28. **Williams, L. D.** & Aber, J. L., & SIZE Research Group. (2019). The multi-level relationships of HIV-related stigma to child and caregiver mental health among HIV-affected households in South Africa. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, *63*(1-2), 3-16.
29. Ibragimov, U., Beane, S., Friedman, S. R., Komro, K., Adimora, A. A., Edwards, J. K., **Williams, L.D.**, ... & Wingood, G. M. (2019). States with higher minimum wages have lower STI rates among women: Results of an ecological study of 66 US metropolitan areas, 2003-2015. *PloS One*, *14*(10), e0223579.
30. Korobchuk, A., Davtyan, H., Denisiuk, O., Zachariah, R., Nikolopoulos, G. K., Paraskevis, D., Skaathun, B., Schneider, J., Vasylyeva, T.I., **Williams, L.D.**, Smyrnov, P., & Friedman, S. R. (2019). People with high HIV viral load within risk networks: who are these people and who refers them best? *The Journal of Infection in Developing Countries*, *13*(7 Suppl.), 103S.
31. Bell, A., Bennett, A. S., Jones, T. S., Doe-Simkins, M., & **Williams, L. D.** (2019). Amount of naloxone used to reverse opioid overdoses outside of medical practice in a city with increasing illicitly manufactured fentanyl in illicit drug supply. *Substance Abuse*, *40*(1), 52-55. DOI: 10.1080/08897077.2018.1449053.
32. Psychogiou, M., Giallourous, G., Pantavou, K., Pavlitina, E., Papadopoulou, M., **Williams, L.D.** ... Paraskevis, D., Friedman, S.R., & Nikolopoulos, G.K. (2019). Identifying, linking, and treating people who inject drugs and were recently infected with HIV. *AIDS Care*, *31* (11), 1376-1383.
33. **Williams, L.D.**, Kostaki, E.G., Pavlitina, E., Paraskevis, D., Hatzakis, A., Schneider, J., ... Nikolopoulos, G. & Friedman, S.R. (2018). Pockets of HIV non-infection within highly-infected risk networks in Athens, Greece. *Frontiers in Microbiology*, *9*, 1825.
34. Ibragimov, U., Beane, S., Friedman, S.R., Adimora, A., **Williams, L.D.**, Tempalski, B., Stall, R., Wingood, G., Hall, H.I., Johnson, A.S., & Cooper, H.L. (2018). Relationship of racial residential segregation to newly diagnosed cases of HIV among black heterosexuals in U.S. metropolitan areas, 2008-2015. *Journal of Urban Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11524-018-0303-1>.
35. Kostaki, E.-G., Frampton, D., Paraskevis, D., Pantavou, K., Ferns, B., Raffle, J., Grant, P., Kozlakidis, Z., Hadjikou, A., Pavlitina, E., **Williams, L.D.**, Hatzakis, A., Friedman, S.R., Nastouli, E., & Nikolopoulos, G.K. (2018). Near full-length genomic sequencing and molecular analysis of HIV-infected individuals in a network-based intervention (TRIP) in Athens, Greece: Evidence that

