

CURRICULUM VITAE

Kristen Cooksey Stowers

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

University of Connecticut Postdoctoral Fellow Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity <i>Advisor:</i> Marlene Schwartz	Hartford, CT	08/16-present
Duke University Doctor of Philosophy in Public Policy Sanford School of Public Policy Concentration: Medical Sociology <i>Dissertation:</i> Food Swamps, Obesity and Health Zoning Restrictions on Fast Food Restaurants <i>Committee:</i> Kelly Brownell (Chair), Sandy Darity (Co-Chair), Mary Story, Matt Harding, Joseph Hotz, Jay Pearson	Durham, NC	08/12-06/16
Johns Hopkins University Master of Public Policy Bloomberg School of Public Health Certificate in Health Policy	Baltimore, MD	08/10-05/12
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Consumer Economics Major Concentration: Consumer Economics & Finance	Urbana, IL	08/06-05/10

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Duke-UNC USDA Center for Behavioral Economics & Healthy Food Choice Research Duke Sanford School of Public Policy SNAP Database Project Team Lead (Advisor: Matt Harding, Ph.D.) Areas of research included the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and behavioral-economics nutrition interventions in grocery stores.	Durham, NC	05/15-06/16
RTI International Food and Nutrition Policy Research Contractor (Supervisors: Mary Muth, Ph.D. & Sheryl Cates) Areas of research included food safety, farmers' market incentive programs for adults with low-income, nutrition education, and food banks' food safety guidelines on disseminating nonperishable foods past the expiration date.	RTP, NC	08/14-12/14

Duke University		
Add Health Parent Study	Durham, NC	12/13-07/16
Research Assistant (Advisor: V. Joseph Hotz, Ph.D.)		
Areas of research included population health among older adults, aging, intergenerational time and financial transfers, survey methodology techniques for collecting data on sensitive topics regarding health/food insecurity, and techniques for recruiting older, racial/ethnic minority adults to longitudinal health studies.		
Duke University	Durham, NC	08/12-07/16
Graduate Research Assistant (Advisor: William "Sandy" Darity, Jr., Ph.D.)		
Areas of research included the black-white female obesity gap, and eating behaviors among Black, Seventh-day Adventists.		
Johns Hopkins University	Baltimore, MD	08/11-05/12
Institute for Policy Studies Researcher (Advisor: Lester Salamon, Ph.D.)		
Areas of research included obesity and food environments.		
USDA Economic Research Service (ERS)	Washington, DC	06/10-08/13
Economist (Supervisor: Abebayehou Tegene, Ph.D.)		
Areas of research included food deserts, the measurement of food insecurity, SNAP state-level policies, and the National Farm to School Census.		
University of Illinois	Urbana, IL	04/09-08/09
U.S. Department of Education Ronald E. McNair Scholar (Advisor: Dr. Paul McNamara, Ph.D.)		
Areas of research included birth outcomes in Sierra Leone, prenatal nutrition interventions, and cost-effectiveness analysis.		
University of Illinois Applied Economics Seminar	Urbana, IL	01/09-05/10
Research Assistant (Advisor: Dr. Paul E. McNamara, Ph.D.)		
Areas of research included malnutrition in Sierra Leone, food security, and global market food prices.		

GRANTS AND FUNDED RESEARCH

USDA National Agricultural Library-Healthy Food Policy Project (Subaward) **10/17-10/19**

The Policy Process for Passing Healthy Food Policies at the Local Level. The goal of this project is to identify and elevate local laws that seek to promote access to healthy food and contribute to strong local economies, an improved environment, and health equity, with a focus on socially disadvantaged and marginalized groups. This study utilizes a mixed-methods approach to assess legal strategies employed by municipalities' to address obesity and inequitable food systems.

