
PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Experience helping individuals access community resources and assistance through research projects. Over 16 years of initiating and delivering programs in senior-level positions in national and international settings for community-based and vulnerable environments and advocating for patients and families in communities for policy change, public health issues, and outreach strategies. Provided non-profit administration for state and federal research, fundraising, development goals, strategic pre-and post-grant management, and community partnership development.

EDUCATION

CUNY Graduate Center, New York, New York | expected 2028
Ph.D. Student / Social Welfare / Certification: Demography
Research Student/ Qualitative & Quantitative Research Methods
Current Research: Older People/Aging, Disabilities and Intellectual Disabilities

Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, New York, New York | May 2022
Master's degree: Social Work (MSW) / Specialization: Aging
Research: Patient-Centered and Person-Centered Care in Aging, Disabilities and Intellectual Developmental Disabilities (IDD)

Eastern University, St. David, Pennsylvania; Diploma | February 2020
Dual master's degree: International Economic and Community Development

Johnson & Wales University, Providence, Rhode Island | May 2002
Bachelor of Science degree: Marketing Communications
Associates degree: Advertising and Public Relations

AWARDS

2026 Stone Center Junior Scholar, CUNY Graduate Center

2025-2026 – AGESW Gerontological Social Work Pre-Dissertation Fellows Program
Award Criteria: Aging with Intellectual Developmental Disabilities

2024 – 2025 Black, Race, and Ethnic Studies (BRES) Doctoral Fellow Award
Award Criteria: Race equality and Social Justice
BRES Development Coordinator Fellow

CUNY Graduate Center Grad-D Fellowship
2022 Rose Dobrof Award for Excellence in Geriatric Social Work Practice
Award Criteria: Excellence in Geriatric Social Work Practice

PUBLICATIONS

Watkins, B. L. (2025). *International Community development*. In H. McLaughlin & B. Teater (Eds.), *Research handbook on social work and societies*. Edward Elgar Publishing. October 2025

Alford, S, Watkins, B. L. (2025). *Older Adults*. In H. McLaughlin & B. Teater (Eds.), *Research handbook on social work and societies*. Edward Elgar Publishing. October 2025

Feeley, T.H., Anker, A.E., **Watkins, B.**, Rivera, J., Tag, N., & Volpe, L. (2009). A peer-to-peer campaign to promote organ donation among racially diverse college students in New York City. *Journal of National Medical Association*, 101, 11: 1154 – 1162.

PRESENTATIONS

B Watkins, T Feeley et al. A Peer-to-Peer Campaign to Promote Organ Donation Among Racially Diverse College Students in New York City.

PowerPoint presentation and technical assistance break-out session presented at 2011 Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO) Annual Conference; August 2010 – Denver, Colorado; August 2011 - Austin, Texas.

B Watkins, T Feeley et al. A College Campus-Based Campaign to Increase Organ and Tissue Donation in New York City. Poster presented at 2010 Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO) Annual Conference; June 2009; New Orleans, Louisiana.

COMPLETED GRANTS

A peer-to-peer campus campaign to promote organ donation in minority students in New York City. Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA), Health Services Bureau (HSB), Division of Transplantation (DoT), \$501,927. 09/01/09 – 08/31/11. Co-Principal Investigator.

A College Campus-Based Campaign to Increase Organ and Tissue Donation in New York City. Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA), Health Services Bureau (HSB), Division of Transplantation (DoT), \$426,975. 09/01/07 – 08/31/09. Co-Principal Investigator.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

World Health Organization / The Big Catch Up Program: 2025

Union Settlement Survey: 2022

A Peer-to-Peer Campus Campaign to Promote Organ Donation in Minority Students in New York City: 09/01/09 – 08/31/11

A College Campus-Based Campaign to Increase Organ and Tissue Donation in New York City
09/07 – 08/31/09

Shelter and Homeless Project for the state of Rhode Island with the University of Rhode Island
1999 – 2002

REVIEWER

Journal of Social Work

SOCIAL WORK INTERNSHIPS

NYU Langone Health – Tisch Hospital Medicine Service
NYU Langone Health – RUSK Rehabilitation