- transmissions occur more frequently from those with high HIV-RNA. *Current HIV Research*, 16(5), 345-353.
36. Magiorkinis, G., Karamitros, T., Vasylyeva, T.I., **Williams, L.D.**, Mbisa, J.L., Hatzakis, A., Paraskevis, D., & Friedman, S.R. (2018). An innovative study design to assess the community effect of interventions to mitigate HIV epidemics using transmission-chain phylodynamics. *American Journal of Epidemiology*, 187(12), 2615-2622.
  37. Tempalski, B. Cleland, C.M., **Williams, L.D.**, Cooper, H.L.F., Friedman, S.R. (2018). Change in drug treatment coverage among people who inject drugs in 90 metropolitan areas in the USA, 1993-2007. *Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention, and Policy*, 13(28).
  38. Morgan, E., Skaathun, B., Nikolopoulos, G.K., Paraskevis, D., **Williams, L.D.**, Smyrnov, P., Friedman, S.R., Schneider, J.A. (2018). A network intervention to locate newly HIV infected persons within MSM networks in Chicago. *AIDS and Behavior*. DOI: 10.1007/s10461-018-2202-6.
  39. Kostaki, E.G., Nikolopoulos, G. K., Pavlitina, E., **Williams, L.D.**, Magiorkinis, G., Schneider, J. ... Friedman, S.R. & Paraskevis, D. (2018) Molecular analysis of HIV-1 infected individuals in a network-based intervention (TRIP): Phylogenetics identify HIV-1 infected individuals with social links. *Journal of Infectious Diseases*, 218(5), 707-715.
  40. Tempalski, B., Cooper, H.L.F., Kelley, M.E., Linton, S.L., Wolfe, M.E., Chen, Y., Ross, Z., Des Jarlais, D., Friedman, S.R., **Williams, L.D.**, Semaan, S., DiNenno, E., Wejnert, C., Broz, D., & Paz-Bailey, G. (2018). Identifying which place characteristics are associated with the odds of recent HIV testing in a large sample of people who inject drugs in 19 US metropolitan areas. *AIDS and Behavior*. DOI: 10.1007/s10461-018-2217-z.
  41. Friedman, S.R., **Williams, L.D.**, Young, A.M., Teubl, J., Paraskevis, D., Kostaki, E., Latkin, C., German, C., Mateu-Gelabert, P., Guarino, H., Vasylyeva, T.I., Skaathun, B., Schneider, J., Korobchuk, A., Smyrnov, P., Nikolopoulos, G.K. (2018). Network research experiences in New York and Eastern Europe: Lessons for the Southern U.S. in understanding HIV transmission dynamics. *Current HIV/AIDS Reports*, 15(3), 283-292.
  42. Smyrnov, P., **Williams, L.D.**, Korobchuk, A., Sazonova, Y., Nikolopoulos, G., Skaathun, B. ... & Friedman, S.R. (2018). Risk network approaches to locating undiagnosed HIV cases in Odessa, Ukraine. *Journal of the International AIDS Society*, 21(1), e25040. PMC5810318.
  43. Giannou, F., Nikolopoulos, G.K., Pantavou, K., Benetou, V., Kantzanou, M., Sypsa, V., **Williams, L.D.**, Friedman, S.R., & Hatzakis, A. (2017). Knowledge, normative beliefs and attitudes related to recent HIV infection among people who inject drugs in Athens, Greece. *Current HIV Research*, 15(6), 386-395. PMID: 29173178.
  44. Paraskevis, D., Kostaki, E., Nikolopoulos, G.K., Sypsa, V., Psychogiou, M., Del Amo, J., Hodges-Mameletzis, I., Paraskeva, D., Skoutelis, A., Malliiori, M., **Williams, L.D.**, Friedman, S.R., Daikos, G.L., Hatzakis, A. (2017). Molecular tracing of the geographical origin of HIV-1 infection and patterns of epidemic spread among migrants who inject drugs in Athens. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, 65(12), 2078-2084.
  45. Nikolopoulos, G.K., Pavlitina, E., Muth, S., Schneider, J., Psychogiou, M., **Williams, L.D.** ... & Friedman, S.R. (2016). A network intervention that locates and intervenes with recently HIV-infected persons: The Transmission Reduction Intervention Project (TRIP). *Scientific Reports*, 6, 38100.
  46. **Williams, L. D.** & Aber, J. L. (2016). Testing for plausibly causal links between parental bereavement and child behavioral and cognitive outcomes: A propensity-score matching model. *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*, 44(4), 705-718.

47. Friedman, S. R., Tempalski, B., Brady, J. E., West, B. S., Pouget, E. R., **Williams, L. D.**, ... & Cooper, H. L. (2016). Income inequality, drug-related arrests, and the health of people who inject drugs: Reflections on seventeen years of research. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 32, 11-16.
48. Cooper, H. L., West, B., Linton, S., Hunter-Jones, J., Zlotorzynska, M., Stall, R., Wolfe, M.E., **Williams, L.D.** ... & Friedman, S.R. (2016). Contextual Predictors of Injection Drug Use Among Black Adolescents and Adults in US Metropolitan Areas, 1993–2007. *American Journal of Public Health*, 106 (3).
49. **Williams, L. D.** (2014). Understanding the relationships among HIV/AIDs-related stigma, health service utilization, and HIV prevalence and incidence in Sub-Saharan Africa: A multi-level theoretical framework. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 53, 146-158.
50. Godfrey, E. B., Osher, D., **Williams, L. D.**, Wolf, S., Berg, J. K., Torrente, C., Spier, E., & Aber, J. L. (2012). Cross-national measurement of school learning environments: creating indicators for evaluating UNICEF’s Child Friendly Schools Initiative. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 34, 546-557.

#### MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

---

1. **Williams, L.D.**, van Heerden, A., Friedman, S.R., Chibi, B., & Memela, P. (under review). Intersectional HIV-related and substance use-related stigma and hard drug use among HIV testing intervention participants in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Manuscript submitted to *BMC Public Health*.
2. **Williams, L.D.**, van Heerden, A., Friedman, S.R., Chibi, B., & Memela, P. (under review). Relationships among HIV Status, Drug Use, COVID-19-related Service Uptake, and COVID-19 Antibody Status among HIV Testing Intervention Participants in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Manuscript submitted to *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*.
3. Kristensen, K., **Williams, L.D.**, Kaplan, C., Pineros, J., Lee, E., Kaufmann, M., Mackesy-Amiti, M.E., & Boodram, B. (under review). A novel index measure of housing-related risk as a predictor of overdose among young people who inject drugs and their networks. Manuscript submitted to *Journal of Urban Health*.

#### PRESENTATIONS

---

1. **Williams, L.D.**, Memela, P., van Heerden, A., Friedman, S.R., Joseph, P., Chibi, B., & Avila Rodriguez, W. Round Table Discussion Presentation: “Relationships among HIV-related Stigma, HIV Status, Substance Use-related Stigma & Hard Drug Use among HIV Testing Intervention Participants in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.” Presented at AIDS Impact: Stockholm, Sweden, June 2023.
2. **Williams, L.D.**, Memela, P., van Heerden, A., Friedman, S.R., Joseph, P., Chibi, B., & Avila Rodriguez, W. Oral presentation: “Relationships among HIV Status, Drug Use, COVID-19-related Service Uptake, and COVID-19 Antibody Status among HIV Testing Intervention Participants in the Greater Edendale Area.” Presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual South African AIDS Conference: Durban, South Africa, June 2023.
3. Mackesy-Amiti, M.E., Falk, J., Latkin, C., **Williams, L.D.**, Kaufman, M., & Boodram, B. Poster presentation: “Egocentric network characteristics of people who inject drugs in the Chicago Metro area and associations with hepatitis C virus and injection risk behavior.” Presented at Sunbelt (the conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis): Cairns, Australia, July 2022.
4. **Williams, L.D.**, van Heerden, A., Ntinga, X., Nikolopoulos, G., Paraskevis, D., & Friedman, S.R. (2019). Poster: “Pilot testing two versions of a network-tracing case-finding intervention in South Africa’s generalized HIV epidemic.” Presented at the CDC’s National HIV

Prevention Conference: Atlanta, GA, March 2019.

5. **Williams, L.D.**, Tempalski, B., Ibragimov, U., Stall, R., Satcher Johnson, A., Wang, G., Cooper, H.L., & Friedman, S.R. (2019). Poster: "Regional variation in trends over time in HIV prevalence among people who inject drugs in 89 large U.S. metropolitan statistical areas, 1992-2013." Presented at the CDC's National HIV Prevention Conference: Atlanta, GA, March 2019.
6. **Williams, L.D.**, Korobchuk, A., Smyrnov, P., Nikolopoulos, G.K., Paraskevis, D., Schneider, J., & Friedman, S.R. (2018). Poster: "What characteristics predict whether intervention participants successfully recruit previously undiagnosed HIV-positives from their risk networks?" Presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> International AIDS Conference: Amsterdam, Netherlands, July 2018.
7. Friedman, S.R., **Williams, L.D.**, Kostaki, E.-G., Hadjickou, A., Pavlitina, E., Paraskevis, D., Hatzakis, A., Schneider, J., Smyrnov, P., & Nikolopoulos, G.K. (2018). Poster: "Methods to study network subcomponents of uninfected people during an epidemic HIV outbreak among people who inject drugs (PWID): An example from Athens." Presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> International AIDS Conference: Amsterdam, Netherlands, July 2018.
8. **Williams, L.D.**, Korobchuk, A., Smyrnov, P., Nikolopoulos, G.K., & Friedman, S.R. (2017). Poster: "The comparative ability of two network interventions to locate undiagnosed positives and recently infected individuals in Odessa, Ukraine: the TRIPLE (TRIP-LitE) Intervention, Designed for Improved Implementation Feasibility." Presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Science: Paris, France, July 2017.
9. Friedman, S.R., Smyrnov, P., **Williams, L.D.**, Korobchuk, A., Sazonova, Y., Nikolopoulos, G.K., Skaathun, B., Schneider, J., & Friedman, S.R. (2017). Poster: "Social network approaches to locating undiagnosed HIV cases are more effective than RDS recruitment or outreach models." Presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Science: Paris, France, July 2017.
10. Friedman, S.R., Tempalski, B., West, B., Des Jarlais, D., **Williams, L.D.**, & Cooper, H. (2016). Paper presentation: "Looking at some probable causes of the causes of HIV: How should the Harm Reduction movement approach sociopolitical action?" To be presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> National Harm Reduction Conference: San Diego, California, November 2016.
11. **Williams, L.D.**, Friedman, S.R., Schneider, J., Kostaki, E.-G., Morgan, E., Psychogiou, M... & Nikolopoulos, G. (2016). Poster: "Experiences of Stigma against Participants in a Network Intervention to Reduce HIV Transmission from Recently Infected People in Athens, Greece and Odessa, Ukraine." Presented at the 21<sup>st</sup> International AIDS Conference: Durban, South Africa, July 2016.
12. Friedman, S.R., **Williams, L.D.**, Pavlitina, E., Paraskevis, D., Schneider, J., Skaathun, B. ... & Nikolopoulos, G. (2016). Poster: "Networks of Recently-infected People who Inject Drugs in Athens, Greece: Epidemiological Insights from the TRIP Project to Reduce HIV Transmission." Presented at the 21<sup>st</sup> International AIDS Conference: Durban, South Africa, July 2016.
13. Friedman, S.R., **Williams, L.D.**, Muth, S.Q., Hatzakis, A., Paraskevis, D., Psychogiou, M. ... & Nikolopoulos, G. (2015). Poster: "Finding the recently-infected to enhance medical care and prevention of transmission: A network approach and study in Athens, Greece." Presented