Role: Postdoctoral Fellow/Researcher

NIH National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute—Diversity Supplement **09/17-05/19**

The Effect of Neighborhood Food Environments on Diet Quality of Preschool Children in Family Child Care Homes. The goal of this project is to examine the effect of neighborhood food environments on diet quality of racial and ethnic minority preschoolers in a child care setting and test for an interaction effect between neighborhood food environments (i.e. food swamps) and health interventions targeting micro-level food environments in family child care homes.

Role: Principal Investigator (Primary Mentor: Kim Gans)

Food Trust

01/17-04/18

The Role of the Emergency Food System in Promoting Health Equity and A Culture of Health.

The goal of this project is to contribute to a national movement to engage food banks and their partners in creating a culture of health. A systematic stakeholder analysis was conducted using a series of quantitative and qualitative research methods.

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

NIH National Institute on Aging -- Diversity Supplement

08/14 – 08/16

National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health) Parent Study.

The goal of this project was to develop and analyze measures of environmental factors, especially ones related to food and nutrition access, and their relationship to health outcomes among older adults and their adult children to improve our understanding of the intergenerational linkages in obesity and related health conditions.

Role: NIH Predoctoral Fellow/ Doctoral Candidate (Primary Mentor: Joseph Hotz)

Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy-- Small Grants Award

08/15-07/16

Public Opinion of Zoning Out Fast Food

The purpose of this project was to conduct an online survey experiment testing the effect of message framing on support for zoning policies placing restrictions on fast food retailers.

Role: Doctoral Candidate

Duke University Dean's Graduate Fellowship (2012-2016)

08/12-08/15

The Effect of Food Swamps on Obesity

The goal of this fellowship was to support dissertation-related research during the school year.

Role: Graduate Student Researcher

OTHER SUBMITTED GRANTS

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Policies for Action (Invited to Submit Full Proposal 8/30)

Preemption: The Language and Legislation of State Control and Its Impact on Healthy Food Policies and Programs

Proposed Budget: \$150,000

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

Russell Sage Foundation (Under Review)

Development and reliability and validity testing of an audit tool for assessing inequitable food swamp environments in Low Income Black and Latino Communities

Proposed Budget: \$50,000

Role: Principal Investigator

William T. Grant Foundation (Under Review)

Black & Latino Youth's Perceptions of An Urban Food Swamp Environment: Exploring Equity Issues & Policy Opportunities

Proposed Budget: \$50,000

Role: Principal Investigator

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, Schwartz, M. B., & Brownell, K. D. (2017). Food Swamps Predict Obesity Rates Better Than Food Deserts in the United States. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 14(11), 1366.
2. Ginsburg, Z.A., Bryan, A.D., Rubinstein, E.B., Frankel, H.J., Maroko, A.R., Schechter, C.B., **Cooksey-Stowers, K.** & Lucan, S.C. (2018). Unreliable and Difficult-to-Access Food for Those in Need: A Qualitative and Quantitative Study of Urban Food Pantries. *Journal of Community Health*, 1-16.
3. Gans, K., Risica, P., Keita, A., Dionne, L., Mello, J., **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, Gorham, Gemma. Multilevel approaches in low-income housing to increase F&V intake: Final Results of 'Live Well Viva Bien' cluster-randomized trial. *International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*, 15(1),80.
4. **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, Read, M., Wolff, M., Martin, K. S., McCabe, M., & Schwartz, M. (2018). Food Pantry Staff Attitudes about Using a Nutrition Rating System to Guide Client Choice. *Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition*, 1-15.
5. **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, Martin, K. S., & Schwartz, M. (2018). Client Preferences for Nutrition Interventions in Food Pantries. *Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition*, 1-17.
6. Calancie, L., **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, Palmer, A., Frost, N., Calhoun, H., Piner, A., Webb, K. Food Policy Councils: Policy, systems, and environment initiatives and their potential impacts. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*. (in press)
7. Stein, E.*, **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, McCabe, M., White, M., Schwartz, M. Meal Kits and Recipe Tastings in Food Pantries: A Pilot Study to Increase the Selection of Healthy Foods. (revision request at Public Health Nutrition)
8. **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, Martin, K., Cornelius, T., Read, M., McCabe, M., Wolff, M., Martin, K., Schwartz, M. Supporting Wellness at Pantries (SWAP) Intervention: Pilot Study Results from Six Connecticut Food Pantries. (under review)
9. **Cooksey-Stowers, K.** Framing the Debate around 'Zoning Out' Fast Food Establishments: Evidence from a Population-Based Survey Experiment. (under review)
10. McKee, S.*, **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, St. Louis, R., Schwartz, M., The Process of Implementing Nutrition and Physical Activity Policies in a Large National Child Care Organization. (under review)
11. Bryan, A., Ginsburg, Z., Rubenstein, E., Frankel, H., Maroko, A., Schechter, C., **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, Lucan, S. Foods and Drinks Available From Urban Food Pantries: Nutritional Quality by Type, Sourcing, and Distribution Method. (under review)

