

BELINDA D. SMITH, PHD, LCSW

Morgan State University
School of Social Work
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Social Work, Concentration: Children, Youth and Families, Howard University, Washington, DC 2006)

M.S.S.W. Social Work, Concentration: Mental and Comprehensive Health, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY.
Fellowship: National Institute of Mental Health (1981)

B.S. Social Work, Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL (1979)

LICENSURE

Licensed Independent Social Worker (LCSW), Maryland, #08926

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

8/2023- Present Associate Professor (tenure-track); Dual Appointment, MSW Program and Center for Violence and Crime Reduction. School of Social Work. Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD

8/2016- 8/2022 Associate Professor, Graduate Program, School of Social Work, Jackson State University, Jackson, MS

1/2016-10/2016 Consultant, School of Social Work, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD

6/2014 -10/2014 Program Developer, School of Social Work, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD

8/2008-5/2014 Assistant Professor, BSW Department, School of Social Work, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD

1/2008-8/2008 BSW Director, Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Program, School of Social Work, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD

8/2007-12/2007 Assistant Adjunct Professor, MSW Program, School of Social Work, Howard University, Washington, DC

8/2005-5/2007 Visiting Assistant Professor, BSW Program, Department of Urban Affairs, Social Sciences and Social Work, University of the District of Columbia, Washington, DC

8/2000-5/2001 Program Coordinator, MSW Program, Howard University School of Social Work, Washington, DC

8/1999-12/2003 Graduate Assistant, Teaching and Research Assistant, School of Social Work, Howard University, Washington, DC

MSW COURSE TAUGHT

Child Abuse and Neglect
Child Welfare I & II
Implications for Intergenerational Issues and Older Adults
Social Work Practice I with Individuals and Families
Urban Poverty-
Social Welfare Policy and Social Services
Human Behavior in the Social Environment
Integrative Children and Families Capstone

BSW COURSES TAUGHT

Introduction to Social Work
Approaches to Group Work
Methods of Social Work Practice I (Generalist)
Methods Social Work Practice II (Families and Groups)
Methods of Social Work Practice III (Communities and Organizations)
Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
Black Families
Public Child Welfare in the Urban Environment
Working with Older Adults
Field Practicum Seminar/Liaison
Senior Seminar

RESEARCH INTERESTS AND PROJECTS

RESEARCH INTERESTS

African American Child Welfare Contemporary Pioneers
Racial Equity and the Child Welfare System
Older Foster Care Youth and Postsecondary Education
Youth Transitioning into Adulthood
Social Work Practice in Urban Communities

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- **Principal Investigator** of an oral history project on African American Contemporary Child Welfare Trailblazers. Awarded Faculty Mini-Grant Fall 2023 in the amount of \$10,500. Collaborative with the Title IV-E Child Welfare Scholars, engaging students with conducting interviews to understand the experiences and gain insight of lessons learned.
- **Principal Investigator** of a qualitative study: *Older Youth Aging Out of the Foster Care System Attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities* (). Also, mentored a doctoral student a completing research practicum through this project. Presented findings at two professional conferences. Article completed and published article in the *Journal of Family Strengths* (2010-2013).
- **Project Director** of a pilot qualitative research project established through Morgan State University School of Social Work and WIN Family Services in Baltimore, MD. The study purpose was to examine the utility of a Family Strengthening Practice Model (FSPM). Served on research team that included the principal investigator, and three doctoral students. Significant responsibilities include forging and strengthening partnerships with agency administrators, mentoring doctoral students to develop and implement a research agenda. Developed instruments, facilitated focus groups with social workers and caregivers, conducted data analysis, and presented the results in a written report (2011-2013).
- **Program Evaluator** of the Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Program. Developed and administered instruments to BSW and MSW students. Developed codebook, analyzed data and prepared a final report (2009 -2010).

- **Co-Evaluator** of Project Riches, a Baltimore County based program administered a standardized instrument to evaluate elementary level student's educational progress. Students evaluated were participants in an afterschool program. (10/2007-6/2008).
- **Data Analyst** with project evaluation team with the QED Group, LLC. Evaluated the District of Columbia Effective Youth Development Strategy Project. My specific role included qualitative analysis of focus groups. This involved data transcription and analysis looking at content and emerging themes (1/2008-3/2008).
- **Dissertation Study**, collected primary data with a sample of 95 foster care workers in three jurisdictions in the DC/MD metropolitan area for dissertation study: *An Examination of Contextual Factors that Influence Permanency Decisions in the Public Child Welfare System* (2005-2006).
- **Community Asset Mapping** research project with Howard University and communities in Washington, DC. Conducted focus groups and interviewed key stakeholders in the District of Columbia. Demonstrated strong skills in engaging community leaders using a qualitative methodology, also conducted analysis of focus group, identifying emergent themes (6/2005-8/2005).

