

EDUCATION

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, PhD Social Work, September 2018-October 2025

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, MSW Social Work, May 2020

Teachers College, Columbia University, MA Psychology in Education, May 2017

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, BA Psychology, May 2015

AWARDS

Dissertation Support Funds Award, School of Social Work, Rutgers University, \$920	2024
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2024 Grand Challenges for Social Work Honorable Mention, \$500	2024
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SCHOLARSHIP

Peer-reviewed Publications

Gonzalez Benson, O., Magan, I. M., & Yu, M. (2024). Outreach Work in 'Hard-to-Reach' Communities: A Critical Analysis of Task Shifting, Contact Making, Establishing Credibility and on-the-Spot, Solution-Focused Assistance. *The British Journal of Social Work*, bcad269.

Robles, G., Lee, J. J., Yu, M., & Starks, T. J. (2023). Multilevel Analysis of Sociopolitical Contexts, Social Support, Mental Health, and Alcohol Use Among Partnered Sexual Minority Latino Men in the US. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, 1-10.

Bowden, C. F., Simmel, C., Mendez, A., Yu, M., Neese-Todd, S., & Crystal, S. (2022). The Complexity of Psychotropic Medication Prescription and Treating Trauma Among Youth in Foster Care: Perspectives from the Lived Experience. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*, 49(5), 821-833.

Robles, G., Hong, C., Yu, M., & Starks, T. J. (2022). Intersecting communities and PrEP uptake among US-based Latinx sexual minority men. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, 9(6), 2157-2163.

Alessi, E.J., Greenfield, B., Yu, M., Cheung, S., Giwa, S., & Kahn, S. (2021). Family, friendship, and strength among LGBTQ+ migrants in Cape Town, South Africa: A qualitative understanding. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*.

Alessi, E. J., Cheung, S., Kahn, S., & Yu, M. (2021). A scoping review of the experiences of violence and abuse among sexual and gender minority migrants across the migration trajectory. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 22(5), 1339-1355.

Yu, M., Reyes, L., Malik, S., Khetarpal, R. M., & Steiner, J. J. (2021). Reciprocity among forced migrants: refugees and asylees as agents of facilitating integration and community-building for self and others in the United States. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 49(7), 1648-1666

Reports

Mankopf, E., Yu, M., Pich, R., Powell, K.G. & Peterson, N.A. (2021). New Jersey PDO/Naloxone Distribution Initiative: Year 4 Annual Performance Assessment. Technical report submitted to New Jersey Department of Health, Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services, Trenton, NJ, 89 pages.

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).

Simmel, C., Bowden, C., Greenfield, B., Logue Conroy, R., Mendez, A., Yu, M., & Arnold-Berkovits, I. (2019). Summary report of the kinship navigator formative evaluation project in New Jersey. Report prepared for the New Jersey Department of Children and Families. Rutgers University School of Social Work. (134 pages).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Reyes L., Yu, M., Malik, S., Khetarpal, R. M., & Steiner, J. J. (2021, January 19-22). *Migrant reciprocity: Refugees and asylees as agents of facilitating integration for self and others*. [Poster presentation]. 25th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Virtual Conference.

Malik, S., Yu, M., Reyes L., Khetarpal, R. M., & Steiner, J. J. (2021, January 19-22). *Resettlement experiences of refugees in the tri-state area: Examining the role of community ethnic density*. [Poster presentation]. 25th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Virtual Conference.

Yu, M., Bowden, C., Simmel, C., Neese Todd, S., & Crystal, S. (2020, January 15-19). *Balancing risks and benefits: Stakeholder perspectives on antipsychotic medication use for youth in foster care*. [Poster presentation]. 24th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Washington, D.C.

Yu, M., Lynch, J., Simmel, C., & Shpiegel, S. (2020, January 15-19). *Defining child neglect: A scoping review of perceptions, trends, and risk factors in different cultural groups*. [Poster presentation]. 24th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Washington, D.C.

- Chen, Y., Wong, J., Zhou, X., Mei, J., **Yu, M.**, Huang, M., & Mason, K. (2016, August). *Culture-specific perspectives of HIV/AIDS stigma in Chinese American immigrants in New York City*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Asian American Psychological Association, Denver, CO.
- Mei, J., Wong, J., Zhou, X., **Yu, M.**, Yu, A., & Mason, K. (2016, August). *A community-based approach to understanding HIV/AIDS stigma in Chinese American immigrants in New York City*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Asian American Psychological Association, Denver, CO.
- Crump, F., Ceccolini, C., Ruiz, B., Shah, B., Zhou, H., & **Yu, M.** (2016, August). *Sociocultural trends: A qualitative analysis of the impact on clinical high risk for psychosis*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Denver, CO.
- Chen, J. H., Graham, A. A., White, L., **Yu, M.**, Tran, C., Morita, J., Steinhart, A., Tarazi, R., Martinez, M., Esparza, D., Botcheva, L., & Vega, E. (2016, August). *Analyzing mental health conceptions within a Native American community sample*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Denver, CO.
- Lee, J. Y., **Yu, M.**, & Oades-Sese, G. V. (2015, May). *Relationships between teachers and economically disadvantaged preschoolers predict socioemotional competence as demonstrated by peer play behaviors*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the Association for Psychological Science, New York, NY.
- Yu, M.**, Oades-Sese, G. V., Lau, A., Mille, V., & Rodgers, A. (2015, August). *The effectiveness of Sesame Street's little children, big challenges: Incarceration toolkit*. Poster presented at the Annual International Conference of the Resilience Research Centre, Halifax, CAN.

