

WHITNEY HARPER

EDUCATION / CERTIFICATIONS

Ph.D. 2015 - Human Development Family Studies, Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society, Michigan State University. (Dissertation Chair: Hiram E. Fitzgerald).

Dissertation Harper, W. (2015). Examining onset and risk factors for alcohol use in African American and Caucasian middle school students: A survival analysis. Michigan State University, *ProQuest Dissertations Publishing*, 2015. 3738405.

M.S.W. 1998 - Social Work, Phi Alpha Honor Society, Grand Valley State University

B.S. 1993 – Psychology, Grand Valley State University

Certified Foster Care Coach, 2015-Current- Fostering Success Michigan

Certified Family Life Educator, 2009-Current- National Council on Family Relations

Social Work Certification, 2001- Current, Academy of Certified Social Workers

Licensed Clinical and Macro Social Worker, 2000 - 2016, State of Michigan

Acupuncture Detoxification Specialist, 1998 – Current, National Acupuncture Detoxification Association

Certified Advanced Addictions Counselor, 1996 – Current, Michigan Certification Board for Addiction Professionals

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Western Kentucky University, *Assistant Professor*, BSW Program, Regional 2015-Current
Campus-Owensboro, KY, and Main Campus-Bowling Green, KY.

- Fall Semester 2015: SWRK: 345 Research Methods, SWRK: 395 Social Work Policy, SWRK 378 Practice II: Groups
- Spring Semester 2016: SWRK: 345 Research Methods, SWRK 480/481 Field Seminar I
- Summer Semester 2016: SWRK 482/483 Field Seminar II
- Fall Semester 2016: SWRK 345, SWRK 395, SWRK 378
- Spring Semester 2017: SWRK 480/481, SWRK 395, SWRK 345
- Summer Semester 2017: SWRK 101, SWRK 482/483
- Fall Semester 2017: SWRK 345, SWRK 395, SWRK 378
- Winter Semester 2018: SWRK 101
- Spring Semester 2018: SWRK 379: Communication Skills, SWRK 345, SWRK 480/481
- Summer Semester 2018: SWRK 101, SWRK 205, SWRK 482/483, SWRK 490: Opioid Epidemic
- Fall Semester 2019: SWRK 345, SWRK 375 Practice I, SWRK 378
- Spring Semester 2019: SWRK 379, SWRK 345 SWRK 480/481
- Summer Semester 2019: SWRK 480/481, SWRK 482/483, SWRK 490: Opioid Epidemic
- Fall 2019: SWRK 375, SWRK 378, SWRK 482/483
- Spring 2020: SWRK 379-2 sections, SWRK 480/481

- Summer 2020: SWRK 402/483, SWRK 490 Understanding Trauma
- Fall 2020: SWRK 480/481, SWRK 345, SWRK 375
- Spring 2021: SWRK 482/483, SWRK 378, SWRK 379
- Fall 2021: SWRK 345, SWRK 480/481, SWRK 438 Understanding Trauma

Grand Rapids Community College, Associate Professor/Program Director,
Grand Rapids, MI 2008-2015

- Tenure track faculty/Program Director of Student Support Services
- Write and manage federal TRIO grant, King-Chavez-Parks Initiative grant
- Maintain dataset on student metrics for TRiO grant objectives
- Supervise advising staff, design and facilitate staff development programs
- Managed 2 million budget, active BOC; participate in college-wide service: committees and functions
- Provide academic advising, assessment and case management to low income, first generation college students

Grand Rapids Community College, Adjunct Psychology Instructor,
Grand Rapids, MI 2003-2015

- Three courses every fall, winter, and summer semesters; PY 232: Human Development, PY 233: Child Development, PY 234: Adolescent Development, PY 231: Abnormal Psychology and CLS 100: First Year Experience.

Michigan State University, Instructor on Record, Lansing, MI 2011-2012

- Developed curriculum for HDFS 345 Principles of Family Study, facilitated the course fall and spring semesters.