at the 143<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association: Chicago, Illinois, November 2015.

14. **Williams, L. D.**, Aber, J.L, and Human Sciences Research Council. (2013). Poster: "Optimizing HIV Intervention Through Understanding Community-Level HIV/AIDS-Related Stigma in South Africa." Presented at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting: San Francisco, California, May 2013.
15. **Williams, L. D.**, Aber, J.L, and Human Sciences Research Council. (2013). Poster: "The relationships of HIV-related stigma and healthcare barriers to child and caregiver mental health in South Africa." Presented at the Society for Research on Child Development Biennial Meeting: Seattle, Washington, April 2013.
16. Godfrey, E., Gordon, N., **Williams, L. D.**, Turbeville, A., Richter, L., Roberts, B., Knight, L., et al. (2013). Poster: "The role of subjective SES in the family stress model and child outcomes: Evidence from South Africa." Presented at the Society for Research on Child Development Biennial Meeting: Seattle, Washington, April 2013.
17. **Williams, L.D.** & Aber, J.L. (2011). Poster: "Does Parental Bereavement Predict Children's Mental Health and Academic Outcomes?" Presented at the Society for Research on Child Development Biennial Meeting: Montreal, Quebec, April 2011.
18. Kim, H.Y., Wagner, C., Cappella, E., Mishlen, K., & **Williams, L.D.** (2011). "Social Networks and Behaviors of English Language Learners in Linguistically Integrated Classrooms: A Developmental Perspective." Presented at the Society for Research on Child Development Biennial Meeting: Montreal, Quebec, March 2011.
19. **Williams, L.D.** & Aber, J.L. (2010). "Predicting Children's Behavioral and Academic Outcomes from Parental Bereavement Status among a Nationally Representative Sample." Presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual International Institute on Developmental Science, New York University: New York, NY, September 2010.
20. Brabeck, M. & **Williams, L.D.** (2009). Evidence Based Teaching Practices: "Core Principles and Practices" from Psychological Science for Teacher Education. Presented at the Annual American Psychological Association Conference: Toronto, Ontario, August 2009.
21. **Williams, L.D.** (2009). "Parentally Bereaved Children: Risk and Protection of a Nationally Representative Sample." Presented at the Cross-University Collaborative Mentoring Conference, Fordham University: New York, NY, May 2009.

## RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

### **Division of Community Health Sciences**

**University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health, Chicago, IL**

**Assistant Professor**, August 2019 to present

### **Reducing Overdose and Substance Use-related Stigma on Chicago's West Side by Training Non-substance-using Friends and Family Members of People who Use Opioids to Be Harm Reduction Champions**

**University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health, Chicago, IL**

*Leslie D. Williams, Ph.D.*

**Principal Investigator**, September 2024-September 2029, CDC

This project will work with faith-based organizations and other community partners to implement and evaluate a peer harm reduction champion intervention to prevent opioid overdose and reduce substance use-related stigma on the West side of Chicago, particularly among older adults. The intervention will train people who do



not use drugs but who know someone who uses opioids on how to access and use available harm reduction tools and services, and will distribute naloxone kits and fentanyl test strips directly to them. These harm reduction champions will then work together with their peer who uses opioids and a licensed mental health counselor to develop a plan to help the peer who uses opioids access harm reduction tools and services more regularly/consistently. Quasi-experimental methods will be used to evaluate efficacy relative to a non-equivalent comparison group of people who use opioids and have recently accessed harm reduction services on their own.

