Ijeoma Opara, PhD., LMSW, MPH

Assistant Professor
Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare
101 Nicolls Road
Health Sciences Center, Level 2-093Q
Stony Brook, NY 11794

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EDUCATION

2016-2019	Montclair State University Ph.D. in Family Science and Human Development Dissertation: Exploring the role of social support, ethnic identity, and psychological empowerment on drug use and sexual risk behavior among Black and Hispanic female adolescents Committee: Dr. Robert J. Reid (chair), Dr. Pauline Garcia-Reid, & Dr. Elizabeth Rivera Rodas
2013-2014	New York University Master of Social Work, 2013-2014 Concentration: Integrated Primary & Behavioral Health
2011-2012	University of Pennsylvania Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Health Program
2009-2011	New York Medical College Master of Public Health Concentration: Epidemiology Thesis: Is environmental tobacco smoke associated with asthma morbidity in inner city African American children? Results from a randomized controlled trial Committee: Dr. Howell Sasser (chair) Dr. Arlene Butz (Johns Hopkins University)
2007-2009	New Jersey City University Bachelor of Arts Major: Psychology Magna cum Laude

LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, & PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Licensed Social Worker, New Jersey
Licensed Master of Social Work, New York
Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Certificate, Medical University of South Carolina

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2019- present	Assistant Professor School of Social Welfare SUNY Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY
2019-present	Visiting Research Faculty Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS School of Public Health Yale University, New Haven, CT
2017-2019	Lecturer School of Social Work Columbia University, New York, NY

GRANTS & RESEARCH SUPPORT

2020-2025	"Understanding the Role of Neighborhoods on Substance Use and Mental Health Among Urban Youth: A Community Based Substance Use Prevention Project" NIH Director's Early Independence Award (DP5OD029636; PI: Ijeoma Opara, Ph.D.) Award amount: $ $1,848,275
2020	"The Dreamer Girls Project: Adaptation of the SIHLE/SISTA Intervention to Develop an HIV/AIDS, STI, and Drug Use Prevention Intervention for Black Adolescent Girls" National Institute of Mental Health (R25-MH087217; PI: Dr. Trace Kershaw) Role: Pilot Study Principal Investigator Award amount: $20,000
2020	"The impact of social distancing during the COVID-19 outbreak on mental health and substance use outcomes: Examining risk and protective factors in young adult populations in New York" SUNY COVID-19 Rapid Seed Grant Role: Co-Principal Investigator Award amount: $5,000

2020 "A Digital Intervention for HIV Prevention in Black Adolescent Girls"
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1R21HD098031-01; PI: Dr. Kimberly Hieftje, Yale University School of Medicine)
Role: Co-Investigator

PUBLICATIONS

Peer reviewed publications

**indicates collaboration with a student*

27. Opara, I., Lardier Jr., D.T., Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. **[Accepted].** Measuring Intrapersonal Empowerment and Ethnic Identity: Highlighting Strengths of Urban Black Girls. *Youth & Society*

26. Opara, I., Rivera Rodas, E., Garcia-Reid, P. & Reid, R.J. (2020). Ethnic Identity, Empowerment, Social Support, and Sexual Risk Behaviors among Black Adolescent Girls: Examining Drug Use as a Mediator. *Child and Adolescent Social Work.* Advanced online publication. doi: 10.1007/s10560-020-00706-z

25. Opara, I., Lardier Jr. D.T., *Fernandez, Y., Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. **(2020).** Intrapersonal Psychological Empowerment Profiles on Ethnic Identity, Social Support, and Lifetime Drug Use among Hispanic Adolescent Girls. *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse.* Advanced online publication. doi: 10.1080/15332640.2020.1803780

24. Opara, I., Scheinfeld, L., *Pierre, K., & *Assan, A**.** (2020). Protocol for a systematic review of HIV/AIDS, STI, teen pregnancy, and substance use prevention interventions for Black adolescent girls. *The International Prospective Register of Systematic Reviews: Prospero.* CRD42020184201

