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Education

2022 RDN Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD

2022 MSPH Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD

Department of International Health, Human Nutrition

Coordinated MSPH/Registered Dietitian Program – completed internship requirements to become a Registered Dietitian

2019 BS North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC

Major in Nutrition Science, Minor in Africana Studies Summa cum laude

Professional Experience

Research Associate, Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition (GSCN) Omaha, NE | August 2022 – Present

- Support the implementation of research and evaluation projects for an independent, 501(c)(3) tax exempt non-profit nutrition research center
 - Conduct and document literature reviews.
 - Prepare quantitative measurement tools for distribution by formatting paper forms or building electronic surveys.
 - Collect qualitative and quantitative data by conducting interviews/observations and administering surveys/assessments.
 - O Develop codebooks to ensure accurate data entry and storage.
 - Transcribe qualitative data gathered from interviews and prepare transcribed data for coding.
 - o Prepare data for analysis by cleaning, coding, and merging data.
 - o Conduct qualitative and quantitative data analysis.
 - Support the development of deliverables, presentations, and manuscripts by participating in storyboarding sessions, writing report sections, presenting deliverables, and supporting manuscript development.

Program Support, Healthy Eating Research (HER)

Durham, NC | April 2022 - present

- Support overall planning and execution of the 2022 Summer Speaker Series for Students, a collaborative effort between HER and Nutrition and Obesity Policy Research and Evaluation Network (NOPREN)
 - Developed communication materials and templates to organize sessions and coordinate with presenters
 - o Served as the main point of contact between HER/NOPREN and presenters
 - Developed evaluation questions and programmed surveys in Qualtrics

Professional Experience (Continued)

Program Support, Healthy Eating Research (HER) (continued) Durham, NC | January 2022 – present

- Support execution of a grant that aims to align children's beverage intake with recommendations and implementation of the recommendations in healthcare and community settings
 - o Assisted with data analysis and report writing for pediatric dentist survey
 - o Developed session proposals and presentations for webinars

Research Assistant, *WIC Grocery Study,* Global Food Research Program (GFRP), UNC Chapel Hill Chapel Hill, NC | January 2022 – June 2022

- Developed study protocol and participant recruitment materials
- Assisted with participant scheduling
- Facilitated online focus groups with WIC participants
- Transcribed and coded focus group data using NVivo
- Contributed to report writing and developed materials to relay results to participants

Graduate Research Assistant, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Baltimore, MD | November 2020 – October 2021

- Cooking Up Local Thoughts on Local Produce an evaluation of a local cooking demonstration and nutrition program
 - Managed and tracked participant recruitment
 - o Conducted surveys and interviews with participants
- *Healthy Food Retail Case Study* case study of a local grocery store in Baltimore City to determine how pricing and availability of healthy items impact consumer purchases and to evaluate the success and shortcomings of the store
 - o Conduct interviews with employees to understand their thoughts on the store closing
 - Complete inventory of the store using the Nutrition Environment Measure Survey for Stores (NEMS-S)
- Destress Monday formative research on causes of poor sleep patterns and stress in low-income Black youth in Baltimore City
 - o Conducted in-depth interviews with adolescents and caregivers
 - o Transcribed and coded interviews using NVivo
 - Assisted in material development to relay messages about positive sleep behaviors to youth
 - Contributed to manuscript

Grants and Contracts - Current

August 2022 - Present

From Policy to Reality: Assessment of the Successes and Challenges with the WIC Cash-Value Benefit (CVB) Changes in Increasing Child Access to Fruits and Vegetables – Healthy Eating Research

- Support the design, implementation and analysis of a mixed methods evaluation assessing the WIC CVB changes through State administrative data analysis and qualitative interviews with WIC State agencies, local agencies, and participants.
- Role: Research Associate

Grants and Contracts - Current (continued)

August 2022 - Present

WIC Online Ordering - United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

- Support the design, implementation and evaluation of a formative study and sub-grant program to develop, implement, and evaluate systems that allow for WIC participants to order their WIC food benefits online.
- Role: Research Associate

August 2022 - Present

USDA FNS WIC Special Project Innovation - Council of State Governments

- Provide technical assistance and evaluation support to WIC State and local agencies implementing innovations to the WIC certification process; conduct an overarching evaluation on the effectiveness across the innovations.
- Role: Research Associate

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Duffy EW, Vest DA, Davis CR, Hall MG, De Marco M, Ng SW, Taillie LS. "I Think That's the Most Beneficial Change That WIC Has Made in a Really Long Time": Perceptions and Awareness of an Increase in the WIC Cash Value Benefit. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. 2022; 19(14):8671. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph19148671
- 2. Duffy EW, **Vest DA**, Davis CR, Hall MG, De Marco M, Ng SW, Taillie LS. The Cash Value Benefit Increase: A Key Step Toward Healthier WIC Families. Global Food Research Program, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Gilling School of Global Public Health. June 2022. (Research brief)

Honors, Awards, and Professional Associations

Honors and Awards

2019

Completed University Scholars Program requirements

Professional Associations

2021 – present

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Other Community Memberships

2018 - Present

Member, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc

Technical Skills and Software

NVivo | Qualtrics | Stata – beginner | Google Cloud Platform | MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, MS Outlook, MS Teams, and MS SharePoint | Zoom