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Morgan State University

2023 – Present School of Social Work, MSW Program, Selected Courses Lead Faculty
Spring 2024 School of Education and the Center for Violence and Crime Reduction/Faculty Search Committee
Spring 2024 School of Social Work, Faculty Search Committee
Fall 2023 School of Social Work and State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (SCCAN), Workshop Facilitator

Jackson State University

2016- 2022 Program Development and Conference Planning Committee
2017-2018 Co-advisor to MSW Student Organization
2018-2022 School of Social Work Faculty Search Committee
2018-2019 Faculty Senate
2019-2022 Faculty Senate (Alternative)
2019-2020 University Grievance Committee
2021-2022 Curriculum Committee Chair

Additional Recent JSU School of Social Work Service

1/2022 Faculty Mentor for Student Presenter at the Mississippi Child Welfare Institute Conference
10/2021 Representative for JSU at BSU Virtual MSW Graduate Education Recruitment Fair
10/2021 Moderator of Continuing Education Professional Development Virtual Webinar
5/2021 Faculty Retirement Celebration Planning Committee Chair (Dr. Susie Spence)
3/2021 Moderator of Social Work Month Celebration

Morgan State University

2013-2014 BSW Professional Development Committee
2011-2012 BSW Assessment Committee
2010-2011 Social Work Practice Committee
2008-2011 Children, Youth, and Families Committee
2009-2010 Grievance and Appeals Committee, Chair
2008-2010 Field Education Committee
2008-2009 Admissions and Retention Committee

DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

Jackson State University

2017-2019 Committee Chair (Dr. Raymond Adams)
2017-2020 Committee Member (Dr. Rosie Thomas)
2017-2021 Committee Chair (Dr. Tasha Smith)

Morgan State University

2014- 2015 Committee Member (Dr. Dana Wilson)
2012- 2013 Committee Chair (Dr. LaShaunna Lipscomb)
2011- 2013 Committee Member (Dr. Tiffany Lane)
2009-2010 Committee Member (Dr. Tina Jordan)

DOCTORAL STUDENT RESEARCH PRACTICUM

Jackson State University

2016-2017 Faculty Research Mentor

Morgan State University

2011-2012 Faculty Research Mentor

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Jackson State University

2018 Faculty Team Member. Served on Mississippi Rice Bowl and Interdisciplinary Team. University of Mississippi Medical Center, Myrlie Evers Williams Health Disparities Center
2017 Workshop Moderator: Mississippi Trauma Informed Conference
2017 Organized students support for Sleep Out for the Homeless

Morgan State University

2011-2014 **Project Coordinator**- guided Morgan State University BSW seniors through the planning, organizing and the implementation of three community-based project. Each spring student `` participate in learning project through engaging residents of the Perring Loch community and hosting a Community Appreciation Day, participation in the Mayor's Annual Neighborhood Clean-up Day with the Perring Loch Community, and the purchasing of desks and chairs for students in Malawi, Africa. Students transfer knowledge of working with groups in a macro environment.
2012-/2013 **DC Consortium for Child Welfare** – conduct monthly all day staff development training on issues of child maltreatment for early child care providers in the District of Columbia
2010 **Black Administrators in Child Welfare** – Advisory Board Committee to address national concerns of addressing disproportionality in the public child welfare system
2009 **The American Association of University Women** – reviewed and evaluated national fellowship applications for women in the academy seeking funding for dissertations, post-doctoral studies, and summer/faculty research.
2007 **DC Consortium for Child Welfare** (Washington, DC) – Served as moderator of focus group with parents of children in foster care.
2005-2008 **St. Paul United Methodist Church Angel Tree Ministry Network** – **Solicited** funding, toys, and clothing for children of incarcerated parents. Also served as chair of the planning committee and hosted party for children and their families.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

7/1/2019- Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).
6/30/2022 Women's Council on the Role and Status of Women in Social Work Education

CONSULTANT PROJECTS

6/2016 **JBS International Inc.** Child Welfare Reviewer. Program evaluation reviewer on behalf of the Children's Bureau, Administration on Children, Youth and Families of child welfare programs in New York, NY

6/2014 - 9/2016 **BDavisSmith, LLC**- Consultant. Planning and development of a professional development program for Morgan State University School of Social Work. Duties include the development of a survey instrument to conduct need assessment field instructors, adjunct and alumni. Responsible for developing workshop topics, recruitment of workshop facilitators, and handling logistics.