23. Opara, I., *Assan, M.A., *Pierre, K., Gunn, J III., Metzger, I., *Hamilton J., & *Arugu, E. (2020). Suicide among Black children: An integrated model of the interpersonal-psychological theory of suicide and intersectionality theory for researchers & clinicians. *Journal of Black Studies.* Advanced online publication. doi: 10.1177/0021934720935641

22. Opara, I., Lardier Jr., D.T., Metzger, I., Herrera, A., *Franklin, L., Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. (2020). "Bullets have no names": A qualitative exploration of community trauma among Black and Latinx youth. *Journal of Child & Family Studies.* Advance online publication. doi: 10.1007/s10826-020-01764-8

21. Opara, I., Chandler, C., Alcena-Stiner, D, Nnawulezi, N., & Kershaw, T. (2020). When Pandemics Call: Community-Based Research Considerations for HIV Scholars.

AIDS and Behavior. Advance online publication. doi: 10.1007/s10461-020-02878-2

20. Amutah-Onukagha, N., Mahadevan, M., **Opara, I**., Rodriguez, M., Kelly, J., & Trusdell, M. (2020). Commentary: Project THANKS: Examining HIV/AIDS-Related Barriers and Facilitators to Care in African American Women: A Community Perspective. *Journal of International Associations of Providers of AIDS Care.* doi: 10.1177/2325958220936406

19. Doamekpor, L.A., Gleason, J.L., **Opara, I.,** & Amutah-Onukagha N. (2020). Nativity and Cardiovascular Dysregulation: Evidence from the 2001-2016 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Disparities.* Advance online publication. doi: 10.1007/s40615-020-00765-z

18. Metzger, I., Cooper, S., Griffin, C. B., Golden, A., **Opara, I.,** & Ritchwood, T. **[In press].** Parenting profiles of academic and racial socialization: Associations with academic engagement and perception of academic ability of African American adolescents. *Journal of School Psychology*

17. Lardier Jr., D.T., **Opara, I.,** Reid, R.J., & Garcia-Reid, P. (2020). The role of empowerment-based protective factors on substance use among youth of color. *Child and Adolescent Social Work.* Advance online publication. doi: 10.1007/s10560-020-00659-3

16. Lardier Jr., D.T., **Opara, I.,** Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. (2020). The mediating role of ethnic identity and social justice orientation between community civic participation, psychological sense of community and cognitive and psychological empowerment among adolescents of color. *The Urban Review.* Advance online publication. doi: 10.1007/s11256-020-00573-z

15. Lardier Jr., D.T., **Opara, I.,** Garcia-Reid, P. & Reid, R.J**.** (2020). Multigroup confirmatory factor analysis of the cognitive empowerment scale among African American/Black and Hispanic/Latinx urban youth. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal.* Advance online publication: 10.1007/s10560-019-00647-2

14. Opara, I., Rivera Rodas, E.I., Lardier, Jr. D.T., Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. (2020). Validation of the abbreviated socio-political control scale for youth among girls of color. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal.* 37, 83-95. doi: 10.1007s10560019006249

13. Opara, I. & *Santos, N. (2019). A conceptual framework exploring social media, eating disorders, and body dissatisfaction among Latina adolescents. *Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences.* doi:10.1177/0739986319860844

12. Opara, I., Lardier Jr., D.T., Herrera, A., Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. (2019). Increasing viral hepatitis knowledge among urban ethnic minority youth: Findings from a community-based prevention intervention. *Journal of Community Health.* Advance online publication: 10.1007/s10900-019-00740-8

11. Lardier Jr., D.T., **Opara, I.,** Herrera, A., Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. (2019). Sexual negotiation skills and risky behavior on sexual partnerships, HIV knowledge, and risk perception among urban youth of color: A latent class analysis. *Journal of HIV/AIDS & Social Services.* doi: 10.1080/15381501.2019.1632237

