

Curriculum Vitae  
**Niko Verdecias-Pellum, DrPH, MPH**  
**Assistant Professor, Population Health**  
**Arizona State University, College of Health Solutions**

## EDUCATION

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**Postdoctoral Fellowship;** Washington University in St. Louis: The Brown School - Health Communications Research Laboratory; St. Louis, MO

**DrPH, Concentration: Public Health - Community Health and Prevention;** Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health; Philadelphia, PA

Dissertation: Exploring cardiovascular disease knowledge, risk perception, and associated socio-behavioral determinants among African American and Hispanic people living with HIV/AIDS in an urban setting: A mixed methods study

**MPH, Concentration: Public Health - Urban and Community Health;** SUNY Downstate Medical Center; Brooklyn, NY

Thesis: Exploring health disparities by race/ethnicity in Brooklyn, NY among an older sample: A secondary analysis of BRFSS data

**BS, Psychology;** Syracuse University; Syracuse, NY

## OTHER TRAINING

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2022-2023      Fellow in the Mountain State Partnership for Community-Engaged Dissemination and Implementation Science Training Institute

2020-2022      Scholar in the NIH Institute for Implementation Science Scholars (IS-2)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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2022-present      Assistant Professor of Population Health for Arizona State University, College of Health Solutions; Phoenix, AZ

2021-2022      Co-Investigator for three COVID-19 information, testing, vaccination, and health communication messaging grants; CDC- and NIH-funded; Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO

2019-2020      Lead Qualitative Consultant for National Science Foundation: Ethical Autism Research and Community Engagement; Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA

Summer 2018      Graduate Assistant for West Philadelphia Promise Neighborhood; Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health & the Urban Health Collaborative, Philadelphia, PA

Spring -  
Summer 2018      Qualitative Analytical Consultant for a Vietnamese Nail Salon worker study; Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA

2017-2019      Evaluator (Research Fellow) for the Master of Public Health program redesigned curriculum; Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA

2016-2017      Graduate Assistant for the Migrante study; Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA

2014-2017      Graduate Assistant and Project Coordinator for the Evaluation of Philadelphia Mental Health First Aid study; Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA

2009-2015      Project Director for Innovations in Enhancing Access to and Retention in Quality HIV Care for Women of Color Initiative (Evaluation Center); Albert Einstein College of Medicine & Montefiore Medical Center Departments of Family and Social Medicine, Bronx, NY

2007-2009	<u>Project Director</u> for Innovations in Oral Health Care and HIV Initiative (Demonstration Site); Albert Einstein College of Medicine & Montefiore Medical Center Departments of Family and Social Medicine, Bronx, NY
2006-2007	<u>Research and Data Consultant</u> for the Acute Coronary Syndrome Study; SUNY Downstate Medical Center Departments of Cardiology and Preventive Medicine, Brooklyn, NY
2005-2007	<u>Project Coordinator and National Community Advisory Board Liaison</u> for the Women's Interagency HIV Study; SUNY Downstate Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY

## TEACHING

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2022-present	<b>Assistant Professor</b> , Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ; Undergraduate course: CHS 340 Health Theory ( <u>online</u> ); EXW 325 Fitness for Life ( <u>online</u> ) Doctoral course: POP 615 Organizational Behavior & Theory in Population Health ( <u>in-person</u> ; Core requirement); POP 692 Graduate Research Experiential; Graduate course: POP 598 Health Program Planning and Evaluation ( <u>in-person</u> )
Spring 2021	<b>Practicum Field Instructor</b> , for two graduate students, Washington University in St. Louis, MO
Spring 2021	<b>Adjunct Professor</b> , Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA; <u>Hybrid</u> graduate level core course: PHBL 505 Qualitative Data and Mixed Methods Analysis
2017-2020	<b>Adjunct Professor (Teaching Fellow)</b> , Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA; Undergraduate level course: PHBL 101 Introduction to Public Health (Taught online and in-person)
Spring 2017	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA PHBL 550 Program Planning and Evaluation (Masters level major specific requirement)
Fall 2016	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA PHBL 540 Prevention Principals and Practice (Masters level requirement)
Spring 2016	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA PHBL 550 Program Planning and Evaluation (Masters level major specific requirement)
Fall 2015	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA PHBL 540 Prevention Principals and Practice (Masters level major requirement)

## INVITED GUEST LECTURES

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Jan 2025	<b>Invited Guest Lecturer</b> , Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ POP 591 Population Health Doctoral Seminar <u>Panel title</u> : Dissemination and Implementation Science - Defining its Meaning, Relevance to Research, and the Key Skills for Success
April 2024	<b>Invited Guest Lecturer</b> , Washington University in St. Louis, MO M19-559 Dissemination and Implementation Science (Graduate level course); <u>Lecture title</u> : Dissemination for Public Health Innovation. Can Business Models Meet Health Needs?
Spring 2022	<b>Invited Guest Lecturer</b> , Washington University in St. Louis, MO M19-559 Dissemination and Implementation Science (Graduate level course) <u>Lecture title</u> : Using CBPR to examine care management approaches towards CVD risk assessment and reduction involving people of color living with HIV/AIDS
Spring 2018	<b>Invited Guest Lecturer</b> , Thomas Jefferson University College of Population Health, Philadelphia, PA; Brown Bag Lunch presentation to MPH LEAP Pathway students

Lecture title: Care management approaches towards CVD risk assessment and reduction involving people of color living with HIV/AIDS

- 2009 **Invited Guest Lecturer**, Lehman College, Bronx, NY  
HEA 623 Program Planning and Evaluation in Health Education  
Presented to a class of MPH students about applied program development and evaluation.
- 2008-2009 **Invited Mentor Lecturer**, Montefiore Medical Center Department of Family and Social Medicine, Bronx, NY; Maternal and Infant Health Summer Internship Workshop. Presented a seminar on Public Health practice, research, and career options.

