

CURRICULUM VITAE

IHEOMA U. IRUKA, PH.D.

PERSONAL

Business: Department of Maternal and Child Health
Gillings School of Global Public Health
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EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education

2005 **Doctor of Philosophy**, Applied Developmental Psychology, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL

2003 **Master of Science**, Applied Developmental Psychology University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL

2000 **Master of Arts**, Psychology Department, Boston University, Boston, MA

1999 **Bachelor of Arts**, Psychology Department, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Training

2012 **What Works Clearinghouse Reviewer Training**, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

2008 **National Institute of Mental Health Public Reviewer Training**, Washington, D.C.

2008 **Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) Training**, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

2008 **Biomedical Research Ethics Training Seminar**, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

2008 **Multilevel Modeling of Hierarchical and Longitudinal Data Using SAS**, SAS Institute, Raleigh, North Carolina

2007 **Birth Cohort Database Training Seminar**, Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, Washington, DC

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic Appointments

2026-present **Core Faculty**, Child and Adolescent Anxiety and Mood Disorders Program, Department of Psychiatry, School of Medicine, UNC-CH

2024-present **Professor (tenured)**, Department of Maternal and Child Health, Gillings School of Global Public Health, UNC-CH

2024-present **Adjunct Professor**, Department of Public Policy, UNC-CH

2020-2024 **Research Professor**, Department of Public Policy, UNC-CH

2015-17 **Research Associate Professor**, Department of Child, Youth and Family Studies, College of Education and Human Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Courtesy Appointment)

2015-17 **Research Associate Professor**, Department of Psychology, University of Nebraska-Omaha (Courtesy Appointment)

Updated September 7, 2026

2014-17 **Research Associate Professor**, Education Leadership, College of Education, University of Nebraska-Omaha (Courtesy Appointment)
 2012-14 **Scientist**, FPG, UNC-CH (Promotion)
 2012-14 **Affiliate Faculty**, Global Studies, UNC-CH
 2011-14 **Research Associate Professor**, Department of Psychology, UNC-CH
 2010-11 **Research Assistant Professor**, Department of Psychology, UNC-CH
 2008-12 **Investigator**, FPG, UNC-CH
 2006-08 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, UNC-CH,

Additional Academic Appointments

2024-2026 **Senior Fellow**, Harvard Center on the Developing Child, Cambridge, MA
 2022-present **Investigator**, Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities, UNC-CH
 2020-present **Senior Fellow**, FPG Child Development Institute (FPG), UNC-CH (secondary appointment)
 2020-present **Founding Director**, Equity Research Action Coalition at FPG, UNC-CH
 2020-present **Faculty Affiliate**, Institute of African American Research, UNC-CH
 2014-17 **Director of Research & Evaluation**, Buffett Early Childhood Institute, University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE
 2013-14 **Associate Director**, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute (FPG), UNC-CH (Promotion)
 2010-11 **Research Fellow**, Institute of African American Research, UNC-CH
 2010-11 **Adjunct Faculty**, Department of Human Services, William Peace University (Peace College), Raleigh, NC
 2002-05 **Adjunct Faculty, Department of Social and Behavioral Science**, Miami-Dade College, Florida
 2001-05 **Graduate Research Associate**, Department of Psychology, University of Miami, Florida
 2001-02 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Department of Psychology, University of Miami, Florida

Professional Employment

2017-20 **Chief Research Innovation Officer and Research Director**, HighScope Education Research Foundation, Ypsilanti, MI
 2005-06 **Senior Research Associate**, Westat, Maryland

HONORS & AWARDS

2025-2027 Thorp Faculty Engaged Scholar, UNC-CH
 2024 Best Article Award, *Theory into Practice*
 2023 American Psychological Association Fellow
 2023 Leadership for All Award, Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)
 2023 Paper of the Year Winner, Society for Research in Child Development, Black Caucus
 2022 Mid-Career Award for Outstanding Contributions to Benefit Children, Youth and Families, American Psychological Association
 2021 Top Downloaded Article, Wiley
 2019 Mentor, Black Caucus Mentoring Program, National Association for the Education of Young Children
 2015 Outstanding Author Contribution in the 2015 Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence

2010-12	NIH Loan Repayment Award Recipient, National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities
2009	Service and Leadership Award, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, UNC-CH
2009-11	Senior Mentor, Frances Degen Horowitz Millennium Scholars Program, Society for Research in Child Development
2008-10	NIH Loan Repayment Award Recipient, National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities
2007-09	Junior Mentor, Frances Degen Horowitz Millennium Scholars Program, Society for Research in Child Development

MEMBERSHIPS

2003-present	Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)
2008-present	Society for Research in Child Development Black Caucus
2008-present	American Psychological Association (APA)
2008-present	National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI)
2009-present	Black Faculty and Staff Caucus – UNC-CH
2010-present	National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
2014-present	American Educational Research Association (AERA)
2021-present	Association of Public & Policy and Management (APPAM)
2024-present	American Public Health Association (APHA)
2025-present	North Carolina Public Health Association (NCPHA)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books and Chapters (*Doctoral student; ** Postdoctoral fellow)

1. **Iruka IU**, Curenton SM, Meek S. Advancing Anti-Racist Developmental Science. American Psychological Association. Forthcoming.
2. **Iruka IU**, Durden TR, Neal-Stanley AM, Forte A. Elevating racism and cultural wealth in early childhood education research: Addressing Antiracism in Science. In: Luna SM, Wright B, Tesar M, eds. *Handbook of Critical Perspectives in Early Childhood*. Bloomsbury. Forthcoming.
3. Davis C, Goldin S, **Iruka IU**. The currents of spiritual capital: Expanding normative understandings of water, victimhood, and agency in Freedmen's Towns. In: Brunn SD, ed. *Transdisciplinary Research Across Knowledge Worlds*; 2026. P. 179-194. doi: 10.1007/978-3-032-19491-6_10
4. **Iruka IU**. Right Sizing Early Care and Education Programs and Policies through the 3Ps of Protection, Promotion, and Preservation (Commentary). In: L. Cohen-Vogel, J. Scott, & P. Youngs, editors. *AERA Handbook of Education Policy Research*, 2nd Volume. American Educational Research Association; 2025. p.1049-1053
5. Burchinal MR, Early D, **Iruka IU**. Efficacy of early care and education. In: L. Cohen-Vogel, J. Scott, & P. Youngs, editors. *AERA Handbook of Education Policy Research*, 2nd Volume. American Educational Research Association; 2025. p. 901-919.
6. **Iruka IU**. Advancing equity in early childhood education research. In: Mueller JJ, File N, Stremmel AJ, Iruka IU, Whyte KL, eds. *Understanding Research in Early Childhood Education*. Routledge; 2024;12. doi:10.4324/9781003354499-4
7. Mueller JJ, File N, Stremmel AJ, **Iruka IU**, Whyte KL. *Understanding Research in Early Childhood Education*. Routledge; 2024. doi:10.4324/9781003354499

8. **Iruka IU.** Foreword. In L. Derman-Sparks, D. LeeKeenan, & J Nimmo, Leading Anti-Bias Early Childhood Programs: A Guide for Change, forthcoming. Teachers College Press. Teachers College Press, 2023.
9. LaForett DL, **Iruka IU.** Equity-aligned uses of data collection and data systems in early childhood education. In J. Neitzel & E. Meade, editors. *The Handbook of Racial Equity in Early Childhood Education*, Brookes, 2023, p. 95-103.
10. **Iruka IU**, Sansbury A*, Telfer NA**, Ibekwe-Okafor N**, Gardner-Neblett N, Durden, TR. Factors associated with the early learning and readiness of Black children. In S. Cabell, S. Neuman, & N. Patton Terry, editors. *Handbook on the Science of Early Literacy*, Guilford Press, 2023. p. 359-368.
11. **Iruka IU**, Durden TR, Escayg KA, Curenton SM. *We are the Change We Seek: Advancing Racial Justice in Early Care and Education*. Teachers College Press, 2023.
<https://www.tcpress.com/we-are-the-change-we-seek-9780807768020>
12. **Iruka IU.** Creating a Healing Village: An Afterword. In K. M. Zinsser, *No Longer Welcome: The Epidemic of Expulsion from Early Childhood Education*, Oxford University Press, 2022.
<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/no-longer-welcome-9780197639719?lang=en&cc=gd>
13. **Iruka IU.** From a Pedagogy of Poverty to a R.I.C.H.E.R. Framework. In: M. Sykes and K. Ostendorf, editors. *Child Care Justice: Transforming the System of Care for Young Children*. Teachers College Press, 2022. p. 70-86. https://www.tcpress.com/child-care-justice-9780807767580?page_id=1423
14. **Iruka IU**, Hawkins C. Making the Unique Experiences of Young Black Girls Visible. In: R. Mayes, M. Shavers and J. L. Moore, II, editors. *African American Female Students in PreK-12 Schools and Beyond: Informing Research, Policy, and Practice*. Bingley, UK: Emerald Publishing Limited, 2022. p. 7-27.
15. Alanis I, **Iruka IU**, Friedman S. (Eds.) *Advancing Equity and Embracing Diversity in Early Childhood Education: Elevating Voices and Actions*. Washington, DC: National Association for the Education of Young Children, 2021. <https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/books/advancing-equity-embracing-diversity>
16. **Iruka IU.** Why is the evidence for equitable and effective early care and education programs essential foundation for the Early Childhood Social Studies Teaching? In: G. Mindes and M. Newman, editors. *Social Studies for Young Children: Preschool and Primary Curriculum Anchor* 3rd Ed. Washington, DC: Rowman & Littlefield, 2021. p. 99-123.
17. Gadsden V, **Iruka IU.** African American Fathers and Their Young Children: Lessons from the Field. In: H. E. Fitzgerald, K. von Klitzing, N. J. Cabrera, J Scarano de Mendonça, and T. Skjøthaug, editors. *Fathers and Child Development: Prenatal to Preschool*. New York, NY: Springer, 2021. p. 487-506. https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-51027-5_29
18. Wingate MS, McDaniel H, Brisendine AE, **Iruka IU.** Chapter 18, Research Methods. In: R. S. Kirby, & S. Verbiest, editors. *Maternal and Child Health: Problems, Programs, and Policy in Public Health*, 4th Edition. Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2021. p. 467-493.
19. **Iruka IU**, Curenton SM, Durden T, Escayg KA. *Don't Look Away: Embracing Anti-Bias Classrooms*. Lewisville, NC: Gryphon House, 2020.
20. **Iruka IU.** Using a Social Determinants of Early Learning Framework to Eliminate Educational Disparities and Opportunity Gaps. In: Foundation for Child Development, editor. *Getting it Right: Using Implementation Research to Improve Outcomes in Early Care and Education*. New York, NY: Foundation for Child Development, 2020. p. 63-86.
https://www.fcdus.org/assets/2020/06/GettingitRight_UsingImplementationResearchtoImproveOutcomesinECE_2020.pdf
21. **Iruka IU.** Early Childhood Research in a Globalized Society: Accounting for Demographic Shifts and Changes. In: B. H. Wasik, & S. L. Odom, editors. *Research, Policy, and Practice in Child Development: Foundations and Future Directions*. New York: Brookes, 2019. p. 27-47.

22. **Iruka IU.** Supporting families of young children in the 21st century: Charting a new evidence-based direction. In: B. H. Fiese, M. Celano, K. Deater-Deckard, E. N. Jouriles, & M. A. Whisman, editors. *APA handbooks in psychology®. APA Handbook of Contemporary Family Psychology: Applications and Broad Impact of Family Psychology*. American Psychological Association, 2019. p. 249-266. doi: 10.1037/0000100-016.
23. Cabrera N, Gardner-Neblett N, **Iruka IU.** Reflections on Racial, Ethnic, Linguistic, Cultural, and Socioeconomic Diversity. In B. H. Wasik, & S. L. Odom, editors. *Research, Policy, and Practice in Child Development: Foundations and Future Directions*. New York: Brookes, 2019. p. 115-135.
24. **Iruka IU,** Curenton SM, Durden T. (Eds.) *African American Children in Early Childhood Education: Making the Case for Policy Investments in Families, Schools, and Communities*. Bingley, UK: Emerald Group Publishing Limited, 2017.
25. Humphries ML, **Iruka IU.** Ring the alarm: Moving from educational gaps to educational opportunities for Black students. In: I. U. Iruka, S. M. Curenton, & T. R. Durden, editors. *African American Children in Early Childhood Education: Making the Case for Policy Investments in Families, Schools, and Communities*. Bingley, UK: Emerald Group Publishing Limited, 2017. p. 15-34.
26. **Iruka IU.** Black Boys, Early Childhood Education. In: D. Couchenour & J. K. Chrisman, editors. *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Contemporary Early Childhood Education*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc., 2016. p.157-158. doi: 10.4135/9781483340333
27. Durden T, **Iruka IU.** Stop Gap Gazing: Promoting the holistic health, education and success of Black children and families. In: K. Dombrowski & Carrasco, K. G., editors. *Reducing Health Disparities in the Midwest: Research Updates from the Field*. Lincoln, NE: Syron Design Academic Publishing, 2016. p. 161-189.
28. **Iruka IU.** Parenting effects on child development. In: D. Couchenour & J. K. Chrisman, editors. *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Contemporary Early Childhood Education*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc., 2016. p. 964-966. doi: 10.4135/9781483340333
29. **Iruka IU,** Curenton SM, Eke WA. *The CRAF-E⁴ Family Engagement Model: Building Practitioners' Competence to Work with Diverse Families*. San Diego, CA: Elsevier, 2014.
30. **Iruka IU,** Winn DM, Harradine C. High achieving African American boys: Factors that contribute to their excellence in the early years. In: J. L. Moore & C. W. Lewis, editors. *African American Male Students in PreK-12 Schools*. Bingley, UK: Emerald Group Publishing Limited, 2014. p. 27-59.
31. Curenton SM, **Iruka IU.** *Cultural Competence in Early Childhood Education*. San Diego, CA: Bridgepoint Education, Inc, 2013.
32. **Iruka IU,** Mount-Cors MF, Odom SL, Naoom SF, Van Dyke M. Development and sustainability of high-quality early childhood education programs in Zambia. In: J. Sutterby, editor. *Early Childhood in a Global Context*. Bingley, UK: Emerald Group Publishing Limited, 2012. p. 127-158.
33. Gillanders C, **Iruka IU,** Ritchie S, Cobb C. Restructuring and aligning early education opportunities for cultural, language and ethnic minority children. In: R. C. Pianta, W. S. Barnett, L. M. Justice, & S. M. Sheridan, editors. *Handbook of Early Education*. New York, NY: Guilford Publications, Inc., 2012. p. 111-136.
34. **Iruka IU,** Barbarin O. African American children's learning and development: Examining parenting, schools, and neighborhoods. In: H. A. Neville, B. M. Tynes, & S. O. Utsey, editors. *Handbook of African American Psychology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SGE Publications, Inc, 2009. p. 175-186.

Articles in Peer-review Journals (*Doctoral student; **Postdoctoral fellow)

In Print/Accepted

1. Sheffield Morris A, Amson D, **Iruka IU**, Wakschlag LS. Methodological innovations for advancing equitable observations of human behavior and social interactions in psychological science: Introduction to the Special Issue. *American Psychologist*. Accepted.
2. Eisenman SR**, Vanegas J, Cicchetti C, Compton SN, Gilliam W, **Iruka IU**, Lyon AR, Wakschlag LS, Smith JD, Spencer AE, Zulauf-McCurdy CA. Study protocol of a roll-out implementation optimization trial of PEAR: An adjunct intervention to improve parent and educator implementation of a behavioral intervention for ADHD in preschool. *Implementation Science Communications*. Accepted
3. **Iruka IU**, Reddi AR, Whitt-Glover M, Catherine E, Alexander A, Walton SR, Meek S, Jennings Mayo-Wilson L. Evidence-Based policy considerations to support Black maternal and infant health. *Child Policy Nexus*. 2026; 39(2):11-24. doi: 10.1093/chpnex/aafag002
4. Chung A**, Stanton-Koko M, Johnson W, Seixas A, Chung D, **Iruka IU**, Brotman L, Hung K-Y. Sleep health in Black families: bedtime routines and sleep patterns among young children. *Frontiers in Sleep*. 2026. doi:10.3389/frsle.2026.1876293
5. Telfer NA**, Allen DJ, Yazejian N, **Iruka IU**. Pride runs through our veins”: A qualitative investigation of Black parents’ ethnic-racial socialization practices among Black youth with disabilities. Manuscript submitted for publication. *Developmental Disability Network Journal*. 2026. doi: 10.59620/2694-1104.1144
6. Crawford GM, De Marco A, Wongwa C, **Iruka IU**, Soliday Hong SL, Kuhn L, Price Z. Early care and education professionals talk about talking about race with young children. *International Journal of Early Childhood Education*. 2026. doi: 10.18023/ijece.2026.32.1.001
7. Wang Y*, **Iruka IU**. Beyond single indicators: Equity profiles in Head Start and their association with child development gains. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2026. doi: 10.1016/j.ecresq.2026.05.004
8. Forte AB*, Masa RD, Lambert MC, **Iruka IU**, Harrington KY. Examining invariance of a common household food insecurity measure across various adult and child characteristics. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*. 2026. doi: 10.1016/j.jneb.2026.02.002
9. **Iruka IU**, Lees A, McWayne C, Fryberg M, Bustamante A, Allen D, Musa T*. Advancing an equitable and just early care and education ecosystem through community-based research partnerships. *Review of Research in Education*. 2026. doi: 10.3102/0091732X261418959.
10. Wang Y*, **Iruka IU**, Alexander B, Meek S, Joseph GE. Examining equitable access and experiences in Head Start by race and language status. *Early Education and Development*. 2026. Accepted. doi: 10.1080/10409289.2026.2618837
11. Overhage LN, Beyer LN, **Iruka IU**. Considering racism in child maltreatment research. *JAMA Pediatrics*. 2026. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2025.6168
12. Ansari A, Koziol N, McCormick M, Purtell K, Lin T, ... and the Early Learning Network Key Investigators. Associations between school characteristics and learning gains for pre-K attenders and non-attenders: Important constructs, limited evidence. (**Iruka IU**, named collaborator as an Early Learning Network Key Investigator.) *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2025;72:182-194. doi: 10.1016/j.ecresq.2025.03.001
13. **Iruka IU**, Franco-Jenkins X, Andrade F, et al. Book Babies Home Visiting Intervention: Evidence of effect on literacy-promoting practices and children’s early language. *Child & Youth Care Forum*. 2025. doi: 10.1007/s10566-025-09905-0
14. **Iruka IU**, Dede B**, Sheridan S, Koziol N, Knoche L, Witte A. Examining the links between child-teacher relationships, classroom quality, and child outcomes across racial groups. *Psychology in the Schools*. 2025;62:2667-2684. doi: 10.1002/pits.23494
15. Catherine E, Alexander B, **Iruka IU**. Leveraging IDEA to advance equity through the Black Child National Agenda. *Young Exceptional Children*.0(0):10962506251322114. doi: 10.1177/10962506251322114
16. Loomis AM, Zinsser KM, **Iruka IU**, Curby TW. Improving evaluations of trauma-informed professional development in early care and education settings through observational measures.