1/2008-3/2008 **The QED Group, LLC** - Consultant. This project involved the evaluation of the District of Columbia Effective Youth Development Strategy. My specific role included qualitative analysis of focus groups. This involved data transcription and analysis looking at content and emerging themes.

10/2007-8/2008 **Project Riches** – *administered* Educational Pre/Post-test to elementary school students in Baltimore County Maryland. Students evaluated to determine if participation in Project Riches, an after-school program improved student participants' academic performance.

SCHOLARSHIP

BOOK CONTRACT

Smith, B.D.(Editor) and Gilliam, C.C. (Co-Editor). *Advancing Equity for Anti-Racist Child Welfare.* Cognella Academic Publishing, South Beach, CA. **(Under Contract as of 2/2024 and Publishing Date Expected: 12/2025)**

REFEREED JOURNALS

Smith, B.D. and Wilson, D.W. (2024). *A Call to Action: Utilizing a Social Justice Framework to Guide Decision-making in Child Welfare Practice. (In Progress)*

Bruster, B.E., Lane, T., and Smith, **B.D. (2019).** Challenging Implicit Bias: Preparing Students to Practice with African American Families. *Social Work Education.* 38(5), 654-665.

Jenkins, P., Allen, T., Walker, Y., Riddley, C., Green, M., **Smith, B.,** & Marshall, Jr., I. **(2019)** Leadership, Legacy, and Opportunity: The Mississippi Child Welfare Institute Conference, 2003 to Present. *Urban Social Work,* 3(1) 586-599.

Smith, B.D., Marshall, I. Jr., Daniels, K., Anderson, B. **(2017).** A Partnership Forged: BSW Students and Service Learning at a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) Serving Urban Communities. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment,* 27(5), 438-449.

Marshall, I., Jr., **Smith B.D.,** Green, M.T., Anderson, B., Harry, S.V., Byrd, Y.M., Pratt-Harris, N.C., Bolden, E.S., Hill, S. **(2016).** Scholarly Productivity of Social Work Faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Are h-Index Scores a Suitable Measure? *Journal of Social Work Education,* 52(1), 95-107.

Harris-Pratt, N.C., Williams, N.R., Sinclair, M.M., Bragg, C.B., Ture, K., **Smith, B.D.**, Marshall, Jr. I., Brown, L. (2016) Police Involved Homicide of Unarmed Black Males: Observations of Black Scholars in the Midst of the April 2014 Baltimore Uprising. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*, 26(3-4), 377-389.

Smith, B.D., Wilson, D.B., Lane, T.Y., & Harry, S.; Marshall, I., Jr. (2015). Resiliency, Motivation, and Persistence: Older Youth Aging Out of Foster Care Attending Historical Black Colleges and Universities. *The Journal of Family Strengths*. 15(1), 1-34. <http://digitalcommons.library.tmc.edu/jfs>.

Smith, B.D. and Wilbon-Wells, R. (2011). Child Welfare Workers' Perceptions of the Impact of the Organizational Environment on Permanency Decisions. *The Journal of Family Strengths*. 11(1), <http://digitalcommons.library.tmc.edu/jfs>.

Smith, B.D. (2011). An Examination of Contextual Factors that Influence Permanency Decisions in the Public Child Welfare System. *Social Work Abstracts: A Journal of the National Association of Social Workers*, 47(1).

PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINES

O'Neale, S., Wilson, D.B., and Smith (2020). Collaboration with Adult Alumni of Foster Care Provides and Essential Perspective in the Pursuit of Success in Higher Education for Youth in Care. *Child Welfare, Children's Voices, Child Welfare League of America*. Washington, 29 (2), 50-52.

Wilson, D.B. and Smith, B.D. (2011). The Science and Art of Universities as Community Partners in *Child Welfare, Children's Voices, Child Welfare League of America*. Washington, DC

BOOK CHAPTERS

Smith, B.D., Marshall L., Bolden, E. & Wilson, D.B. (2016). Coming to America Black Immigrant Families in Urban Communities. In R.Wells-Wilbon, A.R. McPhatter & H.F.O. Vakalahi (Eds)., *Social Work Practice with African American Families in Urban Communities*. New York, NY: Springer.