EMPLOYMENT

Research Experiences

Graduate Research Assistant, September 2024-present

Rutgers University School of Social Work, New Brunswick, NJ

Dr. Kristen Gilmore Powell

- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data, prepare reports, conduct data entry

Graduate Research Assistant, September 2020-May 2021

Rutgers University School of Social Work, New Brunswick, NJ

Dr. Gabriel Robles and Dr. Kristen Gilmore Powell

- Create infographics, conduct literature searches, analyze quantitative and qualitative data; assist in the preparation of manuscript.

Graduate Research Assistant, September 2018-August 2020

Rutgers University School of Social Work, New Brunswick, NJ

Dr. Cassandra Simmel

- Analyze qualitative data, assist in report preparation, recruit participants, provide administrative support for the DCF Commissioner's Listening Tour, and assist in the preparation of research brief and manuscript.

Research Assistant, September 2016-August 2017

Rutgers University Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology, New Brunswick, NJ

Dr. James Walkup, Teen Health and Well-Being

- Conduct literature searches, revise vignettes for study, and manage IRB forms.

Research Coordinator, January 2015-June 2016

The Institute for the Study of Child Development, New Brunswick, NJ

Dr. Geraldine V. Oades-Sese, Project C.O.M.B.A.T. (Children Overcoming Military-Based Adversities Together)

- Lead graphic design, support 26 undergraduate and graduate research assistants in developing materials in the form of a 7-series magazine collection, create datasets, train research assistants for data entry, and present materials at school-based trainings. Materials have been downloaded over 200+ times.

Research Assistant, September 2015-February 2016

Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY

Dr. Lawrence Yang, Psychometric Validation of a Culture-specific Measure of Mental Illness Stigma for Chinese Americans

- Code transcripts, analyze qualitative data, recruit participants, administer measurements in Mandarin and English, create dataset and poster.

Research Assistant, September 2015-February 2016

Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY

Dr. Lawrence Yang, HIV Stigma in Chinese Immigrants

- Analyze qualitative data and create poster for the annual Asian American Psychological Association (AAPA) convention.

Research Assistant, May 2014-January 2015

The Institute for the Study of Child Development, New Brunswick, NJ

Dr. Geraldine V. Oades-Sese; Sesame Street Project, Little Children, Big Challenges: Divorce, Separation, and Incarceration

- Recruit and screen participants, enter data qualitative and quantitative), conduct literature search, fieldwork in school and prisons, and upon completion of research project promoted to research coordinator.

Social Work Direct Practice

Preferred Communities Director, October 2021-present

Interfaith-RISE, Highland Park, NJ

Refugee Resettlement Caseworker, February 2020-October 2021

Interfaith-RISE, Highland Park, NJ

Refugee Youth Program Intern, May 2019-October 2019

International Rescue Committee, Elizabeth, NJ

Refugee Reception and Placement Intern, September 2018-April 2019

Interfaith-RISE, Highland Park, NJ

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Instructor, September 2024-present

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Diversity and Oppression; Social Work with Immigrants and Refugees

Guest Lecturer, January 2023, January 2024

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

Winter Session Service-Based Engagement with Refugee Healthcare

Guest Lecturer, May 2023

Crestron (DEI Department), Rockleigh, NJ
Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

English Language Learning Tutor, December 2020-August 2021

Chinese Progressive Association, Chinatown, NY
English and Citizenship Classes

Classroom Volunteer, August 2020, August 2019, August 2018

International Rescue Committee, Elizabeth, NJ
Refugee Youth Summer Academy

Adjunct Instructor, January 2019-May 2019

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ
Introduction to Mentoring

Substitute Teacher, January 2018-June 2018

Hunterdon Central Regional High School, Flemington, NJ

Teaching Assistant, September 2016-May 2017

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ
Introduction to Mentoring; Mentoring and Youth Challenges; Mentoring, Communication, & Ecological Community Context

SAT Rater, May 2016-June 2017

Educational Testing Service (ETS), Princeton, NJ

Upward Bound Tutor, September 2014-May 2015

Upward Bound & Upward Bound Math-Science, Piscataway, NJ

SERVICE

Peer Reviewer, 2025

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Peer Reviewer, 2025

BMC Public Health

Peer Reviewer, 2024

Discover Social Science and Health

Peer Reviewer, 2024

Journal of Interpersonal Violence

Peer Reviewer, 2024

Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research

Food Pantry Volunteer and Interpreter, April 2020-September 2021

Highland Park Community Food Pantry, Highland Park, NJ

Refugee Wellness Committee Member, March 2019- September 2021

New Jersey Office of Refugee Resettlement, Elizabeth, NJ

School of Social Work Doctoral Student Association Representative, Summer 2020-Spring 2021

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ

Recording Secretary NAMI Hunterdon Board of Directors, July 2017-September 2020

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Hunterdon Inc., Flemington, NJ

CAMHOP Volunteer, April 2017-September 2020

Chinese American Mental Health Outreach Program (CAMHOP), North Brunswick, NJ

AmeriCorps Member, September 2016-September 2017

The Collaborative Center for Community-Based Research Center, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