



## *Workshop Session Descriptions*

NACSW Convention 2017

*Charlotte, North Carolina  
November 2<sup>nd</sup> – November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017*

### **Convention 2017 Poster Session Information**

*The following presents a listing of poster presentations that will be included in NACSW's Convention 2017 with abstracts and presenters' bios. The poster sessions are sorted alphabetically by presenters' last names.*

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**Poster Title:** Faith, Storytelling & Positive Psychology in Youth Development in Africa

**Poster Presenter(s):** Omotola Akinsola, MSW

**Poster Abstract:** Our world is becoming more technology focused. Conversations with friends, family units and communities are now being replaced by chat messages, emails, and emoticons. There seems to be a lack of deep connection and this can adversely affect wellness/well-being. This presentation will explore the role of storytelling in transforming well-being.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Omotola holds a Master's degree from George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis, having earned a Bachelor's degree in Social Work with a double minor in Leadership Studies and Psychology from Columbia College. She is currently studying for her Ph.D. at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville with research interest in Youth Development in developing countries, Youth Workforce & Asset Development, and Positive Youth Development.

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**Poster Title:** Felon or Father: Using Identity Theory to Conceptualize Inmate Challenges

**Poster Presenter(s):** Parris Baker, PhD

**Poster Abstract:** The narratives of incarcerated fathers' that help professionals identify institutions which interrupt the identity process of continuous congruence between reflected self-appraisals and the identity standard and inhibit their ability to enact the

father role will be shared. Implications for faith-based practice and social policy are discussed.

**Presenter Bio (s):** An ordained minister, Parris Baker, MSSA, PhD, is Social Work Program Director, Gannon University and Founder/Director of Abba Fathers Program. The Abba Fathers' Small Seeds: Building Men with Character curriculum has been used by the PA Department of Corrections, Erie Community Corrections Center (Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance), and in father support groups in residential and community-based care across Pennsylvania.

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**Poster Title:** Choosing an Area of Social Work Specialization Based Upon Lived Experiences

**Poster Presenter(s):** Matthew Berry, Jade Hill

**Poster Abstract:** This presentation will be based upon the lived experiences of two undergraduate students attending Bowie State University and how their experiences influenced their choice in selecting an area of social work practice for the 21st Century.

**Presenter Bio (s):** I am a 20 year old African American young lady. I'm originally from Baltimore, Maryland. I am the youngest of two children, and I am a first generation college student. I am a Junior Social Work major at Bowie State University. I plan to obtain my BSW and upon graduation apply for Graduate School under advanced standing. Under advanced standing, I will obtain my MSW and my area of specialization will be children and their families.

I am a 21-year-old African American male. I was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland. I am the oldest of two children and am a first generation college student. As a Junior Social Work major at Bowie State University I plan to obtain my BSW, and then apply for graduate school advanced standing. After receiving my MSW with a specialization of children and their families my plan is to receive my doctoral degree and go clinical.

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**Poster Title:** Fruitful Inspirations

**Poster Presenter(s):** Lucinda Blue, PhD, CRISC

**Poster Abstract:** Fruitful Inspirations emphasizes the nine attributes from the Book of Galatians. The book attempts to express these attributes in workplace terms understandable for all generations.

**Presenter Bio (s):** L. B. Blue has worked in Corporate America for over 25 years focusing on information technology, insurance, and risk and project management. Over 11 years of teaching at the college level, L. B. Blue attempts to understand, empathize, and care for the total student.

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**Poster Title:** Domestic Violence, Learning and Teaching: Considerations for HBCUs

**Poster Presenter(s):** Kesslyn Brade Stennis, PhD, MSW, MDiv

**Poster Abstract:** Domestic Violence is present in the academic community. Unfortunately, few academic discussions connect domestic violence with teaching, learning and culture. This presentation will discuss domestic violence within the context of an HBCU and will provide an overview of domestic violence research conducted at one sister institution.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Kesslyn Brade Stennis is Chair of the Department of Social Work at Coppin State University. She is also founder of The PhD Consultants and President of the board for NACSW. She has been engaged in funded research on issues which impact communities of color, women and communities of faith.

