

## Alisha Cupid

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### EDUCATION

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- 2025 (exp)     **Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work**  
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ  
Dissertation: “The climb towards equality: Examining women’s empowerment in Trinidad and Tobago through a mixed methods study” (In progress)
- 2013            **Master of Social Work (MSW)**  
Tulane University; New Orleans, LA
- 2011            **Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)**  
New York University; New York, NY

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

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International social work	Participatory research methods
Global poverty	Mixed methods research methods
Women and poverty	Women’s empowerment
International development	Poverty reduction policy
African and Caribbean women	Mixed methods research methods
Culturally competent social Work	Social work practice and research

### AWARDS

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#### American Association of University Women

- American Dissertation Fellowship, 2023 (\$25,000)

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### In Progress

Nnajiolor, O., **Cupid, A.**, Fahrenfeld, N., Peterson, N.A., Brown, Q.L. Considerations for using Wastewater-Based Epidemiology for Opioid Use Surveillance. (7 pages).

Powell, K.G., Peterson, N.A., Morton, C.M., **Cupid, A.** Training Needs of the Substance Misuse Prevention Workforce: A Profile of the Northeastern United States. (17 pages).

**Cupid, A.**, Powell, K.G. & Peterson, N.A. Substance Use and HIV Prevention Navigation for African American and Hispanic Youth at Higher Risk in New Jersey: Annual Report Year 3. (34 pages).

#### Reports

Yu, M., Sylvester, D., **Cupid, A.**, Powell, K.G. & Peterson, N.A. (2020). State opioid response (SOR) performance assessment and evaluation report. Technical report submitted to New Jersey Department of Health, Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services, Trenton, NJ. (71 pages).

**Cupid, A., Powell, K.G. & Peterson, N.A. (2020).** Evaluation of the marijuana impact virtual symposium: Analysis of participant survey data. Technical report submitted to Prevention Resources, Inc. Safe Coalition of Hunterdon and Somerset, Flemington, NJ. (10 pages).

Hidalgo, J., McKenzie, C., Kaur, H., **Cupid, A., Powell, K.G. & Peterson, N.A. (2022).** New Jersey Partnerships for Success: Third annual performance assessment. Technical report submitted to New Jersey Department of Health, Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services, Trenton, NJ. (76 pages).

## PRESENTATIONS

**Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Presenter, Trenton, NJ** **10/2019**

Topic: 2022 NJ Epi Profile

- Presented to the State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW) about the State Epidemiological Profile project.

**Rutgers University, Guest Speaker, New Brunswick, NJ** **2/2021**

Topic: Women's economic empowerment and household work

- Presented at Ph.D. Research Development Seminar on dissertation related topics.

**The Society for Community Research and Action (SCRA), Virtual** **6/2021**

Topic: The contribution of Participatory Research to the development of a statewide epidemiological profile in New Jersey

- Presented at a symposium focused on Community Participation.

**Society For Social Work & Research (SSWR), Presenter, Washington, DC** **1/2022**

Topic: Training needs and proficiency of the Substance Misuse Prevention Workforce: A profile from the United States Northeast

- Presented SSWR Poster at Society for Social Work & Research conference in Washington, DC.

**Camden District Council Collaborative Board, Presenter, Camden, NJ** **4/2023**

Topic: The COP Study: Communities & officers working together to prevent opioid use disorder

- Presented at community linkages meeting about the study.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Center for Prevention Science-Rutgers University, Grad Assistant, New Brunswick, New Jersey** **9/2019-present**

- Conduct research tasks including searching for data; quantitative data cleaning, analysis, and creating data reports.
- Conduct quantitative analysis using SPSS.
- Attend state-level meetings, take meeting notes, and conducted literature reviews.
- Served as Team Lead on community research projects conducting qualitative research, organizing board meetings, presenting at community meetings, literature reviews, and process evaluation.

**Rutgers University, Research Intern, New Brunswick, New Jersey** **1/2021-1/2022**

- Conducted extensive literature review on poverty and poverty mapping using AI in Zambia.
- Collaborated on introduction of journal articles for publication.
- Completed chapter reviews of manuscripts for publication.
- Identified data sets to analyze georeferenced data.
- Reviewed grant proposals and IRB protocols for various projects.

**Institute for Families-Rutgers University, Graduate Assistant, New Brunswick, New Jersey** **9/2018-8/2019**

- Completed data entry for NJCC quality improvement study and several other surveys using SPSS.
- Researched best practices for evaluating critical incidents pertaining to children in care for literature review.
- Completed Workforce Report for New Jersey Department of Children and Families.

- Assisted with creating IRB protocol for forensic interviewing study for DOJ grant application.

## PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

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**Social Worker III, New Orleans Police Department, New Orleans, LA** 11/2016 – 8/2018

- Developed and coordinated appropriate counseling program within the homicide department.
- Provided specialized individual/family therapy for victims/witnesses of violent crimes and their families.
- Prepared necessary reports and maintained adequate case records and statistics.

**Correct Care Solutions, Mental Health Professional, New Orleans, LA** 4/2016-10/2016

- Conducted mental health intake assessments, suicide risk assessments, and crisis intervention.
- Provided mental health individual counseling for a caseload of 80 incarcerated males and females.
- Facilitated psychotherapy groups for individuals with mild to severe mental illness.

**Womanspace LA/RHD, Assistant Director, New Orleans, LA** 11/2015-4/2016

- Conducted intake assessments, summarize results, and coordinated the acceptance process for a residential 20 bed Safe Haven female program.
- Ensured consumer charts were accurate and complete.
- Provided individual, group, family, and crisis intervention sessions as needed.
- Led clinical case supervision meetings and facilitate staff trainings.
- Conducted and documented individual supervision of staff members and social work interns.

