

# CURRICULUM VITAE

**Aliya D. Durham, PhD, MSW, MPIA**

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## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

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*Compassionate, high-energy executive turned community engaged practitioner-scholar with a reputation for integrity, servant leadership, authenticity, and results. Diplomatic, transparent, and tactful collaborator with colleagues and community partners that leverages strengths and assets to achieve strategic objectives while transcending cultural boundaries. Fiscally conservative fundraiser that seeks creative solutions to maximize resources and achieve equity. Demanding and supportive coach with a knack for motivating success by modeling and developing best practices that push boundaries and builds capacity.*

## EDUCATION

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POINT PARK UNIVERSITY, 2020, Pittsburgh, PA

**Doctor of Philosophy** in *Community Engagement*

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, Pittsburgh, PA

- School of Social Work, 2002

**Master of Social Work** in *Community Organizing and Social Administration*

- Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) 2002

**Master of Public and International Affairs** in *Economic & Social Development*

- College of Arts and Sciences, 1999

**Bachelor of Arts** in *Africana Studies* and **Bachelor of Science** in *Psychology*

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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- 2019 – UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK  
Assistant Professor, Director of Community Engagement, and  
Manager, Browne Leadership and Community and Racial Equity  
Leadership (CREL) Fellowships
- 2018 – 2019 THE POISE FOUNDATION, Pittsburgh, PA  
Development Officer
- 2009 – 2018 YMCA OF GREATER PITTSBURGH, Pittsburgh, PA  
Resource and Engagement Specialist (Consultant), Vice President of  
Government and Foundation Relations and Core Service Executive,  
Social Responsibility, Vice President of Development, and Urban  
District Vice President
- 2009 – 2003 OPERATION BETTER BLOCK, INC., Pittsburgh, PA  
Executive Director
- 2002 – 2000 PENN STATE GREATER ALLEGHENY, McKeesport, PA  
Community Development Educator, Good Schools Pennsylvania  
Field Organizer, and Black Student Union Advisor, Financial  
Aid Ombudsperson, and Graduate Intern
- 2000 UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK  
University-Community Career Development Partnership,  
Graduate Intern

- 1999 – 1998 YOUTH PLACES/YOUTH LEADS, Pittsburgh, PA  
Program Manager & Program Coordinator
- 1998 – 1996 NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR URBAN PEACE AND JUSTICE, Pittsburgh, PA  
Community Services Director
- 1997 – 1995 FAMILY HEALTH COUNCIL (renamed ADAGIO – HEALTHCARE)  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Peer Educator

#### **COURSES TAUGHT**

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- 2022 *Generalist Practice with Communities & Organizations, Fall Term*
- 2020 – *Grant Proposal Writing, Summer Term*
- 2020 – *Browne Leadership Fellowship Seminar, Spring Term*
- 2019 – *Human Services Organization Management, Fall Term*
- 2019 – 2020 *Working with Group/Intergroup Relations, Fall Term*
- 2008 *Community-Based Participatory Research with John Wallace, PhD*
- 2006 – 2022 *COSA/Macro Practice, Field Education Instructor*

#### **AWARDS & HONORS**

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- 2024 University of Pittsburgh, Office of Engagement and Community Affairs, 2024 Community Engaged Scholarship Forum, *Partnerships of Distinction – The CHURCH Project*
- 2024 University of Pittsburgh, Office of Engagement and Community Affairs, 2024 Community Engaged Scholarship Forum, *Collaboration Champion*
- 2023 Social Work Appreciation of Greatness (S.W.A.G.), Class of 2023, Award Winner
- 2018 Homewood Concerned Citizens Council, *Spirit of Excellence: Community Woman of Honor*
- 2017 YMCA of the USA Leadership Symposium Alumni, *Social Equity*
- 2015 YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh Top Charity Fundraiser, Runner, and Finisher: *Dick's Sporting Goods Pittsburgh Marathon (5:05)*
- 2015 Inaugural Edition Honoree, *Who's Who in Black Pittsburgh*
- 2014 New Pittsburgh Courier, *50 Women of Excellence*
- 2013 Talk Magazine, *Minority Achiever's Award*
- 2004 PUMP, *40 Under 40*