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**Poster Title:** Counseling & Maintenance for Opioid Addiction: A Pragmatic Perspective

**Poster Presenter(s):** Aaron Brown, LCSW

**Poster Abstract:** As substance abuse treatment providers, it is important to determine whether psychosocial interventions are added to pharmacological maintenance during relapse prevention. A systematic review was conducted to determine the efficacy of psychosocial interventions in conjunction with pharmacological maintenance.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Aaron Brown is a PhD student at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Aaron has worked in the community mental health field for over a decade in a variety of roles such as group home manager, case manager, applied behavioral analyst, outpatient therapist, and clinical supervisor. Aaron's research interests include evidenced-based interpersonal practice, psychosocial interventions, substance abuse treatment, opioid dependence, and mindfulness.

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**Poster Title:** Faith, Spirituality and Social Work Education: An Exploratory Inquiry

**Poster Presenter(s):** Shannon Cousineau, LICSW

**Poster Abstract:** The infusion of faith, spirituality and the social work curriculum remains an unaccomplished goal. This study uses a content analysis to investigate the integration of faith and spirituality in social work syllabi across BSW programs in New England (N=27). The findings will highlight courses that integrate faith and spirituality.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Shannon Cousineau is a DSW candidate at St. Catherine University/University of St. Thomas, with over 15 years of practice experience.

Shannon's dissertation is focused on faith and spirituality in social work education. She is a LICSW in Massachusetts, where she is currently practicing. Shannon has also taught as an adjunct professor at Rhode Island College School of Social Work.

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**Poster Title:** Religion, Spirituality and HIV/AIDS in NGOs and FBOs in Sub-Saharan Africa

**Poster Presenter(s):** Sung Ah Choi, PhC., MSW., & M.Div.

**Poster Abstract:** NGOs and FBOs (Faith-based organizations) have played a significant role in implementing HIV/AIDS intervention and prevention programs in Sub-Saharan Africa. This qualitative study will explain the role of religion in service provisions among professionals in NGOs and FBOs working with HIV/AIDS affected people.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Sung Ah Choi is a doctoral candidate in social welfare in University at Albany. She is also a UMC clergy serving at local churches in Northern New York. She received her M. Div. degree from Drew Theological School in 2008, and completed her MSW studies at Roberts Wesleyan College in 2001. Her research interests include FBOs, religion/spirituality in social work practice, HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa, and international social work.

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**Poster Title:** Integrating Holistic Treatment Into Primary Care

**Poster Presenter(s):** Zach Cooper, BS, CADC-II

**Poster Abstract:** Social workers have an opportunity to operate at the top of their license in primary care by utilizing clinical and community interventions. I will summarize the research I have performed and the work I have done at Christ Community Health Clinic where I have begun the process of integrating behavioral and spiritual health into their clinic.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Zach Cooper is an MSW student at the University of South Carolina and an Alcohol and Drug Counselor at American Work Mental Health and Addictive Disease Services in Augusta, GA where he has been working on an Assertive Community Treatment Team for 2 years. He is passionate about integrating behavioral and spiritual health into primary care and has crafted a field placement integrating behavioral health into a faith based primary health clinic.

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**Poster Title:** Increasing Justice for Youth With Disabilities: Promising Transition to Adulthood

**Poster Presenter(s):** Amber Davis, MSW, LGSW

**Poster Abstract:** This purpose of this study is to evolve the conversation of justice for children and youth with disabilities at the epicenter of this presentation focus. Youth with disabilities are homogenous in needing extra supports to tap their potential and have promising futures. Service models that are evidence-based/promising are discussed.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Ms. Davis a doctoral student in the Social Work PhD program at Howard University. She is also practicing in the community working with inner city D.C. as a mental health therapist.

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**Poster Title:** Prisoner Abuse in the United States: What Should Christians Do?

**Poster Presenter(s):** Claire Forman, BS in Human Development and Family Studies

**Poster Abstract:** The prison system in the United States is doing more harm than good in regards to the rehabilitation of our nation's criminal offenders. This workshop will examine the ways that basic human rights of inmates in the United States are being violated and what Christians can do about this issue.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Claire Forman received her Bachelor's of Science in Human Development and Family Studies from The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, AL. During her time in Tuscaloosa, she interned with Working on Womanhood where she worked with adolescent females who were receiving rehabilitation for juvenile delinquency. She is currently pursuing her Master's in Clinical Social Work at Samford University in Birmingham, AL.

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**Poster Title:** Choosing an Area of Social Work Specialization Based Upon Lived Experiences

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specialization of children and their families, my plan is to receive my doctoral degree and go clinical.