**Site-randomized Trial of a Novel Social Network Recruitment Intervention to Locate More Undiagnosed Positive Cases of HIV, Increase HIV Testing among Men, and Reduce HIV-related Stigma in South Africa**

**University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health, Chicago, IL**

*Leslie D. Williams, Ph.D.*

**Principal Investigator**, July 2024-April 2029, NIMH

This project will conduct a site-randomized trial among HIV testing clinics in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa to test the efficacy of a social network-recruitment intervention that asks people newly diagnosed with HIV at an HIV testing clinic to recruit anyone they know who they think might be at risk of being HIV-positive-unaware to HIV testing. This project will aim to increase HIV testing rates among men and to increase HIV-related social support and reduce HIV-related stigma through facilitation and normalization of conversations about HIV testing among social networks during the peer recruitment process.

**Intersectional Stigma Reduction for Tajik Migrants who Inject Drugs**

**University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health, Chicago, IL**

*Mary Ellen Mackesy-Amiti, Ph.D.*

**Co-Investigator**, August 2023 to present, NIDA

This study will 1) explore the characteristics of substance use-related and HIV-related stigma among Tajik labor migrants, and how these types of stigma intersect; and 2) develop an intervention to reduce stigma among Tajik migrant communities in order to improve HIV prevention and reduce HIV risk behavior.

**Expanding Access to Methadone Treatment for Justice-Involved Individuals through Video Direct Observed Therapy**

**University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health, Chicago, IL**

*Christine Neeb, M.D.*

**Co-Investigator**, September 2022 to present, JCOIN J-RIG (NIDA)

This study will examine the feasibility and acceptability of video-directed methadone treatment as a mechanism to improve access to and retention in treatment among justice-involved individuals with opioid use disorder.

**An Expanded Social Network Approach to Locating People who Use Drugs and Recently Infected and/or Undiagnosed Positive Cases for HIV Testing in South Africa, During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health, Chicago, IL**

*Leslie D. Williams, Ph.D.*

**Principal Investigator**, March 2020 to February 2023, UIC School of Public Health Seed Funding Award

This pilot project conducted a small randomized trial of two versions of a social network-based intervention that will circumvent stigma-related barriers to increase HIV testing and care linkage among Black men, people who use drugs, and people with recent HIV infection in socioeconomically disadvantaged settings in South Africa.

**Developing a Public Health Measure of Built Environment to Assess Risk of Nonmedical Opioid Use and Related Mortality in Urban and Non-Urban Areas in New Jersey**

**University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health, Chicago, IL**

*Barbara Tempalski, Ph.D.*

**Co-Investigator**, May 2020 to April 2023, NIDA

This project will use secondary data on setting characteristics to develop and validate a geographic information system-integrated built environment measure of fatal opioid use for use in rural, suburban, and urban settings.

**Contextual Risk Factors for Hepatitis C among Young Persons who Inject Drugs****University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health, Chicago, IL***Basmattee Boodram, Ph.D.***Data Analyst**, October 2019 to present, NIDA

This longitudinal study of young people who inject drugs and their injection network partners will assess the influence of personal (egocentric) social network factors, physical and social geography, social norms regarding injection drug use (IDU), and perceived IDU stigma on HCV risk.

**Reducing Overdose Mortality in Illinois (ROMI)****University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health, Chicago, IL***Mai Pho, Ph.D., Harold Pollack, Ph.D., and John A. Schneider, M.D.***Intervention Specialist**, October 2019 to August 2022, NIDA

ROMI is a multi-site randomized-controlled trial that will evaluate a case management-based intervention to improve medication-assisted treatment uptake and other health and criminal justice outcomes among individuals with opioid use disorder exiting jails and prisons.

**Transmission Reduction Intervention Project (TRIP)****Institute for Infectious Disease Research, National Development and Research Institutes, Inc.,****(NDRI) New York, NY***Samuel Friedman, Ph.D.***Principal Research Associate**, July 2015 to July 2019, NIDA

A network intervention in Athens, Greece; Odessa, Ukraine; and Chicago, Illinois that aims to reduce HIV transmission by locating recently infected individuals and distributing community alerts and educational information about imminent risk of transmission during recent infection among their sexual and injection networks and at venues they attend to meet injection and sex partners.