*indicates student mentee of KCS

WORKING PAPERS

1. **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, Schwartz, M., Gans, K., Kumanyika, S. Advancing Health Equity through the Food Banking System: A National Study of Food Bank Organizational Practices and Support for Research-Based Policy Changes
2. **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, Calancie, L., Mancini, S., Palmer, A., Corbie-Smith, G. Tackling Food Swamps Through Legislation: A Case Study of The Food Equity Council in Prince George's County, Maryland
3. **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, Marfo, N., Gurganus, E., Schwartz, M., Gans, K., Kumanyika, S. The Hunger-Obesity Paradox: Exploring Food Banking Characteristics Perpetuating Health Inequities Among Clients.
4. **Cooksey-Stowers, K.** Zoning Strategies Targeting Fast Food Retail as an Obesity Prevention Strategy & Issues of Equity: A Critical Review.
5. **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, Boehm, R., Schwartz, M., Draining the (Food) Swamp: Do built, food environments widen disparities in diet quality and health?
6. **Cooksey-Stowers, K.**, The Interaction Effect of Community and Consumer Food Environments on Diet: A Mechanism Experiment.

*indicates student mentee of KCS

AD HOC MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER

- United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service
- Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved
- Health Care
- Cities
- Preventing Chronic Disease
- American Journal of Preventative Medicine
- International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health
- Health Education and Behavior

INVITED PRESENTATIONS/WEBINARS

- Evaluating Local Policies Targeting Health Equity and Food Access, Webinar (6/2018)
- Coding Local Policies and PG County Food Equity Council Case Study Methods, Healthy Food Policy Project, Webinar (2/2018)
- The Role of the Food Banking System in Promoting Health Equity, National Anti-hunger Conference, Washington, DC (2/2018)
- Local Laws that Promote Healthy Food Access: One Size Does Not Fit All, Community Food Systems Conference, Boston, MA (12/2017)
- Clients' View of Behavioral Economics-Driven Nutrition Interventions in Diverse Perspectives on Food Insecurity: A Roundtable Discussion, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA (11/2017)
- The Hidden Rules of Health, Race, and Hunger Samuel DuBois Cook Center for Social Equity Hidden Rules of Race Convening, Durham, NC (10/17)
- The Role of the Food Banking System in Promoting Health Equity and A Culture of Health, Rudd Center Addressing Health Equity in the Food Banking System Convening, Hartford, CT (09/27)
- Zoning Out Fast-Food: Predicted Health Impacts & Increasing Public Support, American Planning Association, Plan4Health Webinar (12/2016)
- Health Zoning: How Framing Influences Public Opinion of Land-Use Regulations Restricting Fast Food Restaurants, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting Denver, CO (11/2016)
- Draining the (Food) Swamp: Do built, food environments widen disparities in diet quality and health?, Population Association of America 2016, Annual Meeting Washington, DC (3/2016)
- Food Swamps? The Effect of Imbalanced Environments on Obesity, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management 37th Annual Fall Conference, Miami, FL (11/2015)
- State of SNAP Database, Duke-UNC USDA Center for Behavioral Economics and Healthy Food Choice WIC Food-Cost Containment Roundtable, Washington, DC (8/2015)
- The Health Zoning Paradox: How Framing Influences Public Opinion of Land-Use Regulations Placing Restrictions on Fast Food, Telling Identity Stories: Race, Class and Psychology Global Inequality Research Initiative Capstone Conference, Durham, NC (11/2015)
- SNAP Database: Data Collection and Key Themes, Duke-UNC USDA Center for Behavioral Economics and Healthy Food Choice, Durham, NC (10/15)
- Food Swamps, Zoning, Environment Justice and Inequality, Association of Black Sociologists 45th Annual Conference, Chicago, IL (8/2015)
- State of SNAP Database, BECR Center Webinar, Durham, NC (7/2015)
- Food Swamps? The Effect of Imbalanced Environments on Obesity, NIH Predoctoral Fellows Grant Research Seminar (4/2015)
- Health Zoning: Review of the Evidence and Implications for Public Policy. Duke Graduate Research Seminar 2015, Durham, NC (3/2015)
- The Effect of Food Access on Diet Quality: A Virtual Simulation and Mechanism Experiment, Duke Sanford Graduate Research Experience, Durham, NC (10/14)