- Topics in Early Childhood Special Education*.0(0):02711214251325781. doi: 10.1177/02711214251325781
17. **Iruka IU**, Morgan J, Musa T. Early childhood education interventions for racially minoritized children: A systematic review. *Journal of Education*. 2025 doi: 10.1177/00220574251329037
 18. Kader F, Noyes P, **Iruka IU**, Whitt-Glover M, Goldtooth-Halwood R, Bailey Z, Yi S. Addressing maternal and infant health inequities requires improved birth record data collection. *Nature Medicine*. 2025. doi: 10.1038/s41591-024-03472-y
 19. Washington JA, **Iruka IU**. Linguistic justice: Addressing linguistic variation of Black children in teaching and learning. *Linguistics and Education*. 2025;85:101382. doi: 10.1016/j.linged.2024.101382
 20. Sheridan SM, Knoche LL, Koziol N, Witte AL, Stadheim J, Spradlin C, **Iruka IU**. Relationships across the early elementary years: Association with children's social-behavioral skills. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*. 2024;95:101718. doi: 10.1016/j.appdev.2024.101718
 21. De Marco A, **Iruka IU**, Yazejian N, Ho D, Price Z, Kuhn L, Educare Team. Building equitable research and evaluation practices in the Educare Learning Network. *International Journal of Early Childhood Education*. 2024;30(2):1-26. doi: 10.18023/ijece.2024.30.2.001
 22. Curenton SM, **Iruka IU**, Sims J, Ibekwe N. Introduction to the Supplemental Issue: Advancing developmental science on the impact of racism in the early years. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2024; 69:S1-S5. doi: 10.1016/j.ecresq.2024.06.001
 23. Vuletich HA, Stafford BA**, **Iruka IU**, BK Payne. Exploring the relation between early childhood education and historical and contemporary racism and bias for Black children. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2024; 69:S51-S9. doi: 10.1016/j.ecresq.2023.10.006
 24. Zulauf-McCurdy CA, Nazaire OR**, Powell T, **Iruka IU**. Interrogating the role of anti-Blackness in the early care and education experiences of Black children and families: A call for advancing equitable science and practice. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2024; 69:S6-S14. doi: 10.1016/j.ecresq.2024.03.004
 25. **Iruka IU**, Shonkoff JP, Curenton SM. Racism under the skin: Connecting the dots between the threats of structural inequities and the biological embedding of adversity. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2024; 69:S150-S2. doi: 10.1016/j.ecresq.2024.05.012
 26. Zinsser KM, Loomis AM, **Iruka IU**. Introduction to the Special Issue: Advancing the science of early childhood expulsion prevention. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2024;69:177-180.
 27. Telfer NA**, **Iruka IU**, Yazejian N, Sideris J, Kaplan R. Do ECERS-3 scores mean the same thing across racial groups? Measurement invariance testing by teacher and classroom race. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2024;69:122-130. doi: 10.1016/j.ecresq.2024.07.006
 28. Burchinal M, Foster T, Garber K, Burnett M, **Iruka IU**, Campbell F, Ramey C. Sex differences in early childhood education intervention impacts on cognitive outcomes. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*. 2024; 95:101712. doi:10.1016/j.appdev.2024.101712
 29. Clark S, Cohen A, Welch SB, Bate A, Anderson AT, Chomilo N, Dougé J, Durkee M, **Iruka IU**, Jindal M, Jones SCT, Li A, Arshad A, Heard-Garris N. Guidance on conversations about race and racism in pediatric clinical settings. *Pediatrics*. 2024;154(1). doi: 10.1542/peds.2023-063767
 30. **Iruka IU**, Forte A, Liu S, Sims J, Curenton S. Initial validation of the Family Cultural Wealth Survey: Relation with racial discrimination and well-being for Black families. *Adversity and Resilience Science*. 2024. doi: 10.1007/s42844-024-00139-y
 31. **Iruka IU**, Musa T, Allen DJ. African-centered education (ACE): Strategies to advance culturally responsive pedagogy and equitable learning opportunities for young Black children. *Theory into Practice*. 2023. doi: 10.1080/00405841.2023.2258732
 32. Legette K, **Iruka IU**, Halberstadt A, Forte A. Teachers' awareness of systemic and individual racial bias as a first step towards anti-racist schools. *Teaching and Teacher Education*. 2023;132. doi: 10.1016/j.tate.2023.104213

33. Soliday Hong SL, Legette KB, Kuhn L, Zgourou E, Kainz K, Yazejian N, **Iruka IU**. Lead teacher, assistant teacher, and peer racial/ethnic match and child outcomes for Black children enrolled in enhanced high-quality early care and education programs. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2023;64:186-198; doi: 10.1016/j.ecresq.2023.03.001.
34. Boch SJ, Murnan AW, Pollard JF, Nidey HL, Hardey RY, **Iruka IU**. Assessment of US Federal Funding of Incarceration-Related Research, 1985 to 2022. *JAMA Network Open*. 2023;6(2):e230803-e230803; doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2023.0803.
35. Gardner-Neblett N, **Iruka IU**, Humphries M. Dismantling the Black–White achievement gap paradigm: Why and how we need to focus instead on systemic change. *Journal of Education*. 2023;23(2):433-441. doi: 10.1177/00220574211031958
36. **Iruka IU**, Kainz K, Kuhn L, Guss S*, Tokarz S, Yazejian N, Niño S*. Early childhood program ethnic composition and associations with quality and children’s language and social-emotional development. *Early Education and Development*. 2022; doi: 10.1080/10409289.2022.2139553
37. Ibekwe-Okafor N**, Sims J**, Liu S, Curenton-Jolly SM, **Iruka IU**, Escayg KA, Bruno B, Fisher P. Examining the relationship between discrimination, access to material resources, and Black children's behavioral functioning during COVID-19. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2022. doi: 10.1016/j.ecresq.2022.09.005
38. **Iruka IU**. Delivering on the promise of early childhood education for black children: An equity strategy. *New Directions for Child and Adolescent Development*. 2022;183-184:27-45. doi: 10.1002/cad.20483
39. **Iruka IU**, Gardner-Neblett N, Telfer NA*, Ibekwe-Okafor N**, Curenton SM, Sims J**, Sansbury AB*, Neblett EW. Effects of racism on child development: Advancing ant-racist developmental science. *Annual Review for Developmental Psychology*. 2022;4:109-132. doi: 10.1146/annurev-devpsych-121020-031339
40. Phillips DA, Johnson A, **Iruka IU**. Early care and education settings for socializations: New directions for quality assessment. *Child Development Perspectives*. 2022;16: 127-133. doi: 10.1111/cdep.12460
41. Curenton SM, Rochester SE, Sims J**, Ibekwe-Okafor N**, **Iruka IU**, García-Miranda AG, Whittaker J. Antiracism defined as equitable sociocultural interactions in prekindergarten: Classroom racial composition makes a difference. *Child Development*. 2022; 93:681-698. doi: 10.1111/cdev.13779
42. **Iruka IU**, Cabrera N, Páez M. Supporting and engaging with diverse families during the early years: emerging approaches that matter for children and families. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2022; 60:390-393. doi: 10.1016/j.ecresq.2022.04.001 [Special Issue Editor]
43. Kaiser K, Villalobos ME, Locke J, **Iruka IU**, Proctor C, Boyd B. (2022) A culturally grounded autism parent training program with Black parents. *Autism*. 2022;26(3):716-726. doi:10.1177/13623613211073373
44. Goldberg MJ*, **Iruka IU**. The role of teacher–child relationship quality in Black and Latino boys’ positive development. *Early Childhood Education Journal*. 2022; doi:10.1007/s10643-021-01300-3
45. **Iruka IU**, Sheridan S, Koziol N, Schumacher R, Kerby H, Prokasky A, Choi DH. Examining Malleable Factors That Explain the End-of-Kindergarten Racial/Ethnic Gaps. *The Elementary School Journal*. 2022;122(3):378-410. doi:10.1086/718072
46. Bruno EP, **Iruka IU**. Reexamining the Carolina abecedarian project using an antiracist perspective: Implications for early care and education research. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 2022; 58:165-176. doi: 10.1016/j.ecresq.2021.09.001
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 91. **Iruka IU**. Parental Self-efficacy: Does it explain Head Start parent involvement? *NHSA Dialog: A Research-to-Practice Journal for the Early Intervention Field*. 2009;11(3):1-16. doi: 10.1080/15240750802196079
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Under Review/Revision

93. Burchinal MR, **Iruka IU**, Ansari A, Vitiello V, Whittaker J, Pianta RC. Race/ethnicity and home language, classroom quality, and academic and social outcomes in prekindergarten to first grade. Manuscript submitted for publication. Estimated pages 59.
94. Chung A**, Koko MC, Johnson W, Seixas A, Chung D, **Iruka IU**, Brotman L, Huang K-Y, Jean-Louis G. Sleep health in Black families: Bedtime routines and sleep patterns among young children. *Frontiers in Sleep*. Estimated pages 32.
95. Cooper-Roundy VH*, Jorgensen NA**, Allen DJ, Musa T, **Iruka IU**. Young children's ethnic-racial identity formation: A person-centered analysis of parental knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs. Manuscript submitted for publication. Estimated pages 35.
96. Dede B, **Iruka IU**. Examining the ways that economic and cultural wealth moderate the relationship between racial discrimination and emotional wellbeing for Black parents. Manuscript submitted for publication. Estimated pages 42.

97. Golding S, Davis C, **Iruka IU**. Early childhood education as a seedbed for civic and planetary justice. Manuscript submitted for publication. Estimated pages 38/
98. **Iruka IU**, Jorgensen NA**, Liy A, Sheridan S. Culturally responsive teaching practices and academic and social growth in Black and Latine children. Manuscript submitted for publication. Estimated pages 52.
99. **Iruka IU**, Yazejian N, Telfer N**, Chen P, Kuhn L, Kaplan R. Examining the link between classrooms' racial ecology and synchrony and observed quality using the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale. Manuscript submitted for publication. Estimated pages 51.
100. Walton S*, Reynolds Reddi A, Smith A*, **Iruka IU**. Prematurity, Low Birth Weight, and School Readiness: Evidence from a National Survey. Manuscript submitted for publication. Estimated pages 51.
101. Wang Y*, Palomino C, Bingham G, Joseph G, **Iruka IU**. Workforce equity indicators in Head Start and their associations with teacher depression and turnover. Manuscript submitted for publication. Estimated pages 37.

Oral Presentations

TV/Radio/Podcast Show

1. **Iruka IU**. BACKtalk by Successful Black Parenting Magazine. April 2026.
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/how-black-families-nurture-protect-and-raise-thriving/id1439847711?i=1000761678834>
2. **Iruka IU**. Needs and Challenges Facing Black Parents in the U.S. on The Gallup Podcast. May 2025.
3. **Iruka IU**. Early Childhood, Curriculum, & Equity on Fullmind. May 2025.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tndx1sO4VN4>
4. **Iruka IU**. The Child Care Cliff. Panelist on State Lines on PBS NC. June 2024.
<https://video.pbsnc.org/video/july-5-2024-kg031j/>
5. **Iruka IU**. Equity, Education, and Child Care on The Measure of Everyday Life. August 2023.
<https://measureradio.libsyn.com/equity-education-and-childcare>
6. **Iruka IU**. Fireside Chat: Black Mothers + COVID-19 & Structural Racism. Guest on [@beenworthymedia](https://www.instagram.com/beenworthymedia) on Instagram Live. June 2021.
7. **Iruka IU**. Juneteenth and Black Families. Guest on Black Enterprise “Be Heard Talk” with Selena Hill and hosts. June 2021. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TIk3hQlIGxM>
8. **Iruka IU**. Talking to Your Children about Race and Racism. Panelist on the Fox Soul TV Tammi Mac Late Night Show. June 2021. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DvYTK29ZuTo>
9. **Iruka IU**. Don’t Look Away’: Iheoma Iruka Confronts Bias and Inequities in Early Childhood Head-On. Interview with Frank Stasio on WUNC’s *State of Things*. November 2020.
<https://www.wunc.org/post/don-t-look-away-iheoma-iruka-confronts-bias-and-inequities-early-childhood-head>
10. **Iruka IU**. The Anti-bias Classroom. Interview with Leoneda Inge of WUNC on *Tested* Podcast. November 2020. <https://www.wunc.org/post/anti-bias-classroom>
11. **Iruka IU**. An Interview with Race Scholar on In My Skin. March 2019.
<https://www.racepride.pitt.edu/pride-podcast-in-my-skin-iheoma-iruka-race-scholar-gap-gazing/>

Invited Talk

- 1.
2. **Iruka IU**. Keynote. Racial Identity: R.I.C.H.E.R. Pact Family Camp, Concord, NC; July 2026
3. **Iruka IU**. Moderator. Market-Based Solutions for Reducing Wealth Inequality Conference, UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School, Chapel Hill, NC; June 2026
4. **Iruka IU**. Panelist. Lillian's List Black Maternal Health Program, Virtual; May 2026

5. **Iruka IU**, Owen J. Co-Speaker. Ensuring a Better Future: A Conversation and Call to Action, 2026 Smart Start Conference, Greensboro, NC; May 2026
6. **Iruka IU**. Panelist, Early & Well: Building Childhood Resilience Through Better Policy, NC Child 2026 State of the Child Summit, Raleigh, NC; April 2026
7. **Iruka IU**. Panelist, Advancing the Science of Early Childhood Development, FPG 60th Anniversary Celebration, UNC Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, Chapel Hill NC; April 2026
8. **Iruka IU**. Speaker, Young Children and Families Flourishing: Advancing Science-to-Action, Child and Adolescent Anxiety and Mood Disorders Program (CHAAMP), Department of Psychiatry, UNC School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, NC; March 2026
9. **Iruka IU**. Panelist, Working Effectively with Different Sponsors to Advance Public Health: A Panel Discussion, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, Chapel Hill, NC; February 2026
10. **Iruka IU**. Guest Speaker, Centering Equity in Early Childhood Research-Policy Agenda, DC Early Educator Fellowship, Virtual; February 2026
11. **Iruka IU**. Keynote, Cultivating Joy & Learning for All Learners Across the Early Grades, DMH + UCLA Early Childhood Fellowship Program, Virtual; February 2026
12. **Iruka IU**. Special Speaker. Young Children and Families Flourishing. Advancing Science-to-Action Focused on Protection, Promotion, and Preservation of Humanity for All, National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD; November 2025
13. **Iruka IU**. Keynote. Promoting, Protecting, and Preserving Family & Child Flourishing: Activating the 4Es, NCFL Families Learning Conference, Charlotte, NC; November 2025
National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD; November 2025
14. **Iruka IU**. Keynote. Dreamkeepers: Protection, Promotion, and Preservation of Black Child Flourishing, National Black Child Development Institute Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA; October 2025
15. **Iruka IU**. Keynote, Cultivating Joy & Learning for All Learners Across the Early Grades, UC|CSU Collaborative's 2025 Summit: Investing in Inclusive PK-3 Education, Virtual; October 2025
16. **Iruka IU**. Panelist, Challenges and Solutions in Building Early Childhood Integrated Data Systems, 2025 Early Childhood Leadership Summit, The Hunt Institute, Oxon Hill, MD; September 2025
17. **Iruka IU**. Presenter & Panelist, Impact of Syndemic Conditions on Black Children's Flourishing, 2025 APA Convention, Systems of Care Youth Mental Health Summit, Denver, CO; August 2025
18. **Iruka IU**. Keynote, Cultivating Joy & Learning for All Learners Across the Early Grades, Wake County Public School System 2025 Early Learning Alignment Summit, Cary, NC; July 2025
19. **Iruka IU**. Panelist, Gates Foundation Technical Assistance Group Research Symposium, Washington, DC; May 2025
20. **Iruka IU**. Presenter, Engaging in Culturally Responsive Practices to Promote Children's Learning, Seminar at Prince George's County Science of Reading Symposium, Virtual; May 2025.
21. **Iruka IU**. Presenter, Examining Racism & Cultural Wealth in Developmental Science: Ensuring Optimal Development for Black Children's Health Development, Seminar at UNC Preventive Medicine Residency; April 2025
22. **Iruka IU**. Presenter, Using ACS Data for Climate Preparedness in Black Communities, Road to Census 2030: Virtual Convening for The Leadership Conference Education Fund, Virtual; April 2025.
23. **Iruka IU**. Presenter, How We Count Who We Are and How We Serve Everyone: Supporting and Using the American Community Survey Race and Ethnicity Data, Coalition on Human Needs Virtual Seminar; March 2025.

24. **Iruka IU**. Panelist, Parenting Children in Safe & Sustainable Communities, Reproductive Justice Symposium, Durham, NC; March 2025.
25. **Iruka IU**. Speaker, Examining Racism & Cultural Wealth in Developmental Science: Ensuring Optimal Development for Black Children's Healthy Development, Presentation to UNC's Pediatric Grand Rounds, Chapel Hill, NC; March 2025
26. **Iruka IU**, Panelist, Rise, Resist, Reclaim – Building a Unified Movement for Black Liberation, AILEF Townhall, Virtual; February 2025.
27. **Iruka IU**, Panelist, Chancellor's Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward: Community Book Conversation, Chapel Hill, NC; February 2025
28. **Iruka IU**. Keynote, Advancing Racial Justice in the Early Years, Keynote at CCRC's Securing the Future for Families Policy Conference, North Hollywood, CA; January 2025.
29. **Iruka IU**. Panelist, President's Seminar, National Association for the Education of Young Children, Anaheim, CA; November 2024.
30. **Iruka IU**. Measuring Family Cultural Wealth Across Diverse Families. Speaker for Multi-Method Approaches to Reducing Measurement Bias Session NIH Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) Program, Virtual; November 2024.
31. **Iruka IU**. Advancing Equitable Learning Opportunities: Dismantling the Pedagogy of Poverty and Racism, Raleigh, NC; November 2024.
32. **Iruka IU**. Equitable Implementation. Speaker for Certificate Program in Implementation Practice, UNC School of Social Work, Virtual; October 2024.
33. **Iruka IU**. Examining Racism and Cultural Wealth in Developmental Science: Ensuring Optimal Development for Black Children's Healthy Development. Presentation at Fall of 2024 Applied Developmental Psychology (ADP) Colloquium, George Mason University, Virtual; October 2024.
34. **Iruka IU**. Advancing Equity and Justice in the Early Years: Leaning into R.I.C.H.E.R. Actions for Self and Social Change. Keynote for Wisconsin Early Childhood Association Pre-conference, Madison, WI; October 2024.
35. **Iruka IU**. Adolescent Girls and Young Women Session. Moderator for the UNC School of Social Work Global Social Development Innovations (GSDI) Global Research Symposium; Chapel Hill, NC; October 2024.
36. **Iruka IU**. 3Ps of Protection, Promotion, and Preservation: Centering Anti-Racism and Cultural Assets in Research for Children's Healthy Development. Presentation at 2024-2025 HDFS Colloquium at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, Greensboro, NC; October 2024.
37. Yazejian N, **Iruka IU**. Examining the ECERS-3 with an Equity Lens: Findings from a Classroom Observation Study. Presentation at the ERS National Conference, Chicago, IL; September 2024.
38. **Iruka IU**. We Are the Change We Seek: Advancing Racial Justice in Early Care and Education. Moderator for EdWebinars, Virtual; September 2024.
39. **Iruka IU**. Black Maternal Health Change Makers and Bridge Builders. Moderator for Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference, Washington, DC; September 2024.
40. **Iruka IU**. Children's Books: From Access to Opportunity. Speaker for Campaign for Grade Level Reading Webinar Series, Virtual; July 2024.
41. **Iruka IU**. From Neurons to Nation: Early Learning that Fosters Democratic Ideals. Moderator for Panel hosted by Trust for Learning and Grantmakers for Education Program, Virtual; July 2024.
42. **Iruka IU**. Advancing Racial Justice in the Early Years: Early Childhood Policy Effects on Black Children. Presentation at the Southern Early Childhood Education SECEJ Network Virtual Convening, Virtual; June 2024.
43. **Iruka IU**. Advancing Equity in Early Care and Education: Strengthening State and Local Capacity; Keynote at Colorado Department of Education Virtual Training; June 2024.
44. **Iruka IU**. Teaching in an Inequitable Society: Equity & Social Justice in Early Childhood Education. Panelist for The NAEYC Black Caucus & The Institute for the Study of Modern-Day Slavery at Tougaloo College Fellowship Program, Virtual; May 2024.