Simpson, G., **Smith, B.D.**, Wilson, D.B. (2016). An Ecological Framework to Understand Grandparents in Urban Communities from a Multigenerational Perspective. . In R.Wells-Wilbon, A.R. McPhatter & H.F.O. Vakalahi (Eds)., *Social Work Practice with African American Families in Urban Communities*. New York, NY: Springer.

Sinclair, M.M. and **Smith, B.D. (2016)**. Engaging Urban African American Adolescents in Treatment. In R.Wells-Wilbon, A.R. McPhatter & H.F.O. Vakalahi (Eds)., *Social Work Practice with African American Families in Urban Communities*. New York, NY: Springer.

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER FOR JOURNALS

12/2020 - Journal of Human Behavior and the Social Environment

10/2018 - Social Justice Research (SORE)

2/2017 - Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment

PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS AND PRESENTATION

Allen, T. Lee, J.G., Jenkins, P. & **Smith, B.D. (February 16, 2022)**. *National Association of African American Studies Conference (NAAAS)*. Self-care among African American Social Work Students.

Smith, B.D., and Lane, T.Y. (February 2020). Mississippi Child Welfare Institute Conference. *Challenging Implicit Biases: Child Welfare Practice with African American Families*. Jackson, MS,

Smith, B.D., Johnson, M.A. (February 2018). Mississippi Child Welfare Institute Conference. *How Are They Faring: An Examination of Older Youth Aging Out of Foster Care*. Jackson, MS.

Panelist at the American Criminal Justice Society (ACJS) Conference, (February 2018). *Why Black People Should Train Police Officers*, New Orleans, LA

Smith, B.D., Wilson, D.W, Johnson, M.A. (February 2017). Mississippi Child Welfare Institute Conference. *Achieving Better Outcomes for Older Youth Aging Out of Foster Care through Agency and University Partnerships*. Jackson, MS

Smith, B.D., Wilson, D.W., and Lane, T.Y. (March 2013). Baccalaureate Program Director's (BPD) Conference. Paper title: *Understanding Attitudes and Perceptions of BSW Students Aging Out of the Foster Care System Attending College*, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Smith, B.D., and Daniels, K. Baccalaureate Program Director's (March 2013) Conference. Paper title: *A Partnership Forged: BSW Students and Service Learning in Urban Communities*, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Smith, B.D. (March 2012). Invited Guest Lecturer to speak at the Lawrence Oxley Lecture Series at Winston -Salem State University for Social Work Month. Lecture title: *Resiliency, Motivation and Persistence: Youth Aging Out of the Foster Care System*, Winston Salem, North Carolina.

Smith, B.D. (January 2012). Presented at the Mississippi Institute for Child Welfare 10th Year Conference. Workshop title: *Persistence and Motivation: Can We Systemically Enhance the College Experience of Youth Formerly in Foster Care?* Jackson, Mississippi.

MEDIA PRESENTATION

Council on Social Work Education, Women's Council. Conducted interview with the President-Elect, Mit Joyner of the National Association of Social Workers (9/4/2020)

Retrieved at:

<https://youtu.be/YcSBKTMFx-c>

Jackson State University Radio (2/5//2018) and Television Interview (2/6/2018) – appeared on both media forums to discuss the Mississippi Child Welfare Institute Conference.

Growing Up in America (9/28/2015) – radio podcast sponsored by CHILDREN AT RISK. Participated in interview on my study published in the *Journal of Family Strengths* on older youth who aged out of the foster care system enrolled at a Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Retrieved at: <http://childrenatrisk.org/content/?p=13988>