- Key Takeaways from the National Food Policy Conference, United States Department of Agriculture Washington, DC (10/2011)
- Food Policy Research at USDA Economic Research Service, USDA Public Service Leaders Scholar Conference, Washington, DC (8/2011)
- Baltimore and the Great Recession: Ten Hills, Morrell Park and Highlandtown, Johns Hopkins University Institute for Policy Studies Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD (12/2011)
- A Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of a Nutrition Supplement Intervention to Improve Birth Outcomes in Sierra Leone, Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS Annual Conference) Orlando, FL (3/2009)

DATABASES AND REPORTS (NON-PEER REVIEWED)

- Health Food Policy Project (11/17)
 - Database of Local Policies_ <http://healthyfoodpolicyproject.org/policy-database>
 - Prince George's County Case Study_ <http://healthyfoodpolicyproject.org/portfolio/prince-georges-county-md>
 Role: Lead author/Evaluator
- Hartford Invest Health (9/17)
 - Community Food Habits in Hartford's Promise Zone_ https://voicesofpromisehartfordblog.files.wordpress.com/2017/12/invest-health-food-survey_report_sept2017-1.pdf-email
 Role: Lead survey developer/ Invest Health Hartford team member
- Duke University Sanford State of SNAP Database (7/16)_ <http://stateofsnap.org/about-us.html>
Role: Research Team Lead
- United States Department of Agriculture SNAP Policy Database (4/13)_ <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/snap-policy-database/about-the-database/>
Role: Researcher/Economist Intern

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Council on Black Health (formerly African American Collaborative Obesity Research Network) (2017-)
- Board Member of the Connecticut Food Bank (2016-)
- University of Connecticut Community-Engaged Research Steering Committee Member (2016-)
- University of Connecticut Postdoctoral Fellows Steering Committee Member (2016-)
- American Public Health Association (2015-)
- Association of Black Sociologists (2015-)
- Johns Hopkins IPS Student Association Alumni Relations Committee Chair (2011-12)
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (2011-)
- USDA Economic Research Service Intern Community Engagement Coordinator (featured in the American Farm Publication September 2011)
- Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Conference ERS' 50th Anniversary Coordinator (2011)
- USDA Economic Research Service Professional Development and Onboarding Committee Member (2010-11)
- University of Illinois Office of Minority Students Affairs Economics and Spanish Tutor (2008-2009)
- Alpha Phi Omega National Service Community Fraternity (2008-2010)
- Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Sciences, and other Related Sciences (2007-2011)