Grand Valley State University, Field Instructor, Grand Rapids, MI 2005-2008

- Faculty Instructor for the BSW and MSW programs at GVSU, fall, spring, and summer semesters

Grand Valley State University, Adjunct Instructor, Allendale, MI 2005

- SW 340: Human Behavior in Social Environment course for BSW program

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

St. John's Home, Operations Consultant, Grand Rapids, MI 2008-2010

- Observe, report and implement changes in leadership structure, policy and programming for innovative Child Welfare pilot program (Academy Program); develop foster family

intervention/training programs, report to SJH Board of Directors on progress; developed measures of success for database

- Provide team building events, train counseling staff, develop applications for the Academy model
- Implement policy for new hires, annual training, development evaluation tools

St. John's Home, *Director of Discovery Program*, Grand Rapids, MI 2005-2008

- Managed day-to-day operations, therapist, implement programming, market and develop annual business plans for adolescent and family day-treatment substance abuse program.
- Nominated for *Business Review* "Innovative Business Award" (2006) for program development
- Program success in achieving 98% sobriety days and improving GPAs from 0.98 to 2.15 average
- Increased revenue by 35% in first year and in second year 70%; decreased deficit by 25% and increased fund development by 30%, negotiated contracts with area high schools, juvenile court and district court
- Created website with organic search engine optimization and database to track statistical measurements for definition of program success, developed and facilitated Community Advisory Board; obtained HIPAA compliance for billing insurances, and coordinated provider status with insurance companies.

AOS of Arbor Circle, *Lead Therapist/Director of Kentwood Program* 2000-2005

- Developed Safe Schools, Healthy Students Grant at local high school.
- Acted as primary therapist for adolescent and family services with substance abuse and mental health concerns; facilitated individual, family sessions, developed and facilitated family programs, relapse prevention and intensive outpatient groups.
- Managed \$75,000 SSHS grant and implemented programming within all schools in Kentwood School District in last year of employment, implemented programming in school district, advised students.

Longford Care Unit, Adolescent and Family Lead Therapist 1998-2000

- Developed and implemented Intensive Outpatient Program for adolescent substance abusers.
- Developed and implemented Family Program for those with co-dependency issues, and a school program at Orion Sr/Jr High School to advise, educate and provide group therapy for substance abusing students and their parents
- Managed insurance authorizations, trained therapists, and provided clinical guidance

RESEARCH AWARDS/HONORS

2021

Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning: Nomination Award for Teaching

2020

Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning: Nomination Award for Teaching

2019

College of Health and Human Services: Faculty Award for Teaching

CSWE Substance Abuse National Task Force Competency Chair

Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning: Nomination Award for Teaching

2018

College of Health and Human Services: Nominated for Faculty Award for Teaching

2017

Journal of Public Child Welfare: Article of the Year:

- Murphy, A., L., **Harper, W.**, Griffiths, A. G., & Joffrion, C. (2017). Family reunification: A systematic review of interventions designed to address co-occurring issues of child maltreatment and substance use. *Journal of Public Child Welfare, 11*(4-5), 413-432.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- Johnson, Whitney. (2007, February). *What parents can do when their teen uses drugs*. Invited as expert, GRTV *Focus on Issues*, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Nowinski, Joseph. (2007, October). Used and personally assisted in developing Discovery Program discussed throughout entire book. *The Identity Trap*.
- Simpson, Mark. (2007, May). Discovery program was showcased in “Discovery Phase” article. *Journal Inquirer*.
- Peck, Nathan. (2006, March). Interviewed for Families not alone when dealing with teen addicts. *Grand Rapids Advance*.
- Johnson, Whitney. (2006, May). Teen substance abuse. Invited as expert, GRTV *Focus on Issues*, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Johnson, Whitney. (2003, May). College binge drinking. Invited as expert to discuss topic and answer viewer’s questions. *WGVU Family Health Matters*, Allendale, MI.
- Johnson, Whitney. (2002, April). Alcoholism. Invited as expert to discuss topic and answer questions. *WGVU Family Health Matters*, Allendale, MI.
- Johnson, Whitney. (2002, October). Addiction and treatment options. Interviewed by the Director of Adolescent Psychiatric Services at Pine Rest, *GVSU Radio* (Allendale, MI).
- Finch Hamilton, Terri. (2001, December). Interviewed for question and answer section on signs of adolescent drug use. *Drug Use Not Just Part of Growing Up* (Front Page, Section J). *Grand Rapids Press*.