10. Opara, I., Lardier, Jr. D.T., Reid, R.J., & Garcia-Reid, P. (2019). "It all starts with the parents": A qualitative study on the protective factors for drug use prevention among Black and Hispanic girls. *Affilia: Journal of Women & Social Work.* Advance online publication: doi:10.1177/0886109918822543

9. Lardier Jr., D.T., **Opara, I.,** Berguson, C., Herrera, A., Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. (2019). A study of neighborhood sense of community as a mediator between supportive social systems, school belongingness, and outcome behaviors among urban youth of color. *Journal of Community Psychology.* Advance online publication. doi: 10.1002/jcop.22182

8. Beverly, H.K., Castro, Y., & **Opara, I.** (2019). Age of first marijuana use and its impact on education attainment and employment status. *Journal of Drug Issues.* Advance online publication: doi:10.1177/0022042618823007

7. Amutah-Onukagha, N., **Opara, I.,** Hammonds, R., & Guthrie, B. (2018). Missed opportunities for HIV prevention: Results of a qualitative study on mother-daughter communication. *Journal of HIV/AIDS & Social Services,* doi: 10.1080/15381501.2018.1502708

6. Amutah-Onukagha, N., Mahadevan, M., **Opara, I**., Rodriguez, M., Kelly, J., & Trusdell, M. (2018). Project THANKS: Examining HIV-related barriers and facilitators to care in African American women: A community perspective. *AIDS Patient Care & STDs, 32(4).* doi: 10.1089/apc.2017.0215

5. Garcia-Reid, P., Lardier, Jr. D.T, Reid, R.J., & **Opara, I.** (2018). Understanding the influence of sexual risk-taking, ethnic identity, and family and peer support on school importance among Hispanic adolescents. *Education & Urban Society.* Advance online publication. doi: 10.1177/0013124518787827

4. Opara, I. (2018). Examining African American parent-daughter HIV risk communication using a Black feminist-ecological lens: Implications for Intervention. *Journal of Black Studies*, *49(2)*, 134-151. doi: 10.1177/0021934717741900

3. Respress, B., Amutah-Onukagha, N., & **Opara, I.** (2018). The effects of school-based discrimination on adolescents of color sexual health outcomes: A social determinants approach. *Social Work in Public Health*, *33 (3),* 1-16. doi:10.1080/19371918.2017.1378953

2. Amutah-Onukagha. N., Rodriguez. M., **Opara, I.,** Gardner, M., Assan, M., Hammond, R., Plata, J., Pierre, K., & Farran, E. (2017). Progresses and challenges in utilizing traditional birth

attendants in maternal and child health in Nigeria. *International Journal of Maternal and Child Health & AIDS, 6(2),* 130-138. doi: 10.21106/ijma.204

1. Awosan, C. I., & **Opara, I.** (2016). Socioemotional factor: A missing gap in theorizing and studying Black heterosexual coupling processes and relationships. *Journal of Black Sexuality and Relationships, 3(2*), 25-51. doi: 10.1353/bsr.2016.0027

Book review

Opara, I. (2018). Black girls and adolescents: Facing the challenges. *Journal of Black Studies, 49(5). 520-523.* doi: 10.1177/0021934718773738

Non-refereed publications/Op-eds

Opara, I. (2019, January). Marijuana legalization: Is decriminalization a better option? *USA Today.* Retrieved from: https://www.app.com/story/opinion/columnists/2019/01/25/nj-marijuana-legalization-decriminalization-better-option/2666792002/

Opara, I., Lee, S., James, A., Allen, W., & Price, L. (2018, April). Improving community-police relations through dialogue: Creating healthier neighborhoods for Black families. *National Council on Family Relations, Ethnic Minorities Section Post Conference Newsletter Spring 2018, 1(5).*

Opara, I. (2016, September). Empowering Sierra Leonean girls to change the world. *Applause Africa Magazine.* Retrieved at http://applauseafrica.com/2016/09/26/empowering-sierra-leonean-girls-to-change-the-world/