#### INVITED COLLOQUIUM PRESENTATIONS

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- March 2025 **Invited Presenter**, Dissemination and Implementation Science Affinity Network, Phoenix, AZ  
Monthly Seminar Series; Talk title: Dissemination Science: An Overview
- Sept 2024 **Invited Panelist and Presenter**, Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale, AZ  
Conference: 2024 Hispanic Women in Medicine: Critical Needs for Empowerment and Transformation in Practice  
1: Panel title: A Q&A on Disrupting Systems: Advocating for Health Equity  
2: Presentation title: Initiatives to Reduce Healthcare Disparities
- March 2024 **Invited Presenter**, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT  
Diabetes Metabolism Health Behaviors Seminar Series; Talk title: Unmet Social Needs, Patient Engagement, and Diabetes Self-Management: Moving the Needle Towards Equity
- Nov 2023 **Invited Keynote Presenter**, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, Phoenix, AZ  
Value Based Health Equity Workshop; Talk title: The Interplay between Unmet Social Needs and Comorbidities among Marginalized Populations Living with Diabetes: A Call for Patient Engagement
- June 2023 **Invited Presenter**, Center for Diabetes Translation Research; St. Louis, MO  
Talk title: Navigating the Interplay of Unmet Social Needs and Comorbidities in Marginalized Populations Living with Diabetes
- Feb 2023 **Invited Presenter**, Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center at ASU; Phoenix, AZ  
Talk title: Identifying and Addressing the Interplay between Unmet Social Needs and Comorbidities among Marginalized Populations Living with Diabetes

#### MENTORSHIP

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- 2025 (Fall) **Mentor**, Undergraduate Honors Contract Project, Arizona State University  
Project: Synergist Fatigue and Triceps Progressive Overload  
Mentee: Aidan Woods, Undergraduate Honors Barret Student
- 2025-present **Mentor**, Southwest Safety Net Embedded Scientist Training and Research (SSNE-STaR) program, Arizona State University and Valleywise Health partnership  
Mentees: Dr. Sandra Yuh, Valleywise Health  
Dr. Shahrzad Saririan, Wesley Community Health Center
- 2023- present **Endorsed PhD Mentor**, Arizona State University, Population Health  
*Primary mentor & committee chair*: Gianna D'Apolito, PhD student (2023-present)  
*Supervisory committee member*: Madeline Hooten, PhD student (2024-present)  
*Supervisory committee member*: Fernanda Lozano, PhD student (2024-present)  
*Supervisory committee member*: Alex Hernandez, PhD student (2025-present)  
*Supervisory committee member*: Renee Kessler, PhD student (2025-present)
- 2023-present **Co-mentor**: Aliria Rascon, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Arizona State University  
- R01 Re-Entry Supplement Grant awarded March 2024 NIDDK 3R01DK107579-08S2

- 2023-present      **Mentor**, Mountain State Community-Engaged Dissemination & Implementation Training Institute  
**Mentees**: (\*primary mentee; \*\* secondary mentee in the small group co-mentorship)  
                  \* Dr. Idethia Shevon Harvey, University of Missouri (2025-2026 cohort)  
                  \* Dr. Aliria Rascon, Arizona State University (2024-2025 cohort)  
                  \*\* Dr. Samantha Sobo, Northern Arizona University (2024-2025 cohort)  
                  \*\* Dr. Naomi George, New Mexico University (2024-2025 cohort)  
                  \* Dr. Shannon Jones, University of Utah (2023-2024 cohort)  
                  \*\* Dr. Adewale Oyeyemi, Arizona State University (2023-2024 cohort)
- 2023-present      **Co-Mentor**: Eytayo Owolabi, PhD, RN, Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow, Arizona State University  
                                  - K99/R00 awarded Oct 2024

