

## AREA OF EXPERTIST

My substantive area of research is in child welfare with a particular focus on African-American youth. I have extensive expertise in research within urban communities. I was the co-Investigator of the context matters research project that explored the social, emotional, and environmental correlates of risk among a sample of over 250 youth in public housing. I was also the project director for the District of Columbia Foreclosure and Migration Study (DCFAM), a three- year research project assessing youths' physiological and psychological responses to stress. Additionally, I was a funded research fellow for the Robert Wood Johnson Interdisciplinary Research Leader's program conducting research on violence prevention among youth in Washington DC.

I am currently the principal investigator of the People First Initiative evaluating the relocation of families out of public housing. I am also the principal investigator of the syndemic production of health disparities among Adolescents in public housing in Hampton Roads Eastern Virginia Post-COVID-19 Pandemic, Youth Exposure and Victimization of Community Violence, as well as the community engagement lead on the coastal, and people grant funded by the National Science Foundation. It appears from a review of your faculty's substantive areas of practice, teaching, and research that my areas of expertise will contribute to your school's mission and vision to "prepare urban social work leaders who are committed to the alleviation of human suffering, social justice, and the improvement of the quality of life for diverse urban populations".

## EDUCATION

<b>Doctor of Philosophy Social Work</b>	Howard University School of Social Work Washington, DC	May 2009
Dissertation: "Future Aspirations and African-American Youth: An Exploration of Aspirations as a Protective Factor for Positive Youth Development of African-American Youth in Public Housing"		
<b>Graduate Teaching Certificate, College and University Faculty Preparation</b>	Howard University Washington, DC	May 2009
<b>Master of Social Work Social Service Management</b>	Howard University School of Social Work Washington, DC	December 2002
<b>Bachelor of Arts Social Work</b>	George Mason University Fairfax Virginia	May 2001

## CERTIFICATIONS

<b>Certified Online Instructor</b>	The Learning Resources Network	July 2020
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## SHARON T ALSTON, PHD, MSW

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**Faculty Certification Program for Teaching  
Distance Education Courses**

Norfolk State University  
Norfolk, VA

August 2020

**Certified Online Instructor**

Research Academy for Integrated Learning  
University of the District of Columbia  
Washington, DC

May 2015

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

April 2019- Present	Consultant	Management Solutions Consulting Group, Inc. Provides direct technical and consultative assistance to the HIV/AIDS Bureau grant recipients, program stakeholders, planning bodies, service providers, and federal staff.
September 2020–Present	Principal Investigator	Robert Wood Johnson Interdisciplinary Researcher Leaders Promoting Health Equity through Housing Stability: A mix-methods project exploring the experience of residents who are being relocating to fair market mixed-income communities during Covid-19.
April 2018–May 2019	Principal Investigator	Council on Social Work Education Project Connect, an assessment of high-impact practices on students learning in social work education.
April 2017–Present	Principal Investigator	Robert Wood Johnson Interdisciplinary Researcher Leaders Project Youth M.I.N.D.
July 2015–2016	Lead Field Director	Urban Institute Needs assessment of Families in public housing: Exploring the needs of families in public housing in Washington. DC.
September 2010– October 2014	Project Director	Foreclosure and Migration into the Rental Housing Market An assessment of adolescents' wellbeing following foreclosure in the District of Columbia, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois DC. Exploring the psychological and physiological effects of foreclose on adolescents in foreclosure households.
May 2009–October 2010	Program Evaluator	Young Ladies of Tomorrow, Washington, DC. Develop instrument, research protocol, and conduct data analysis to evaluate the effectiveness of the prevention program for adolescent girls DC involved in the juvenile justice system.
May 2008–Present	Program Evaluator	Peace thru Culture, Washington, DC Develop instrument, research protocol, and conduct data analysis of data to evaluate the effectiveness of the cultural educational program for inner city youth.
May 2007–July 2008	Co-Principal Investigator	Context Matters Research Study, School of Social Work, Howard University Exposure to Community Hazards and Violence and Adolescents' Mental Health and Health-risk Behavior in Washington DC, Philadelphia and New York City Public Housing; exploring the impact of neighborhood influences on adolescents' wellbeing.

## FUNDED GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

April 2017	Interdisciplinary Research Leader Fellow, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	\$350,000
April 2018	Policy Practice in Social Work Education, Council on Social Work Education	\$10,000
June 2020	NSU Summer Faculty Scholars Program, Center for African American Public Policy	\$5,000
July 2020	ACUE Effective Teaching Practices, NSU Center for Teaching and Learning	\$1,500
August 2020	Community Change Leadership Network Black Womxn's Leadership Grant	\$2,500
September 2020	Health Equity Grant, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	\$10,000
March 2021	Housing as the Social Determinant of Health. Impact of Covid-19 on relocating residents of the St. Paul Community of Norfolk, VA. NSU Health Disparities Center of Excellence	\$5,000
August 2021	Evaluation Services of the People First Initiative, The City of Norfolk	\$787,713
August 2021	Community Change Leadership Network Black Womxn's Leadership Grant	\$2,500
August 2022	Coastlines and People Hubs for Research and Broadening Participation, National Science Foundation	\$5,000,000
January 2023	The Syndemic Production of Health disparities among Adolescents in Public Housing in Hampton Roads Eastern Virginia Post-COVID-19 Pandemic	\$75,000
July 2024	CoPe: Enhancing Resilience and Equity in Urban Coastal Communities through the Co-Generation of Community Capitals	\$30,000
January 2025	Youth Exposure and Victimization of Community Violence: An Extension of the Syndemic Production of Health disparities among Adolescents in Public Housing in Hampton Roads Eastern Virginia Project Focused	\$50,000

## SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS

### REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Alston, S & Cope, C (in press) African American Adolescents: Encyclopedia of Social Work

Alston, S. (2023) Impact of COVID-19 and recommendation for navigating the uncertainties of the new normal. *The Online Journal of New Horizons in Education - January 2023 Volume 13, Issue 1*

Alston, S. & Wu, L. (2022) Predictor of futures aspirations among African American female youth in public housing.

Alston, S. Franklin, A, & White, R (2022). Parental Approaches to Parenting and Positive Youth Development, *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*,

Howard, S., Alston, S., Brown, M., & Bost, A. (2022). Literature Review on Regulatory Frameworks for Addressing Discrimination in Clinical Supervision. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 0(0).

<https://doi.org/10.1177/10497315221121827>

Alston, S., Ericksen, E. (2019). The use of high-impact practices for teaching social justice content in social work curriculum, *International Journal for Talent Development and Creativity*, 7:2, 67–78

Alston, S., Moore, C., & Thomas, M. (2017). Strategies for enhancing online teaching in social work education, *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*, 27:5, 412–423, DOI: 10.1080/10911359.2017.1311817

Freeman, K. E., Alston, S., & Winborne, D. G. (2008). Do learning communities enhance the quality of students' learning and motivation in STEM? *The Journal of Negro Education* 77, 227–240

Taylor, O., McGowan, J., & Alston, S. (2008). The effects of learning communities on achievement in STEM fields, *The Journal of Negro Education* 77, 190–202

### **MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS**

Alston, S. & Birore, C. (**under review**). Predictors of delinquent behavior among youth in public housing.

Alston, S. (in progress). Correlates of Aspirations among youth in public housing.

Alston, S., Sessoms, C., & Norwood, A. (in progress). Culturally Responsive Pedagogy: An Inclusive Practice (Book Chapter).

### **CONFERENCE AND PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

Howard, S., & Alston, S. (2022) Codifying Our Ethical Commitment to Social Work Colleagues: Supporting Black Supervisees, 2022 Annual Program Meeting

Howard, S., Alston, S., & Vaughan-Eden, V. (2022, July). Assessing risk in children's exposure to domestic violence: A roundtable discussion. American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Annual Colloquium, New Orleans, LA

Alston, S. (2022) Parental Approaches to Parenting and Positive Youth Development 2022 Annual Program Meeting

Alston, S. & Birore (2022). Correlates and Predictors of Delinquent Behavior Among African American Youth Living in Urban Public Housing. 2022 Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference

Alston, S. (2021). Digital Learning Resources: A Strategy for Teaching in the Pandemic Council on Social Work Education 2021 Annual Program Meeting

Alston, S. (2020). The use of high impact practices in social work curriculum for creating pathways to careers. The University System of Georgia Teaching and Learning Conference.

Alston, S. & Durham, R. (2020). Cross collaboration of care in child welfare. Mississippi Child Welfare Conference.

Alston, S. (2020). The use of high impact practices in social work curriculum for creating pathways to careers The University System of Georgia Teaching and Learning Conference.

Alston, S. (2019). Parental approaches and positive youth development. Mississippi Child Welfare Conference

Alston, S. (2018). Student learning outcome and assessment Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting,

Alston, S. (2017) Student learning all colors and styles. Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Conference

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Alston, S., Chatman, M., & Hylton, I. (2017). Assessing the use of restorative justice, mindfulness, and resilience in reducing violence among African American high school students. Interdisciplinary Research Leaders Convening Conference. Minneapolis, Minnesota

Alston, S. and Cuellar, M. (2017). Exploring risk and resilience of African American youth residing in public housing. 2017 Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference

Vakalahi, H., Alston, S., Countee-Gilliam, C., Evans, D., Davison, D., & Wilson, D., (2017). Women of color writing retreats: Experiences and outcomes. 2017 Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting

Henley, M. & Alston, S. (2016). Preparing students for excellence. 2016 Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting

Alston, S. (2016). Contemporary Youth: Risk and resilience. District of Columbia Department of Parks and Recreations

Alston, S. (2015) Aspirations of African American youth in public housing. Council on Social Work Education Annual Conference, Denver Colorado