FELLOWSHIPS

2019-2021	Research Education Institute for Diverse Scholars (REIDS) Fellowship Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS Yale School of Public Health
2018-2019	Predoctoral Fellowship National Institute on Drug Abuse
2017	New Writers' Initiative Fellowship Family Process Institute
2016-2019	Doctoral Research Fellowship Montclair State University
2013-2014	Primary and Behavioral Integrated Health Care Fellowship SAMHSA/HRSA MSW Fellowship, New York University

2010-2011	Research Initiatives for Student Enhancement Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

HONORS & AWARDS

2020	NIDA Diversity Scholars Network Program (deferred)
2019	NIH/National Research Mentoring Networking Grantsmanship Program
2019	John D. Slade, MD Memorial Advocacy Award Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs (ATOD) section American Public Health Association (APHA)
2019	Community Mobilizer of The Year Paterson Coalition Against Substance Abuse
2019	NIDA Women & Sex/Gender Differences Junior Investigator Travel Award College on Problems of Drug Dependence 2019 Annual Meeting
2018	John L. and Harriette P. McAdoo Dissertation Award National Council on Family Relations
2018	Outstanding Student Poster Award on Drug Use Prevention Alcohol, Tobacco, and other Drugs section American Public Health Association Annual Meeting
2018	Summer Workshop Travel Award Program for Research on Black Americans Institute of Social Research University of Michigan School of Social Work
2018	Student Research and Conference Travel Fund College of Education and Human Services Montclair State University
2018	Kappa Omicron Nu National Honor Society Montclair State University chapter
2017	New Writers' Initiative Fellowship Family Process Institute

2017	POZ Top 100 Women Committed to Ending the HIV Epidemic Honoree POZ Magazine
2017	Student Travel Award Montclair State University
2017	Student Travel Scholarship Black Infant Mortality in New Jersey Conference Partnership of Maternal & Child Health/Rutgers University
2017	Scholarship for Outstanding Doctoral Student Montclair State University
2017	Population Health Scholar AcademyHealth
2016	Student Travel Award Montclair State University
2013-2014	Student Scholarship for Academic Excellence New York University
2013-2014	Primary and Behavioral Integrated Health Care Fellowship SAMHSA/HRSA MSW Fellowship, New York University

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2018-2019	Pre-doctoral fellow 5T32 DA07233; National Institute on Drug Abuse PI: Gregory Falkin, Ph.D. Behavioral Sciences Training (BST) in Drug Abuse Research Program New York University
2016-2019	Doctoral Research Fellow SPO22157 & SP022-19-01; Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration PI: Robert J. Reid, PhD Co-PI: Pauline Garcia-Reid, PhD Montclair State University
2016-2017	Research Assistant

	Project THANKS (Turning HIV/AIDS into New Knowledge for Sisters): HIV/AIDS intervention for African American women; Project DASH (Divas Against the Spread of HIV) PI: Ndidiamaka Amutah-Onukagha, Ph.D., MPH, CHES Montclair State University
2010-2011	Research Assistant NR010546; National Institute on Nursing Research (NINR) Pediatric Asthma Alert Intervention (PAAL) for Minority Children in Inner City Baltimore PI: Arlene Butz, Sc.D., RN, CRNP Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore MD
2010-2011	Research Assistant Early Autism Intervention Program for African American Children with Developmental Delay PI: Rebecca Landa, Ph.D., CCC-SLP Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, MD

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2019-present	Assistant Professor Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare, Stony Brook, NY Course (s): Advanced Practice I & II for Children & Families
Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2019	Lecturer Columbia University School of Social Work, New York, NY Course (s): Adolescent Development: Theoretical and Intervention Perspectives; Human Behavior in the Social Environment I
Summer 2018	Adjunct Professor City University of New York (CUNY) Hunter College, Silberman School of Social Work Course: Social Welfare Policy II: Substance Abuse Policy