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

**\*= Postdoctoral mentee; \*\* = Student mentee**

1. D'Apolito, G\*\*; **Verdecias-Pellum, N.** (2025) Structural Readiness of CBOs to Address Health-Related Social Needs in Chronic Disease Management Programs: An Environmental Scan. Archives of Public Health. Under review.
2. **Verdecias-Pellum, N**; D'Apolito, G\*\*; Lohr AM; Rascón AM; Palmer KNB. (2025) Expanding Diabetes Self-Management Education to Address Health-Related Social Needs: A Qualitative Feasibility Study. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. Revise and Resubmit.
3. Palmer, K; **Verdecias-Pellum, N**; Pryor, K; Suero-Davis, A; Yurika, R; Lohr A. (2025) Developing a Salon-Based Prediabetes Risk Screening and Prevention Program Referral Intervention Through Group Concept Mapping. Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice. Under review.
4. Muñoz Rascón, A\*; Owolabi, EO\*; Braxton, ME; **Verdecias-Pellum, N**; Shaibi, GQ. (2025) Social Needs and Type 2 Diabetes in Latinos: An Integrative Review. Jnl of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities. *E-print ahead of pub.* doi.org/10.1007/s40615-025-02448-z.
5. **Verdecias-Pellum, N**; Silverman, C; Yudell, M; Carroll-Scott, A. (2025) Inequities in Community-Engaged Autism Research: Community Member Perspectives. Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education and Action. 19(1):25-34. doi.org/10.1353/cpr.2025.a956594. PMID: 40223625
6. Von Nordheim, DA; Herrick, C; **Verdecias, N**; Garg, R; Kreuter, MW; McQueen, A. (2024) Correlates of self-reported executive function impairment among Medicaid beneficiaries with type 2 diabetes. Diabetes Spectrum. July 10:ds230067. doi.org/10.2337/ds23-0067
7. Kroll, C\*\*; Johnson, M\*\*; Kepper MM; **Verdecias, N**; Kreuter MW. (2023) An exploratory qualitative analysis of St. Louis residents: "I don't really pay attention to the racial stuff very much". Preventing Chronic Disease. Nov 9:20:E100. DOI: 10.5888/pcd20.230103. PMID: 37943728
8. **Verdecias, N**; McQueen, A; Von Nordheim, D; L; Broussard, D; Smith, R; Kreuter, M. (2023) Diabetes Distress in a Medicaid Sample: The Role of Psychosocial and Health-Related Factors. Journal of Diabetes and Its Complications; 37(7):108495. DOI: 10.1016/j.jdiacomp.2023.108495. PMID: 37156052; PMCID: PMC10330688; NIHMS: 1898869; PMID: 37156052
9. Kroll C\*\*; McQueen A; De La Vega V\*\*; Marsh AK; Poor T; **Verdecias N**; Caburnay C; Kreuter MW. (2023) Trusted sources for COVID-19 testing and vaccination: lessons for future health communication. J Commun Healthc. 16(4):350-357. DOI: 10.1080/17538068.2023.2255408. PMID: 37695124; PMCID: PMC10841886.
10. Reddy, S; Saxon, M; **Verdecias, N**; Biviji, R, Don, R; Kizer, E; Mishra, S. (2023) Parallel Crisis by State Lines: The Unintended Consequences of Dobbs in Health Care. Clinics in Medicine; 5(1): 1051.
11. McQueen, A; Charles, C; Staten, J; Broussard, DJ; Smith, RE; **Verdecias, N**; Kreuter, MW. (2022) Social needs are associated with greater anticipated needs during an emergency and desire for help in emergency preparedness planning. Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness. Oct 14;17:e279. DOI: 10.1017/dmp.2022.208. PMID: 36239053; PMCID: PMC9918631