TRAINING PRESENTATIONS

- Harper, Whitney (2021). *Part Time Instructor Training*. Western Kentucky University
- Harper, Whitney (2020). *Part Time Instructor Training*. Western Kentucky University
- Harper, Whitney (2020). *SBIRT: Training for Applied Health Education*.
- Harper, Whitney (2019). *Opioid Policy: Training for Applied Health Education-Pre-Medical Scholars*.
- Harper, Whitney (2019). *Opioid Epidemic: Training for Applied Health Education-Rural Scholars*.
- Harper, Whitney (2017). *SBIRT: Training for Applied Health Education*.
- Harper, Whitney, Sullivan, Dana (2016-2017). *SBIRT: Training for BSW and nursing students*. Presenter at Western Kentucky University, College of Health and Human Sciences.
- Harper, Whitney (2014). *Successful Peer Mentor Programs on College Campuses*. Presenter at Michigan Community College Student Services Association Fall Conference at Bay Harbor Inn.
- Harper, Whitney (2014). *Retention and Persistence*. Presenter at Michigan College Access Programs and Personnel Annual Conference at Boyne Highlands.
- Harper, Whitney (2013). *Alcohol and Marijuana Use on Campuses*. Campus presentation at Grand Rapids Community College.
- Harper, Whitney (2013). *Transfer Shock*. Campus presentation at Grand Rapids Community College.
- Harper, Whitney (2012). *Outcomes of TRIO/Student Support Services*. Learning Day at Grand Rapids Community College.]
- Harper, Whitney (2011). *Successful Partnerships with 4 year institutions*. Equity in the Classroom 21st Annual conference at Michigan Technological University.
- Harper, Whitney (2010). *Transfer Shock*. Campus presentation at Grand Rapids Community College.
- Harper, Whitney (2010). *Retention and Persistence*. Department meeting at Grand Rapids Community College.
- Johnson, Whitney. (2008, May). *Talking to parents with struggling teens; signs and symptoms of substance abuse and treatment options*. Presented to hospital staff and therapists, Forest View Hospital, Grand Rapids, MI. Peer Reviewed
- Johnson, Whitney. (2007, December). *Discovery Program for substance abusing teens and signs of use*. Presented to student assessment team, Northview High School, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Johnson, Whitney. (2007, November). *Helping parents understand teen drug use*. Present at parent's night, Catholic Central High School, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Johnson, Whitney. (2006, October). *Signs and symptoms of teen drug abuse*. Presented to 50-100 principals, teachers, counselors, and coaches, Kent Intermediate School District, Grand Rapids, MI.

PEER REVIEWED PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Harper, W., Desrosiers, P., Laves, K., Laves, B., Digges-Elliott, H. (January 2021). *My Mental Health #WKU: Student Website Platform for Mental Health Resources*. Presentation at WKU Student Success Summit.

Laves, B., **Harper, W.**, and Digges-Elliott, H. (January 2021). *My Mental Health #WKU: Student Website Platform for Mental Health Resources*. Keynote Presentation at University Professional & Continuing Education Association UPEACA.

Harper, W. (2020). Teaching Group Work: Project Based Learning. *Annual Program Meeting*. National Conference, Denver, CO.

Harper, W., Murphy, A. L., & Griffiths, A. G. (2017). Family reunification: A systematic review of interventions designed to address co-occurring issues of child maltreatment and substance use. *Annual Program Meeting National Conference*, Dallas, TX.

Murphy, A. L., Griffiths, A. G., & **Harper, W.** (2017). Child sexual abuse and the impact of rurality on foster care outcomes. *Annual Program Meeting National Conference*, Dallas, TX.

Harper, W., & Funge, S. P. (2017). Social work education at branch campuses: The faculty experience. *Ethnography and Qualitative Research National Conference*, Las Vegas, NV.

Harper, W., & Sullivan, D. J. (2017). Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment: Collaboration to Implement Evidence-Based Practice. *The Association of Baccalaureate Program Directors National Conference*, New Orleans, LA.

RESEARCH POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Harper, W., & Desrosiers, P. (2021). Increasing Online Support for Mental Health. *Annual Program Meeting National Conference*, Orlando, FL.

Harper, W. (2020). Teaching Groups: Therapeutic Recreation Activities. *Ethnographic Qualitative Research Conference*, Las Vegas, NV.

Harper, W. (2018). Social work education at branch campuses: The faculty experience. *National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) National Conference*, San Diego, CA.

Adkins, C & **Harper, W.** (2018). Success of Public Child Welfare Certification Program. *The 2018 NASW National Conference*, Washington DC.

Harper, W. (2014). Alcohol Use Differences Among African American and White Middle School Students: Survival Analysis in identifying multiple risk factors for alcohol use. *Michigan State University Graduate School National Conference*, Lansing, MI.