GUEST LECTURES

Spring 2020	Guest Lecturer

	"Empowering Girls of Color: A review of empowerment theory and intersectionality theory" PhD Level Human Development and Developmental Science Course College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Wilmington University, DE
Fall 2017, Fall 2018	Guest Lecturer "Marijuana Legalization in New Jersey: Understanding Both Sides" Community Organizing and Health Advocacy Montclair State University, Department of Public Health
Fall 2016	Guest Lecturer "Substance Abuse & HIV in Youth" Child and Family Studies Senior Seminar Montclair State University, Department of Family Science & Human Development:

WORK EXPERIENCE

2019	Per Diem Child & Family Therapist Internal Affairs Child and Family Therapy Center, Cranford, NJ
2014-2016	Youth & Family Therapist Esperanza, New York, NY
2014	Assistant Director of Supportive Housing The Children's Village, Valhalla, NY
2013-2014	SAMHSA/HRSA Master of Social Work Student Internship Placement site: Institute of Community Living, Manhattan, NY
2007-2013	Care Coordinator Supervisor Griswold Special Care, Westfield, NJ

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

Opara, I. (2020, December; forthcoming). How to effectively engage with diverse communities in order to achieve Drug Free Communities (DFC) initiatives and program outcomes. COMPASS Unity, Long Island, NY

Opara, I. (2020, September). Three steps to becoming a youth advocate. NAACP Youth Chapter. Virtual Meeting.

Opara, I. (2020, August). "The Journey to Becoming a Black Female College Professor", Summer Work Experience Program Youth Academy, East Orange, NJ

Opara, I. (2020, June). Conducting Research in a Time of Physical Distancing. Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS, Yale University

Opara, I. (2020, June). Dealing with Loss during the COVID-19 Pandemic. H.E.R. Day Annual Conference.

Opara, I. (2020, April). COVID-19 Pandemic and Black Women. Violent Empowerment Group for Black female survivors of violence, Jersey City, NJ

Opara, I. (2020, January). "Strengths-based approaches to drug use and HIV prevention among urban girls of color." Research Presentation. Program for Research on Black Americans, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Opara, I. (2019, December). [Invited Panelist] **"**Empowering youth & families involved in the justice system." Passaic County Youth Services Conference, Passaic, NJ

Opara, I. (2019, November). [Workshop Facilitator]. "Marijuana prevention for youth in New Jersey". 6th Annual the Tree of Addiction, Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Conference, Teaneck, NJ

Opara, I. (2019, October). [Workshop Facilitator] "Black Girl Activist: Empowering Black Girls to Change Communities". Congressional Caucus on Black Women & Girls Conference, Rider University, Lawrenceville, NJ

Opara, I. (2019, May). "Marijuana prevention for youth—in a post-legalization era". New Jersey Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (NJPHA) Education & Celebration 2nd Annual Spring Conference, Monroe Township, NJ

Opara, I., Garcia-Reid, P., Reid, R.J. (2018, December). "Strengths-based approaches to HIV/AIDS, STI, and drug use prevention in the classroom". Paterson Board of Education, Physical Education and Health K-12 Teachers In-Service, Paterson, NJ

Opara, I. (2018, October). [Invited Panelist] "Discussion on adult use cannabis". Hosted by Assemblywoman Angela McKnight, Jersey City, NJ

Opara, I. (2018, September). "Impact of marijuana legalization on youth". Exodus Church, Paterson, NJ.