Freeman, K. E., Alston, S., & Farr, J. (2008). Do learning communities enhance the quality of students' learning and motivation in STEM? American Association of Educational Research Conference, March 2008

Taylor, O., McGowan, J., & Alston, S. (2008). The success of learning communities in increasing student STEM achievement. American Association of Educational Research conference, March 2008

Freeman, K. E., Taylor, O., McGowan, J., Bramlett, D., Bacon, A., & Alston, S., (2007). Learning communities for STEM academic achievement: A promising pedagogical reform. Fourteen National HBCU Faculty Development Symposium, October 2007

Alston, S. (2007) The utility of learning communities in higher education. Xavier University, New Orleans, LA, November 2007

Alston, S., (2007) The advantages of working in learning communities. Jackson State University, Jackson Mississippi, November 2007

## SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

2001–2008	Home Based Therapist	Prince William County Social Services; Prince William County, VA
1997–2013	Social Worker	Downtown Cluster of Congregation Homeless Services Unit; Washington, DC
1996–1997	Senior Assessment Counselor	Samaritan Village INC, Residential Substance Abuse Facility; Jamaica, NY
1995–1996	Senior Counselor	Day Top Village INC, Residential Substance Abuse Facility; Far Rockaway, NY
1989–1995	Supervisor of Resident Managers/ Senior Counselor	Addicts Rehabilitation Center; New York, NY

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### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

May 2023–Present	Associate Professor	Norfolk State University, Ethelyn R. Strong School of Social Work, Master of Social Work Program Courses: Research in Social Welfare, Doctoral Program- Qualitative Research
August 2017–May 2023	Assistant Professor	Norfolk State University, Ethelyn R. Strong School of Social Work, Master of Social Work Program Courses: Research in Social Welfare, Human Behavior and the Social Environment; Approaches to Group Work
August 2014–May 2017	Assistant Professor	University of the District of Columbia Courses: Research in Social Welfare; Data Analysis Lab; Human Behavior and the Social Environment; Contemporary Youth, Mental Health, and Social Problems; Approaches to Group Work
January–August 2014	Adjunct Faculty	University of the District of Columbia Course: Research in Social Welfare and Statistics Lab
January 2011–Present	Adjunct Faculty	George Mason University Graduate School Courses: Ethics and Legal issues in Human Services; Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; Introduction to Social Work; Human Behavior and the Social Environment; Senior Practicum Faculty Liaison; Research Methods for Social Workers; Communication and Technology for Social Workers
January 2011–May 2012	Adjunct Faculty	Morgan State University Graduate School Course: Juvenile Delinquency Prevention
August 2006–August 2009	Teaching Associate	Howard University School of Social Work Course: Research Methods for Social Workers; Faculty Roles and Responsibilities

### SERVICE

#### COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

2019–Present: Member of University Assessment Committee, Norfolk State University

2019–Present: Member of Faculty Senate Committee, Norfolk State University

2019–Present: Ethelyn R Strong School of Social Work Social Work Month Committee, Norfolk State University; Member

2019–Present: Ethelyn R Strong School of Social Work Scholarship Committee, Norfolk State University; Member

2019–Present: Ethelyn R Strong School of Social Work Library, Norfolk State University; Member

2019–2020: Assessment Committee, Ethelyn School of Social Work; Member

2018–Present: Ethelyn R Strong School of Social Work Curriculum Subcommittee; Member

2018–Present: Ethelyn R Strong School of Social Work Compliance Committee; Member

2017–Present: National Association of Social Workers (NASW); Member

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2017–2018: MSW Admissions Committee. Ethelyn School of Social Work; Member

2015–2017: National Association of Social Workers (NASW); Member and Vice President of Conferences DC Chapter

2015–2016: Division Performance and Evaluation Committee University of the District of Columbia College of Arts and Sciences; Member

2014–Present: Peace thru Culture; Board Member

2014–2017: Outcome Assessment Committee University of the District of Columbia College of Arts and Sciences; Member

2014–2017: Curriculum Committee University of the District of Columbia College of Arts and Sciences; Member

2013–Present: Activation Foundation; Program Coordinator and Consultant

2007–2008: MSW Field Instruction, Howard University School of Social Work; Member

2006–2008: Preparing Future Faculty Program, Howard University Graduate School; Member

2006–2007: Doctoral Education, Howard University School of Social Work; Member

### **EDITORIAL BOARDS/REVIEWER**

February 2016–Present: Sage Publications

March 2016–Present: Council on Social Work Education

January 2016–Present: Journal of Behavioral Health Services and Science

April 2013–2016: Grant Reviewer, DC Youth Investment Trust

September 2010–September: Proposal Reviewer, American Educational Research Association

August 2002: Grant Reviewer, United Way of Washington, DC

October 2023 – Present Cognella Publications

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE); Member

Society for Social Work Research (SSWR); Member

American Psychological Association (APA) Member

Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA) Member

American Public Health Association (APHA) Member

Association for Community Organization and Social Administration (ACOSA); Member