Harper, W. (2011). Ecological Perspective on Adolescent Substance Use and Racial Differences, *National Council on Family Relations*, Phoenix, AZ.

Harper, W. (2011). Commitment Motivation in Couples. *Ethnographic Qualitative Research National Conference*, Cedarville, OH.

Harper, W. (2009). Maximizing Educational Opportunities for Youth in Care (MEOYC).

Michigan State University Graduate School National Conference, Lansing, MI.

FACULTY SUPPORTED STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Brothers, A., Hinton, C., & **Harper, W.** (2020). Project Based Learning: Student Experiences. *Western Kentucky University Student Research Conference*. Bowling Green, KY.

Pedigo, H., Gregory, J., Coker, Rhianna, & **Harper, W.**, (2019). Restoring Felon Voter Rights. *Western Kentucky University Student Research Conference*. Bowling Green, KY. POSTER SESSION WINNER

Adkins, C. & **Harper, W.** (2018). Success of Public Child Welfare Certification Program. *Western Kentucky University Student Research Conference*. Bowling Green, KY.

Adkins, C., Treon, J., & **Harper, W.** (2017). Effects on Foster Care Independent Living Programs for Aging Out Youth. *Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators Annual Conference*, Lexington, KY.

Bowman, S., & Minto, K., & **Harper, W.** (2017). Summer Feeding Programs: An Approach to Decrease Childhood Food Insecurity. *Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators Annual Conference*, Lexington, KY.

Granzow, B., Gomez, J., & **Harper, W.** (2017). Hate Crimes Against Sexual Orientation. *Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators Annual Conference*, Lexington, KY.

Hudson, K. & **Harper, W.** (2017). Interfamilial Sexual Abuse: Effects on Social Functioning. *Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators Annual Conference*, Lexington, KY.

Moore, L. & **Harper, W.** (2017). Standing in the Way: Criminalizing Homelessness. *Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators Annual Conference*, Lexington, KY. POSTER SESSION WINNER

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Desrosiers, P., **Harper, W.**, Laves, B., Diggs-Elliot, H. (May 17, 2021). Increasing online support for mental wellness. *Academic Leader*: Magna Publications.

Sullivan, D.J., Cappiccie, A.C., Garrett-Wright, D., Desrosiers, P.L., **Harper, W.**, Smith, L., Cooper, R.L., & Edgerton, R. (January 8, 2021). An Inter-Disciplinary Approach to Preparing Social Work and Nurse Practitioners to Utilize SBIRT. *Professional Development: The International Journal of Continuing Social Work Education*.

Griffiths, A., **Harper, W.**, Desrosiers, P., Murphy, A., & Royse, D. (2019). “The stress is indescribable”: Self-reported health implications from child welfare supervisors. *The Clinical Supervisor*. DOI: [10.1080/07325223.2019.1643433](https://doi.org/10.1080/07325223.2019.1643433)

Griffiths, A., Desrosiers, P., Murphy, A., **Harper, W.**, & Royse, D. (2019). Factors influencing the turnover of frontline public child welfare supervisors. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*. DOI: [10.1080/15548732.2019.1652719](https://doi.org/10.1080/15548732.2019.1652719)

Funge, S. P., Sullivan, D. J., Owens, L. W., & **Harper, W.** (2019). Branch Campuses: Extending the Reach of Social Work Education. *Journal of Social Work Education*, 55(2), 265-279. [10.1080/10437797.2018.1526727](https://doi.org/10.1080/10437797.2018.1526727)

Griffiths, A., Murphy, A., & **Harper, W.** (2017). Child sexual abuse and the impact rurality on foster care outcomes: An exploratory analysis. *Child Welfare*, 95(1), 57-76.

Murphy, A., L., **Harper, W.**, Griffiths, A. G., & Joffrion, C. (2017). Family reunification: A systematic review of interventions designed to address co-occurring issues of child maltreatment and substance use. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*, 11(4-5), 413-432. DOI:10.1080/15548732.2017.1340221

Harper, W., Owens, L. W., Sullivan, D. J., & Funge, S. P. (2017). Social work education at branch campuses: The faculty experience. *National Association of Branch Campus Administrators*, 3 (1), 1-15.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Harper, W. Teaching Group Work: Project Based Learning. *Journal of Ethnographic Qualitative Research*.

CSWE SUBSTANCE USE CURRICULAR GUIDE

Substance Use Curricular Guide (2019). Competency 7: Assessment, Committee Chair. *Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)*.