#### **ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS**

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Workshop, 2024 Community Engaged Scholarship Project Development, Office of Engagement and Community Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, December 19, 2024. Presentation, "*Leveraging Human Centered Design Thinking for Logic Modeling*"

Presentation, 2024 Race@Work Summer Retreat. The University of Pittsburgh, Office of the Provost, Cohort 3. May 23, 2024. Co-Facilitator, "*Bringing Visibility to the Unseen: Teaching Strategies for Black Faculty*"

Workshop, 2023 Community Engaged Scholarship Project Development, Office of Engagement and Community Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, November 9, 2023, "*A Deeper Dive Into Logic Modeling*"

Presentation, 2023 Race@Work Summer Retreat. The University of Pittsburgh, Office of the Provost, Cohort 2. May 23, 2023. Co-Facilitator, "*Teaching Strategies and Tools for Black Faculty*"

Workshop, 2022 Community Engaged Scholarship Project Development, Office of Engagement and Community Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, September 28, 2022, "*From Motivation to Logic Models*"

Presentation, 2022 Duquesne University PPG Scholars Program, June 9, 2022, “*The Context of Community Engagement: City, School, and Self*”

Workshop, 2022 Doctoral Program ProSeminar Series, School of Social Work, University of Pittsburgh, April 4, 22, 2022, “*Community Engagement: Problems, Principles, and Practices*”.

Presentation, MSW Admitted Scholars of Excellence Program, March 24, 2022, “*Community Engagement at Pitt*”

Presentation, Accepted Doctoral Student Event, March 22, 2022, “*A University of the City: Pitt School of Social Work and University-Community Engagement*”, with Dr. Mary L. Ohmer

Presentation, Point Park University, Department of Community Engagement, Doctor of Community Engagement program, Dec. 2, 2021, “*A Philosophical Perspective on Leadership*”

Workshop, University of Pittsburgh Honors College, Foundations of Research & Scholarship: Community-Engaged Scholarship Honors Course, Nov. 10, 2021, “*Aliya at the Intersections of Academics, Activism, and the Academy*”

Workshop, Point Park University, Department of Community Engagement, Doctor of Community Engagement program, April 8, 2021, “*Framing the Literature Review: Rules, Reflections, and Recommendations*”.

Presentation, 2021 Doctoral Program Accepted Student Event, School of Social Work, University of Pittsburgh, April 5, 2021, “*A University of the City: Pitt School of Social Work and University-Community Engagement*” with Dr. Mary L. Ohmer

Workshop, 2021 Doctoral Program ProSeminar Series, School of Social Work, University of Pittsburgh, Feb. 22, 2021, “*Leveraging your Assets for the Journey*”

Presentation, Point Park University, Rowland School of Business, Master of Business Administration program, Oct. 1, 2020, “*Design Thinking in Systemic Solutions: Exploring Collective Impact and Distributed Leadership*” with Michael A. Yonas, DrPH

Workshop, 2020 Community Engagement Scholarship Forum, University of Pittsburgh, March 2, 2020. “*From the Cathedral to the Community: Social Work Values in Action*” with Alicia Melnick, MSW, LCSW

#### **FUNDED ACADEMIC RESEARCH**

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- Center for Research on Innovations in Services and Equity in Mental Health (RISE – MH) and the Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025  
*Partnering with Black Mental Health Providers to Support Assessment and Evaluation of Practice*

Black Americans have similar rates of mental health challenges but are far less likely to access services when needed. This inequity is in part due to a lack culturally responsive mental health services, including a shortage of diverse racial/ethnic providers. To bridge this gap, this study will use human-centered design methods to partner with Black mental health professions to assess their needs for assessment and evaluation in their practice, to understand successful strategies and barriers to conducting assessments and evaluations, and co-create programming, tools and/or services to support their practice-based needs.

**Role:** Co-Investigator

**Award Amount:** \$14,801

- Pitt Momentum Funds July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023  
*Taking Off the Cape: Removing the Cloak of Invincibility to Support BIPOC Graduate Students*

The purpose of this pilot study was to learn more about the experiences of BIPOC graduate students in a MSW program at a predominately white institution by systematically exploring factors associated with stress, racism, and burnout.