- “Unofficial Co-PI” role, working with PI to make all project decisions
- Data analyst
- Run and interpret statistical analyses, including social network analyses and visualizations
- Work with project managers and data analysts at each site to facilitate data management and analysis
- Work with principal investigator to coordinate data management, team communication, and paper collaboration across project sites
- Co-develop and lead and/or co-author project papers and presentations
- Lead role in development of grant proposal for second phase of project

**Metropolitan Trajectories of HIV Epidemics, Drug Use, and Responses in US Key Populations (MetroEpi)****Institute for Infectious Disease Research, National Development and Research Institutes, Inc.,****(NDRI) New York, NY***Samuel R. Friedman, Ph.D., Hannah Cooper, Sc.D., and Ronald Stall, Ph.D.***Principal Research Associate**, July 2014 to October 2019, NIDA

Long-term longitudinal study of HIV epidemics among three key populations (persons who inject drugs, men who have sex with men, and heterosexuals) in 96 U.S. metropolitan statistical areas which examines both contextual predictors of epidemics and relationships between epidemics.

- Primary data analyst and data manager for project
- Update and process new data and manage data sources
- Run and interpret advanced statistical models (multivariate multilevel longitudinal models)
- Work with principal investigators to compute epidemiological estimates of HIV, AIDS, and drug use for each of 96 U.S. MSAs and for the nation, spanning 23 years
- Co-develop and co-author project papers

**Closer to the Crib Intervention Study****Nassau County District Attorney’s Office, Nassau County, NY***Leslie Williams, Ph.D., Sheryl Anania***Principal Investigator**, July 2014 to January 2017, Nassau County District Attorney’s Office

Empirical study of the efficacy of a county-level policy intervention for parents of 0-3 year old children who have been recently charged with a criminal offense, and for their families.

- Provide consultation on research design
- Communicate with and ensure compliance with institutional review board
- Write a proposed research plan
- Develop surveys and identify and review instruments for data collection
- Hire and supervise data collection staff
- Enter and analyze data
- Write research findings and final project reports

**Community-Level HIV Preventive Intervention in South Africa - Proposal Development**  
**New York University, New York, NY & Human Sciences Research Council, Durban, South Africa**  
*Erin Godfrey, Ph.D., Heidi van Rooyen, Ph.D., Lucia Knight, Ph.D., and Alastair van Heerden, Ph.D.*  
**Consultant**, October 2013 to July 2014, NYU Seed Funding

An undertaking to develop a successful NIH proposal to implement and evaluate a community-level HIV preventive intervention in South Africa which intervenes at the level of community norms and which targets early adolescents. Work under this award is funded by the NYU Global Public Health Research Challenge, and is interdisciplinary work which aims to combine the fields of psychological development, community psychology, and public health.

- Took the lead on writing a successful proposal for seed funding
- Collaborated with colleagues on preliminary conceptualization of intervention and evaluation design
- Conducted quantitative data analysis to inform intervention design
- Conducted literature reviews to inform intervention design
- Played lead role in reaching out to investigators who have done similar work in order to bolster the team's understanding of effective intervention implementation and practical challenges with intervention work in this context

**Well-Being of South Africa's Children: Household, Community and Policy Influences (Sibhekelela izingane zethu (SIZE))**

**New York University, New York, NY and Human Sciences Research Council, Durban, South Africa**  
**Graduate Research Assistant**, September 2008 to May 2014

*J. Lawrence Aber, Ph.D., LaRue Allen, Ph.D., Linda Richter, Ph.D., and Erin Godfrey, Ph.D.*

**NYU Site Chief of Staff**, January 2010 to May 2014, NICHD

A large-scale, longitudinal, developmental study project funded by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and the NICHD to examine the influence of household, community and policy factors on children's developmental processes and physical and mental well-being in high-poverty, high HIV-prevalence Zulu communities in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