12. Garg, R; Muhammad, SN; Cabassa, LJ; McQueen, A; **Verdecias, N**; Greer, R; Kreuter, M. (2022) Transportation and other social needs as markers of mental health conditions. *Journal of Transport & Health*. 25:101357. DOI: 10.1016/j.jth.2022.101357. Epub 2022 Mar 19. PMID: 36407687; PMCID: PMC9667984
13. McQueen, A; Li, L; Herrick, C; **Verdecias, N**; Brown, D; Broussard, D; Smith, RE; Kreuter, MW. (2021) Social Needs, Chronic Conditions, and Health Care Utilization among Medicaid Beneficiaries. *Population Health Management*. 24(6):681-690. DOI: 10.1089/pop.2021.0065. PMID: 33989068; PMCID: PMC8713253  
PMID: 33704849 PMCID: PMC8433262
14. **Verdecias, N**; Garg, R; Steensma, J; McQueen, A; Greer, R; Kreuter, M. (2020) Expressed and unexpressed social needs in low-income adults in the US. *Health and Social Care in the Community*. e184–191. DOI: 10.1111/hsc.13265. PMID: 33378603; PMCID: PMC8243392
15. **Verdecias, N**; McQueen, A; Li, L; Baddam, CDR; Smith, R; Kreuter, M. (2020) Examining the intersection between unmet social needs, chronic disease comorbidities, and emergency room utilization among Medicaid beneficiaries with diabetes. *Diabetes*. 69 (Supplement 1):743-P DOI: 10.2337/db20-743-P
16. Martinez-Donate, AP; **Verdecias, N**; Zhang, X; Gonzalez-Fagoaga, E; Asadi-Gonzalez, A; Guendelman, S; Amuedo-Dorantes, C; Rangel, MG. (2020) Examining the health profile and healthcare access of Mexican migrants traversing the Northern Mexican border. *Medical Care*. 58(5):474-482. DOI: 10.1097/MLR.0000000000001300. PMID: 32028523; PMCID: PMC7155382
17. Huynh, TB; Doan, N; Trinh, N; **Verdecias, N**; Stalford, S; Carroll-Scott, A. (2019) Factors influencing health and safety practices among Vietnamese nail salon technicians and owners: a qualitative study. *Journal of Industrial Medicine*. 62(3): 244-252. DOI: 10.1002/ajim.22947. PMID: 30658004; PMCID: PMC7375023
18. Blank, AE; Fletcher, J; **Verdecias, N**; Garcia, I; Blackstock, O; Cunningham, C. (2015) Factors associated with retention and viral suppression among a cohort of HIV+ women of color. *AIDS Patient Care STDS*. 29 Suppl 1:S27-35. DOI: 10.1089/apc.2014.0272. PMID: 25458205; PMCID: PMC4283067
19. Eastwood, EA; Fletcher, J; Quinlivan, EB; **Verdecias, N**; Birnbaum, JM; Blank, AE. (2015) Baseline social characteristics and barriers to care from Special Projects of National Significance Women of Color with HIV Study: A comparison of urban and rural women and barriers to HIV care. *AIDS Patient Care STDS*. 29 Suppl 1:S4-10. DOI: 10.1089/apc.2014.0274. PMID: 25469916; PMCID: PMC4283059
20. Quinlivan, E; Fletcher, J; Eastwood, EA; Blank, AE; **Verdecias, N**; Roytburd, K. (2015) Health status of HIV-infected women entering care: Baseline medical findings from the women of color initiative. *AIDS Patient Care & STDs*. 29 Suppl 1:S11-9. DOI: 10.1089/apc.2014.0277. PMID: 25561306; PMCID: PMC4283073.
21. Blackstock, O; Blank, AE; Fletcher, J; **Verdecias, N**; Cunningham, C. (2015) Considering care-seeking behaviors reveals important differences among HIV-positive women not engaged in care: implications for intervention. *AIDS Patient Care & STDs*. *AIDS Patient Care STDS*. 29 Suppl 1:S20-6. DOI: 10.1089/apc.2014.0271. PMID: 25561307; PMCID: PMC4283072
22. Blank, AE; **Verdecias, N**; Meissner, P; Karasz, A; Fletcher, J; Garcia, I (2014) Enhancing Access to and Retention in Quality HIV Care for Women of Color Initiative: An Implementation Guide. Developed for the Health Resources and Services Administration Special Projects of National Significance, HIV/AIDS Bureau
23. Rajabiun, S; Fox, J; McCluskey, A; Guevara, E; **Verdecias, N**; Jeanty, Y; DeMayo, M; Mofidi, M. (2012) Patient perspectives on improving oral health-care practices among people living with HIV/AIDS. *Public Health Reports*. 127 Suppl (2):73-81. DOI: 10.1177/00333549121270S210. PMID: 22547879; PMCID: PMC3314394
24. Fox, JE; Tobias, C; Bachman, SS; Reznik, DA; Rajabiun, S; **Verdecias, N**. (2012) Increasing access to oral health care for people living with HIV/AIDS in the U.S.: baseline evaluation results of the Innovations in Oral Health Care Initiative. *Public Health Reports*. 127 Suppl (2):5-16. DOI: 10.1177/00333549121270S203. PMID: 22547872; PMCID: PMC3314388

25. Deshmukh, M; Joseph, MA; **Verdecias, N**; Malka, ES; LaRosa, JH. (2011) Acute Coronary Syndrome: Factors Affecting Time to Arrival in a Diverse Urban Setting. J Community Health. 36:895–902. DOI: 10.1007/s10900-011-9465-4. PMID: 21877106
26. **Verdecias, RN**; Jean-Louis, G; Zizi, F; Casimir, GJ; Browne, RC. (2009) Attachment styles and sleep measures in a community-based sample of older adults. Sleep Medicine. 10(6): 664-667. DOI: 10.1016/j.sleep.2008.05.011. PMID: 18996049; PMCID: PMC2729553
27. Jean-Louis, G; Magai, C; Pierre-Louis, J; Zizi, F; **Verdecias, N**; DiPalma, J; Consedine, N. (2005) Insomnia complaints and repressive coping among Black and White Americans. SLEEP Vol. 28: 232
28. Zizi, F; Jean-Louis, G; DiPalma, J; **Verdecias, RN**; Wolintz, AH; Greenidge, KC; Heath-Phillip, O. (2004) Visual Impairment and Reported Sleep Complaints: A Verification Study. Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.41:S1392
29. Nunes, J; Jean-Louis, G; Zizi, F; **Verdecias, RN**; DiPalma, J; Ogera, P; Singh, M. (2004) Usefulness of the PSQI Among Community-Residing Older Adults: Consideration of Ethnic Differences. SLEEP Vol 27: 70
30. Zizi, F; Jean-Louis, G; **Verdecias, RN**; DiPalma, J; Wolintz, AH. (2004) Diurnal Preference and Phase Timings of Ambient Illumination and Rest-Activity. SLEEP Vol 27: 128-129
31. Zizi, F; Jean-Louis, G; Magai, C; DiPalma, J; **Verdecias, RN**; Wolintz, AH; Pierre-Louis, J; Grant-Martin, V; Greenidge, KC. (2003) Association between sleep complaints and visual impairment: A verification study. SLEEP Vol 26: 358-359
32. Weinhardt, LS; Carey, MP; Carey, KB; **Verdecias, RN**. (1998) Increasing assertiveness skills to reduce HIV risk among women living with a severe and persistent mental illness. Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology. 66(4): 680-684