SCHOLARSHIPS

- USDA Public Service Leaders Scholar (2010-2012)
 - Johns Hopkins University Institute for Policy Studies Merit Scholarship (2010)
 - United States Department of Education Ronald E. McNair Scholar (2009)
 - Illinois Promise Award (2006-2010)
 - President's Merit Award (2006-2010)
 - A.B. Robinson Scholarship (2008-2009)
 - Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society (2007-2010)
 - Chicago Community Service Scholarship (2007-2008)
 - Campus Merit Award (2006-2008)
 - Academic Competitiveness Scholarship (2006-2008)
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HONORS AND AWARDS

- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Early Career Research Professionals Awardee (2018)
 - University of Connecticut Postdoctoral Fellows Oral Research Competition, 3rd Place (2016)
 - Society of Duke Fellows Honor Award (2012-5)
 - USDA Secretary's Annual Honor Award Recipient (2011)
 - University of Illinois Office of Minority Student Affairs Scholastic Award (2010)
 - Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences Oral Research Winner, 1st place (2010)
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SELECT TEACHING/LECTURES

- Introduction to Public Policy (PP1001), University of Connecticut Department of Public Policy, Instructor, Hartford, CT (Spring 2019, in prep)
 - Public Opinion (PP3030), University of Connecticut Department of Public Policy, Co-Instructor, Storrs, CT (Fall 2018)
 - Health Equity, Food Justice, Race, and Class, University of Connecticut Human Development and Family Studies, Guest Lecturer, Storrs, CT (11/2017)
 - Food Justice, Race, Class and Policy, University of Connecticut Human Development and Family Studies, Guest Lecturer, Storrs, CT (03/2017)
 - Pursuing a Research Career in Healthy Equity and Social Equity, Duke University Samuel DuBois Cook Center for Social Equity Reflections on the Impact of the Reconstruction Amendments Research Symposium on the Social and Economic Outcomes of the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments, Lecturer, Washington, DC (03/2017)
 - Global Inequality Research Seminar, Duke University, Public Policy, Teaching Assistant; 2015
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MENTORSHIP

- Katelin Hudak, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Department of Public Policy, 2018-present (Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Doctoral Candidate Mentee)
- Abby Katz, University of Connecticut, Food Systems Individualized Major, 2018-present (Health Equity Lab Undergraduate Research Assistant)
- Tanvi Patel, University of Connecticut, Pre-med, 2018-present (Health Equity Lab Undergraduate Research Assistant)
- Eminent Gurganus, University of Connecticut, Human Development and Family Studies, 2017-present (Health Equity Lab Graduate Research Assistant)
- Nana Marfo, University of Connecticut, Psychology Department Graduate Research; 2017-present (Health Equity Lab)
- Sarah McKee, University of Connecticut, Human Development and Family Studies, Graduate Research; 2017-present
- Emma Stein, Yale University, School of Public Health, Master's Thesis; 2016-present
- Duke University BECR Center Student Research Assistants; Research Advisor; 2015-2016
- Founder of Duke Sanford School of Public Policy Black Women in Public Policy Peer Mentoring Program; 2013-present

PRESS COVERAGE

- The Atlantic: [Food Swamps Are the New Food Deserts](#)
- The Boston Globe: [How Food Swamps Make You Fat](#)
- Dallas News: [On top of food deserts, Dallas' Hispanic and black populations also flooded with food swamps](#)
- Curbed: [Want a More Equitable City? Try Food-Oriented Design](#)
- City Limits: [New York City's Biggest Food Swamps](#)
- Healthline: [How to Combat 'Food Deserts' and 'Food Swamps'](#)
- NYC Policy: [Tulsa Oklahoma Bans Dollar Stores To Build Healthier Neighborhoods](#)
- New Hope Network: [Food Swamps Could Be More Harmful Than Food Deserts](#)
- Blue Zones: [Food Swamps Contribute to Obesity More Than Food Deserts](#)