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**Poster Title:** Spiritual Change Following the Homicide of a Loved One

**Poster Presenter(s):** Shannon Johnson, PhD Brooks Zitzmann LCSW

**Poster Abstract:** Individuals who survive the homicide of a loved one simultaneously experience trauma and loss. Healing after homicide has spiritual dimensions that are not well understood. This presentation reviews a grounded theory study of the process of spiritual change after homicide that can be used to inform social work practice.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Shannon Johnson joined the faculty at the National Catholic School of Social Service in 2016. She completed her MSW and MPP at the University of Michigan in 2008 then worked for several years as an addictions and mental health counselor. She earned her PhD in social work from the University of Texas at Austin in 2016. Currently, her research is focused on spiritual change in the lives of homicide survivors.

Brooks Zitzmann is currently a fourth year doctoral student at the Catholic University of America where she teaches ethics and serves as a research assistant. She earned her MSW from Tulane University in 2009 and her clinical license in Louisiana in 2013. Prior to her social work career, Brooks earned a MSt in Science and Religion from Oxford University in 2005.

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**Poster Title:** A Study on the Effects of the Participation in Social Contribution by Aged

**Poster Presenter(s):** Jongsun Kim, PhD.

**Poster Abstract:** This study aims to respond to the social issues related with the rapidly increasing elderly population and extended life expectancy of the elderly themselves in the presence of transitioning from an aging society to the entry of an aged society in Korea.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Holding 2 PhDs in Management from IAME and Social Welfare from Seoul National University and stationing at the Salvation Army Graduate University for Officer Training in Korea as a Professor and Dean of School Affairs.

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**Poster Title:** Spiritual Coping: Asian Students' Journey to Discovery of Authentic Self

**Poster Presenter(s):** Kyunghee Ma, MSW, MA

**Poster Abstract:** This presentation will provide an overview of collectivist cultures and discuss acculturation stressors unique to Asian international students. It will also examine

the role that spirituality plays in lessening the negative impact of adjustment challenges on the students. Implications for social workers and other practitioners will be presented.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Kyunghie Ma is a PhD candidate in Social Work at the University of South Carolina and a 2016 Support to Promote Advancement of Research and Creativity (SPARC) Award recipient. Her research interests involve: cultural identity, acculturation stress, and mental health among Asian students in the US.

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**Poster Title:** Interpersonal Violence Among African American Young Adult Women

**Poster Presenter(s):** Wachell McKendrick, Ph.D.

**Poster Abstract:** Almost half of female college victims' (47%) first experience of dating violence by an intimate partner occurred between the ages of 18 and 24 years (Black, et al., 2011). To interrupt this pattern, The Violence Interruption Process was facilitated in workshops at an HBCU to 406 students. Results indicated new insights and action by male students.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Dr. Wachell McKendrick received a Ph.D. in Family Relations from the Florida State University. She received her MSW degree from Barry University and her BA in Psychology from Armstrong Atlantic State University. Currently she is an Assistant Professor of Social Work at Florida A&M University in the MSW program, where she was formerly the MSW Program Director. She has 30 years experience in Substance Abuse and trauma counseling and programming.

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**Poster Title:** Field Placement: Professionalism: What It Should Look Like to Generation Y

**Poster Presenter(s):** Kiana Webb-Robinson, LMSW

**Poster Abstract:** Millennials in the classroom and in the field can bring a perspective that is vastly different from their grandparents and perhaps in some ways their parents; while this can be a strength on many levels, it can also pose a concern for others. Can they use the skills of engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation in the field to be more effective?

**Presenter Bio (s):** Kiana Webb-Robinson Bio: Originally from Birmingham, Alabama, I earned my BSW degree from Alabama State University, and upon graduation, I earned my bachelor level license (LBSW) while working as child protective social worker for the Department of Human Resources in Blount County, Alabama.

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**Poster Title:** Factor Analysis of the BMMRS Among People With TBI From the US and India

**Poster Presenter(s):** Dong Yoon, Ph. D.

**Poster Abstract:** The results are generally supportive of previous factor analytic studies of the Brief Multidimensional Measure of Religiousness/Spirituality (BMMRS), suggesting that religious, spiritual, and congregational support constructs (both positive and negative) in US Christian populations are generally consistent across diverse groups.

**Presenter Bio (s):** Education: PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1997; MSW, West Virginia University, 1989; BA, Yon Sei University, 1985. Research Interests: Religiousness/Spirituality; Human Diversity; Gerontology; Rural Social Work; Welfare Reform. Teaching Interests: Policy Analysis; Evaluative Research Methods; Advanced Quantitative Research Methods.