RESEARCH GRANTS

Harper, W. (2018). Quick Turn-Around Grant. \$1000. *Western Kentucky University*.

Harper, W. (2017). Success of Public Child Welfare Certification Program. *Faculty Undergraduate Student Research*, \$3000. *Western Kentucky University*.

SERVICE GRANTS

Student Support Services: TRiO Grant, Grand Rapids Community College 2008-2015

- The Student Support Services (SSS) program provides support services to low-income, first generation college students, and disabled students who are enrolled in post-secondary education programs.
- Principle investigator, managed budget, conducted assessment. \$2 million funding/5 year cycle.

MICUP, King-Chavez Parks Grant, Grand Rapids Community College 2008-2015

- The MICUP Program provides State of Michigan funding to Michigan's four-year public and independent colleges and universities to increase the number of admitted academically- or economically-disadvantaged students who transfer from community colleges into baccalaureate degree programs at four-year institutions.
- Principle investigator, managed budget, conducted assessment. \$100k funding/5 year cycle.

Grant Proposals, St. John's Home

2005-2008

- Residential treatment for abused and neglected children and adolescent treatment program.
- Assisted with researching and writing grant proposals, which resulted in \$10,000 in 2006, 2007, and 2008 from Baldwin Foundation (2006-2008); \$15,000 in 2006, \$8,000 in 2007, and \$5,000 in 2008 from Grand Rapids Community Foundation; \$18,000 in 2006 and 2007 from GRCF Social Ventures; \$25,000 in 2006 and \$50,000 in 2007 from Hanley Foundation; \$10,000 in 2006 and 2007 from Steelcase Foundation; and \$15,000 in 2007 from Wege Foundation.

DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE SERVICE

CHHS Engagement and Outreach Committee	2021-Current
CHHS Trauma Informed: Return to Campus	2021-Current
BSW Virtual Graduation Committee	2020, 2021
Part time Instructor Training, Committee Chair	2019-Current
BSW Orientation Committee	2019-Current
CHHS Academic Complaint Committee	2018-Current
MSW Assistant Professor Search Chair	2017-2018
WKU Student Research Conference, Judge	2016-2020
CHHS Homecoming Committee	2016-Current
CHHS Strategic Planning: Interdisciplinary Faculty Collaborations	2016-2018
United Way Campaign Captain: Owensboro Campus	2016-Current
Faculty Welfare Regional Campus Representative	2016-2017
Admissions Committee for BSW Program	2015-Current
Strategic Planning Committee-Owensboro	2015-Current
CHHS Banquet Committee	2015-2017
Recruiter at Owensboro Community and Technical College	2015-Current
Social Work Student Union, Advisor,	2015-Current

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Hope Harbor, SWSU Domestic Violence Awareness Events	2021
OASIS, SWSU Domestic Violence Shelter Events	2018-2020
St. Benedicts Shelter, SWSU Homelessness Events	2016-Current

Social Work Lobby Day, <i>Legislative events with students</i>	2016-Current
Habitat for Humanity, <i>Organized fundraiser</i>	2016
Audubon Refugee Program, <i>Organized fundraiser</i>	2015
Pitino Shelter, <i>Homelessness Events</i>	2015
New Beginnings, <i>Sexual Assault Center, fundraiser</i>	2015-Current

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Survivors of Torture Recovery Center, <i>Advisory Council</i>	2021-Current
Homelessness Council, <i>Daviess County Council Member</i>	2020-Current
Owensboro Community and Technical College, <i>Advisory Board</i>	2017-Current
New Beginnings Sexual Assault Services, <i>Secretary, External Committee,</i> Owensboro, KY	2016-Current

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

National Substance Abuse Taskforce member for the (CSWE), Competency Chair.	2018-2019
Reviewer for Traumatology.	2018-Current
Reviewer for Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Annual Program Meeting Conference	2017, 2018, 2019
Research Poster Judge, WKU-Student Research Conference,	2018, 2019

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Council on Social Work Education	2015-Present
Assoc. of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors	2015-Present
Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators	2016-Present
Kappa Omicron Nu National Honor Society	2010-Present
National Council on Family Relations	2009-Present
Fostering Success Michigan	2008-Present
Council on Opportunity for Education	2007-Present
Michigan College Access Programs and Personnel	2007 –Present
National Association of Social Workers	1998-Present