- Collaborated with investigators on a proposal for an R01 continuation grant from NIH
- Developed measures and protocols pertaining to healthcare and social service access
- Collaborated with colleagues on the development of manuscripts to be submitted to scientific journals
- Conducted advanced statistical analyses of project data
- Actively participated in decision-making with colleagues at NYU and in South Africa regarding key aspects of the study
- Supervised data collection activities
- Supervised, trained, and mentored early-stage doctoral student research assistants
- Managed and cleaned primary data
- Managed communication with IRB/Ethics Board; completed and managed IRB amendments
- Managed communication among colleagues in South Africa and PIs
- Analyzed pilot data and used the results of such analyses to make refinements and adaptations to measures and data-collection protocol
- Kept records of project decisions (e.g. writing memos of changes in design, procedure, and implementation)

- Performed literature reviews on the development of measurement related to social service provision and access in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Performed a policy review and presentation on access to social services in South Africa

### **School Reform and Beyond (0-3) - Proposal Development**

**New York University, New York, NY**

*J. Lawrence Aber, Ph.D., Pamela Morris, Ph.D.*

**Consultant**, May 2011 to August 2011, NICHD

Development of a grant proposal to study a family level preventive intervention aiming to close the achievement gap between low-income and higher-income children, and to improve school readiness among low-income 0-3 year old children.

- Conducted extensive literature review on child and family physical health and medical setting interventions with cognitive (i.e. reading) components
- Conducted literature review on intervention implementation science for early childhood interventions
- Conducted literature review on child parenting interventions and child psychosocial functioning interventions
- Developed conceptual and theoretical models
- Completed administrative and organizational grant proposal preparation tasks

### **Advancing Biology Education**

**Center for Children and Technology, Education Development Center Research, New York, NY**

**Research Assistant**, May to September, 2010

*Margaret (Peggy) Clements, Ph.D. and Lauren Goldenberg, Ph.D.*

A longitudinal mixed-methods study of the effects of an online teacher education intervention intended to improve biology curriculum knowledge among high school biology teachers in New York State.

- Wrote annual progress reports (including write-up of quantitative results) for funding-accountability purposes
- Wrote abstracts for conference presentations
- Cleaned and re-coded data and computed composite variables
- Conducted basic descriptive and correlational analyses, and checked analyses conducted by more senior researchers for error
- Played a primary role in development of (i.e. background literature reviews and development of research questions) and preliminary analyses for a paper examining patterns of teacher attrition from the sample and the role of teacher attrition on study outcomes
- Assisted in grant-writing for future research (conducted literature reviews, managed references, and independently wrote portions of Introduction and Methods sections)

### **Project BRIDGE: Bridging Mental Health and Education in Urban Schools**

**New York University, New York, NY.**

**Graduate Research Assistant**, September 2009 to August 2010

*Elise Cappella, Ph.D.*

A classroom-level intervention in New York City public elementary schools which aims to improve problematic classroom processes related to students' behavioral challenges. This NIH-funded project is designed to integrate a teacher consultation program with an urban mental health model in order to provide support for teachers and to alter classroom processes.

- Collected observational data in classrooms using BOSS and CLASS methods.
- Administered child surveys.
- Entered, cleaned, and managed raw data.
- Designed a brief measure of major changes in children's family structure.
- Supervised undergraduate research assistants on data entry.
- Assisted in development of teacher focus group protocol.
- Collected qualitative data from teachers.
- Created social networks using UCINET software.

**Economic Independence for Domestic Violence Survivors New York University, New York, NY**

**Graduate Research Assistant**, September 2009 to May 2010

*Alisha Ali, Ph.D., Randy Mowry, Ph.D., Robert Hawkins, Ph.D.*

A mixed methods study evaluating a multi-site economic empowerment intervention for survivors of domestic violence in New York City. The intervention uses a financial literacy and economic empowerment curriculum developed by The Allstate Foundation and adapted for a New York City-based population of low-income, immigrant women, a significant proportion of whom are living with disabilities.

- Collected qualitative data via interviews and observational methods.
- Assisted in development and refinement of qualitative surveys and quantitative measures of economic empowerment.
- Participated in adaptation of intervention curriculum for use with a low-income, immigrant population.
- Assisted in project design and planning.
- Assisted in grant-writing for related, subsequent research projects.

**Graduate Research**

**New York University, New York, NY**

**Graduate Assistantship**, September 2008 to May 2014

*J. Lawrence Aber, Ph.D*

Conducted an independent research study under the mentorship of J. Lawrence Aber using data from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study-Kindergarten Cohort of 1998-1999. Study examined the relationship between parentally bereaved status and internalizing and externalizing outcomes and academic outcomes in third and fifth grades, respectively, for a nationally representative sample of children. The study also explored age at bereavement as a predictor of these outcomes.