**Odyssey House Louisiana, Substance Abuse Counselor, New Orleans, LA** 11/2015-4/2016

- Conducted individual and group therapy sessions for residential substance abuse detox facility.
- Completed treatment and discharge plans according to client's disposition.
- Identified services and support needed to address client problems and needs as identified in the client assessment.
- Completed daily clinical documentation in electronic records database for case management of 20 male and female clients.

**West Baton Rouge Sheriff Office, Transition Specialist, Baton Rouge, LA** 6/2014-4/2015

- Created casework and resource system for the new branch of Capital Area Reentry Program.
- Provided case management for adult male offenders to assess risks, strengths, and community services needed in order to reduce recidivism rates.
- Conducted client intakes/discharge sessions and maintained case files.
- Mobilized community resources and interagency services for transitioning offenders.
- Provided daily task supervision to Social Work interns.
- Reviewed and analyzed program policies, procedures, rules, and regulations in accordance with national social work standards.

**Seamen's Society for Children and Families, Socio-Therapist, Staten Island, NY** 12/2011-10/2012

- Provided services as a behavioral specialist with multidisciplinary foster care team to ensure each child is placed permanently in a stable home.
- Scheduled and monitored mandated weekly contacts and documented home visits.
- Monitored and maintained compliance for casework milestones in accordance with time frames established by City and State regulations.
- Assisted foster parents in their role of monitoring youth's daily progress. Supported and monitored progress as it relates to the specific behavioral and social goals developed for and with children.

**United States Marine Corps, Veteran, Camp Pendleton, CA** 1/2005-1/2009

- Served in the United States Marine Corps as a Non-Commissioned officer; E4-Corporal of Marines.
- Deployed in Iraq as Aviation Ordnance Marine during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2007.
- Provided leadership to and mentored junior Marines.
- Attended formal aviation military schools; troubleshoot electrical systems, maintained, and replaced parts on

aircrafts.

- Performed and supervised Food Service production of daily unit meals for 300 Marines.

## TEACHING INTERESTS and EXPERIENCE

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Social Work Practice; Human Behavior in the Social Environment; Clinical Social Work Practice; Global Social Work and Social Development; Gender, Women, and Intersectional Social Justice; Social Welfare Policy & Services

## OTHER EMPLOYMENT

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### **Women for Women International and Tulane University, Intern, Rwanda, Africa** **9/2013-12/2013**

- Collaborated with local organizations that trained newly recruited social workforce in childcare and protection services at the sub-national level with an emphasis on childcare system reform.
- Monitoring and Evaluation; assisted with the development of training assessment tools; development and maintenance of the project database; data entry; qualitative and quantitative analysis.
- Capacity Building; provided training and ongoing technical assistance to Tulane University Rwanda Country Office technical staff on basics of qualitative and quantitative data analysis.
- Project Management; assisted with project management activities, including logistics and reporting.
- Conducted several focus groups in rural villages through Women for Women International during a 3-month period around issues of childcare with program participants.
- Compiled research and submitted findings and suggestions for the agency about the country's childcare practices.
- Compiled success stories of graduates from the program for website/grant purposes.

### **ERACE, Social Work Intern, New Orleans, LA** **1/2013-8/2013**

- Attended Board of Directors meetings.
- Formulated management plan for expansion of non-profit volunteer organization from local to national presence.
- Attained skills in office management, communications, and staffing systems.
- Utilized web conferencing system to create opportunities for intergroup dialogues in schools.
- Facilitated monthly group discussions with community and board members around deconstructing racism.
- Selected and supervised volunteers.
- Coordinated fundraising events.
- Managed day to day functions of email, investors, website maintenance, and created independent schedule.

### **Grand Street Settlement, Social Work Intern, New York, NY** **9/2010-5/2011**

- Coordinated case management with high-risk LGBTQ youth ages 18-22 transitioning out of the foster care system, living in shelters, and/or in need of housing, healthcare, and jobs.
- Developed, implemented, and evaluated independent life skills program.
- Facilitated resume writing, interview etiquette, housing, medical care, sexual health, and LGBT history courses.
- Provided crisis intervention for adolescents exhibiting high risk behaviors.
- Conducted intakes with new clients and provided referrals.
- Advocated for clients with schools, medical care, public assistance, and family members.
- Participated in community outreach.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) by Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners (2018)
- Teaching Assistant Project Certificate, Rutgers-Graduate School (2020)

## **SERVICE**

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**Rutgers University, Doctoral Student Association Co-Vice President, New Brunswick, NJ** 9/2020-5/2021

- Served as liaison for PhD students and faculty in the School of Social Work.
- Resolved the concerns of the graduate student community and continually engages the Board to develop resolutions to concerns.
- Spoke at numerous events throughout the year and advocated for graduate student life and governance.

**Second Harvest Food Bank, Volunteer, Harahan, LA** 10/2015

- Assisted in collecting and distributing goods at the local food bank.

**Marine Corps Recruiting Station Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, LA** 11/2014

- Presented Stress Management/Resiliency brief for female Marine Corps applicants in the Delayed Entry Program to facilitate increased retention rates for recruit training.

**DOROT, Volunteer, New York, NY** 9/2009-12/2009

- Volunteered with Jewish organization to conduct weekly home visits with elderly Holocaust survivors.
- Provided social support through conversations about life during the Holocaust.
- Planned recreational activities with clients and helped them with ADL functions.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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- National Association of Social Workers (2010-present)
- Mixed Methods International Research Association (2022-present)