RECENT GRANTS PROPOSALS

- 2/2024 **SOR III FYI Evidenced Based Practice Project**
Expansion Project III project, subaward number 21094
Morgan State University Sub-contract with University Maryland School of Medicine
Principal Investigator
Award Amount 2023-2024: \$100,000
- 11/2023 **African American Contemporary Child Welfare Trailblazers**
Morgan State University/Faculty Mini-Grant
Principal Investigator
Awarded: \$10, 500
- 5/2021 **Skills, Training, & Preparation for Success Workforce Development Programs (STEPS)**
Mississippi Workforce Development
Jackson State University
Co-Principal Investigator
Grant Amount: \$237, 000 (Unfunded)
- 5/2020 **Kinship Care Navigator's Program**
Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services
Jackson, Mississippi
Co-Principal Investigator
Grant Amount: \$300,000 (Unfunded)
- 2/2019 – Present **Capitol Area Child Abuse and Prevention Project (CACAPP)**
Mississippi Department of Human Services.
Jackson, Mississippi
Co-Principal Investigator
Grant Amount: \$300,000
- 5/2018 – **Center for Advancing Opportunity (CAO)**
Thurgood Marshall Fund
Washington, DC
Principal Investigator
Grant Amount: \$40,000 (Unfunded)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Faculty Excellence Award, Morgan State University School of Social Work, 2014
- Faculty Award for Community Based Learning, Certificate for Nonprofits Program, University of the District of Columbia, 2007
- Graduate Assistant, Howard University School of Social Work, 1999 to 2002
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Howard University School of Social Work 2002-2003
- Tuition Remission, Howard University School of Social Work, 1999 to 2001

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
Jackson Chapter National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW)

DIRECT PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

1997-2004 Delta-T Group of Maryland and Virginia – Independent Contractor

- Served as Independent Social Work Contractor at various human service agencies in long-term and short-term assignments for over 7 years.
- Responsibilities included: multi-disciplinary team participation, psycho-social assessments, treatment and discharge planning, case management, group facilitation and training.
- Demonstrated ability to transfer generalist skills across diverse populations with different fields of social work practice.
- Long-term assignment with Mentor Network, serving as a Clinical Coordinator. Duties involved foster care case management, foster parent training, participating in clinical conference reviews on behalf of children and youth placed in therapeutic foster care homes (8/2001-12/2003).
- Long-term assignment with Washington Hospital Center, Department of Psychiatry. Conducted psycho-social assessments, discharge planning, and served on clinical review team (3/2003-8/2005).

1994-1998 Child and Family Service Agency (DC Government) – Supervisory Social Worker

- Served as Supervisory Social Worker supervising a unit of MSW-level social workers (6), one social service assistant, and an administrative assistant in the Family Stabilization and Intake Investigation Branch. Also, served as a field instructor for MSW student field placement.
- Responsible for the participating on management team to plan and coordinate foster care programs.
- Member of agency-wide training team for new employees.
- Represented agency at various community-based meetings and events.
- Developed and facilitated case conference review.
- Provided mentoring and support to newly minted MSW students.

1995-1996 Adoption Service and Information Agency (ASIA) – Consultant

- Served as Program Consultant in the development of the Black Families Adoption Program.
- Conducted home study and post-adoption interview and assessments. Also, developed and prepared comprehensive written report for the adoption agency and for the court system.
- Facilitated workshops for perspective adoptive parents.

1993-1995 Urban Resources Incorporated – Mental Health Therapist

- Individual, group, and family therapy provided to youth involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems provided through an outpatient community-based treatment program. Worked with children, adolescents, and families using different treatment modalities.

1986-1993 D.C. Public Schools/ Division of Student Services - Attendance Social Worker

- Served as Attendance Social Worker in an attendance/dropout prevention program that served elementary, middle and high schools located in Wards 6, 7 and 8 in the District of Columbia. Also served as the day-to-day supervisor of the overall operation of the Center and evaluation of support staff. The policy guiding this program was the Compulsory School Attendance Laws, leading to innovative approaches to address truancy and increase graduation rates in Washington, DC.
- Responsibilities included program planning and coordination of attendance programs to reduce truancy and prevent students from dropping out of school.
- Conducted workshops for teachers, administrators, and parents on various topics related to truancy prevention.
- Conducted psycho-social assessments, utilizing a system/integrated approach to addressing school attendance. Also, worked with Metropolitan Police Department Youth Division and community based agencies to address truancy issues.
- Developed after-school enrichment program for 6th grade student. Developed needs assessment and conducted pretest and posttest. Nominated at annual in-service meeting for developing innovative programs.
- Served on District wide assessment team to evaluate local school attendance programs in DC Public Schools.

ADDITIONAL COMPETENCIES

- Microsoft Word Software
- Canvas
- Blackboard
- Curriculum Development
- Asynchronous and Synchronous Teaching

CITI Course Completion in the Protection of Human Research Subjects

- Completed Citi Program course, Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research (1/2024)

REFERENCES

- Available Upon Request