Opara. I. (2018, August). [Invited Panelist]. "Marijuana legalization: What we need to know". Hosted by Mayor Ras Baraka of Newark, Newark, NJ

Opara, I., Garcia-Reid, P., Reid, R.J. (2018, December). "Strengths-based approaches to HIV/AIDS, STI, and drug use prevention in the classroom". Paterson Board of Education, Physical Education and Health K-12 Teachers In-Service, Paterson, NJ

Opara, I. (2018, June). "Marijuana legalization and its effects on youth of color". National Association of Social Workers (NASW-NJ) Board, NASW Headquarters, New Brunswick, NJ

SUPERVISION

Master of Public Health Student Internship Preceptor
Student (s): Araba Assan, BS and Matthew McGovern, BA
Montclair State University, Summer 2018

Bachelor of Social work Student Field Supervisor
Student: Evelyn Pena
Community organizing field internship (BSW Course)
Ramapo College, Summer 2017
Student Internship Site: OASIS, Paterson, NJ

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**Indicates collaboration with student*

Gunn, J., **Opara, I.,** *Assan, M., & *Pierre, K. (2020, April). Suicide and Black Children: Implications for Research, Policy & Practice. Poster to be presented at the American Association of Suicidology Annual Conference. Portland, Oregon.

Opara, I. (2020, January). Racial differences in protective factors for substance use and sexual risk behavior among Black and Hispanic adolescent females. Accepted for oral presentation. Society for Social Work Research, Washington D.C.

Opara, I. (2019, November). Exploring the role of social support, ethnic identity, and psychological empowerment on drug use and sexual risk behavior among Black and Hispanic female adolescents. National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX ****McAdoo Dissertation Award Winner Address.**

Opara, I. (2019, November). "Social and cultural protective factors for drug use and sexual risk behavior among urban Black adolescent girls". Roundtable paper to be presented at American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Opara, I., Lardier Jr., D.T., Garcia-Reid, & Reid, R.J. (2019, June). "A qualitative study on protective factors for drug use prevention among Black and Hispanic girls". Paper presented at the

81st College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) Annual Scientific Meeting, San Antonio, Texas.

Lardier Jr., D.T., **Opara, I.,** Pinto, S., Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. (2019, June). "The mediating effects of cognitive empowerment and social justice awareness between sense of community, ethnic identity, community participation and psychological empowerment among queer and non-queer youth of color". Paper to be presented at the Society for Community Research and Action, Chicago, IL

Opara, I. & Brown, T**.** (2018, November). "The application of strengths-based approaches for training students to work with racial/ethnic minorities through practicums and internships". Invited oral paper symposium presented at the National Council on Family Relations, San Diego, CA

Opara, I., *Franklin, L., Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. (2018, November). "The normalization of violence and drug use among ethnic minority youth: A qualitative exploration". Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations, San Diego, CA

Lardier Jr., D., **Opara, I.,** Berguson, C., Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. (2018, November). "The mediating role of neighborhood attachment among ecological supports, school importance, risk behaviors, and depression". Poster to be presented at National Council on Family Relations, San Diego, CA

***Opara, I.,** Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. (2018, November). "Adapting a public health framework to reduce racial disparities in recreational marijuana use for urban youth of color in New Jersey". Poster presented at American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting 2018, San Diego, California. ****Outstanding student poster award in the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs section.**

Amutah-Onukagha, N., **Opara, I.,** & Guthrie, B. (2018, November). "Addressing health disparities to improve women's health outcomes and achieve health equity". Roundtable oral presentation to be discussed at American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting 2018, San Diego, California.

Opara, I., Garcia-Reid, P., & Reid, R.J. (2018, July). "The role of ethnic identity and psychological empowerment in HIV and drug use prevention for Black and Hispanic female adolescents". Poster to be presented at 22nd International AIDS conference 2018. Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Reid, R.J., Lardier, Jr. D.T, **Opara, I.,** Herrera, A., & Berguson, C. (2018, February). "P-CASA: Policy & advocacy" Poster presented at Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) 26th Annual National Leadership Forum.

Opara, I., Lee, S., Price, D., Allen, W., & James, A. (2017, November). "Improving community-police relations through dialogue: Creating healthier neighborhoods for Black families". **Co-chair**

and presenter. Invited symposium presented at the National Council on Family Relations Conference. Orlando, FL.

Opara, I. & Butz, A. (2017, November). "Caregiver characteristics of urban African American children living with severe asthma". Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations Conference. Orlando, FL.