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#### OP-EDS AND COMMENTARIES

1. Martinelli, S; McCoy, M; Reddy, S; **Verdecias, N**; Mishra, S. (2024) Arizona opinion: The critical role of free school meals. Arizona Daily Star. Published on 1/22/24 at [https://tucson.com/opinion/column/arizona-opinion-the-critical-role-of-free-school-meals/article\\_e33e71e0-b554-11ee-a98c-0b087ec0a33b.html?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_campaign=user-share](https://tucson.com/opinion/column/arizona-opinion-the-critical-role-of-free-school-meals/article_e33e71e0-b554-11ee-a98c-0b087ec0a33b.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)

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#### BOOK CHAPTERS

1. **Verdecias, N**; Steensma, J; Kreuter M; Bernhardt, J. (2023) Enhancing dissemination through marketing and distribution systems: A vision for public health; In Textbook Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health: Translating Science to Practice. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press. Published 8/22/23.

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#### TELEVISION & MEDIA

Fall 2025	<b>Society of Behavioral Medicine Diabetes Special Interest Group Faculty Spotlight, <u>Title</u>:</b> Faculty Spotlight with Dr. Niko Verdecias-Pellum. Fall Newsletter
July 2024	<b>Institute for Implementation Science Scholars Spotlight Feature, <u>Title</u>:</b> Scholars Say Implementation Science Training Boosted Their Careers. <a href="https://is2.wustl.edu/scholars-say-implementation-science-training-boosted-their-careers/">https://is2.wustl.edu/scholars-say-implementation-science-training-boosted-their-careers/</a>
Sept 2023	<b>Expert Interview</b> , The Copper Courier; <u>Content</u> : The impact of insulin costs on diabetes among an aging population
August 2023	<b>Center for Diabetes Translation Research Spotlight Feature, <u>Title</u>:</b> Q&A with Dr. Niko Verdecias. <a href="https://cdtr.wustl.edu/qa-with-dr-niko-verdecias/">https://cdtr.wustl.edu/qa-with-dr-niko-verdecias/</a>
July 2023	<b>ASU News Feature, <u>Title</u>:</b> ASU study: How outside stressors affect those with diabetes-related distress. <a href="https://news.asu.edu/20230626-asu-study-how-everyday-stresses-affect-those-diabetesrelated-distress">https://news.asu.edu/20230626-asu-study-how-everyday-stresses-affect-those-diabetesrelated-distress</a>

- Feb 2023 **Expert Guest Respondent**, PBS TV show – Arizona Horizon; Content: Black History Month - health disparities, inequities, social determinants of health. (Live Air Date: 2/22/23)  
<https://video.azpbs.org/video/healthcare-disparity-ukraine-anniversary-4pirdb/>
- October 2022 **Expert Guest Respondent**, PBS TV show - Poetry in America; Director & Host – Dr. Elisa New  
Content: health disparities, inequities, diabetes, and social determinants of health

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- 2025 **Innovative Therapies for Diabetes Management**, Singapore  
Poster: Advancing Whole Person Diabetes Care: Feasibility of Embedding Non-Medical Drivers of Health into Diabetes Self-Management Education Delivery
- 2025 **Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science**, Pittsburgh, PA  
Poster (presented by student mentee): Examining the Structural Capacity of CBOs through a Modified SWOT Analysis
- 2024 **American Diabetes Association**, Orlando, FL  
Poster: Feasibility of Integrating Social Needs Interventions in Community-Based Diabetes Programs
- 2024 **ASU Faculty Research Success Day Conference**, Phoenix, AZ  
Poster: Diabetes Distress in a Medicaid Sample: The Role of Psychosocial and Health-Related Factors
- 2023 **Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health**, Arlington, VA  
Oral (Co-authored; presented by lead Cady Berkel): D&I training in evidence-based prevention: A developmental focus
- 2023 **Society of Behavioral Medicine**, Phoenix, AZ  
Poster (Co-presenter): What's worse than diabetes? Correlates of comorbidity burden among adult Medicaid beneficiaries with type 2 diabetes
- 2022 **American Diabetes Association**, New Orleans, LA  
Poster: Examining psychosocial and comorbidity factors associated with diabetes distress among Medicaid beneficiaries
- 2020 **American Public Health Association**, (changed to virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic)  
Video presentation: Psychosocial and behavioral factors associated with increased cardiovascular disease risk among people living with HIV/AIDS  
Video presentation: Patient perspectives on CVD knowledge, risk perception, and risk reduction among blacks and Hispanics living with HIV/AIDS: Mixed methods study
- 2020 **American Diabetes Association**, (changed to virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic)  
Video presentation: Examining the intersection between unmet social needs, chronic disease comorbidities and emergency room utilization among Medicaid beneficiaries with diabetes
- 2018 **Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment**, Washington, DC  
Poster: Care management approaches towards CVD risk assessment and reduction involving people of color living with HIV/AIDS
- 2018 **1st World Congress on Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Health**, Edinburgh, UK  
Oral (Co-authored; Presented by lead author Martinez-Donate, AP): Looking Beyond Access to Care: An Examination of Health Care Experiences Among Mexican Migrants by Migration Phase and Context.
- 2017 **American Public Health Association**, Atlanta, GA  
Oral: Examining the Health Status and Health Care Access of Mexican Migrants from Various Migratory Flows: Evidence from the Migrante Project  
Poster: Examining Principal and Teacher Experiences with Youth Mental Health First Aid Training in Philadelphia, PA
- 2017 **Drexel University Urban Health Symposium: Reimagining Health in Cities**, Philadelphia, PA