45. **Iruka, IU.** 3Ps of Protection, Promotion, and Preservation: Centering Anti-racism and Cultural Assets in Children's Health Development. Keynote at RIAIMH Annual Making Connections Conference, Virtual; May 2024.
46. **Iruka IU.** Advancing Racial Justice in the Early Years: Ensuring Protection, Promotion, and Preservation. Presentation at the Southern Early Childhood Education Justice Network Kickoff Convening, Columbia, SC; April 2024.
47. **Iruka IU.** Child Care Panel. Chair and Moderator for the National African American Child and Family Research Center and Institute for Research on Poverty's Advancing Research on African American Families in Economically Marginalized Communities Workshop at Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA; March 2024.
48. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring Optimal Beginning in the First Five Years: Equitable Investment in the Early Care and Education Workforce. Presentation to Cambridge Office of Early Learning, Virtual; February 2024.
49. **Iruka IU.** Centering Anti-Racism and Cultural Wealth in Developmental Science: Ensuring Optimal Development and Human Dignity for Black Children. Presentation at SNSS Seminar Series at Lehman College, CUNY; February 2024.
50. **Iruka IU,** Curenton S. Advancing Racial Equity in Early Childhood: Reflection and Guidance from Early Childhood Experts. Moderator for Common Sense Summit on America's Kids and Families, San Francisco, CA; January 2024.
51. **Iruka IU.** Anti-racism in Developmental Science. Presentation to the HEALthy Brain and Child Development Study team, Virtual; January 2024.
52. **Iruka IU.** Engaging in Anti-bias, Culturally Sustaining Family Partnership with Learning Differences. Presentation for National Center for Family Literacy Webinar Series, Virtual; January 2024.
53. **Iruka IU.** Living MLK's Dream: Engaging in R.I.C.H.E.R. Actions. Keynote for Montessori Community School MLK Day of Action, Durham, NC; January 2024.
54. **Iruka IU.** Advancing Equitable Learning Opportunities for Racially and Culturally Minoritized Learners: Dismantling the Pedagogy of Poverty and Racism. Keynote for Behavior in the Early Years Webinar Series, CanAssist at the University of Victoria, Canada, Virtual; December 2023.
55. **Iruka IU.** Centering Anti-Racism and Cultural Wealth in Developmental Science: Ensuring Optimal Development and Human Dignity for Black Children. Presentation for the University of Virginia Developmental Launch, Virtual; November 2023.
56. **Iruka IU.** Attending to the Role of Racism and Cultural Wealth for Child and Family Wellbeing: Advancing Anti-racist Developmental Science and Translation. Speaker at Advancing Health Equity Solutions at UNC University Research Week, Virtual; November 2023.
57. **Iruka IU.** Equity in Quality Improvement Systems. Panelist for BUILD Virtual Session, November 2023.
58. **Iruka IU.** Centering Anti-Racism and Cultural Wealth in Developmental Science: Ensuring Optimal Development and Human Dignity for Black Children. Presentation for Developmental Medicine Grand Rounds at Boston Children's Hospital, Virtual; November 2023.
59. Washington JA, **Iruka IU.** Linguistic Justice: Considering Linguistic Variation of Black Children in Teaching and Learning. Presentation at Exploring Equity and Methodological Advancements to Transform Academic Discourse, Teaching, and Research at UCLA School of Education & Information Studies, November 2023.
60. **Iruka IU,** Kozlowski J. Strategies to Help Every Child Fly in Inclusive Early Childhood Classrooms and Programs. Presenter for Early Childhood Investigations Webinar, Virtual; October 2023.
61. **Iruka IU.** Centering Anti-Racism and Cultural Wealth in Developmental Science: Ensuring Optimal Development and Human Dignity for Black Children. Presentation at Children's Research Institute, School of Medicine, UNC-CH, October 2023.

62. **Iruka IU.** Philanthropy's Role in Advocating for a Fair & Accurate Count. Panelist for 2023 Philanthropy + Policy Institute, Virtual; October 2023.
63. **Iruka IU.** Strategies to Strengthen Equitable Access and Participation in Early Care and Education. Moderator for Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Improving Equitable Access to ECE Session, Virtual; October 2023.
64. **Iruka IU.** Black Maternal Health and Neonatal Equity: Local Leadership and Policy Solutions. Moderator for Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference, Washington, DC; September 2023.
65. **Iruka IU.** Equity Data. Panelist for Inaugural Vermont Early Childhood Grand Rounds Seminar, Virtual; September 2023.
66. **Iruka IU.** Moonshot: No Child is Excluded. Speaker for CAYL Catalyst Webinar Series, Ep. #30, Virtual; September 2023.
67. **Iruka IU.** Advancing Equity in Pre-K Systems with Family Child Care Providers and Families. Speaker for the FCC in PreK Webinar Series, Erikson Institute, Virtual; August 2023.
68. **Iruka IU.** 3Ps of Protection, Promotion, and Preservation: Centering Anti-Racism and Cultural Assets in Children's Healthy Development. Keynote for Madison Metropolitan School District Early Childhood Summer Institute, Madison, WI; August 2023.
69. **Iruka IU.** Strengthening children's well-being through anti-racist and cultural wealth approaches. Masterclass Speaker at the 2023 World Association of Infant Mental Health World Congress, Dublin, Ireland; July 2023.
70. **Iruka IU.** What Works: Learning from Early Childhood Educators, Advocates, and Researchers. Panelist for the 5th Annual Defending the Early Years Institute, Virtual; June 2023.
71. **Iruka IU.** 3Ps of Protection, Promotion, and Preservation: Centering Anti-Racism and Cultural Assets in Children's Healthy Development. Keynote for the South Carolina Cultural and Linguistic Competency Annual Summit, Columbia, SC; June 2023.
72. **Iruka IU.** Advancing Racial Justice and Equity in Early Childhood Education: Ensuring Equitable Policies and Practices. Presentation at the Community Innovation and Resilience for Care and Learning Equity (CIRCLE) Initiative at Early Milestones Colorado, Virtual; May 2023.
73. **Iruka IU.** Impact of Racism on Black Children's Health: Advancing Protection, Promotion, and Preservation Policies. Presentation at the 2023 NIHCM Webinar: The State of Our Children's Health, Virtual; May 2023.
74. **Iruka IU.** Advancing Racial Equity through 3Ps: 3Ps of Protection, Promotion, and Preservation. Presentation at NC Trauma Summit, The McKimmon Conference and Training Center, NC State University, Raleigh, NC. April 2023.
75. **Iruka IU.** Leaning into Equitable Learning Access and Opportunities for All Children. Keynote for California Department of Social Services, Virtual. April 2023.
76. **Iruka IU.** Radical Collaboration: Redefining the Research Opportunity. Panelist for 2023 Aspen Forum on Children and Families, Washington, DC. April 2023.
77. **Iruka IU.** Advancing Equitable Learning Opportunities for All Learners: The Intersection between Race & Ability. Keynote Presentation at 2023 18th Annual National Training Institute on Effective Practices for Addressing Challenging Behavior, National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations and the Pyramid Model Consortium, Tampa, FL. April 2023.
78. **Iruka IU.** RAPID 3-Year Anniversary. Panelist for Stanford University Stanford Center on Early Childhood Webinar, Virtual. April 2023.
79. **Iruka IU.** Future Directions for Data Equity & Inclusion: Identifying Inequities and Cultural Wealth. Keynote speaker for ECDataworks 2023 Conference, Kansas City, Missouri. March 2023.
80. **Iruka IU.** Benefits and Consequences of Racial Segregation in Early Childhood. Speaker for Early Childhood Investigations Webinar, Virtual. March 2023.
81. **Iruka IU.** Equity is Quality, Quality is Equity. Speaker for Bank Street's Early Childhood Policy Fellows, Virtual. March 2023.

82. **Iruka IU.** Access & Action: Why Diverse Books Matter. Speaker for Campaign for Grade Level Reading Learning Tuesdays Webinar, Virtual. March 2023.
83. **Iruka IU.** Paradigms for a Diverse Developmental Science: A Presidential Moderated Panel. Panelist at 2023 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Conference, Salt Lake City, UT. March 2023.
84. **Iruka IU.** Advancing Equitable Policies through Antiracist Developmental Science: Ensuring Science Leads to Justice. Invited Discussant for Duo-Address: Racial and Economic Justice—Baby First Years Project, 2023 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Conference, Salt Lake City, UT. March 2023.
85. **Iruka IU.** Making (Rac)ism and Cultural Assets Visible in Science: Journey of Unlearning and Relearning. Presenter at Presentation at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, School of Social Work Writing Retreat, Virtual. March 2023.
86. **Iruka IU.** Protecting, Promoting, and Preserving the Health, Wealth, and Wellbeing of Black Families and Children: Using the R³ISE Integrative Lens. Speaker for Research Center for Child Well-Being Distinguished Speaker Series, University of South Carolina & Virtual. March 2023.
87. **Iruka IU.** Start Them Off Right: Partnerships that Build Early Childhood Success. Speaker for Glenbard Parent Series, Virtual. February 2023.
88. **Iruka IU.** Delivering on the Promise of Early Childhood Education for Black Children: An Equity Strategy. Presentation at University of Northern Iowa 2023 African American Children & Families Conference, Virtual. February 2023.
89. **Iruka IU.** Transforming Child Welfare by Ensuring Human Dignity and Child Well-being: View from Early Childhood Education. Keynote for Rady Children's Hospital's Chadwick Center for Children and Families 38th Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment, San Diego, CA. January 2023.
90. **Iruka IU.** North Carolina Economy and Child Care Industry Inextricably Linked. Panel for NC Early Childhood Foundation Webinar, Virtual. January 2023.
91. **Iruka IU.** Native Language and Equity in Teacher Education: African American English as a Linguistic Asset. Presentation at 2022-2023 New Mexico Early Childhood Higher Education Speaker Series, Virtual. January 2023.
92. **Iruka IU.** Leaning into Anti-bias Early Childhood Education: Champion for Early Childhood Warriors. Speaker for City of Seattle Department of Education & Early Learning (DEEL), Virtual. December 2022.
93. **Iruka IU.** Where do we go from here? Antiracist philanthropy in 2023 and beyond. Panelist for Trust for Learning, Virtual. December 2022.
94. **Iruka IU.** Becoming a Leader in Early Childhood Education at the Time of Equity. Panelist for Maryland Early Childhood Leadership Program Fall Webinar Series, Virtual. December 2022.
95. **Iruka IU.** Protecting, Promoting, and Preserving the Health, Wealth, and Educational Excellence for Black Families & Their Babies. Presentation for National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives Congressional Briefing on Science-Driven Approaches to Reducing Inequities Through Public Health Policy, Virtual. December 2022.
96. **Iruka IU.** Cultivating Leadership. Panelist for NYAEYC Courageous Conversation, Virtual. November 2022.
97. **Iruka IU.** Centering Race and Racism on the Road to Justice for Children and Families: The Black Child National Agenda. Keynote for People Emergency Center Building Early Links for Learning (BELL) Summit, Virtual. November 2022.
98. **Iruka IU.** Safety and Belonging First: Advancing Well-Being for Learning Recovery. Panelist for Campaign for Grade Level Reading Learning Tuesdays, Virtual. November 2022.
99. **Iruka IU.** What's Love Got to Do With It? Addressing the Child Care Crisis. Opening Keynote at the North Carolina Child Care Resource & Referral Council 2022 Statewide CCR&R Institute, Pinehurst, NC. November 2022.

100. **Iruka IU.** Race and the Early Childhood Profession: Why We Can't Look Away. Panelist for P.R.I.D.E. Virtual Speaker Series, School of Education. University of Pittsburgh, Virtual. November 2022.
101. **Iruka IU.** Road (?) to Academic Freedom & Liberation: Eliminating systemic inequities to increase the optimal development of minoritized children. Presentation at UNC Psych 250 Child Development Course. UNC-CH, Chapel Hill, NC. November 2022.
102. **Iruka IU.** Centering Anti-Racism and Cultural Wealth in Developmental Science: Ensuring Optimal Development and Human Dignity for Black Children. Presentation at UNC Developmental Psychology Lunch Series. UNC-CH, Chapel Hill, NC. November 2022.
103. **Iruka IU.** NAEYC DAP in Early Childhood Programs Serving Children from Birth Through Age 8, Fourth Edition: The Principles in Practice. Presentation for Cultivate Learning at University of Washington, Virtual. November 2022.
104. **Iruka IU.** Equity Research Action Coalition: Ensuring Optimal Development and Human Dignity for Black Children & Families. Presentation at UNC Race, Racism, and Racial Equity Symposium (R3) #7, Highlighting Participatory Justice Scholarship: Working to Advance Racial Equity, Virtual. November 2022.
105. **Iruka IU.** Road (?) to Academic Freedom & Liberation: Eliminating systemic inequities to increase the optimal development of minoritized children. Presentation at Northwestern University Multidisciplinary Program in Education Sciences Predoctoral Program, Virtual. October 2022.
106. **Iruka IU.** Reaching the North Star of Early Care & Learning: Centering Protection, Promotion, and Preservation. Presentation for National Association of State Leaders in Early Education (NASLEE), Virtual. October 2022.
107. **Iruka IU.** Authentically Engaging Family through the 4Es: 4Es of Exploration, Expectation, Education, and Equipment. Presentation at Kansas Children's Service League 46th Annual Governor's Conference for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Virtual. October 2022.
108. **Iruka IU.** Addressing Racial Inequities in Child Welfare; Attending to Protection, Promotion, and Preservation Policies. Keynote at Kansas Children's Service League 46th Annual Governor's Conference for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Virtual. October 2022.
109. **Iruka IU.** Data for Collective Power and Liberation: Decolonizing Research and Evaluation. Presentation at Vital Village Data Equity Symposium, A Pre-Conference for the 2022 National Community Leadership Summit, Virtual. October 2022.
110. **Iruka IU.** Loving the Skin You Are In: Promoting Positive Identity for Autistic Children of Color. Presentation for Early Childhood Investigations Webinar. October 2022.
111. **Iruka IU.** Building an Inclusive Data Equity Strategy. Panelist for UNC Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and the National Consortium for Data Science, Virtual. October 2022.
112. **Iruka IU.** Start with Equity: 14 Policies to Dismantle Systemic Racism in Early Care and Education. Presenter for Dogwood Health Trust Partner Convening 2022, Flat Rock, NC. October 2022.
113. **Iruka IU.** Black Families & Babies: Protecting, Promoting, and Preserving their Health, Wealth, and Educational Excellence. Keynote for Children First PA Racial Equity Summit, Philadelphia, PA. October 2022.
114. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring Health Beginnings in the First 1,000 Days: Centering Race and Racism in the Wellbeing of Families and Young Children. Plenary Speaker for NC CCHC Association and the NC Child Care Health and Safety Resource Center's 2022 Annual Conference, Greensboro, NC. September 2022.
115. **Iruka IU.** A Strengths-based Approach to Intervention Research: Addressing the Who, What, How, and When of Equity-Centered Research. Presentation at NIH Workshop on Reframing the

Word Gap: Equity-based Approaches to Supporting Early Language Development, Virtual. September 2022.

116. **Iruka IU.** About We Still Count: Building Long-Term Partnerships for Equity. Speaker for NC Counts Coalition, Raleigh, NC. September 2022.
117. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring Authentic Family Engagement is Social Justice: 4Es of Exploration, Expectation, Education, and Equipment. Keynote for Annual Help Me Grow National Forum, Help Me Grow National Center, [Virtual](#). September 2022.
118. **Iruka IU.** 3Ps of Protection, Promotion, and Preservation: Centering Race and Racism in Developmental Science. Speaker for John R. Lutzker Lecture Series at School of Public Health, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, [Recording](#). September 2022.
119. **Iruka IU.** Elevating Racial Equity in the First 1,000 Days: Protecting, Promoting, and Preserving the Health, Wealth, and Learning of Our Families and Babies. Keynote for ZERO TO THREE LEARN Conference Science Plenary, Virtual. September 2022.
120. **Iruka IU.** Embracing Anti-bias Practices to Ensure Equitable Learning Access and Opportunities for All Children. Presentation at Illinois Children's Home Aid, Virtual. August 2022.
121. **Iruka IU.** Don't Look Away: Achieving Equitable Learning Access and Opportunities. Presentation at Educational Opportunities for Children & Families (EOCF), WA, Virtual. August 2022.
122. **Iruka IU.** Leaning into Equitable Learning Access and Opportunities for All Children. Presentation at Oakland Unified School District, Virtual. August 2022.
123. **Iruka IU.** Experts Weigh In: Early Learning in the U.S. Panelist for Smithsonian 2022 National Education Summit, [Virtual](#). July 2022.
124. **Iruka IU.** Centering Equity in Revisions and Redesign of Quality Improvement Systems. Panelist for BUILD 2022 Virtual Conference. July 2022.
125. **Iruka IU.** Addressing Historical Inequities in Early Care and Education: Strategies to Support Workforce Equity. Moderator for Opening Plenary at ACF's 2022 National Research Conference in Early Childhood, Virtual. June 2022.
126. **Iruka IU.** Neighborhood Resources and Race/Ethnicity: Unpacking Critical Mechanisms Associated with Children's School Readiness Skills. Session discussant at ACF's 2022 National Research Conference in Early Childhood, Virtual. June 2022.
127. **Iruka IU.** Strong Foundations: Promoting Diverse and Inclusive Preschool Settings. Invited panelist for Hunt Institute webinar series, Virtual. June 2022.
128. **Iruka IU.** Celebrating Child Care Heroes. Invited speaker for A Night with the NC Early Education Coalition, Virtual. June 2022.
129. **Iruka IU.** & Hugley, K. Equitable Family-Teacher Relationships for All Children: 4Es of Exploration, Expectation, Education, and Equipment. Early Childhood Investigation Webinar, Virtual. June 2022.
130. **Iruka IU.** Engaging in Anti-bias, Culturally Responsive Family Engagement and Support: 4Es of Exploration, Expectation, Education, and Equipment. Speaker for Indiana's Early Intervention Providers in the First Steps, Virtual. June 2022.
131. **Iruka IU.** Providing Equitable Learning Opportunities for All Learners: Intersection between Race & Ability. Keynote at Indiana's Early Intervention Providers in the First Steps, Virtual. June 2022.
132. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring Equitable Learning Opportunities: Ensuring Justice in Early Care and Education. Keynote for Center for Early Childhood Education and Intervention (CECEI) at the University of Maryland 2022 Early Childhood Education Virtual Colloquium. June 2022.
133. **Iruka IU.** Black Child National Agenda. Panelist for the National Black Child Development Week Kickoff, Virtual. June 2022.

134. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring Optimal Beginnings in the First Five Years: Equitable Investment in the Early Care and Education Workforce. Closing Keynote at Nebraska Elevate22 Virtual Conference, Omaha, NE. June 2022.
135. **Iruka IU.** Activating Family Voice and Resilience in Creating Affirming and Responsive Early Childhood Intervention Systems: 4Es of Exploration, Expectation, Education, and Equipment. Speaker for The Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC) 2nd Family Leadership Summit, Raleigh, NC. June 2022.
136. **Iruka IU.** Black Families & Equity Project: Strengths-based Systems and Policies that Support the Wellbeing of Black Parents and their Babies. Speaker for PolicyLab at CHOP, Virtual. June 2022.
137. **Iruka IU.** Providing Equitable Learning Opportunities for All Learners: Centering Anti-Bias and Culturally Responsive Practices. Presentation at Virginia IECMH Awareness Month, Virtual. May 2022.
138. **Iruka IU.** Loving the Skin You Are In: Promoting the Positive Identity of Autistic Children of Color. Presentation at 2022 NC Easter American Health Education Center (AHEC) Autism Conference, Greenville, NC. May 2022.
139. **Iruka IU.** Dreams Realized: Addressing Disparities and Promoting Equity through Universal Preschool. Panelist for California Child Care Resource Center Webinar, Virtual. May 2022.
140. **Iruka IU.** Why Diversity Matters. Speaker at First Book's May 5 virtual Consultative Conversation, Joining Forces to Ensure Diverse Books. Speaker, Virtual. May 2022.
141. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring Healthy Beginnings in the First 1,000 Days: Centering Race and Racism in the Wellbeing of Families and Their Young Children. Closing Keynote Speaker for Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Health Integration Prenatal-to-Three Program Awardee Annual Meeting, Virtual. April 2022.
142. **Iruka IU.** Reimagining Assessment to Build Stronger, More Equitable Early Learning Programs. Guest speaker for New America, the Alliance for Early Success, MDRC, and the Raising Child Care Fund Virtual Convening, Virtual. April 2022.
143. **Iruka IU.** Leaning into Equitable Learning Access and Opportunities for All Children. Presenter for Region X TTA Birth to Five Conference Collaborative Speaker Training, Virtual. April 2022.
144. **Iruka IU.** Neurodiversity and Early Childhood Development: Supporting Children and Parents. Panelist for Hunt Institute Race and Education Series, Virtual. April 2022.
145. **Iruka IU.** Creating Responsive Family-Centered Early Care and Education Systems: Leveraging Families' Resilience in the Face of Systemic Barriers. Keynote at North Carolina Early Childhood Family Leadership Conference, Virtual. April 2022.
146. **Iruka IU, Meek S.** Advancing Equity in Early Childhood: Redressing the Past Through Workforce Transformation. Keynote presenter for 2022 National Early Childhood Education Workforce Convening, Chapel Hill, NC. April 2022.
147. **Iruka IU.** Addressing Racial Inequities in Child Welfare: View from Early Childhood Education. Speaker for CBLCC Digital Dialogues, Virtual. April 2022.
148. **Iruka IU.** Culturally Responsive, Anti-bias Family Engagement and Support: An Essential Component for Child's Wellbeing and Learning. Keynote for Metropolitan Family Services, Wheaton Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborative, Virtual. April 2022.
149. **Iruka IU.** Early Education: Black Children's Access, Experiences, and Outcomes. Presenter at the National African American Child & Family Research Center's Strengths and Innovation of African American Children and Families: A Virtual Convening, Virtual. April 2022.
150. **Iruka IU.** Rooting the Work of Early Childhood Policy in Equity. Panelist for Duke University's 2022 The Next Step in Early Childhood Policy: Creating a Universal System of Care for Families with Young Children, Virtual. April 2022.
151. **Iruka IU.** Justice in the First 1,000 Days: Attending to the 3Ps of Protecting, Promoting, and Preserving. Keynote for 32nd Annual RIE Infant-Toddler Conference for Parents and Professionals, Virtual. April 2022.

152. **Iruka IU.** Equity Research Action Coalition: Centering Race and Racism in Economic and Social Policies for Black Children and Families. Presentation at Public Policy's Policy Research Group (PRG) speaker series, Virtual. March 2022.
153. **Iruka IU.** Equity Research Action Coalition: Centering Equity at the Intersection of Early Childhood Research, Program, and Policy. Speaker at Carolina Data Science Now Online Series. March 2022.
154. **Iruka IU.** Equitable Investing in the Early Care and Education Workforce for Black Children's Optimal Development: Economic and Social Justice in Early Care and Education. Presentation at Kenan-Flagler Business & Society Research Working Group, Chapel Hill, NC. March 2022.
155. **Iruka IU.** Black Families & Babies Equity Project: Strengths-based programs and policies that support the wellbeing of Black parents and their babies. Presentation for Society for Research in Child Development Fellowship Speaker Series, Virtual. March 2022.
156. **Iruka IU.** New Insights into Measuring the Ideal Learning Environment. Panelist for InterAct CLASS Summit, Virtual. March 2022.
157. **Iruka IU.** Centering Our Black Joy and Excellence with Our Children, Families, and Communities. Panelist for Brazelton's Parenting While Black II Virtual Series. March 2022.
158. **Iruka IU.** Family-School Partnership to Support All Learners. Presentation at Family School Community Alliance, Virtual. March 2022.
159. **Iruka IU.** Providing Equitable Learning Opportunities for All Learners: Addressing Opportunity Gaps. Keynote at Texas 2nd Annual HHS Office of Disability Prevention for Children Statewide Virtual Conference. March 2022.
160. **Iruka IU.** Addressing Anti-Bias and Anti-Racist Practices in Early Childhood Education. Keynote at Candelen's UpLearning Series, Virtual. February 2022.
161. **Iruka IU, Hugley K.** Promoting the Positive Racial Identity of Black Infants and Toddlers in Early Childhood Programs. Early Childhood Investigation Webinar, Virtual. February 2022.
162. **Iruka IU.** Scholars of Color Webinar: Dr. Asa G. Hilliard, III. Foundation for Child Development, Virtual. February 2022.
163. **Iruka IU.** Research on Black Families and Children: Resilience in the Face of the Two Pandemics – COVID-19 and Racism. Presentation at the 11th African American Children and Families Annual Conference at the University of Northern Iowa. February 2022.
164. **Iruka IU.** Centering Intersectionality in Early Intervention Research, Practice, and Policy: R.I.C.H.E.R. Framework. Keynote at 2022 Conference on Research Innovations in Early Intervention (CRIEI), Virtual. February 2022.
165. **Iruka IU.** Embracing Anti-Bias Classrooms. Teaching Strategies Equity Series, [Virtual](#). February 2022.
166. **Iruka IU.** Leveraging Cultural Assets to Support and Extend Children's Learning and Development. Presenter at Jumpstart Corps Member Meeting, Virtual. February 2022.
167. **Iruka IU.** Writing a New Chapter: Advancing Diversity in Children's Books. Panelist for Too Small to Fail, the National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI), and Raising a Reader Webinar, Virtual. February 2022.
168. **Iruka IU.** Centering the 3Ps to Address Racial Trauma: Asset-based programs and policies that support the wellbeing of racially minoritized children. Presenter at Building the Movement in the Education and Health Care System, Education Panel, Virtual. January 2022.
169. **Iruka IU.** Centering the Strengths of Families: Using the 3Ps of Protection, Promotion, and Preservation. Presenter at Act Early Response to COVID-19 Response Team Leads hosted by Association of University Centers on Disabilities, Virtual. December 2021.
170. **Iruka IU.** Family Engagement and Support: Eliminating Racism and Systemic Inequities to Increase Family + Child Wellbeing. Presentation for Educare Learning Network Family Support Core Virtual Training, Virtual. December 2021.

171. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring Equitable Beginning in the First 1,000 Days: Attending to the 3Ps of Protecting, Promoting, and Preserving. Keynote for Virtual SC Summit on Early Childhood, Virtual. December 2021.
172. Austin L, **Iruka IU.** Black Child National Policy Agenda. Presentation at the Early Childhood Funders Collaborative Thursday Funders Discussion: Our Role in Supporting and Amplifying Policy Priorities in the Black Child National Agenda, Virtual. November 2021.
173. **Iruka IU.** Black Child National Agenda. Host and Moderator for Twitter Townhall, Virtual. November 2021.
174. **Iruka IU.** Providing Equitable Learning Opportunities for All Learners: Centering Race and Racism. Keynote at NC Department of Public Instruction 70th Conference on Exceptional Children Pre-conference Institute, Greensboro, NC. November 2021.
175. **Iruka IU.** Addressing Head Start's Equity Agenda: Centering Race and Racism. Presentation for Washington State Head Start Association and ECEAP, Virtual. November 2021.
176. **Iruka IU.** Pressing Forward: Ensuring Equitable Beginning. Keynote for First 8 Memphis Inaugural First 8 Years Speaker Series, Virtual. November 2021.
177. **Iruka IU.** Black Families & Babies Equity Project. Strengths-based Programs and Policies that Support the Wellbeing of Black Parents and their Babies. Presentation at the 2021 Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap Deep Dive Workshop: Beyond effectiveness: How can state policy choices increase equity? Virtual. November 2021.
178. **Iruka IU.** Black Families & Babies Equity Project. Strengths-based Programs and Policies that Support the Wellbeing of Black Parents and their Babies. Presentation to the US. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation Visiting Scholar Series, Virtual. November 2021.
179. **Iruka IU.** Centering Equity in Early Education Access, Experiences, and Outcomes. Keynote for Shine Learning Academy, Orlando, FL. November 2021.
180. **Iruka IU.** Starting with Equity: Delivering on the Promise of Equity Access, Experiences, and Outcomes. Presentation at the North Carolina State Board of Education Fall Planning & Work Session, Raleigh, NC. November 2021.
181. **Iruka IU.** Innovative Early Childhood Services for Families Experiencing Homelessness: A Statewide Conversation. Keynote for a project of the NC DHHS Division of Child Development and Early Education with NC State University, Child Care Services Association and Yay Babies, Virtual. November 2021.
182. **Iruka IU.** Building Equity into Partnerships from the Start. Moderator for NC Office of Strategic Partnerships Monthly Connect, Virtual. October 2021.
183. **Iruka IU.** Spark of Color Session: The Untold Stories of Racial Equity Advocates & Reflections. Moderator at 2021 Color of Education Virtual Summit, Virtual. October 2021.
184. **Iruka IU.** Addressing Racial Inequities in Child Welfare. View from Early Childhood Education. Keynote for Kansas Racial Equity Collaborative Lecture #2, [Virtual](#). October 2021.
185. **Iruka IU.** Equity Framework to Support Program Implementation: Using this lens in all aspects of the process. Speaker at North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management 2021 Performance Management Academy, Virtual. October 2021.
186. **Iruka IU.** Black Parents and Their Babies: Attending to the First 1000 Days. Speaker Vital Village National Community Leadership Summit, Virtual. October 2021.
187. Gordon L, **Iruka IU**, Meek S. Advancing Equity in Head Start from a Systemic Perspective. Panelist for Office of Head Start 2021 All Hands Meeting, Virtual. October 2021.
188. **Iruka IU.** Attending to the Adversity of Racism and Leveraging the Cultural Wealth of Black Children and Families. Speaker for Carolina Consortium on Human Development, Virtual. October 2021.
189. **Iruka IU.** EDx Speakers. Speaker for Panelist for 50th Year Anniversary, National Black Child Development Institute Annual Conference, Virtual. October 2021.

190. **Iruka IU.** Legacy Voices 50 Years and Counting: The Spirit of Sankofa. Panelist for 50th Year Anniversary, National Black Child Development Institute Annual Conference, Virtual. October 2021.
191. **Iruka IU.** Pressing Forward: Ensuring Equitable Beginnings. Keynote for Maryland Family Network, 12th Annual Sandra J. Skolnik Lecture on Early Childhood Education & Advocacy, [Virtual](#). October 2021.
192. **Iruka IU.** Transforming Education through the Gift of Montessori. Keynote for 2021 Montessori Association for of North Carolina Statewide Montessori Conference, Virtual. October 2021.
193. **Iruka IU.** Black Parents and Their Babies: Attending to the First 1,000 Days. Panelist at Upsilon Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Powering Forward: Post Pandemic Conference, Virtual. October 2021.
194. **Iruka IU.** Providing Equitable Learning Opportunities for All Learners: Centering Race and Racism. Keynote presentation at Division for Early Childhood's 37th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Disabilities and Their Families, Virtual. September 2021.
195. **Iruka IU,** Curenton S. Advancing Equity in Healthcare: A Powder Building Session for System Builders and Advocates Serving Black Mothers and Children. Network even for Help Me Grow National Forum 2021, Virtual. September 2021.
196. **Iruka IU.** Head Start and Universal Pre-K: What We Know and What We Need. Congressional briefing hosted by the Children's Equity Project and National Head Start Association, Virtual. September 2021.
197. **Iruka IU.** California: The Nation's Early Childhood North Star? Presentation to California's Preschool Development Grant's interagency State Stewardship Team (SST), Virtual. September 2021.
198. **Iruka IU.** Parents Make the Different. Presenter and panelist for A Book Harvest Research Briefing on Book Babies, Virtual. September 2021.
199. **Iruka IU.** Screening to Identify Preschool Children's Strengths and Challenges: Using a Cultural Wealth Framework. Keynote at Early Childhood Investigations Webinar, Virtual. August 2021.
200. **Iruka IU.** Connecting for Social and Economic Justice in Early Childhood Education. Keynote speaker at NCAEYC Equity in Early Childhood Education Circle, Virtual. August 2021.
201. **Iruka IU.** Solidifying our Villages through Head Start: Ensuring Transformative and Antiracist Early Childhood Education. Keynote speaker at OLHSA, A Community Action Agency, Virtual. August 2021.
202. **Iruka IU.** Solidifying our Villages by Centering Racial Equity: Ensuring Transformative and Antiracist Early Childhood Education. Speaker at Early/Head Start Network, Professional Development Week, Virtual. August 2021.
203. **Iruka IU.** The History of Early Childhood Education & Evolution of Developmentally Appropriate Practice Through the Lens of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Panelist for NYAEC Courageous Conversation Series, Virtual. August 2021.
204. **Iruka IU.** Douglas & Black Folxs - Exploring the Invisible Legacy of Early Child-Care Providers. Panelist for Educators for Antiracism 2021 Conference, Virtual. August 2021.
205. **Iruka IU.** Rebuilding early childhood systems for Black and Latinx children with racial equity and quality at the forefront. Panelist at BUILD 2021 Virtual Conference, Virtual. July 2022.
206. **Iruka IU.** What you need to know about how state ECE policy can reduce disparities in outcomes for infants and toddlers. Panelist at BUILD 2021 Virtual Conference, Virtual. July 2022.
207. **Iruka IU.** Center Race and Racism in Early Education: Ensuring Equitable Access, Experiences, and Outcomes. ACF Listening Sessions on Universal Pre-Kindergarten Considerations, Virtual. July 2021.

208. **Iruka IU.** Equity-Centered Data Analytics: Framing through Equitable Access, Experiences, and Outcomes. Presenter for Equity in ECE Administrative Data, Virtual. July 2021.
209. **Iruka IU.** Solidifying our Villages: Addressing Opportunity Gaps and the Education Debt Through a Racial Equity Lens. Speaker for All Things ECE with ELV: A Webinar Series for Early Learning Ventures, Virtual. July 2021.
210. **Iruka IU.** Social Determinants of Vision and Health as it Relates to Learning: Centering Health Equity in the Early Years. Presenter at the Prevent Blindness 2021 Focus on Eye Health National Summit, Virtual. July 2021.
211. Meek S, **Iruka IU.** Start with Equity: Policies that Matter for Black Communities. Presentation to NBCDI Affiliate, Virtual. July 2021.
212. **Iruka IU,** Durden T. Centering Race and Racism in Early Education: Ensuring Equitable Access, Experiences, and Outcomes. Keynote for Keynote at Children's Institute Early Learning Academy, Portland, Oregon, [Virtual](#). June 2021.
213. **Iruka IU.** Looking Ahead to Juneteenth: Centering Black Parents Voices in the Age of COVID-19 and Racial Reckoning. Host and convener for RISER Network, [Virtual](#). June 2021.
214. **Iruka IU.** Embracing Anti-Bias Classrooms: A Response to Racism in America. Panelist for Kaplan edWebinar, Virtual. June 2021.
215. **Iruka IU.** Black Parent Voices: Race-Centered Data. Presentation to NC Early Childhood Data Advisory Council, Virtual. May 2021.
216. **Iruka IU,** Curenton SM. Racial Equity in Early Childhood Research: Opportunities in Making Connections. Presenter for New York City Early Childhood Research Network, Virtual. May 2021.
217. **Iruka IU.** Centering Race and Racism in Early Education: Ensuring Equitable Access, Experiences, and Outcomes. Keynote at Start Early's Partnership for Pre-K Improvement Virtual Peer Learning Convening. May 2021.
218. **Iruka IU.** Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. Presenter for Early Learning Network Webinar Series. May 2021.
219. **Iruka IU.** Early Learning and Beyond: Connecting Early Childhood with K-12 So Every Student Succeeds. Panelist for Learning Forward, Virtual. May 2021.
220. **Iruka IU.** How We Talk About Race and Ethnicity: The Power of Language. Speaker for FPG's Language Summit, Virtual. May 2021.
221. **Iruka IU.** Strengthening our Villages: Role of Transformative Leadership in the Journey Towards Racial Equity. Keynote at McCormick Leadership Connections National Virtual Conference. April 2021.
222. **Iruka IU.** (April 2021). Deepening the Public Policy Conversation: If Quality Early Care and Education Is on the Table, Then Equity Is the Main Course. Panelist at McCormick Leadership Connections National Virtual Conference.
223. **Iruka IU.** (April 2021). Embedding Equity into Your Counseling Practice: Journey Towards Racial Equity and Anti-racism. Speaker at T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood and Child Care WAGES 2021 National Professional Development Virtual Symposium, Virtual.
224. **Iruka IU.** (April 2021). Humanity. Liberation. Joy. Coalition.: Ensuring Black Lives Matter. Keynote at EPIC's Black Parent Empowerment Workshop, Virtual.
225. **Iruka IU.** & Curenton, S. (April 2021). Leaning into Culturally-grounded Anti-bias Child Assessment. Presenter for Early Childhood Investigations Webinar Series Sponsored by COR Advantage, Virtual.
226. **Iruka IU.** (May 2021). Trauma Due to Bias in Early Childhood. Speaker for Transforming Challenging Behavior (pre-taped December 2020). [Virtual](#).
227. **Iruka IU.** (April 2021). Fireside Chat: Anti-racism in Early Childhood Education, Part 2. Cocktails & Conversations, Sheltering Arms.
228. **Iruka IU.** (March 2021). Impact of Disrupted Learning. Panelist for National Council for State Legislature Webinar.

229. **Iruka IU.** (March 2021). Black Parent Voices: Impact of COVID-19 on Financial Security and Material Hardship. Speaker for Promoting Healthy Weight 3.0: A Socio-Ecological Perspective Breaking Down Barriers: Food Access During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Maternal & Child Health Training, University of Tennessee.
230. **Iruka IU.** (March 2021). Solidifying our Villages: Ensuring Racial Equity Through Research Action. Keynote Speaker for Learn to Earn Dayton Annual Readiness Summit. [Virtual](#).
231. **Iruka IU.** (March 2021). Ensuring Head Start's role as an Engine for a Transformative, Anti-racist Early Childhood Agenda. Opening keynote for Florida Head Start Association Annual Meeting. Virtual.
232. **Iruka IU.** (February 2021). Equity in Early Education in North Carolina. Panelist for Educational Equity Institute Webinar Series. [Virtual](#).
233. **Iruka IU** (February 2021). What's Missing and Why Does it Matter? Keynote speaker at ECDataWorks: Building Resilient Data Analytics, Virtual.
234. **Iruka IU** (February 2021). Fireside Chat: Anti-racism in Early Childhood Education. Cocktails & Conversations, Sheltering Arms.
235. **Iruka IU** (February 2021). Disrupting Anti-Black Racism in Early Childhood Education: Center, Abolish, Liberate. Panelist for 3rd Annual Early Childhood Symposium, 2021, Black Lives Matter at School Week, Bank Street College of Education, Virtual.
236. **Iruka IU.** (January 2021). The Invisible One: The Learning and Development of Black Girls. DevSci Diversity Discussions, Northwestern University. Virtual.
237. **Iruka IU.** (January 2021). Starting with Equity: 14 Priorities to Dismantle Systemic Racism in Early Care and Education 14 Priorities to Dismantle Systemic Racism in Early Care and Education. Presentation at Council of Chief States School Officers Winter 2021 Virtual Collaborative Meeting. Virtual.
238. **Iruka IU.** Part 1 Black Mama Rising Kitchen Table Talks. Co-facilitator for Points of ACCESS Black Mamas Webinar Series, Virtual. December 2020.
239. **Iruka IU.** Family Engagement and Support: Eliminating racism and systemic inequities to increase family and child wellbeing. Keynote for Educare Learning Network ELN Family Support Core Webinar #4, Virtual. December 2020.
240. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring Equity in Education. Keynote for the Flint and Genesee Literacy Network Connection Sessions, Virtual. December 2020.
241. **Iruka IU.** Lessons from Tulsa SEED: Supporting Learning & Well-Being During COVID. Moderator for the Grade Level Reading Learning Tuesdays Webinar, Virtual. December 2020.
242. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring Youth Wellbeing and Excellence Through a Racial Equity Lens. Keynote speaker for University of Oklahoma's Understanding Inequity, Advancing Equity Symposium, [Virtual](#). December 2020.
243. **Iruka IU.** The Prenatal to Three Policy Landscape. Panelist for the Hunt Institute's 2020 Early Childhood Leadership Summit, Virtual. December 2020.
244. **Iruka IU.** Combating Racism through Authentic Early Childhood Research-Action Partnerships. Master Lecture for ACF's National Research Conference in Early Childhood, [Virtual](#). December 2020.
245. **Iruka IU.** Centering Racism in Science-based Child Development Research Agenda: Embracing Racial Equity for Marginalized Children. Speaker for National Scientific Council on the Developing Child, Virtual. December 2020.
246. **Iruka IU.** Call for Anti-bias/Anti-racism in Science and Advancement: Eliminating Systemic Inequities in Action Research and Research Careers. Presentation to Learning Community to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Funding and Career Advancement, Virtual. November 2020.
247. **Iruka IU.** Head Start: A Shift Toward Quality Improvement. Panelist for Ideal Learning Head Start Network, Virtual. November 2020.