- Extracted data, merged data files, cleaned data, and recoded variables
- Conducted predictive analyses of ECLS-K data using SPSS, STATA, R, and SAS software
- Adjusted standard errors of weighted data using Jackknife 2 replication method (AM software and SAS software)
- Conducted multiple imputation using SAS and software
- Conducted propensity score matching using STATA and SAS software
- Conducted growth curve modeling analyses using STATA software

**Evidence-Based Teaching Practices: “Core Principles and Practices” from Psychological Science for Teacher Education**

**New York University, New York, NY**

**Graduate Research Assistant**, May to September, 2009

*Mary Brabeck, Ph.D.*

A project funded by the American Psychological Association (APA) with the goal of bringing together the Educational Psychology and Child Development literatures in domains identified by the Teacher Needs Survey, and of determining the level of representation of this literature and these domains in textbooks used in Education programs and teacher training.

- Collected and analyzed archival data
- Analyzed content of Education textbooks

**The Ohio State University Department of Social Psychology**

**Research Assistant**, September 2006 to June 2007.

*Lisa Libby, Ph.D.*

Worked as an undergraduate lab assistant for various social psychological studies, including studies on theory of mind, cognitive reframing, and voting behavior.

- Organized and scheduled interviews and both in-person and online study participation.
- Administered surveys and computer-based measures.
- Developed the structure and formatting of online surveys.

- Developed the structure and formatting of computer-based measures using MediaLab software.
- Assisted with editing and revision of the wording of survey-based measures to be appropriate for use among a population of college undergraduate students.

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

##### **Advanced Methods in Community Health Sciences (CHSC 552) – UIC School of Public Health**

###### ***Course Level: Doctoral***

**Instructor**, August to December, 2021 (Online, synchronous)

**Instructor**, August to December, 2022 (Online, synchronous)

**Instructor**, August to December, 2023 (Online, synchronous)

##### **Research Methods in Community Health Sciences (CHSC 446) – UIC School of Public Health**

###### ***Course Level: Graduate (Masters and Doctoral)***

**Co-Instructor**, January to May, 2020 (In-person followed by transition to online, synchronous)

**Instructor**, January to May, 2021 (Online, synchronous)

**Instructor**, January to May, 2022 (Online, synchronous)

**Instructor**, January to May, 2023 (Online, asynchronous)

**Instructor**, January to May, 2024 (Online, asynchronous)

##### **Health Behavior Interventions (CHSC 586) – UIC School of Public Health**

###### ***Course Level: Graduate (Masters and Doctoral)***

**Instructor**, August to December, 2020 (Online, asynchronous)

**Instructor**, August to December, 2022 (Online, asynchronous)

**Instructor**, August to December, 2023 (Online, asynchronous)

##### **Human Growth and Development (APSY-GE 2138) – New York University**

###### ***Course Level: Masters***

**Instructor (Adjunct Faculty Position)**, September to December, 2018

##### **Development and Prevention Science (APSY-GE 2094) – New York University**

###### ***Course Level: Masters***

**Instructor (Adjunct Faculty Position)**, January to May, 2018

##### **Research Methods in Applied Psychology II (APSY-UE 1137) – New York University**

###### ***Course Level: Undergraduate***

**Instructor (Adjunct Faculty Position)**, September to December, 2017

##### **Grant Writing and Grant Management for the Social Sciences (E63.2077) - New York University**

###### ***Course Level: Masters***

**Instructor (Adjunct Faculty Position)**, January to May, 2014

- Presented all course lectures
- Provided individual feedback to students on all assignments
- Assisted students in developing original grant proposals

##### **Growth Curve Modeling: Nested Data (E10.2042) - New York University**

###### ***Course Level: Doctoral***

**Lab Instructor (Adjunct Faculty Position)**, March to May, 2011

- Created lesson plans for lab classes
- Led lab classes, including tutorials of statistical software (STATA and Excel)
- Provided technical and homework support to students

**Advanced Quantitative Methods: Topics in Multivariate Analysis (E10.2004) – New York University**

***Course Level: Doctoral***

**Lab Instructor and Teaching Assistant (Adjunct Faculty Position),** January to March, 2011 & 2012

- Taught lab classes, including conceptual and homework-based material
- Created Grading Rubrics for all assignments
- Graded all assignments
- Met with students individually during office hours and appointments to provide extra assistance and tutelage
- Provided assistance to students via email
- Assisted in management of course website

**TECHNICAL SKILLS**

---

- SPSS
- STATA
- SAS
- Visone Network Analysis Software
- MPLUS Statistical Package
- Some experience using R Statistical Package