- Poster: Examining the Health Status and Health Care Access of Mexican Migrants from Various Migratory Flows: Evidence from the Migrante Project
- 2016 **American Public Health Association**, Denver, CO  
Poster: Exploring protective and risk-inducing factors among young adult marijuana users in Los Angeles
- 2013 **American Public Health Association**, Boston, MA  
Oral: Examining dynamics of care: Areas of concern, service satisfaction, and problem resolution among HIV+ women of color
- 2012 **Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment**, Washington, DC  
Poster: Examining health related variables and HIV-Related Risk Behaviors in HIV+ Women of Color  
Poster: Relationships among Sociodemographics, Risk Factors, & Health Related Quality of Life among HIV+ WOC  
Moderator: For an oral panel related to a multisite initiative on HIV+ Women of Color.
- 2010 **Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment**, Washington, DC  
Poster: Women of Color and HIV: Using Intervention Mapping as a tool for program tracking and evaluation
- 2009 **United States Conference on AIDS**, San Francisco, CA  
Oral: Recruiting and Retaining HIV Patients in Oral Health Care: The Case for Dental Case Managers
- 2009 **SPNS HIV and Oral Health Grantee Meeting**, Washington, DC  
Poster: Project TEETH - Year 3
- 2009 **National Oral Health Conference**, Portland, OR  
Poster: Linking HIV+ Patients to Dental Care Using Patient Navigators
- 2008 **New York City Research and Improvement Networking Group (NYC RING)**, Bronx, NY  
Poster: Improving Use of Oral Health Services: Project TEETH
- 2008 **American Public Health Association**, San Diego, CA  
Poster: The Role of Patient Navigators in Linking HIV+ Patients to Dental Care  
Poster: Improving Use of Oral Health Services Among HIV+ Patients: Project TEETH
- 2008 **Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment**, Washington, DC  
Poster: The Role of Patient Navigators towards Getting HIV+ Patients to Dental Care  
Oral: Navigating the Road Blocks: Using a Mobile Dental Unit to Increase Access to Oral Health Care
- 2008 **SPNS HIV and Oral Health Grantee Meeting**, Washington, DC  
Poster: Project TEETH: Year 2
- 2007 **New York City Research and Improvement Networking Group (NYC RING)**, Bronx, NY  
Poster: Improving Use of Oral Health Services: Project TEETH
- 2007 **SPNS HIV and Oral Health Grantee Meeting**, Baltimore, MD  
Poster: Project TEETH: Year 1
- 2005 **Associated Professional Sleep Societies, LLC**, Denver, CO  
Poster: Insomnia complaints and repressive coping among Black and White Americans
- 2004 **National Medical Association**, San Diego, CA  
Poster: Risk factors of sleep-disordered breathing in a Caribbean sample  
Poster: Ethnicity as an influence on ophthalmic measures
- 2004 **Associated Professional Sleep Societies, LLC**, Philadelphia, PA  
Poster: Diurnal preference, attachment styles, and depression
- 2004 **Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology**, Fort Lauderdale, FL  
Poster: Visual impairment and reported sleep complaints: A verification study



2003      **Associated Professional Sleep Societies, LLC, Chicago, IL**  
Poster: Relationships between attachment style and sleep patterns

## **GRANT HISTORY**

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### A) Awarded

Agency:            **ASU Institute for Social Science Research Seed Grant**  
Title:                *Centering Patient Voices in SMS Messaging for Chronic Disease Support and Food Insecurity*  
Mechanism:        Pilot funding  
PI:                    Verdecias  
Total Budget:      \$8,000  
Award Period:     12/16/2025-12/15/2026

Agency:            **Creighton Community Foundation**  
Title:                *Designing Digital Engagement Tools for Medical Food Box & Chronic Disease Support*  
Mechanism:        Foundation pilot grant  
PI:                    Verdecias  
Total Budget:      \$14,992  
Award Period:     12/16/2025-12/15/2026

Agency:            **National Institutes of Health; National Institute of Nursing Research**  
Title:                *Enhancing Intersectoral Community Health Worker Models to Improve Chronic Conditions Outcomes and Care Engagement*  
Mechanism:        *NINR Health Disparities Research Loan Repayment Program*  
PI:                    Verdecias  
Total Budget:      \$100,000  
Award Period:     7/2/2025-7/1/2027