248. **Iruka IU.** Racism in America's Childcare industry. Panelist for Hunt Institute's Race & Education Webinar Series, Virtual. November 2020.
249. **Iruka IU.** Measurement in Early Childhood: Building Pathways to Empowerment & Continuous Improvement. Panelist for EC PRISM, University of Oregon, Virtual. November 2020.
250. **Iruka IU.** Solidifying our Villages: Ensuring Wellbeing and Educational Excellence through Racial Equity Lens. Keynote for Los Angeles Valley College Child Development Department, Virtual. November 2020.
251. **Iruka IU.** Solidifying our Villages: Ensuring Educational Excellence through Racial Equity Lens. Keynote for All Our Kin Convening, Virtual. October 2020.
252. **Iruka IU.** Equity Framework to Support Program Implementation: Using this lens in all aspects of the process. North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management Performance Management Academy, Virtual. October 2020.
253. **Iruka IU.** Connecting the Brain to the Rest of the Body: Implications for Practice and Policy. Panelist for FOI Community Conversation, Harvard Center on the Developing Child, [Virtual](#). October 2020.
254. **Iruka IU.** Equity Consideration in PreK Access. Discussant at Start Early's and NORC's Advancing Equity in Pre-k Access and Enrollment in Chicago: A Conversation with Researchers, Policymakers, and Parent Leader, Virtual. October 2020.
255. **Iruka IU.** North Carolina Women's Virtual Town Hall. Panelist for YWomenVote 2020, Virtual. October 2020.
256. **Iruka IU.** "DON'T LOOK AWAY: Driving the Momentum of Racial Justice into the Early Childhood Classroom." Panelist for HighScope Educational Research Foundation Racial Equity and Diversity Webinar Series, [HighScope Don't Look Away Book Series #1](#). October 2020.
257. **Iruka IU.** Tackling Racial Equity and Systemic Racism for Transformational Change. Panelist for Child Care Aware of America's Together Toward Transformation Institute, Virtual. October 2020.
258. **Iruka IU.** Resilience in the Face of Adversity. Panelist for the 2020 Hope Starts Here Virtual Policy Summit, Virtual. October 2020.
259. **Iruka IU.** Encountering Change: A Conversation on Early Learning in the Midst of COVID-19. Panelist for Jumpstart Annual Read for the Record, Virtual. October 2020.
260. **Iruka IU.** Infants and toddlers Face Racism Too: Science, Practice, and Policy. Speaker and panelist at 2020 Zero to Three Virtual Annual Conference, Virtual. October 2020.
261. **Iruka IU.** Critical Examination of Family Engagement: Pathway to Excellence for Black Children? Keynote for Home Math Environment Virtual Conference, Virtual. October 2020.
262. **Iruka IU.** Solidifying Our Villages Ensuring Educational Excellence through Racial Equity Lens. Keynote speaker at the Montessori Public Policy Institute's Advocacy Conference, Virtual. October 2020.
263. **Iruka IU.** Addressing Anti-Bias and Anti-Racist Practices in Early Childhood Education: Journey of Unlearning and Relearning. Keynote speaker at Ohio State University's 20200 Symposium on Children, [Virtual](#). October 2020.
264. **Iruka IU.** Engaging in Anti-racist Early Childhood Policymaking: Opportunities for Equitable Outcomes. Panelist for Oregon Family Impact Seminar 2020, Corvallis, OR, Virtual. September 2020.
265. **Iruka IU.** 2020 National Prenatal-to-3 Research to Policy Summit: Building a State Policy Roadmap to Strengthen the Earliest Year. Keynote and Panelist for the Prenatal-to-3 Research to Policy Summit, Austin, TX, [Virtual](#). September 2020.
266. **Iruka IU.** Racial and Gender Equity in Early Childhood. Panelist at the 2020 Virtual Children First Virtual Conference, Miami, FL, Virtual. September 2020.
267. **Iruka IU.** Solidifying our Villages: Addressing Opportunity Gaps and the Education Debt Through a Racial Equity Lens. Keynote at 2020 NC Campaign for Grade-Level Reading Summer Meeting, Raleigh, NC, Virtual. August 2020.

268. **Iruka IU.** Embracing Anti-Racist Approaches and Centering Race and Racism in the Life Course Research Agenda. Presentation at Life Course Intervention Research Network Meeting, [Virtual](#). August 2020.
269. **Iruka IU.** Solidifying our Villages: Addressing Opportunity Gaps and the Education Debt Through a Racial Equity Lens. Keynote for United Way of Miami, Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Professional Development Series, Virtual. August 2020.
270. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring the Wellbeing of Black Children through Anti-Racist Learning Opportunities. Keynote for Teachstone's Inaugural InterAct Now: Teacher Summit, Virtual. August 2020.
271. **Iruka IU.** Solidifying our Villages: Addressing Opportunity Gaps and the Education Debt Through a Racial Equity Lens. Keynote for Educare Chicago Professional Development Series, Virtual. July 2020.
272. **Iruka IU.** Embracing Anti-Bias Classrooms: A Response to Racism in America. Panelist for Kaplan edWebinar. July 2020.
273. **Iruka IU.** Racial Justice, Equity and the role of Child Care. Panelist for Child Care Aware of American Webinar Series. June 2020.
274. **Iruka IU.** Family Engagement and Support: An Essential Component for Child's Wellbeing and Learning. Speaker for NAEYC Virtual Institute. June 2020.
275. **Iruka IU.** Creating Anti-Racist Early Childhood Spaces. Speaker for The National Center of Pyramid Model Innovations, [Virtual Webinar Series](#). June 2020.
276. **Iruka IU.** Racial Disparities in COVID-19: Implications for Policy, Practice, Research, and Teaching. Speaker, UNC School of Social Work, Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Jordan Institute for Families, The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Virtual. May 2020.
277. **Iruka IU.** HighScope Envisions the Future of Early Childhood Education with Stacey Abrams. Panelist and Moderated by Chastity Pratt of Detroit Public Television, [Virtual](#). May 2020.
278. **Iruka IU.** Don't Look Away: Embracing Anti-Bias Classrooms. Panelist at Boston University Wheelock's Social Justice & Equity Webinar Series, [Virtual](#). May 2020.
279. **Iruka IU.** Family Engagement and Support: Essential Ingredient for Child Achievement, Wellbeing, and Excellence. Closing Keynote (Day 1) at the 2020 National Head Start Association Annual Conference, Virtual (formerly slated for Phoenix, AZ). April 2020.
280. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring Excellence and Addressing Inequities in Early Childhood Education for Black Children. Speaker at the Community Literacy Summit 2020 Ready to Ready, Ready to Succeed: Developing Literacy Birth to Five, Grand Rapids, MI. February 2020.
281. **Iruka IU.** Creating Inclusive and Equitable Classroom Experiences. Speaker at LENA ECE in Equity Webinar. November 2019.
282. **Iruka IU.** Pathways to Educational Excellence: Addressing Disparities Through Early Childhood Experience. Speaker at Clayton Early Learning Annual Professional Development, Denver, CO, Virtual. October 2019.
283. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring Excellence and Addressing Inequities in Early Childhood Education for Black Children. Speaker at the Community Literacy Summit 2020: Ready to Read, Ready to Succeed, Grand Rapids, MI. February 2019.
284. **Iruka IU.** Racial Equity and Early Childhood Education. Speaker at Color of Education Conference, Raleigh, NC. October 2019.
285. **Iruka IU.** Quality in Early Childhood: Ensuring Equity. Speaker at Ohio State University's Early Childhood Symposium and Policy Forum, Columbus, OH. October 2019.
286. **Iruka IU.** Inequity in Infancy: Racial Disparities and African American Infants – Early Childhood. Panel presentation at Zero to Three Annual Conference, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. October 2019.
287. Luthar S, **Iruka IU.** The National Academy of Science Report on Maximizing the Well-Being of Children and Families in Early Childhood. Report presented at the American Psychological Association Convention, Chicago, IL. August 2019.

288. **Iruka IU.** Addressing Inequities and Ensuring Excellence Role of Early Learning Systems & Programs. Keynote at the 2019 Young Child Expo, New York, NY. May 2019.
289. **Iruka IU.** Measuring more than reading and math. Presentation at the Public Montessori Symposium, Washington, DC. March 2019.
290. **Iruka IU.** The Invisible One: Ensuring Equity for Young Black Girls. Presentation at the Virginia Education Sciences Training (VEST) Program, Curry School of Education, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. March 2019.
291. **Iruka IU.** Addressing Opportunity and Achievement Gaps Through an Equity Lens: School Psychologists' Roles. President invited speaker at the National Association of School Psychologist 2019 Convention, Atlanta, GA. March 2019.
292. **Iruka IU.** Dismantling Racism and Bias: Role of Early Learning Systems and Programs. Invited speaker at FLAEYC 2018 Annual Conference, Leadership Summit: Compassion to Action, Orlando, FL. September 2018.
293. **Iruka IU.** Getting Real with Racial Equity in the Classroom: Setting the Stage. Invited Presenter and Discussant at ACF's National Research Conference on Early Childhood, Arlington, VA. June 2018.
294. **Iruka IU.** A State of Crisis: Exploring Solutions to Counter Systemic Inequities. Panelist at the Early Childhood Policy Summit at University of Michigan – Flint, Flint, MI. April 2018.
295. **Iruka IU.** The Invisible One: The Learning and Development of Young Black Girls. Presentation at Minority Child Series, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI. March 2018.
296. **Iruka IU.** Solidifying Our Villages: Addressing Opportunity and Achievement Gaps Through an Equity Lens. Keynote for Southern Early Childhood Association Conference, Lexington, Kentucky. March 2018.
297. **Iruka IU.** Family Support & Engagement: Vehicle for Addressing Intergeneration Poverty. Presentation at Boston University, School of Education Symposium. Boston, MA. December 2017.
298. **Iruka IU.** Roots & Wings: Embracing our Past, Present, and Future for Ensuring the Excellence of Black Children. Keynote for the Evelyn K. Moore Early Learning Institute at the National Black Child Development Institute Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA. September 2017.
299. **Iruka IU.** Ensuring excellence in education: Dismantling racism and inequality. Keynote at Ypsilanti Community Schools All-faculty Opening Day Convening, Ypsilanti, MI. August 2017.
300. **Iruka IU.** Pathways to educational excellence and economic prosperity: Dismantling opportunity gaps through early childhood experienced. Presentation at 2017 HighScope International Conference, Detroit, MI. April 2017.
301. **Iruka IU.** Creating Opportunity and Educational Pathways for Young Children: An Ongoing Conversation. Invited SRCD-AERA Roundtable Discussant at the 2017 Biennial SRCD Conference, Austin, TX. April 2017.
302. **Iruka, I. U.** Revisioning Early Care and Education for Black Boys. Opening Keynote Speaker for the U.S. Departments of Education and Health and Human Services for Preschool Development and Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grantee Meeting, Washington, DC. November 2016.
303. **Iruka IU.** A Social Justice Focus on P-3: Bridging Research & Practice Through an Equity Lens. Seminar at 2016 Pennsylvania Governor's P-3 Institute, Pittsburgh, PA. August 2016.
304. **Iruka IU,** Boller K. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Math Study on Parenting. Presentation at the National Conference of State Legislature, State Policy and Research for Early Education Working Group and Early Learning Fellows, Chicago, IL. August 2016.
305. **Iruka IU.** The Opportunity/Readiness Gap in ECE. Presentation at the National Conference of State Legislature, State Policy and Research for Early Education Working Group, Chicago, IL. August 2016.

306. **Iruka IU.** Using a Cultural Lens to Improve Early Childhood Classroom Interactions with Children of Color. Chair and Organizer of Plenary Session at ACF's National Research Conference on Early Childhood, Washington, DC. July 2016.
307. **Iruka IU.** Pathways to Excellence: Addressing the Opportunity Gap from Birth to Grade 3. Seminar to University of Nebraska at Omaha, College of Education, Leadership Course, Omaha, NE. July 2016.
308. **Iruka IU.** Using a Cultural Lens to Improve Early Childhood Classroom Interactions with Children of Color. Plenary Chair at ACF's National Research Conference on Early Childhood, Washington, DC. July 2016.
309. **Iruka IU.** Early Childhood Research. Presentation at the Nebraska Intergenerational Poverty Taskforce, Lincoln, NE. July 2016.
310. **Iruka IU.** A Social Justice Focus on P-3: Bridging Research & Practice Through an Equity Lens. Seminar at 2016 Pennsylvania Governor's P-3 Institute, Erie, PA. June 2016.
311. **Iruka IU.** Pathways to Excellence for Black Children: Addressing Opportunity Gaps through Families. Presentation at University of Maryland Human Development Fall Series. University of Maryland, College Park, MD. November 2015.
312. **Iruka IU.** Infant and Toddler Black Boys: Seizing Opportunities and Minimizing Risks. Paper presented at The Psychology of Boys at Risk: Indicators from 0-5 Santa Fe, New Mexico. November 2015.
313. **Iruka IU.** Consideration of relationships, connections, and transition for early career researchers. Keynote for Inaugural Curriculum, Teaching, Learning, and Leadership in Education Symposium. University of Nebraska at Omaha, College of Education. Omaha, NE. May 2015.
314. **Iruka IU.** Pathway to Excellence for Black Children? Critical Examination of Family Engagement. Speaker at the Institute of African American Research, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC. October 2014.
315. **Iruka IU.** Exploring the evidence on family engagement as a bridge to student learning & success. Speaker at the White House Symposium on Transformative Family Engagement, Washington, DC. July 2014.
316. **Iruka IU.** Association between TQRIS supports & improved quality: Lessons learned from Miami. Presentation at the QRIS Conference, Denver, CO. July 2014.
317. **Iruka IU.** Quality early care and education system: Implications for children's school readiness. Presentation at the North Carolina Institute of Medicine, Morrisville, NC. February 2014.
318. **Iruka IU.** Promising pathways for ensuring African American children's success. Presentation at the Annual Conference on African-American Children and Families, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA. February 2013.
319. **Iruka IU.** Focusing on the needs of Black male infants and toddler: Building the foundation for school success. Presentation at Children's Defense Fund National Conference, Cincinnati, OH. July 2012.
320. **Iruka IU.** Re-visioning early care and education for Black boys: Potential strategy for excellence and success. Public talk at Educational Testing Services, Princeton, NJ. April 2012.
321. **Iruka IU.** A journey: Our children, hope for the future. Hearing the voices of children: What are they saying? Presentation at the Inaugural Conference on African-American Children and Families, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA. February 2012.
322. **Iruka IU.** Solving the persistent challenge: How to promote and support diverse leadership. Presentation at the Evelyn K. Moore Early Childhood Leadership Institute, National Black Child Development Institute Annual Conference, Nashville, TN. October 2011.
323. **Iruka IU.** SES and language development. Seminar presentation at Speech & Pathology course, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. September 2011.

324. **Iruka IU.** African American males: Early disparities. ETS' Addressing Achievement Gap Symposium: A Strong Start: Positioning Young Black Boys for Educational Success at the National Press Club, Washington, DC. June 2011.
325. **Iruka IU.** Head Start Impact Study: Implication for Ready Schools. Webinar presented to North Carolina Smart Start Directors, Chapel Hill, NC. December 2010.
326. **Iruka IU.** Early education issue forum: A framework that works - Implementing successful pre-K through third grade strategies. NBCDI Issues Forum at the National Association for the Education of Young Children 2010 Annual Conference & Expo in collaboration with the National Black Child Development Institute, Anaheim, CA. November 2010.
327. **Iruka IU.** Ready Schools and preK-3: Strengthening the foundation for success. Keynote presenter for Yadkin County Inaugural Ready Schools Conference, Yadkinville, NC. November 2010.
328. **Iruka IU.** Use and selection of standardized tools for child and family outcomes. Wake County Smart Start, Raleigh, NC. June 2010.
329. Ritchie S, **Iruka IU.** FirstSchool: A response for school change. Evelyn K. Moore Early Childhood Leadership Institute at the National Black Child Development Institute Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA. October 2009.
330. **Iruka IU.** Parenting: What is its role in children's development? Seminar presentation at the Association of Small Foundation, Strategic Philanthropy in Early Childhood Development, Duke University, Durham, NC. May 2009.
331. **Iruka IU,** Howard L. The achievement gap: What have we done lately? Seminar presentation at Shaw University Department of Education & Meredith College Department of Human Environmental Science, Meredith College, NC. April 2009.
332. **Iruka IU.** Transition, connection, and relationship: Research in early childhood. Seminar presentation at Institute of Education Sciences Seminar, Department of Psychology, University of Miami, FL. March 2009.
333. **Iruka IU.** The PAS Initiative: Promoting Academic Success for Boys of Color. Presentation at the Early Childhood Collaboration Council. February 2009.
334. **Iruka IU.** Academic growth during pre-kindergarten: Do associations vary with ethnicity, gender, and income? Seminar presentation at FPG Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. February 2009.
335. **Iruka IU.** Rating of children's social skills: Examining parent-caregiver partnership and children's ethnicity. Seminar presentation at the Carolina Seminar on Behavioral Research with Minority Populations, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. September 2008.
336. **Iruka IU.** Partnering with families. In-service staff training for Chesterfield-Marlboro EOC, Inc. Head Start. Cheraw, South Carolina. August 2008.
337. Winn D, **Iruka IU.** Boys into men: Raising our African American teenage sons. Invited talk at the African American Healthy Marriage Initiative: Building strong and healthy families connecting marriage research-to-practice conference, Friday Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. June 2008.
338. **Iruka IU.** Home and school environment: Impact on children's achievement and behavior as mediated by learning behaviors and moderated by cumulative risks. Seminar presentation at FPG Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. January 2007.
339. **Iruka IU.** Parents and approaches to learning: What have you taught your child lately? Seminar presentation at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Department of Psychology. January 2007.