**Role:** Co-Investigator **Award Amount:** \$10,916

- Center for Research on Innovations in Services and Equity in Mental Health (RISE – MH) July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2023  
*The CHURCH Project: Congregations as Healers Uniting to Restore Community Health*

Despite the importance of faith communities to African Americans, little research and few mental health interventions explicitly incorporate clergy or faith. To address this limitation, mental health clinicians, researchers, community-engaged scholars, social work students, and African American clergy formed this research project to develop, implement, and evaluate an evidence-based and spiritually informed mental health training curriculum (Renew Your Mind) for African American faith leaders.

**Role:** Co-Investigator **Award Amount:** \$25,000

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

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Moon, D., Nichols, C., Wallace, J., and **Durham, A.** (2024) ‘Engaging African American Faith Leaders as Partners in Ethical Research’, *Journal of Community Engagement and Scholarship*, 16(2), Article 6. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.54656/jces.v16i2.517>

Ohmer, M.L., Finkelstein, C., Dostilio, L., **Durham, A.**, & Melnick, A. (2022). University-Community Engagement during a Pandemic: Moving Beyond “Helping” to Public Problem Solving. *Metropolitan Universities Journal*, 33 (1), 81-91. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18060/25329>

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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##### YMCA of the USA Certifications

*Annual Support Campaign*  
*Fiscal Stewardship*

*New Branch Executive Institute*  
*Program Design Institute*

- 2024 University of Pittsburgh, Racial Equity Consciousness Institute, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2023 LUMA Institute, Certified Human-Centered Design Practitioner, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2023 Michigan State University, Community Engagement Summer Intensive, Lansing, MI
- 2023 University of Pittsburgh, Race@Work Summer Retreat, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2022 SyncUp Leadership, Conscious Leadership Retreat, Tahoe
- 2022 University of Pittsburgh, Race@Work Summer Retreat, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2021 Academic Impressions, Facilitating Equity Intergroup Dialogue Circles: A Bootcamp for Group Facilitators (virtual)
- 2008 National Institutes of Health Community Based Participatory Research, New Orleans, Louisiana

#### **CONFERENCES & PANELS**

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2025 Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington. January 18, 2025. Roundtable Co-Presenter, “*Developing an Academic-Community Research Partnership with Faith Communities of Color: Challenges, Rewards, and Recommendations*” with Dr. Jonathan Counts, Rev. Dr. William R. Glaze, Dr. Deborah Moon, C. Bailey Nichols, LSW, and Dr. John Wallace

2024 Engagement Scholarship Consortium Annual International Conference. “Pathways to

Prosperity: Building Sustainable Futures through Community Engagement”. Portland, Oregon. October 10, 2024. Roundtable Co-Presenter, “*All-in: Creating an Ethos of Community Engagement Across an Institution*” with Dr. Keith Caldwell, Dr. Nancy Gauvin, and Trupti Sarode, MS

2024 University of Pittsburgh Diversity Forum, Jan. 24, 2024, “Amplifying Our Voices Through Active Listening and Constructive Dialogue”. Virtual Panelist, “*Building Bridges: Experiential Learning for Active Listening and Constructive Dialogue*” with Dr. Keith Caldwell, Dr. Nancy Gauvin, Dr. Tasha Peacock, and Trupti Sarode, MS

2024 Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., January 12, 2024. Roundtable Contributor, “*Routes to Power and Impact: Community-Engaged Neighborhood Research across Methods, Career Stages, and Scales*”

2023 National Association of Christian Social Workers (NACSW) 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention, “Leading the Brokenhearted Towards Healing – Bridging Divides”, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Nov. 9 – 13, 2023. Pre-Convention Workshop Co-Presenter, “*Transformed by Renewing of Mind: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)-based and Spiritually Informed Strategies to Promote Mental Well-being*” with Dr. Jonathan Counts, Rev. Dr. Willam R. Glaze, Dr. Toya Jones, Dr. Deborah Moon, C. Bailey Nichols, LSW, Dr. Paula Powe, and Dr. John Wallace