### B) Pending Applications

Agency:            **National Institutes of Health; National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases**  
Title:                *Dining with Diabetes Plus Trauma-Informed Care: A Pilot Randomized Trial in Rural Missouri*  
RFA:                 *Small R01s for Clinical Trials Targeting Diseases within the Mission of NIDDK*  
Mechanism:        R01  
PI:                    Harvey  
My role:             Co-Investigator  
Total Budget:      \$200,000  
Submitting:        2/5/2026

Agency:            **The Southwest Center for Metabolic Health- Center for Diabetes Translation Research**  
Title:                *Implementation Evaluation of a Social Needs Screener to Support Metabolic Health for All in Primary Care*  
RFA:                 *Translational Research in Diabetes Feasibility and Pilot Project*  
Mechanism:        Pilot funding  
PI:                    Verdecias  
Total Budget:      \$50,000  
Submitted:        5/5/2025 (Reviewed and scored; awaiting final review)

### C) Submitted, not funded

Agency:            **National Institutes of Health**  
Title:                *Enhancing Intersectoral CHW Networks to Address Social Needs for Marginalized Populations*  
PAR:                 *NINR Areas of Emphasis for Research to Optimize Health and Advance Health for All*  
Mechanism:        R01  
PI:                    Verdecias (mPI); McEntee (mPI)  
Total Budget:      \$2,983,649

Submitted: 10/5/2024 (Reviewed and scored; Federal administration ceased further reviews for this RFA)

Agency: **USDA: National Institute of Food and Agriculture**

Title: *Cultivating Food Agency and Celebrating Cultural Food Capabilities: A Cooking-based Approach for Sustainable Campus Food Systems*

Mechanism: R01 equivalent

PI: Merrigan (PI); El Sayed (Co-PI); Verdecias (Co-PI)

Role: Co-PI

Total Budget: \$1,148,356

Submitted: 8/24/2024 – Resubmission; Federal administration ceased reviews for this RFA.

  

Agency: **National Institutes of Health; NIMHD**

Title: *Walk Your Way to Health: Implementing a Culturally-Tailored Community-Based Physical Activity Intervention among African Refugees*

PAR: *Community Level Interventions to Improve Minority Health and Reduce Health Disparities*

Mechanism: R01

PI: Oyeyemi (PI)

Role: Co-I

Total Budget: \$6,099,055

Submitted: 10/5/2024

  

Agency: **National Science Foundation**

Title: *Understanding Barriers to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility for Autistic Students*

Mechanism: R01 Equivalent

PI: Braden (PI); Verdecias (Co-PI)

Role: Co-PI - Mixed Methods and Qualitative Expert

Total Budget: \$1,500,000

Submitted: 9/17/2024

  

Agency: **National Institutes of Health**

Title: *Enhancing Intersectoral CHW Networks to Address Social Needs for Marginalized Populations*

RFA: *Clinical-Community Linkages to Address Unmet Social Needs and Adverse Social Determinants of Health to Advance Health Equity among Populations Experiencing Health Disparities: The Bridge-to-Care Initiative*

Mechanism: R01

PI: Verdecias (mPI); McEntee (mPI)

Total Budget: \$2,983,649

Submitted: 3/22/2024 - Withdrawn due to Research Advancement error. Resubmitted 10/2024.

  

Agency: **USDA: National Institute of Food and Agriculture**

Title: *Cultivating Food Agency and Celebrating Cultural Food Capabilities: A Cooking-based Approach for Sustainable Campus Food Systems*

Mechanism: Competitive Grant

PI: Merrigan (PI); El Sayed (Co-PI); Verdecias (Co-PI)

Role: Co-PI

Total Budget: \$1,148,356

Submitted: 8/24/2023

  

Agency: **National Institutes of Health**

Title: *ASU Health Equity Research Hub*

Mechanism: Community Partnerships to Advance Science for Society (CompPASS) Health Equity Research Hub (UC2)

PI: Riley (PI)

Role: Co-Investigator (Unit PI Lead)

Total Budget: \$6,335,246

Submitted: 10/31/2023

Agency: **National Institutes of Health; National Institute of Aging**  
 Title: *Habit Training to Increase mHealth Adherence for Late-Life Depression among Autistic adults*  
 Mechanism: R01  
 PI: Stecher (PI)  
 Role: Co-Investigator  
 Total Budget: \$3,765,097  
 Submitted: 1/31/2023

Agency: **National Institutes of Health**  
 Title: *MS-CEDI Training Program: Increasing Community-Engaged D&I Research to Advance Health Equity*  
 Mechanism: R25  
 PI: Berkel; Smith  
 Role: Co-Investigator  
 Total Budget: \$865,740  
 Submitted: 4/17/2023

Agency: **National Institutes of Health**  
 Title: *FreccsaZona Intervention Nutrition Center*  
 Mechanism: Community Partnerships to Advance Science for Society (ComPASS), Community-Led, Health Equity Structural Intervention Initiative (OT2)  
 PI: Boles (Community Partner - PI)  
 Role: Co-Investigator  
 Total Budget: \$5,395,473  
 Submitted: 2/6/2023