Peer-review Presentations

1. **Iruka IU.** Moderator. 3147.0 - From Womb to World: Uncovering the Hidden Costs and Causes of Adverse Birth Outcomes, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, November 2025

2. **Iruka IU**. Conversation Roundtable: Anti-Racism Research or Interventions. Panelist at 2025 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Conference. May 2025. Minneapolis, MN; April 2025
3. Bredekamp S, Espinosa L, **Iruka IU**. NASEM: A New Vision for High Quality Preschool Curriculum. Speaker at the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Anaheim, CA; November 2024
4. **Iruka IU**, Liy A. Ideal Learning for All: Examining the Experiences of Children of Color in Ideal Learning Settings. Paper presentation at the National Research Conference in Early Childhood, Washington DC; June 2024.
5. **Iruka IU**. Building Equitable Mixed-Delivery PreK Systems by Including Family Child Care: Perspectives from States, Researchers, and Practitioners. Chair at the National Research Conference in Early Childhood, Washington DC; June 2024.
6. **Iruka IU**, Stafford BA, Hunter-Rainey S. Black Parents and Their Babies: The Dual Pandemic of Racism and COVID-19, 2019–2022. Paper presented for Risk and Resilience in Early Childhood During the COVID-19 Pandemic: From a Social Equity Perspective Session at 2023 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Conference. March 2023. Salt Lake City, UT.
7. **Iruka IU**. Equity Research Centers: Creating Countercultural Spaces for the Pursuit of Equitable Science. Panelist at 2023 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Conference. March 2023. Salt Lake City, UT.
8. **Iruka IU**. Engaging in Anti-bias, Culturally Responsive Family Engagement and Support: 4Es of Exploration, Expectation, Education, and Equipment. Discussant for Centering Family Voice: Partnership Interventions with Marginalized Families Panel at 2023 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Conference. March 2023. Salt Lake City, UT.
9. **Iruka IU**. Unpacking and Extending What We Know about How Early Head Start Works. Chair for Paper Symposium, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM) 2022 Fall Conference. November 2022. Washington, DC.
10. **Iruka IU**. Community-engaged Scholarship with the 3Ps Framework of Protection, Promotion, and Preservation. Discussant for Paper Symposium: Multi-Sector Collaborative Prevention Efforts Across Diverse Communities to Promote Health Equity, Society for Prevention Research 2022 Annual Meeting. June 2022. Seattle, WA.
11. **Iruka IU**. Understanding and Promoting Black Children's Positive Development: Researchers Investigating Sociocultural Equity and Race Network. Discussant at the 2022 American Educational Research Foundation Annual Meeting. April 2022. San Diego, CA and Virtual.
12. **Iruka IU**. Whose Worldview Is Privileged? Dismantling the Black-White Achievement Gap Paradigm by Focusing on Systemic Change. Paper presentation at the 2022 American Educational Research Foundation Annual Meeting. April 2022. San Diego, CA and Virtual.
13. **Iruka IU**. Engaging in Anti-racist, Culturally Responsive Research Practices. Moderator and chair for Annual IES Principal Investigators Meeting. January 2022. Virtual.
14. Burchinal M, Foster T, Bexdek K, Burnett M, **Iruka IU**. Examining Sex Differences in Abecedarian Impacts. Paper presentation at Biennial Society for Research in Child Development. April 2021. Virtual.
15. Bloise C, Sheridan S, Knoche L, **Iruka IU**, Witte A, Prokasky A. Classroom Approaches Related to Children's Academic and Social-emotional Outcomes in Early Elementary School. Paper presentation at Biennial Society for Research in Child Development. April 2021. Virtual.
16. Stokes K, Harris L, Bocknek E, Anders R, **Iruka IU**, Pernice F. Parenting and Racial Socialization in Early Childhood from the Perspective of African American Mothers. Paper presentation at Biennial Society for Research in Child Development. April 2021. Virtual.
17. Ibekwe-Okafor N, Sims J, Curenton S, **Iruka IU**, Escayg KA, Fisher P. Racism, Discrimination, and Black Children's Health and Access to Quality Early Care and Education During COVID-19. Flash Talk at Biennial Society for Research in Child Development. April 2021. Virtual.

18. **Iruka IU.** Equitable Access to Childcare: Tools and Solutions. Discussant at Biennial Society for Research in Child Development. April 2021. Virtual.
19. **Iruka IU.** How Can Pre-K Contribute to Reducing the Black-White Achievement Gap? Discussant at Biennial Research in Child Development. April 2021. Virtual.
20. Lucas M, **Iruka IU**, Gillanders C, Adejumo T. Factors that support the kindergarten transition patterns of Latino boys. Paper presentation at Biennial Society for Research in Child Development. April 2021. Virtual.
21. Andrade F, **Iruka IU.** Evaluating the Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative Preschool for Three-Year-Olds. Flash Talk at Biennial Society for Research in Child Development. April 2021. Virtual.
22. Allen R, **Iruka IU**, Mendez J, Redbird-Post M. In H.A. Tonyan (Moderator), First do no harm: De-centering whiteness in early care and education [panel discussion]. Biennial Society for Research in Child Development. April 2021. Virtual.
23. **Iruka IU.** Solidifying our Villages: Addressing Opportunity Gaps and the Education Debt Through a Racial Equity Lens. Presentation at FLAEEYC Annual Conference. October 2020. Virtual.
24. Curenton SM, Rochester SE, Sims J, Garcia-Miranda A, **Iruka IU.** (April 2020). Equitable Sociocultural Practices in Pre-Kindergarten Classrooms: Predicting Children's Academic, Social, and Behavioral Gains [Roundtable Session]. AERA Annual Meeting. April 2020. [Virtual.](#)
25. **Iruka IU**, Sheridan SM, Koziol N, Kerby H, Prokasky A, Witte A. Beyond Achievement Gap Gazing: Examining Gap-Reducing Mechanism. Paper presentation at the Institute for Education Sciences' Principal Investigator Annual Meeting. January 2020. Washington, DC.
26. Durden T, Curenton S, Escayg K, **Iruka IU.** Where are we now? Our 30-year journey in anti-bias education and culturally relevant teaching in early childhood classrooms. Presentation at the National Association for the Education of Young Children. November 2019. Nashville, TN.
27. **Iruka IU.** Investigating and Ameliorating Teachers' Racialized Perceptions and the Race Disparities in Students' Schooling. Discussant at 2019 Biennial Society for Research in Child Development Conference. March 2019. Baltimore, MD.
28. **Iruka IU**, Sheridan S, Knoche L, Witte A. Examining Child-Teacher Relationships and Classroom Quality Across Racial Groups. Paper presented at 2019 Biennial Society for Research in Child Development Conference. March 2019. Baltimore, MD.
29. **Iruka IU**, Kuhn L, Yazejian N. Family Support Staff: Examining their Approach to Supporting Families. Paper presented at 2019 Biennial Society for Research in Child Development Conference. March 2019. Baltimore, MD.
30. Winn DM, **Iruka IU.** Supporting Parents of Young Black Children: Utilization of PACC. Presentation at NHSA Parent and Family Engagement Conference. December 2017. Austin, TX.
31. **Iruka IU.** Promoting culturally competent Quality Rating and Improvement Systems through CCDBG implementation. Presentation at the QRIS Conference. July 2017. Dallas, TX.
32. **Iruka IU.** Ethnic and language differences in infant/toddler early care and education experiences. Presenter at the 2017 Biennial Society for Research in Child Development Conference. April 2017. Austin, TX.
33. Meisels S, **Iruka IU.** Creating a community-engaged child development institute. Presenter at the 2017 Biennial SRCD Conference. April 2017. Austin, TX.
34. **Iruka IU.** Risk and resilience in African American parenting of young children. Discussant at the 2017 Biennial SRCD Conference. April 2017. Austin, TX.
35. **Iruka IU.** Beyond the Word Gap: Mother and child care teacher language input and language/literacy outcomes for rural low-SES children. Discussant at the 2017 Biennial SRCD Conference. April 2017. Austin, TX.
36. **Iruka IU.** Determining promotive contexts and environments for infant and toddler black boys' school readiness skills. Paper presentation at the 2016 Society for Research in Child Development Conference Special Topic Meeting: Babies, Boys, and Men of Color. October 2016. Tampa, FL.

37. Ray A, Maxwell C, **Iruka IU**. Black Parents at the Forefront: Engagement and Empowerment in Early Education. Presentation at the National Black Child Development Institute Annual Conference. October 2015. Arlington, VA.
38. **Iruka IU**. Addressing the diversity in Black boys as a potential strategy for excellence and success. Presentation at the Race Matters: Putting Race on the Table Conference. December 2014. Omaha, NE.
39. **Iruka IU**. Profiles of parenting for low-income families: Findings from the Educare Implementation Study. Paper presented at Society for Research in Child Development Conference. March 2015. Philadelphia, PA.
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45. **Iruka IU**, Winn D. Promoting academic success for young boys of color: Preliminary findings. Presentation at the National Black Child Development Institute Annual Conference. October 2012. Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
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50. **Iruka IU**. FirstSchool across the world -- preK-3rd grade in Zambia, Africa. Presentation at the National Black Child Development Institute Annual Conference. October 2011. Nashville, TN.
51. Forry N, **Iruka IU**, Blasburg A. Profiles of quality among early childhood practitioners: Implications for targeting professional development. Paper presented at NAEYC Professional Development Institute. June 2011. Providence, RI.
52. **Iruka IU**. Predictors of early excelling African American and Latino boys' pre-academic skills: Which factors matter? Paper presented at Society for Research in Child Development Conference. April 2011. Montreal, Canada.
53. **Iruka IU**. (March 2011). Link between parent involvement and school readiness of low-income children in high quality education programs: Does parent self-efficacy matter? Poster presented at Society for Research in Child Development Conference. March 2011. Montreal, Canada.

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60. **Iruka IU**, Ritchie S. Ready Schools promote academic success for ethnic minority boys. Presentation at National Black Child Development Institute 2008 Annual Conference. October 2008. Atlanta, GA.
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63. **Iruka IU**. Ethnic variation in the association between family structures and practices on child outcomes at 36 months: Results from Early Head Start. Poster presented at Head Start's Ninth National Research Conference. June 2008. Washington, DC.
64. **Iruka IU**. Parent-provider relationship: Rating of children's socio-emotional development. Poster presented at Head Start's Ninth National Research Conference. June 2008. Washington, DC.
65. **Iruka IU**. Predicting optimal child development from parenting, school, and neighborhood process: Using a fixed effects approach. Poster presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting for the Emerging scholars and scholarships in education research. March 2008. New York, NY.
66. **Iruka IU**. Preliminary results from a randomized study of the Partnerships for Inclusion model of on-site quality enhancement. Poster presented at the Institute for Education Sciences Research Conference. June 2007. Washington, D.C.
67. **Iruka IU**. The role of family life in the development of academic and social competence of poor children. Discussant for poster symposium presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference. March 2007. Boston, MA.
68. **Iruka IU**, Burchinal MR. Advantage of multiple nurturing relationships for preschoolers. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference. March 2007. Boston, MA.

Practice and Policy Reports & Briefs

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2. Meek S, Soto-Boykin X, Blevins D, Powell T, **Iruka IU**, Cardona M. Maintaining Data to Uphold Civil Rights in Special Education Systems: A Focus on IDEA's Significant Disproportionality. The Children's Equity Project at Arizona State University. Published November 2025. <https://cep.asu.edu/resources/IDEAs-Significant-Disproportionality>
3. Allen D, **Iruka IU**, Musa T. African-centered Education Practice Guide: Transformative, Culturally Responsive Practices for Black Children's Excellence. Equity Research Action Coalition, UNC Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute. Published April 2025. <https://equity-coalition.fpg.unc.edu/wp-content/uploads/AfricanCenteredEduPracticeGuide.pdf>
4. Meek S, Cardona M, Soto-Boykin X, Bucher E, Catherine E, Alexander B, Williams C, **Iruka IU**, Austin R, Allen R. Safeguarding the Civil Rights of Children & Families. The Children's Equity Project at Arizona State University. Published March 2025. <https://cep.asu.edu/resources/SafeguardingCivilRights>
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6. Davis CR, Goldin S, **Iruka IU**, et al. A Just Recovery: Weathering the Storm in Freedmen's Town: An Exploration of Residents' Cultural Resilience Through Defiance. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Published September 2024. <https://equity-coalition.fpg.unc.edu/resource/a-just-recovery-weathering-the-storm-in-freedmens-town-an-exploration-of-residents-cultural-resilience-through-defiance/>
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9. Meek S, **Iruka IU**, Curenton S, Soto-Boykin X, Gordon L, Alexander BL, Bucher E, Blevins S, Babrow D. The Next Generation of Head Start: Expanding Access, Improving Quality, and Advancing Equity. Published October 3, 2023. <https://cep.asu.edu/sites/default/files/2023-10/future-hs-100323.pdf>
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20. Meek S, **Iruka IU**, Dunbar W, Williams C, Cardona M, Gilliam W, Soto-Boykin X, Alexander B, Catherine E. 10 Ways the Biden Administration Can Advance Equity for Young Learners Today, 2022. <https://childandfamilysuccess.asu.edu/sites/default/files/2022-02/10actions-equity-now-021622.pdf>
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34. Meek S, **Iruka IU**, Allen R, Yazzie DA, Fernandez V, Catherine E, McIntosh K, Gordon L, Gilliam W, Hemmeter ML, Blevins D, Powell T. Start with Equity: 14 Priorities to Dismantle Systemic Racism in Early Care and Education. Tempe, AZ: Arizona State University, The Children's Equity Project, 2020. <https://childandfamilysuccess.asu.edu/cep/initiatives/start-with-equity-14-priorities-dismantle-systemic-racism-early-care-education>
35. Vitiello V, McCormick M, Purtell K, Prokasky A, **Iruka IU**, Ludvik D, & Early Learning Network. Bridging the Gap: Easing the Transition from Pre-K to Kindergarten. Lincoln, NE: Early Learning Network, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2020.

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 48. Forry ND, **Iruka IU**, Kainz K, Tout K, Torquati J, Susman-Stillman A, Bryant D, Starr R, Smith, S. Identifying Profiles of Quality in Home-based Child Care, Issue Brief OPRE 2012-20. Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2012. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/opre/identifying_profiles.pdf

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Opinion Editorials

1. Adejumo T, **Iruka IU**. The Goalposts Keep Moving: Who Gets to ‘Futureproof’ Their Children? *The74*. November 2025. <https://www.the74million.org/article/the-goalposts-keep-moving-who-gets-to-futureproof-their-children/>
2. Roche E, **Iruka IU**. Setting meaningful racial equity resolutions for 2023 and beyond. *Philanthropy News Digest*. January 2023. <https://philanthropynewsdigest.org/features/commentary-and-opinion/setting-meaningful-racial-equity-resolutions-for-2023-and-beyond>
3. Beard K, **Iruka IU**, Laraque-Arena D, McBride Murry V, Rodríguez LJ, Taylor S. Dismantling systemic racism and advancing health equity throughout research. Commentary *NAM Perspectives*. Washington, DC.: National Academy of Medicine, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.31478/202201a>
4. **Iruka IU**, Pungello Bruno E. Why we need a proactively anti-racist scientific method. Op-Ed. The Hechinger Report. December 2021. <https://hechingerreport.org/opinion-why-we-need-a-proactively-anti-racist-scientific-method/>
5. **Iruka IU**. The Dangers of White Privilege in Schools. Op-Ed. Jacksonville Free Press. December 2021. <https://jacksonvillefreepress.com/the-danger-of-white-privilege-in-schools/>
6. **Iruka IU**. Building back better: Ensuring Black babies thrive in their first 1,000 days. *EducationalNC*. September 2021. <https://www.ednc.org/perspective-building-back-better-ensuring-black-babies-thrive-in-their-first-1000-days/>
7. Govan-Hunt D, Grant M, **Iruka IU**. Children’s experts: Investing in our state’s future starts with children not corporations. *NC Policy Watch, The Pulse*. September 2021. <https://pulse.ncpolicywatch.org/2021/09/20/childrens-experts-investing-in-our-states-future-starts-with-children-not-corporations/>
8. **Iruka IU**, Little M. Biden’s Build Back Better: A Brighter Future for Black Families? Kenan Insight. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise. July 2021. <https://kenaninstitute.unc.edu/kenan-insight/bidens-build-back-better-a-brighter-future-for-black-families/?th=185&tp=176-203&ex=319&tm=1>
9. **Iruka IU**. #SayHerName: Supporting the Social-Emotional Health of Black Girls in the Early Years. Kaplan Early Learning Company. July 2021. <https://www.kaplanco.com/ii/supporting-black-girls-early-years>
10. **Iruka IU**. Zoom Circles and Google Hangouts for Parents: Teachers as Essential Conduits to Relationship Building. National Association for the Education of Young Children. August 2020. <https://www.naeyc.org/resources/blog/teachers-essential-conduits-relationship-building>

Measures/Instruments

1. Curenton SM, **Iruka IU**, Rochester SE, Durden TR. Accessing Classroom Sociocultural Equity Scale (ACES). Bookbaby.

2. **Iruka IU**, Forte A., Curenton SM, Sims J. Family Cultural Wealth Survey. Unpublished Instrument. RISER Network: The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Boston University, 2022.
3. **Iruka IU**, Curenton SM, Sims J, Ibekwe-Okafor N, Escayg KA. *Parental Perceived Discrimination, Child Concerns, and Socialization Survey*. Unpublished Instrument. RISER Network: The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill & Boston University, 2021.

TEACHING RECORD

Classroom Instruction:

Courses Taught:

1. **Instructor, MHCH 740: Independent Study.** Department of Maternal and Child Health, Gillings School of Global Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (3 credit hours).
Spring 2026, 1 student
2. **Instructor, MHCH 786: Black Maternal and Child Health & Wellbeing.** Department of Maternal and Child Health, Gillings School of Global Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (3 credit hours).
Fall 2026, 5 students
Fall 2025, 10 students;
3. **Instructor, PLCY 745: Mixed Methods and Program Evaluation.** Department of Public Policy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (3 credit hours).
Fall 2023, 24 students
Fall 2022, 10 students
4. **Instructor, PLCY 691: Honors in Public Policy.** Department of Public Policy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (1 credit hour).
Fall 2022, 1 student
Fall 2021, 1 student
5. **Instructor, PLCY 692: Honors in Public Policy.** Department of Public Policy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (1 credit hour).
Spring 2023, 1 student
Spring 2022, 1 student
6. **Instructor, HUS 310: Family Development.** Peace College. (3 credit hours).
Spring 2010, 14 students
Fall 2009, 12 students
7. **Graduate Student Teaching, PSY 305R: Developmental Psychopathology.** University of Miami, FL (3 credit hours).
Fall 2003, 18 students

Guest Lectures:

1. **Guest Speaker**, ECFS 303: Early Childhood Policy. University of Washington. Fall 2025
2. **Guest Speaker**, AAAS 5000: African Centered/Afrocentric Education. Temple University Department of Africology and African American Studies. Spring 2025
3. **Guest Speaker**, ECI 803: Seminar on Literacy research for LELA – Literacy and English Language Arts Education. North Carolina State University. Spring 2025.
4. **Guest Speaker**, EDU 5300: Seminar on Special Topics in Early Childhood, Early Literacy, and Parent-Family-Community Engagement. Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania. Spring 2024.

5. **Guest Speaker**, ECI 803: Seminar on Literacy research for LELA – Literacy and English Language Arts Education. North Carolina State University. Spring 2024.
6. **Guest Speaker**, PPHA 43650: The Scale-up Effect in Public Policy: Understanding and Addressing Threats to Scalability. The University of Chicago. Spring 2023
7. **Guest Speaker**, PSY 250: Child Development. Department of Psychology & Neuroscience, UNC-CH. Fall 2022.
8. **Guest Speakers**, M237/M290: Community Health Sciences/Health Policy & Management Evolving Paradigms of Prevention Interventions in Early Childhood. UCLA. Spring 2022.
9. **Guest Speakers**, EDUC 545.019: Special Topics in Early Childhood, Early Literacy, and Family Engagement. The University of Pennsylvania. Fall 2022
10. **Guest Speaker**, MHCH 702: Foundations of MCH II. School of Public Health, UNC-CH. Spring 2022.
11. **Guest Speaker**, AH 125/ SBS 299: Science-Driven Innovation in the Early Childhood Ecosystem. School of Education/School of Public Health. Harvard University. Fall 2021.
12. **Guest Speakers**, COM HLT M237: Evolving Paradigms of Prevention: Interventions in Early Childhood. Community Health Sciences, UCLA. Fall 2021.
13. **Guest Speaker**, AH 125/ SBS 299: Science-Driven Innovation in the Early Childhood Ecosystem. School of Education/School of Public Health. Harvard University. Fall 2020.