*Moderator*, African American Strategic Partnership and University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work Center on Race and Social Problems, June 1, 2023, “*Community Q&A with Tiffany Cross*”

2023 Society of Social Work Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Phoenix, Arizona, January 15, 2023. Presentation, “*Community Engaged Scholarship During a Pandemic: Moving Beyond ‘Helping’ To Public Problem Solving*” with Dr. Mary L. Ohmer

2022 National Association of Christian Social Workers (NACSW) 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention, “Inspired by our Roots: Innovating for our Future”, Oak Brook, Illinois, October 24 – 27, 2022. Co-Presenter, “Engaging African American Church Leaders as Partners in Ethical Research” with Dr. Jonathan Counts, Rev. Dr. Willam R. Glaze, Dr. Toya Jones, Dr. Deborah Moon, C. Bailey Nichols, LSW, Grace Oxley, MPP, and Dr. John Wallace

*Panelist*, March 19, 2022, Shadyside Academy Black Scholars Society, “*Who Run the World?*”, Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium, Pittsburgh, PA

*Panelist*, Nov. 13, 2021, University of Pittsburgh Department of Africana Studies, Virtual event, “*Celebrating 50 Years of Collaboration and Engagement: The Relationship Between Africana Studies and the Community*”

2021 Council on Social Work Education’s (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting (APM), Orlando, Florida. Nov. 5, 2021, Presentation, “*Community Engaged Social Work during a Pandemic: Principles and Lessons Learned*” with Dr. Mary L. Ohmer

2021 Engagement Scholarship Consortium, Virtual. Sept. 15, 2021, “*Communities and Scholar-Practitioners Collaborating to Make Cities Livable for All*” with Dr. Danielle Davis and Dr. Kendra Ross

*Panelist*, Aug. 28, 2021, Point Park University, “*Community Engagement Alumni Roundtable*”, Pittsburgh, PA

2021 Community Engaged Scholarship Forum, March 2, 2021, University of Pittsburgh. Poster. Ferri, J., Firestine, A., Balbier, S., O’Hara, S., **Durham, A.**, Dow, S., & Herman, E, “*Undergraduate Engaged Scholarship Fellowships*”

*Moderator*, Feb. 18, 2021, University of Pittsburgh, University Library Systems, and Homewood Community Engagement Center (CEC), Virtual Black History Month event, “*Rooted in Strength: The Resiliency of Black Families*”

*Poster and Virtual Presentation*, 2020 Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting (APM), November 16 – 20, 2020. “*Building Collective Power: Best Practices for Supporting Community-led Equity and Justice Initiatives*” with Kenya Minott, PhDc, Kiva Fisher-Green, LSW, and Regina Gardner, MSW

*Abstract accepted, but conference postponed due to COVID-19*  
The Network for Social Work Management, 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Management Conference, “A Vision for the Future”, June 2 – 5, 2020, “*Hyperlocal Community Engagement: Academic-Community Collaborations for Social Impact*” with Dr. Mary L. Ohmer

*Panelist*, May 7, 2020, Pittsburgh Women’s Alliance, “*Focus on the Future: Caring for our Communities – What Nonprofits Need to Know*”, Pittsburgh, PA

*Poster and Presentation*, 2018 Community Engagement Symposium, Point Park University, Aug. 16, 2018. “*If not us, then, who? The Homewood Children’s Village: A Case Study of Collective Impact Theory*”

*Panelist*, 6th Annual Pittsburgh Women in Leadership Symposium, March 27, 2018, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

*Panelist*, University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work, Oct. 10, 2017, “*Celebrating 100 Years of People, Policy, and Practice*”, Pittsburgh, PA

*Panelist*, Community Conversations, Feb. 22, 2017, PNC Bank. “*YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh Diversity and Inclusion Policies and Practices*”

*Paper and Presentation*, 2016 Engagement Scholarship Consortium, University of Omaha, Oct. 12, 2016. “*Who’s Hungry? A Social Lab’s Influence on Hunger in Southwestern Pennsylvania*” with Veronika Panagiotou, MA