Agency: **National Institutes of Health; National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases**  
 Title: *Integrating social needs intervention into diabetes self-management: Examining feasibility and efficacy*  
 Mechanism: K99/R00  
 PI: Verdecias  
 Total Budget: \$927,000  
 Submitted: 10/15/2021

#### C) Past Research Support

Agency: **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**  
 Title: *Connecting Behavioral Science to COVID-19 Vaccine Demand (CBS-CVD) Network*  
 PI: Kreuter (PI), McQueen (Co-PI)  
 Role: Co-Investigator  
 Total Budget: \$500,000  
 Project period: 4/15/2021-4/14/2022

Agency: **National Institute of Health; National Cancer Institute**  
 Title: *Community Engagement Research Alliance Against COVID-19 Disparities (CEAL)*  
 PI: Kreuter (PI), McQueen (Co-PI)  
 Role: Co-Investigator  
 Total Budget: \$1,400,000  
 Project period: 3/16/2021-2/28/2022

Agency: **National Institute of Health; National Cancer Institute**  
 Title: *COVID-19: Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics for Underserved Populations (RADx-UP) Initiative*  
 PI: Kreuter (PI), McQueen (Co-PI)  
 Role: Co-Investigator  
 Total Budget: \$800,000  
 Project period: 11/16/2020-12/31/2022

Agency: **National Institutes of Health; National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases**  
 Title: *Addressing Basic Needs to Improve Diabetes Outcomes in Medicaid Beneficiaries*  
 PI: Kreuter (PI) and McQueen (Co-PI)  
 Role: Postdoctoral Fellow  
 Total Budget: \$3,471,458  
 Project period: 7/1/2018-6/30/2023

Agency: **Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health Department of Community Health and Prevention – Dissertation Grant**  
 Title: *Exploring cardiovascular disease knowledge, risk perception, and associated socio-behavioral determinants among African American/Black and Hispanic people living with HIV/AIDS in an urban setting: A mixed methods study.*  
 PI: Verdecias  
 Total Budget: \$2,000  
 Project period: 1/1/2017-6/30/2019

Agency: **Human Resources Services Administration – HIV/AIDS Bureau's Special Projects of National Significance Program**  
 Title: *Enhancing Access to and Retention in Quality HIV Care for Women of Color*  
 P.I.: Blank  
 Role: Project Director  
 Total Budget: \$2,750,000  
 Project period: 9/1/2009-8/31/2014

Agency: **Human Resources Services Administration – HIV/AIDS Bureau's Special Projects of National Significance Program**  
 Title: *Innovations in Oral Health Care and HIV Initiative*  
 P.I.: Meissner  
 Role: Project Director  
 Total Budget: \$2,000,000  
 Project period: 9/1/2006-8/31/2011

#### PEER REVIEW SERVICE ACTIVITIES

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2025	Manuscript peer reviewer for Journal of Public Health
2024	Manuscript peer reviewer for BMJ Open
2024	Manuscript peer reviewer for American Journal of Preventive Medicine
2024	Manuscript peer reviewer for Current Diabetes Reviews
2023-present	Grant reviewer (standing member) for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality: Healthcare Effectiveness and Outcomes Research Study Section
2023	Grant reviewer for University of Arizona's Mock Grant Review Panel
2023	Manuscript peer reviewer for Health Education Research
2022	Manuscript peer reviewer for Health Education and Behavior
2022	Manuscript peer reviewer for AIDS and Behavior
2017	Abstract peer reviewer for the American Public Health Association Annual Conference
2011	Manuscript peer reviewer for Sleep Medicine Journal

#### OTHER SERVICE

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2025-present	Member: Arizona Diabetes Coalition
2022-present	Co-Lead and Mentor: Mountain States Partnership for Community-Engaged Dissemination and Implementation Science (MS-CEDI) Training Institute
2022-present	Faculty Member: Dissemination & Implementation Science Affinity Network at ASU
2022-present	Faculty Member: Health Policy & Equity Affinity Network at ASU
2022-present	Faculty Member: MS in Population Health Curriculum Committee

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS**

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2023-present	Faculty Affiliate: Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center at Arizona State University
2023-present	Associate Member: Washington University at St. Louis Center for Diabetes Translational Research
2023-present	Society of Behavioral Medicine
2022-present	American Diabetes Association
2008-present	American Public Health Association
2018-2019	Drexel University - Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Health Group
2008-2013	Public Health Association of New York City - Chairwoman of the HIV/AIDS Committee (2008-2012)

## **AWARDS, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND VOLUNTEER WORK**

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2025	Recipient of an Arizona State University SUN Award
2024-2025	Finalist for the Outstanding Doctoral Faculty Mentor Award, Arizona State University
2024	Recipient of an Arizona State University SUN Award
2023	Recipient of an Arizona State University SUN Award
2019	Recipient of the Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health Public Health Practice Award
2017	Panelist: "Women: Know Your Status" HIV seminar hosted by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
2016-2018	Three-time recipient: Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health Conference Travel Award
2014-2016	Chair: Health Promotion Committee, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., (local chapter member)
2014-2016	Recipient of the Drexel University Provost Fellowship