Advising/Mentoring

Member of Advisory Committee

1. Alicia Chung, NYU (K01) (*Behavioral Sleep Intervention in Black Families*); 2023-present
2. Courtney Zulauf-McCurdy, Northwestern University (K01) (*Iteratively Developing and Testing a brief, engagement focused intervention for Parents and Educators in Preschool: Parent Educator Action Response [PEAR]*); 2023-present

Chair/Co-Chair of Dissertation Committee

1. Menna Mburi, UNC-CH (PhD) (in progress)
2. TK Musa, UNC-CH (PhD) (in progress)

Member of Dissertation Committee

1. Jenille Morgan, UNC-CH (PhD) (in progress)
2. Cari Carson, UNC-CH (PhD) (in progress)
3. Sharita Thomas, UNC-CH (PhD) (in progress)
4. Laura Hergenrother, UNC-CH (PhD) (in progress)
5. Adia Loudon, UNC-CH (PhD) (*Their Eyes Were Watching Oppression: An examination of perceived childhood neighborhood safety & its effect on violence in young adulthood*); graduated May 2026
6. Anissa Eddie, Michigan State University (PhD) (*Cultivating healthy ethnic-racial identity development among infants and toddlers through justice based ethnic-racial socialization*); graduated May 2025
7. Amber Sansbury, George Mason University (PhD) (*Racial identity development of Black young children: The relationships of early care and education teachers and families*); graduated August 2024
8. Malaika Brewer, UNC-CH (PhD) (*Strategies to mitigate race-related stress experiences by Black American children*); graduated May 2024
9. Alexandria Forte, UNC-CH (PhD) (*Defining food security and exploring its association with mental health and healthcare utilization among adolescents with minoritized and non-minoritized identities*); graduated May 2024

10. Marisa Solé, Lehigh University (PhD) (*US-Born, Latine parenting practices: Ethnic-racial socialization of infants and toddlers*); graduated September 2023
11. Nathan Jorgensen, UNC-CH (PhD) (*Bringing diverse experiences into development: Considering race, ethnicity, and identity in the development of adolescent social cognition*); graduated May 2023.
12. Dalhia Lloyd, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (PhD) (*"It's not just on TV." A mixed-methods analyses of the influence of skin tone and racial socialization in the lives of Black children*); graduated May 2022.
13. Mei-Ling Lin, UNC-CH (PhD) (*The transactional effects between family occupations and child emotion regulation across early childhood*); graduated May 2018.
14. Patty Richardson, Wayne State University (PhD) (*Fathering and toddler emotion regulation: Intergenerational caregiving and parasympathetic processes*); graduated August 2017.
15. Chetna Seti, UNC-CH (PhD) (*Parental decision-making processes: Historical and socio-cultural influences on everyday parenting occupations*); graduated May 2017.
16. Katrina Cummings, UNC-Greensboro (PhD) (*An investigation of ecocultural influences on sustained engagement: Insights from parents in rural North Carolina who have infants and toddlers with disabilities*); graduate May 2015.
17. Melissa Van Dyke, University of South Florida (PhD) (*Creating a professional pathway for the women who care for our children: An anthropological study of an early childhood workforce development policy*); graduated May 2015.
18. Yannic Orthodoxou, UNC-CH (PhD) (*A cross-cultural mediated model analyses of parent responsiveness, child social competence, and child emergent literacy*); graduated May 2014.
19. Dari Jigjidsuren, UNC-CH (PhD) (*School readiness: Does it matter if parents and caregivers think alike?*); graduated May 2013.
20. Amanda Clincy, UNC-CH (PhD) (*Spanking among rural African American mothers and pathways to child behavior problems during kindergarten*); graduated May 2012.
21. Cindy Bagwell, UNC-CH (PhD) (*An analysis of the home-school relationship between teachers and African American families*); graduated May 2011.

MPH Faculty Advisor

1. Kaya Hamilton, UNC-CH (2024-present)
2. Foney Marcellino, UNC-CH (*Examining the Links Between Preterm Birth and Low Birth Weight on Early Academic Readiness for Racially Minoritized Children: A Systematic Review*), 2024-2026
3. Shannon Micklewright, UNC-CH (*An Implementation Analysis and Plan for Justice Core in Anson County, NC*), 2024-2026

MPH Practicum Second Reader

1. Khalanie Taylor, UNC-CH (*The Impact of Midwifery-led Care on Perinatal Outcomes and Experiences Among Black Women and Birthing People in the United States: A Systematic Review*), 2025-2026
2. Maia Kiner, UNC-CH (*We Have Been and Will Always Be Here: How Honoring the Historical Contributions of Black Women in the U.S. Shapes the Future of Black Maternal Health and Birth Work*), 2025-2026
3. Verdant Julius, UNC-CH (*"They Separate Children at the Border of Harlem, Too": A Systematic Review Interrogating Structural Racism in Child Welfare Policy, Practice, and Systems and Its Effects on the Health and Well-Being of Black/African American Communities*), 2024-2025

MPH Practicum Preceptor

1. Anna-Julia Kutsh, UNC-CH (*M.A.M.A. – Credentialed, Insurance-Compatible Doula Training Program*); Summer 2026

2. Alexandra Damron, UNC-CH (*M.A.M.A. – Mom’s Advocate & Maternal Advisor Education Modules*); Spring 2026
3. Lucy Burwell, UNC-CH (*Nurture NC Research & Data Support*); Summer 2025
4. Khalanie Taylor, UNC-CH (*Once Upon a Premie Evaluation*); Summer 2025
5. Foney Marcellino, UNC-CH (*Premie to PreK Initiative National Roundtable Convening*); Summer 2025
6. Shriana Walton, UNC-CH (*Research-Program Partnership: Strengthening the Mental Health of Young Children of Color*); Summer 2024
7. Destiny L. Ho, UNC-CH (*Equity Before Birth*); Summer 2021

Undergraduate Primary Advisor/Committee Member

1. Rahiem Brooks, UNC-CH (Psychology), Committee Member, Honors Thesis, (*The PANDA Study: A Brief Neuroscience-Informed Digital Intervention to Support Caregiver Knowledge, Confidence, and Early Learning Interactions*), 2025-2026
2. Etegenete Mengistu, UNC-CH (Information Science and Human Development & Family Science), Faculty Advisor, McNair Scholar, 2025-2026
3. Sarah Lewisohn, UNC-CH (Public Policy), Faculty Advisor, Duncan MacRae Jr. Mentored Research Assistant Fellow, 2024-2025
4. Samara Perez Labra, UNC-CH (Public Policy, Faculty Advisor, (McNair Scholar), 2023-2024
5. Victoria Bryant, UNC-CH (Public Policy), Faculty Advisor, (*The brilliance of resilience: An exploration into the academic achievement experiences of Black female learners in Chatham County Schools*); graduated May 2023.
6. Kelsey Rappe, UNC-CH (Public Policy), Faculty Advisor, (*Islands of success in a sea of potential: An Implementation Analysis of Restorative Practices in the Chapel Hill Carrboro City Schools District*); graduated May 2022.
7. Hannah Kibort-Crocker, UNC-CH (International Studies), Faculty Advisor, (*Living with disability in Mae Wan: An in-depth examination of disabilities in rural Northern Thailand*); graduated May 2012.

High School Student Research Advisor

1. Alessia Ambrosi and Isabel Franco, Dobbs Ferry High School, NY, 2026-present

GRANTS

* = *terminated early*

Active Grants

Federal

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 3/20/2026 – 9/19/2026 | Exploring Recurring Hazard Resilience and Mental Health Capacities of K-12 Educators
Natural Hazards Center, Health and Extreme Weather Research Award Program
<i>(Supplemental Support from National Institutes of Health to the National Science Foundation, NSF Award #2536173)</i>
Role: Co-Investigator
\$47,822 (total) |
| 9/30/2024-9/29/2029 | Center for Home-Based Child Care Research Proposal
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (HHS-2024-ACF-OPRE-YE-0089) |

	Role: Co-Investigator \$579,871 (subaward)
9/1/2024-7/30/2029	Advancing community-driven optimization for equitable implementation of early childhood mental health prevention in pediatric learning health systems: Mental Health, Earlier ALACRITY Research Center National Institutes of Health (Lead: Northwestern University) (P50MH132502) Role: Co-Investigator \$375,784 (subaward)
9/1/2024-6/30/2028	Early Education, School Readiness, and Early School Success: Exploring the Role of Parasympathetic Function in the Preschool Classroom National Institutes of Health (1R01HD111642) Role: Co-Investigator \$1,986,091 (total)
7/1/2024-5/31/2029	The California Abundant Birth Project Evaluation: Advancing Birth Equity through Guaranteed Income for Pregnant People* National Institutes of Health (1R01HD115985) Role: Co-Investigator \$146,515 (subaward)
4/1/2024-03/31/2029	Resilience as a Mechanism to Address Health Disparities of Black Autistic Children and Caregivers (<i>former title: Racism and Resilience among Black Autistic Children and Caregivers</i>) National Institutes of Health (1R01MH133654) Role: Principal Investigator (MPI) \$3,728,179 (total)
<u>Foundation</u>	
9/1/2025-7/31/2027	Exploring the Resilience and Mental Health Capacities of Black Residents in the Face of Climate Change Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Role: Co-PI \$117,108 (total)
6/1/2025-12/31/2026	Advancing Education Justice for Preschool Black Children: Understanding Parents' Motivations for Enrolling Children in African-Centered Education Early Learning Programs Spencer Foundation Role: Principal Investigator \$85,000 (total)
11/1/2024-3/31/2027	Deeper Than Race: Exploring Black Immigrant Maternal Health in the US Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Role: Principal Investigator \$85,000 (total)
11/1/2023-10/31/2026	RISER Network Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (Lead: Boston University) Role: Co-Principal Investigator

\$99,961 (subaward)

10/5/2021-6/30/2026 **Starting Them off on the Right Path: Utilizing Home Visiting to Address Race-based Trauma and Support Children's Racial Identity Formation**
Parents as Teachers National Center, Inc.
Role: Principal Investigator
\$894,486 (total)

4/1/2011-8/31/2026 **National Evaluation Partner for the Educare Learning Network Implementation Study**
Buffett Early Childhood Fund
Role: Co-Principal Investigator
\$7,234,118 (total; annual contract)

Internal

12/1/2025-5/31/2026 **Study of Climate Hazards, Impacts, and Early Learning and Development (SHIELD): Creating a Community-Facing Digital Tool to Optimize Children's Learning**
UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, Pivot Pilot
Role: Principal Investigator
\$40,000 (total)

7/1/2025-6/30/2026 **Community Strengths in Low Opportunity Communities Associated with Child Flourishing Across North Carolina**
UNC Frank Porter Graham Child Development, FPG Next
Role: Principal Investigator
\$20,000 (total)

Completed Projects

Federal

1/1/2024-9/30/2025 **Disability Inclusion in Child Care**
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start and Office of Child Care (HSN316201200040W)
Role: Co-Principal Investigator
\$1,685,829 (subaward)

7/1/2019-6/30/2025 **Effects of Implicit Bias on Children's Early Outcomes**
U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences (R305A190199/R305A200525)
Role: Co-Principal Investigator
\$1,400,000 (total)

7/1/2023-4/8/2025 **Freedom Project: Voices***
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Role: Co-PI
\$300,000
Terminated 4/8/25

9/30/2024-7/29/2029 **Understanding Mental and Behavioral Health in Head Start***

	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (Task Order: 75ACF124F80053) Role: Co-Investigator \$400,353 (subaward) <i>Terminated 4/3/25</i>
9/30/2020-9/29/2024	National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start and Office of Child Care. Role: Outcomes Innovation Evaluation Lead &, Senior Advisor \$630,830 (subaward)
7/1/2019-6/30/2023	Exploring the Link between Culturally Responsive Practices and Black and Latinx Student Outcomes U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences (R305N160016S) Role: Principal Investigator \$100,000 (total supplement)
7/1/2016-6/30/2023	Early Learning Context in Rural and Urban Nebraska U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences (R305N160016) Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$4,499,879 (total)
9/30/2015-9/29/2017	Thresholds II Office of Planning Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services (90YE0181-01-00) Role: Co-Investigator \$150,000 (total)
9/30/2012-9/29/2016	Evaluation of the Head Start Designation Renewal System Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research, & Evaluation Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$1,000,000 (subaward)
9/1/2003-8/31/2005	The Impact of Family Involvement on Head Start Children's School Readiness – Head Start Graduate Student Research Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research, & Evaluation Role: Principal Investigator \$50,000 (total)
<u>State/Local</u>	
10/1/2021-9/30/2024	A Robust Mixed-Methods Evaluation of the Florida Reading Corps Program Reading and Math Inc. Role: Principal Investigator \$58,000
1/1/24-8/31/2024	Racial Equity in Early Childhood Research & Policy Initiative in Partnership with Harvard Center on the Developing Child

	Harvard Center on the Developing Child Role: Principal Investigator \$36,800
2/1/2023-2/29/2024	Consultant for Participatory Research Project Wake County Smart Start Role: <i>Co-PI</i> , \$43,825 (total)
6/1/2022-6/30/2024	Research-Policy and Practice Collaboration NCDHHS Division of Child Development and Early Education Role: Co-Investigator \$333,596
6/1/2022-8/31/2023	Evaluation of ECIC Child Care Innovation Fund Early Childhood Investment Corporation Role: Principal Investigator \$194,999 (subaward)
12/1/2020-12/31/2022	UNC Public Policy-ECIC Early Childhood Racial Equity Research-Policy Partnership Program Early Childhood Investment Corporation Role: Principal Investigator \$110,000 (total)
7/01/2019-2/28/2020	Book Babies Randomized Control Trial Book Harvest Role: Principal Investigator \$347,715 (total)
7/1/2019-6/30/2020	Evaluation Planning Consultant for Preschool Development Grant—Birth to Five Activities (PDG B-5) Michigan Department of Education Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$74,027 (subaward)
6/1/2019-5/30/2020	Needs Assessment of Michigan’s Prenatal through Age Five Mixed Delivery System Michigan Department of Education Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$135,918 (subaward)
6/1/2018-12/31/2019	Great Start to Quality Resource Center Infant Toddler Learning Communities Evaluation Project Early Childhood Investment Corporation Role: Principal Investigator \$30,000 (total)
6/1/2018-12/31/2019	Validation Study for Great Start to Quality Program Michigan Department of Education, Office of Great Start Role: Principal Investigator

	\$1,096,661 (total)
9/1/2014-5/31/2017	Evaluation of Omaha's Superintendents' Early Childhood Plan Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties Role: Project Director \$1,015,119 (total)
2/3/2014-12/31/2016	North Carolina Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge Grant Transformation Zone (TZ) Evaluation North Carolina Division of Child Development and Early Education Role: Co-Principal Investigator 728,048 (total)
1/1/2013-12/31/2016	North Carolina Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System, Validation Study North Carolina Division of Child Development and Early Education Role: Principal Investigator \$2,393,000 (total)
1/1/2014-6/30/2014	North Carolina Department of Public Instruction: Parents' Beliefs About the K-3 Formative Assessment North Carolina Office of Early Learning, Department of Public Instruction Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$101,469 (total)
4/1/2012-9/30/2013	Process Evaluation of NC's Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program North Carolina Division of Public Health Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$242,063 (total)
3/1/2012-10/31/2012	Wake County Home-Based Services Integration Wake County Smart Start Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$35,000 (total)
7/1/2008-6/30/2012	Evaluation of the Miami-Dade Quality Counts System The Children's Trust Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$733,584 (total)
10/19/2011-2/29/2012	Evaluation of Smart Start's Organizational Capacity Building Initiatives North Carolina Partnership for Children Role: Principal Investigator \$65,122 (total)
11/1/2010-6/30/2011	Wake County Child Care Subsidy System Study Wake County Smart Start Role: Principal Investigator, \$39,368 (total)

3/1/2010-9/30/2011	Arkansas' DDS Children's Services Part C Program Evaluation Arkansas' DDS Children's Services Role: Project Director \$251,025 (total)
2/1/2009-11/30/2010	Ready Schools Technical Assistance Project North Carolina Partnership for Children Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$102,179 (total)
12/1/2007-10/15/2009	Evaluation of the Smart Start Family Support and Health Grant Options North Carolina Partnership for Children Role: Principal Investigator \$95,899 (total)
7/1/2006-6/30/2007	Lourie Center Early Head Start Teen Parent Support Program Lourie Center Early Head Start Role: Evaluator \$25,000 (total)
<u>Foundation</u>	
12/2/2024-6/30/2026	Building an Ecosystem for Transformative Systems Change for Young Children and Families Vanguard Foundation Role: Principal Investigator \$50,000 (total)
8/13/2021-6/30/2025	African-centered Racial Equity Justice Project: Embracing Culturally Responsive Practices to Improve Early Learning and Child Outcomes Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Role: Principal Investigator \$958,198 (total)
9/1/2022-6/30/2025	Western North Carolina Start with Equity ECE Dogwood Health Trust Role: Principal Investigator \$325,967 (total)
10/1/2020-12/31/2024	Black Infant and Toddler Equity Project Pritzker Children's Initiative Role: Principal Investigator \$595,000 (total)
5/1/2023-12/31/2024	Young Children and the Civil Rights Community Heising-Simons Foundation Role: Principal Investigator \$80,500 (total)
4/1/2022-9/30/2024	Building Equity and Access by Including Family Child Care in Universal Pre-Kindergarten Expansion: A Multi-site Study of Pre-Kindergarten Family Child Care Initiatives

	Homegrown and Foundation for Child Development Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$450,000 (total)
10/1/2020-6/30/2024	Educare School-Family Partnership Justice Project Buffett Early Childhood Fund Role: Principal Investigator \$250,000 (total)
8/15/2021-6/30/2024	RISER-RAPID-EC-Educare Learning Network: Black Families Partnership Project Imaginable Futures Services, LLC Role: Principal Investigator \$200,00 (total)
10/21/2021-6/30/2024	ECERS-3: Identifying Gaps and Equity Challenge Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$1,029,547 (total)
6/1/2022-1/14/2024	From the Womb to Cradle: How Racism Influences the Development of Infants and Preschoolers Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$500,000 (total)
8/30/2020-12/31/2023	Ideal Learning for All: Examining the Experiences of Children of Color in Ideal Learning Settings National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$30,000 (subaward)
11/1/2021-12/31/2023	Equity Coalition: NC: Early Childhood Policy Action Add-on Burroughs Welcome Fund Role: Principal Investigator \$75,000 (total)
6/7/2021-5/31/2023	Equity Research Action Coalition: NC Early Childhood Policy Action Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation Role: Principal Investigator \$400,000 (total)
7/1/2021-6/30/3022	American Rescue Plan: Are Families of Color Feeling the Relief? Pritzker Children's Initiative. Role: Principal Investigator \$155,000 (total)
12/1/2020-11/30/2022	Equity-focused Research-Action Coalition and Repository Development W. K. Kellogg Foundation Role: Principal Investigator \$300,000 (total)

10/1/2020-12/31/2022	Researchers Investigating Sociocultural Equity and Race (RISER): Network for Research, Policy, & Practice on Black Child Development & Learning Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$307,000 (total)
7/1/2019-6/30/2021	Black-Majority Educare Schools Planning Grant Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (INV-002551) Role: Principal Investigator \$150,000 (total)
7/1/2019-10/31/2020	Flint Educare Study Community Foundation of Greater Flint. Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$253,785 (subaward)
2/1/2019-1/31/2020	Research, Policy, and Practice Consortium for Young Black Children's Positive Development Foundation for Child Development Role: Principal Investigator \$30,000 (total)
2/1/2019-1/31/2020	Refinement of the Assessing Classroom Sociocultural Equity Scale (ACSES) for Early Childhood Classrooms Foundation for Child Development Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$30,000 (total)
8/1/2018-7/31/2019	Family Engagement Literature Review Project Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$6,000 (subaward)
2/28/2018-2/27/2019	Urban Resiliency Initiative Foundation for Child Development Role: Co-Principal Investigator \$30,000 (total)
9/1/2016-8/31/2019	Examining Transition Implementation Processes in the Omaha Superintendents' Early Childhood Plan Evaluation W. K. Kellogg Foundation (P3034318) Role: Principal Investigator \$500,000 (total)
9/1/2006-8/31/2013	Promoting Academic Success for Boys of Color (PAS) W. K. Kellogg Foundation Role: Co-Investigator \$1,000,000 (total)
9/1/2010-8/31/2012	FirstSchool

W. K. Kellogg Foundation
Role: Investigator
\$1,000,000 (total)

6/15/2010-6/30/2011 **Development of ChildFund Program Offer for Model International Early Childhood Development Programming**
ChildFund International
Role: Principal Investigator
\$186,260 (total)