Opara, I., & Amutah, N. (2017, November). "Project DASH: Analyzing maternal communication processes between African American mothers living with HIV and their daughters". Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations Conference. Orlando, FL.

Opara, I. (2017, October). "Examining HIV risk parent-child communication among African American female adolescents through an ecological systems and Black feminist lens". Paper presentation. 5th Annual Black Doctoral Network Annual Conference. Atlanta, GA**.**

Opara, I. & Awosan, C. (2016, October). "Residual effects of slavery and its impact on Black male-female heterosexual relationships", 4th Annual Black Doctoral Network Conference. Paper presentation. Atlanta, GA.

Opara, I. & Awosan, C. (2016, March) "Racism and its effects on Black male-female intimate relationships" at Tulane University, "Social Justice and The City: Implications for race and equity", Paper presentation. New Orleans, LA.

Opara, I. & Butz, A. (2011, October) "Caregiver characteristics associated with asthma morbidity in inner city African American children" at 139th American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting, Poster presentation. Washington D.C.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

Opara, I. (2020, January). [Workshop Facilitator]. "Using media to talk to your kids about drugs, sex, & violence". City of Paterson, Paterson Youth Services Bureau Family Night, Paterson, NJ

Opara, I., Garcia-Reid, P., Reid, R.J. (2018, January). "Project COPE steering committee January 2018 presentation". Paterson Public Library, Project C.O.P.E., Montclair State University

Opara, I, Lardier, Jr. D.T., Reid, R.J., & Garcia-Reid, P. (2017, October). "P-CASA & Project C.O.P.E. 2017 highlights and outcomes", Ph.D. Research Colloquium, Montclair State University

Opara, I. (2017, October). "Connection between HIV/AIDS, drugs, & violence prevalence rates in New Jersey". Project C.O.P.E. Community Empowerment Forum, Paterson public library.

Opara, I. (2017, October). Plan for modifying hours of operation ordinance evaluation, Paterson Police Department, P-CASA, Montclair State University

Opara, I., Reid, R.J., & Garcia-Reid, P. (2017, September). "Engaging parents to talk about substance abuse with their children", Paterson School District K-5th Teacher In-Service, Project C.O.P.E. & P-CASA, Montclair State University

Lardier Jr. D.T. & **Opara I.** (2017, June). P-CASA surveying years data dissemination for 2013-2017, P-CASA Coalition Meeting, Paterson Public Library, Paterson, NJ

Opara, I., Reid, R.J., & Garcia-Reid, P. (2017, February). "Engaging parents to talk about substance abuse with their children", Paterson School District Teacher In-Service, Project C.O.P.E. & P-CASA, Montclair State University

Opara, I., Reid, R.J., & Garcia-Reid, P. (2017, February). "Data Dissemination", Paterson Department of Education, Project C.O.P.E & P-CASA, Montclair State University

Opara, I. [Facilitator & Trainer]. (2017, February). Photovoice for high school youth, science and technology Charter High School, Paterson, NJ

Opara, I. (2017, January). "Tobacco retailer training program for Paterson, NJ", P-CASA, Montclair State University and Paterson Department of Health

Opara, I. (2017, January). "Tobacco retailer programs proposal for Paterson, NJ" Paterson Coalition Against Substance Abuse (P-CASA) monthly meetings part of the Drug Free Communities (DFC) grant program. Paterson Public Library, Paterson, NJ

Opara, I. (2014, July). "Healthy eating options for foster care youth living in transitional housing", Supportive Housing Program, The Children's Village, Valhalla NY

Opara, I. (2014, March). [Invited speaker]. "Empowerment through loss". Workshop on Women's Empowerment at the United Nations. International Women's Day 2014, United Nations Plaza, New York, NY

Opara, I. (2011, July). [Invited speaker]. "Nurturing resilience through loss". 3rd Annual H.E.R Day Conference. Wyndam Princeton Hotel, Princeton, NJ