*Panelist*, CEOs for Cities, Feb. 19, 2009, Building Blocks for Urban Education. City Live!, Pittsburgh, PA

#### **ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS**

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2024 – Member, Equipoise, University of Pittsburgh  
2022 – Editorial Board Member, Journal of Community Practice  
2022 – Member, Society of Social Work Research (SWWR)  
2022 – Member, SSWR Special Interest Group, Well-Being for Black Women and Girls  
2022 – Member, North American Christian Social Workers (NACSW)  
2021 – 2023 Member, International Association for Public Participation  
2019 – National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity

#### **COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS**

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2024 Member, POISE Foundation, Strategic Planning Committee  
2022 – Member, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, Gamma Alpha Tau Zeta Graduate Chapter  
2019 – 2021 Community Advisory Council, Forbes Funds  
2017 Alumni, YMCA of the USA Leadership Symposium, Advancing Social Equity  
2014 – 2018 Vice Chair, POISE Foundation, Fund Development Committee  
2012 Member, Youth Futures Commission Action Committee  
2012 – Deacon Board, Mount Ararat Baptist Church  
2012 – 2018 Member, Greater Pittsburgh Nonprofit Partnership, Public Policy Committee

2012 – 2014 Member, Pittsburgh Urban Christian School, Development Committee

2010 – Board Vice President, Homewood Children’s Village  
2009 Leadership Pittsburgh, Class XXIX

2009 – 2011 Member, Power of 32 (P32), Steering Committee

2009 – 2019 Member, University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work Executive Council

2008 – 2009 Member, Clean Pittsburgh Commission

2007 – 2009 Co-Chair, Homewood/Squirrel Hill/Point Breeze Redd Up Coalition

2005 – 2011 Founding Member, African American Nonprofit Executive Leaders Group

2004 – 2006 Team Leader, United Way of Allegheny County, Annual Agency Reviews

2004 – 2006 Board of Trustees, Manchester Academic Charter School

2004 – 2006 Advisory Committee Member, YWCA Greater Pittsburgh – Homewood Branch

2004 – 2005 Vice President, Urban League Young Professionals

2003 – 2009 Board of Directors, Bennett Place Senior Apartments

2003 – 2008 Board of Directors, Homewood Brushton Community Coalition Organization (HBCCO)

2002 – 2003 Political Action Chair, Urban League Young Professionals

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE SERVICE**

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2022 – Homewood Community Engagement Center Neighborhood Advisory Council

2021 – 2023 Community Engagement Scholarship Forum (CESF) Awards Subcommittee Co-Chair

2021 – Community Engagement Center Internal Advisory Committee Health & Wellness Work Group

2020 – 2023 Community Engagement Scholarship Forum (CESF) Evaluation Subcommittee Co-Chair

2020 – 2021 Pitt COVID-19 Outreach and Community Response Task Force

2019 – Pitt CEC Internal Advisory Board

2019 – Community Engagement Scholarship Forum (CESF) Planning Committee

2019 – 2020 Pitt Fellowship of Fellowships Committee

2019 – 2020 Plan4Pitt 2025 Goal 3 Committee

2019 – 2020 Plan4Pitt 2025 Goal 3/Objective 5 Subcommittee

2019 – 2020 Hill CEC STEAM Studio Advisory Council

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE SERVICE**

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2023 – MSW Program

2021 – 2023 Academic and Professional Behavior Review

2021 – 2023 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

2021 – 2023 DEI Curriculum Review

2021 – 2022 Strategic Plan, Engagement and Purpose Committee, Co-Chair

2021 – 2022 United Way Campaign for Social Work

2020 – 2022 Center on Race and Social Problems Director Search Committee

2020 – Faculty Executive Committee

2020 – 2023 Marketing and Communications

2019 – 2020 COVID-19 Communications and Outreach

2019 – Community Organizing and Social Action (COSA)  
2019 – Deans and Directors  
2019 – 2020 Student Executive Council Faculty Advisor  
2019 – 2020 BASW Program Director Search Committee