Under Review/Pending

1/1/2027-12/31/2031 **The Syndemic Conditions and Black Children's Learning and Well-being: Multilevel Risks and Protective Factors in the Early Years**
National Institutes of Health
Role: Principal Investigator
\$3,815,974 (total)

1/1/2027-12/31/2031 **AI-PCx: Integrating AI to Reliably Code Parent-Child Interactions**
National Institutes of Health
Role: Principal Investigator
\$3,579,862 (total)

12/1/2025-11/31/2031 **Enhancing Equity in Early Care and Education: The Go NAPSACC Access Project**
National Institutes of Health
Role: Principal Investigator
\$3,901,369 (total)

Unfunded/Not Reviewed

7/1/25-6/30/2029 **The Efficacy of the Feeling Friends at School**
U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences
Role: Principal Investigator
\$4,000,000 (total)

7/1/25-6/30/2029 **Exploring the Structural and Process Features of Ideal Learning Programs that Support Equitable Learning Opportunities for Preschoolers**
U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences
Role: Principal Investigator
\$1,700,000 (total)

9/1/2025-8/31/2029 **Identifying Trauma-Informed Teaching Practices in Preschool Classrooms**
U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences
Role: Co-Principal Investigator
\$1,700,000 (total)

1/1/2023-6/30/2028 **National Center for Systems of Services for CYSHEN**
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration
Role: Co-Principal Investigator
\$7,500,004 (total)

9/1/2022-8/31/2026 **Effects of Culturally Responsive Practices on Black Children's Achievement and the Gap**
U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences
Role: Principal Investigator
\$1,698,724 (total)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Service to Department

1. Chair, Department of Maternal and Child Health Post Tenure Review Committee (2026-Present)
2. Faculty Chair, Department of Maternal and Child Health Committee on Transforming Health, Resilience, Inclusion, Verve, and Engagement (THRIVE) (2025-present)
3. Chair, Open Rank Faculty Search, Department of Maternal and Child Health, UNC-CH (2024-25)
4. Member, Department of Maternal and Child Health APT Committee, UNC-CH (2024-present)
5. Member, Department of Public Policy DEI Committee, UNC-CH (2021-2024)
6. Member, Department of Public Policy Ph.D. Admissions Committee, UNC-CH (2021-2024)
7. Member, Early Childhood Education Specialist/Assistant Professor position, Department of Child, Youth and Family Studies, College of Education and Human Sciences, University of Nebraska – Lincoln (2015-2016)

Service to College/School

1. College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Faculty Diversity Advisory Committee, UNC-CH (2021-2024)
2. College of Arts and Sciences Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan Committee (2021-2024)

Service to University

1. Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure Committee (elected), UNC-CH (2025-2028)
2. Royster Society of Fellows Faculty Board, UNC-CH (2021-present)
3. Targeting Equity in Access to Mentoring (TEAM) ADVANCE, UNC-CH (2021-2022)
4. Collaboration Initiative Steering Committee, University of Nebraska (2015-2016)
5. Post-Doctoral Association Board, UNC-CH (2007-2009)

Service to State

1. Planning Committee Member
 - 2027 NC Statewide Maternal and Infant Health Convening
2. Convener/Host
 - Early Connections: Building Bridges for Brighter Futures, Chapel Hill, NC (2026)
3. Member
 - EarlyWell Coordinating Team, Raleigh, NC (2026-present)
4. Member
 - Perinatal Health Strategic Plan Update Committee, Raleigh, NC (2026-present)
5. Co-Chair
 - Perinatal Health Equity Collective, Data & Evaluation Workgroup, Raleigh, NC (2025-present)
6. Board Member
 - Book Harvest, Durham, NC (2022-Present)
7. Board Member

- NC InCK Advisory Board, Raleigh, NC (2022-Present)
- 8. Board Member
 - Family Connects Advisory Board, Durham, NC (2022-Present)
- 9. Advisory Member
 - Advisory Committee to Eliminate Disparities in NC's Early Care and Education System, NC (2022-Present)
- 10. Member
 - Early Childhood Research Advisory Board, Duke University, NC (2022-Present)
- 11. Member (Governor-appointed)
 - North Carolina Child Care Commission, Raleigh, NC (2019-Present)
- 12. Chair
 - Durham PreK Governance Committee, Durham, NC (2018-Present)
- 13. Board of Trustee
 - Montessori Community School, Durham, NC (2018-Present)
- 14. Member
 - Color of Education Guiding Committee, The Public School Forum of North Carolina, in partnership with Duke Policy Bridge at Sanford and the Samuel DuBois Cook Center on Social Equity at Duke University, Raleigh, NC (2018-Present)
- 15. Advisory Team Member
 - Exchange Research in Action, Lincoln, NE (2016-Present)
- 16. Design Team Member
 - City Garden Training Center, St. Louis, MO (2018)
- 17. Technical Advisor
 - Durham Pre-K Taskforce, Durham, NC (2016-2017)
- 18. Core Group Member
 - NE Early Childhood Integrated Data System, Department of Education, NE (2014-17)
- 19. Board Member
 - Child Care Services Association, North Carolina (2013-2014)
- 20. Committee Member
 - MDC Made in Durham Policy Working Group, Durham, NC (2013-2014)
- 21. National Reviewer
 - K-3 Assessment Think Tank, NC Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, NC (2013)
- 22. Mayor-appointed Board Member and Youth Council Chair
 - Durham County Workforce Development Board, Durham, North Carolina (2012-2014)
- 23. Board Member
 - Durham County Workforce Development Board, Durham, North Carolina (2008-2012)
- 24. Board Member and Public Policy Committee Co-Chair
 - NC Covenant (2012-2014)
- 25. Scholar Panel
 - Global Scholar's Academy (GSA), Durham, North Carolina (2010-2014)
- 26. Task Force Member
 - Durham's Alliance for Child Care Access (DACCA) (2011-2012)
- 27. Youth Council Member
 - Durham County Workforce Development Board, Durham, North Carolina (2011-2012)
- 28. Board Member
 - Institutional Review Board, 3-C Institute for Social Development (2009-2014)
- 29. Committee Member
 - Ready School Task Force, Raleigh, North Carolina (2008-2010)
- 30. Steering Committee Member
 - Women of Color in the Academy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2008-2009)

31. Board Member
 - Durham County Women's Commission, Durham, North Carolina (2008-2010)
32. Committee Member
 - North Carolina Smart Start Family Support Task Force, Raleigh, North Carolina (2008-2009)
33. Board Member
 - Victims' Advisory Board, Montgomery County, Maryland (2005-2006)

Service to National Organizations/Committees/Councils/ Boards

1. Member
 - National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Committee on Early Relational Health (ERH) Determinants of Future Health and Wellbeing (2026-present)
2. Co-founder and co-chair
 - Council on Addressing Racism in the Early Years (CARE) (2024-present)
3. Member
 - The Pyramid Model Consortium Board, Tampa, Florida (2023-present)
4. Member
 - Lancet Commission on Racism and Child Health, Global (2023-present)
5. Member
 - National Science Foundation's Directorate for STEM Education Advisory Committee, Alexandria, VA (2023-2025)
6. Member
 - Voices for Healthy Kids Voices Policy Research Advisory Group, New York, NY (2022-present)
7. Committee Member
 - National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Committee on a New Vision for High Quality Pre-K (2022-2024)
8. Member
 - 2Gen Research: Proof Points to Building Evidence Learning and Action Community (2Gen BELAC), Ascend at the Aspen Institute (2022-2024)
9. Member
 - National Center for Families Learning Research Advisory Council (2022-present)
10. Board Member
 - National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives, University of Utah (2022-2023)
11. Member
 - National Advisory Council for the Exploration and Development of a Coordinated and Integrated Data System for Early (2022-2024)
12. Content & Script Advisor
 - Rollins Center and Cox Campus at the Atlanta Speech School Implicit Bias Tool and Course, Atlanta, GA (2022-2024)
13. Member
 - Pritzker Children's Initiative Advisory Committee (2022)
14. Member
 - Early Childhood Education Policy Fellowship Advisory Board, Bank Street Education Center, New York, NY (2021-2025)
15. Scientific Advisor
 - US DHHS, ACF's National Research Conference on Early Childhood 2022, Washington, DC (2021-2025)
16. National Advisory Committee Member on Racial, Ethnic and Other Populations (NAC)
 - U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC (2021-2025)
17. Member

- National Council on Coordinated and Integrated Data Systems for Early Identification, Connecticut (2021-2024)
- 18. Planning Workgroup Member
 - NIH Community Listening Session to Transform Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity, Washington, DC (2021-2022)
- 19. Member
 - 2Gen Research: Proof Points to Building Evidence Learning and Action Community (2Gen BELAC), Ascend at the Aspen Institute, Washington, DC (2021-2023)
- 20. Advisory Group Member
 - New York Academic of Medicine Health Equity Scholars Network, New York, NY (2021-2022)
- 21. Expert Review Panel Member
 - FIREFLIES Doctoral Training Program, Florida Center for Reading Research, Florida State University (2021-2025)
- 22. Board Member
 - Trust for Learning, Washington, DC (2020-2026)
- 23. Ethnic and Racial Disparities in PreK-12 Education Taskforce Member
 - American Psychological Association's Board of Educational Affairs, Washington, DC (2020-2024)
- 24. National Advisory Council Member
 - Prenatal-to-Three Policy Impact Center at The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX (2019-present)
- 25. Member
 - National Early Education Council, Jumpstart, Boston, MA (2018-2024)
- 26. Senior Research Associate
 - National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector, Washington, DC (2018-present)
- 27. Member
 - Ideal Learning Roundtable, Washington, DC (2018-present)
- 28. Technical Workgroup Member
 - US Department of Education, National Center for Education Research (NCER) at the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), TWG on Quality in Early Childhood Settings (2020)
- 29. Technical Workgroup Member for Families of Children with Disabilities
 - US Department of Education, National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER) at the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) (2018)
- 30. Committee Member
 - National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Committee on Applying Neurobiological and Socio-behavioral Sciences from Prenatal through Early Childhood Development: A Health Equity Approach, Washington, DC (2018-2020)
- 31. Member
 - Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute National Steering Committee, Wayne State University (2017-present)
- 32. Professional Preparation Standards Workgroup Member
 - National Association for the Education of Young Children, Washington, DC (2017-2019)
- 33. Technical Expert
 - National Survey of Early Care and Education 2019, NORC at the University of Chicago, Chicago, IL (2017-present)
- 34. National Member
 - T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® National Advisory Committee, Chapel Hill, NC (2017-present)
- 35. Developmentally Appropriate Practices Workgroup Member

- National Association for the Education of Young Children, Washington, DC. (2017-2020)
- 36. Advisory Committee Member
 - T.E.A.C.H. National Board Certification Project, Chapel Hill, NC (2016-2018)
- 37. Vice Chair
 - Society for Research in Child Development, University-Based Child and Family Policy Consortium, Washington, DC (2016-2017)
- 38. Research Advisor
 - State Policy and Research for Early Education Working Group for National Council for State Legislators (2016-present)
- 39. Committee Member
 - OPRE-sponsored Home-Based Child Care Working Group (2016-present)
- 40. Executive Committee Member
 - Head Start's 13th National Research Conference, Washington, DC (2015-2017)
- 41. Committee Member
 - National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Study on Parenting, Washington, DC (2014-2016)
- 42. Workgroup Member
 - White House African American Educational Excellence Workgroup, Washington, DC (2014-2016)
- 43. Steering Committee Member
 - University-Based Child and Family Policy Consortium, Washington, DC (2014-2016)
- 44. Board Member
 - Brady Education Foundation, Chapel Hill, NC (2014-present)
- 45. Expert Workgroup Member
 - Study of Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships, Washington, DC (2014-2016)
- 46. Steering Committee Member
 - Quality Initiatives Research and Evaluation Consortium (INQUIRE), Washington, DC (2014-present)
- 47. Committee Member
 - Quality Initiatives Research and Evaluation Consortium (INQUIRE), Washington, DC (2010-2014)
- 48. Co-Chair
 - University-based Child and Family Policy Consortium, Early Childhood Initiative (2012-2014)
- 49. Steering Committee Member
 - Child Care Policy Research Conference, Washington, DC (2008-2013)

Service to Profession

1. Specialty Chief Editor
 - *Frontiers in Developmental Psychology*, Culture, Identity, and Development Section (2026-2028)
2. Co-Chair
 - Infant and Child Health Committee of the Maternal and Child Health Section, American Public Health Association (2025-present)
3. Past Chair
 - Society for Research in Child Development Black Caucus (2025-2027)
4. Chair
 - Society for Research in Child Development Black Caucus (2023-2025)
5. Chair-Elect
 - Society for Research in Child Development Black Caucus (2021-2023)

6. Promotion/Tenure External Reviewer
 - Professor Promotion External Reviewer, University at South Carolina (2025)
 - Professor Promotion External Reviewer, University at Buffalo (2025)
 - Professor Promotion External Reviewer, North Carolina State University (2025)
 - Professor Promotion External Reviewer, Iowa State University (2025)
 - Associate Professor Promotion and Tenure External Reviewer, Spelman College (2025)
 - Professor Promotion External Reviewer, George Washington University (2024)
 - Promotion External Reviewer, UNC-CH (2024)
 - Professor Promotion External Reviewer, George Mason University (2023)
 - Associate Professor Promotion and Tenure External Reviewer, University of California, Irvine (2022)
 - Professor Promotion External Reviewer, University of Pittsburg (2022)
7. Co-Editor
 - *Social Policy Report* (2012-2015)
8. Associate Editor
 - *Journal of Early Intervention* (2025-present)
 - *Adversity and Resilience Science* (2023-present)
 - *Early Childhood Research Quarterly* (2017-present)
9. Guest Editor
 - *Frontiers in Psychology*, Bridging Racial, Economic, and Intersectional Equity Gaps in Developmental and Educational Psychology: The Key Roles of Caregivers and Early Childhood Interventions and Approaches (2025-present)
 - *American Psychologist*, Methodological Innovations for Advancing Equitable Observations of Human Behavior and Social Interactions in Psychological Science Special Issue (2024-present)
 - *Infant Mental Health Journal*, Anti-racism in IMH (2023-present)
 - *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, Racism in the Early Years Special Issue (2022-present)
 - *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, Promoting Inclusion and Ending Suspension in Early Childhood Education Special Issue (2022-present)
 - *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, Family Engagement Special Issue (2018-2022)
10. Editorial Board Member
 - *Health Equity* (2025-present)
 - *Journal of Early Intervention* (promoted to Associated Editor) (2020-2025)
 - *Adversity and Resilience Science* (promoted to Associated Editor) (2019-2022)
 - *Social Sciences & Humanities Open* (2019-present)
 - *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* (2018-present)
 - *Journal of Family Psychology* (2018-present)
11. Consulting Editor
 - *Journal of Family Psychology* (2015-present)
 - *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* (2012-present)
 - *Early Childhood Research Quarterly* (promoted to Associate Editor) (2010-2017)
12. Ad Hoc Journal Peer Reviewer
 - *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* (2026-present)
 - *Health Equity* (2025-present)
 - *Childhood Obesity* (2024-present)
 - *Social Sciences* (2024-present)
 - *Linguistics and Education* (2024-present)
 - *Social and Emotional Learning: Research, Practice, and Policy* (2024-present)
 - *British Journal of Education* (2023-present)

- *PLOS ONE* (2023-present)
- *Contemporary Issues in Early Childhood* (2022-present)
- *AERA Open* (2021-present)
- *Journal of Education* (2018-present)
- *Journal of Family Psychology* (promoted to consulting editor) (2014-2018)
- *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology* (2013-present)
- *Journal of Early Intervention* (2012-present)
- *Education Researcher* (2012-present)
- *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* (2011-present)
- *Journal of Marriage and Family* (2011-present)
- *American Educational Research Journal: Teaching, Learning, and Human Development* (2011-present)
- *Journal of African American Studies* (2011-present)
- *Educational Assessment* (2010-present)
- *Journal of Family Issues* (2010-present)
- *Child Development Perspectives* (2009-present)
- *International Journal for Education Research* (2009-present)
- *Social Science Research* (2009-present)
- *Child Development* (2008-present)
- *NHSA Dialog: A Research-to-Practice Journal for Early Intervention Field* (2008-present)
- *Early Childhood Research Quality (became consulting editor)* (2008-2009)
- 13. Conference Peer Reviewer
 - Head Start National Research Conference (2011-2012)
 - Society for Research in Child Development (2010-2011)
 - Head Start National Research Conference (2009-2010)
 - Society for Research in Child Development (2008-2009)
 - Head Start National Research Conference (2007-2008)
- 14. Grant Reviewer
 - Spencer Large Grants Reviewer (2024)
 - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation in the Administrations for Children and Families, Secondary Analyses of Data on Early Care and Education (2020)
 - U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Science, Early Intervention and Early Childhood Education Review Panel (2011-2012)
 - U.S. Department of Education, Office of Innovation and Improvement, Full-Service Community Schools (2010)
 - Reviewer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation in the Administrations for Children and Families, Head Start Graduate Student Research Grant (2010)
 - Reviewer, National Science Foundation, Developmental and Learning Sciences (2009)
 - Reviewer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Care Bureau, Child Care Scholars Grant (2009)
 - Reviewer, North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., Ready Schools Technical Assistance Grant (2009)
 - Reviewer, U.S. Department of Education, Parent Information Resource Center Competition (2006)
- 15. Panel Chair
 - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administrations for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation FY 2018 Child Care Development Block Grant Implementation Research and Evaluation Grants (Phase II/Cohort I) (2018)

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation in the Administrations for Children and Families, Head Start Graduate Student Research Grant (2013)
- 16. Principal Member
 - U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Science, Early Intervention and Early Childhood Education Review Panel (2012-2015)

PRACTICE

Practice Activities

1. Content Advisor
 - Fred Rogers Production. Review and provide notes on the scripts for the Seventh Season of Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood (2023-2025)
2. Special Advisor for Census
 - National Urban League. Serve as an expert special advisor to the National Urban League (NUL) CEO, SVP for Equitable Justice & Strategic Initiatives, and other senior leadership on Census issues, initiatives, and activities (2022-present)
3. Special Matter Expert
 - Mathematica Engage with the Regional Educational Laboratory - Mid-Atlantic team with a particular focus on equity matters (2022-2026)
4. Research Consultant
 - California Department of Social Services. Serve as subject matter experts to advance equity in early learning system of the state (2022-2024)
 - WestEd. Conduct an in-depth analysis of existing early childhood education and care quality efforts across California and provide recommendations on opportunities to impact racial equity through future quality investments (2022-2024)
 - American Institutes of Research. Provide evaluation support for the George Kaiser Family Foundation's (GKFF's) Birth through Eight Strategy for Tulsa (BEST) (2019-present)
 - Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust Great Expectations, a long-term, early childhood initiative based in Forsyth County, North Carolina (2018-2021)
 - National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI). Support the research and evaluation efforts of NBCDI regarding the expulsion and suspension of Black children and transforming the workforce (2017-2021)
 - BUILD – QRIS 3.0 Project. Contributed to the development of a revised quality rating and improvement system theory of change (QRIS 3.0) that resulted in a policy and practice brief and emerging QRIS 3.0 tool (2015-2017)
 - Ounce of Prevention – Educare Family Engagement Approach. Lead literature review and report focused on establishing the basis for family-centered practices in Educare schools (2013-2014)
 - Office of Planning, Research & Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families – Data Management. Conducted selected interviews with states, reviewed data systems, and developed a report to guide state efforts in building or rebuilding data systems for quality rating and improvement (2010-2012)
 - University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Business School – African American Bridges to Success Project. Supported the development of a research and policy framework for philanthropic organizations engaged in supporting the excellence of African American boys (2011-2017)
5. Research, Equity, & Strategic Consultant

- Early Childhood Investment Corporation. In collaboration with the CEO and leadership team, strengthen the organization's capacity to produce timely educational fact sheets for policymakers, help position ECIC as a trusted resource on key early childhood policies, and develop 3-year incremental action steps and measurable goals to advance ECIC's long-range vision, with special emphasis on how to meaningfully deepen ECIC's commitment to racial equity (2020)