SERVICE TO THE FIELD

Youth Advisor. (2020-present). NAACP Youth Chapter

Harriett and John McAdoo Dissertation Awards Committee Member (2020). Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families Section, National Council on Family Relations

Students & New Professional Representative (2020-2022). Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families Section, National Council on Family Relations

Policy Fellow Mentor (2019-2020). The Network for Social Work Management Policy Fellows Program

Facilitator. (2019, November). "Being intentional with your time in graduate school". Ethnic Minorities Section Roundtable Discussion. National Council on Family Relations. Fort Worth, Texas

*Moderator. (*2019, November). "Community-Engaged Anti-Racism Practice: Community Health Activism from Local to Global". Society for the Analysis of African American Public Health (SAAPHI) Annual Meeting and Scientific Symposium, Drexel University School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA.

Abstract reviewer. (2019). Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs section, American Public Health Association

Elected Board Member (2018-2020). Society for the Analysis of African American Public Health (SAAPHI)

Invited Public & Population Health Theme Co-Chair, (2017-2018). AcademyHealth 2018 Annual Research Meeting (ARM) Planning Committee

Organizer and Moderator (2017, October). "HIV, Drugs, & Violence" Community Empowerment Forum & Expert Panel, Project C.O.P.E., Paterson, NJ

Application reviewer (2017, October). Mandela Washington D.C. Fellowship for Young African Leaders

Proposal Reviewer (2017). Feminism Section, National Council of Family Relations

Abstract Reviewer (2017). Ethnic Minorities Section, National Council of Family Relations

Co-chair of Union County Unit (2013-2016). National Association of Social Workers

Student Leader (2009-2011). Epidemiology Section, American Public Health Association (APHA)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Member, PhD Program Committee (2020-present), Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare

Member, Field Education Committee (2019-2020), Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare

Member, Families, Youth, & Transition to Adulthood Specialization Committee (2019-2020), Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare

Invited Panelist (2018, February). Spring 2018 Graduate School Open House Student Panel, Montclair State University

Invited Panelist (2017, December). Macro and Mezzo Level Social Work Careers Alumni Session. Silver School of Social Work, New York University

Interviewer & Alumni Representative (2017-present). NYU Torchbearer, New York University Office of Undergraduate Admissions Program

Invited Panelist (2017, October). Fall 2017 Graduate School Open House Student Panel, Montclair State University

Organizer and Moderator (2017, February). Improving Police-Community Relations Through Dialogue Panel, Montclair State University

Invited Panelist (2017, February). Spring 2017 Graduate School Open House Student Panel, Montclair State University

Student Ambassador (2017-present). Ph.D. Program in Family Science & Human Development, Montclair State University

Representative for the 2016 Ph.D. Cohort, (2016-present)**.** Department of Family Science & Human Development, Montclair State University

Invited Panelist (2013, March). Integrating Primary & Behavioral Health MSW Student Panel: Educational Seminar. Institute of Community Living, New York University, Manhattan, NY.

Student Member (2013-2014). New York University Black Social Work Student Collective Association

President (2010-2011). Student Healthcare Executives, New York Medical College

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2019-2020	Health Equity Investigators Grant Proposal Development Coaching Program NIH National Research Mentoring Network (NRMN) Role: Participant
2019	NIH K Grant Writing Workshop Office of Sponsored Programs Stony Brook University

2019 NIDA Grant Writing Workshop for Early Career Investigators
College of Problems on Drug Dependence

JOURNAL REVIEWER

AIDS & Behavior; Journal of Social Distress and Homelessness; Journal of Social and Personal Relationships; International Journal of Maternal and Child Health & AIDS; SAGE Open; Journal of Urban Health; Youth & Society; Substance Use & Misuse; Behavioral Medicine; Journal of Social Distress and Homelessness; Child & Youth Services Review; Sexuality & Culture; Journal of Racial & Ethnic Health Disparities; Social Work in Mental Health; American Journal of Men's Health

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

International AIDS Society
National Council on Family Relations
American Public Health Association