CERTIFICATIONS

Trauma Healing Institute: Trauma Healing Equipping Facilitator – Group Therapy
IPRO Screen Certified

TECHNICAL SKILLS

• Qualtrics • SPSS • R • Stata • Atlas.it • Zotero • Epic • Allscripts – Screen Certification /
Level 2 Mental Health • Raiser's Edge • Blackbaud • Brightspace • ACT! • Web Design •
Microsoft Office

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Long Island University – POST: Human Behavior I & II; Research Methods I Courses

SUNY Old Westbury – Peace, Violence and Conflict Resolution (PY 4350); Research Methods I
Courses, Research, Data and Analysis I; Brain and Behavior

Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute at Hunter College: International Governmental
Organization (INGOs) HR 2204601 Human Rights Program BSW Program, Advanced Level
Course

Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College: Social Work Research (SW 44000) BSW
Program Research Methods; Field Advisement Course

College of Staten Island: Social Work Department (SWK 105) BSW Program Introduction to
Disabilities; Social Work Research 1 and 2; Research Methods

SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant (Grad-D)

2023 – Present

CUNY Graduate Center

- Conducting comprehensive reviews of academic and gray literature
- Summarize and critically evaluate findings relevant to research topics
- Assist with or independently conduct qualitative interviews, focus groups, and surveys
- Recruit, screen, and schedule study participants
- Collect data from electronic medical records, databases, or field observations
- Clean, code, and manage data sets using SPSS, R, STATA software
- Conduct qualitative data analysis using ATLAS.ti
- Run statistical tests or qualitative queries based on the research design
- Help organize meetings, take notes, manage project timelines
- Co-lead projects with academic staff domestically and internationally on research and book projects
- Maintain confidentiality and adhere to human subjects' research protocols
- Prepare visualizations to represent data (e.g., charts, tables)
- Use reference management tools (e.g., Zotero)

Therapist**2022 – 2023****Droste Mental Health Services**

- Conducting intake consultations to gather patient information.
- Assessing clients' emotional and mental health and developing treatment plans.
- Providing counseling – asking questions and exploring thoughts and feeling by listening.
- Crisis management for clients that need emergency care.
- Providing referrals for additional care or services when required.
- Maintaining detailed confidential files of clients seeking treatment.

Social Work – Medicine Service**2022 – 2023****NYU Langone Health, New York – Social Services/Care Management Department**

- Work with the Medicine Service interdisciplinary teams regarding each patient's treatment plan and discharge needs.
- Provide psychosocial assessment of patients and families to provide a safe discharge.
- Advocate for patients and families and support their needs in disciplinary Rounds.
- Formulate care plans using interventions.
- Educating and providing information to patients and family needs and discharge plans.
- Provide crisis interventions and pre-and post-treatment needs for patients.
- Document patient and family communications and dual planning.
- Place referrals for post-acute services, shelters, and mental health treatments.

Social Work Intern – RUSK Rehabilitation**2021 – 2022****NYU Langone Health, New York – Social Services/Care Management Department**

- Provide psychosocial assessment of patients and families to provide a safe discharge.
- Meet with patients to address any concerns related to the emotional and physical impact of an illness or disability.
- Advocate for patients and families and support their needs in disciplinary Rounds.
- Help patients and families adjust to their new needs and challenges after rehabilitation.
- Provide services in the community and coordinate home care, support groups, and transportation for patients.
- Identify financial concerns with patients and families and work with insurance carriers and community resources.

Social Work Intern – Medicine Service**2021 – 2022****NYU Langone Health, New York – Social Services/Care Management, Department**

- Advocate for patients and families and support their needs in disciplinary Rounds.
- Provide psychosocial assessments of patients and families.
- Formulate care plans using interventions.
- Educating and providing information to patients and family needs and discharge plans.
- Provide crisis interventions and pre- and post-treatment needs for patients.
- Document patient and family communications and dual planning.
- Place referrals for post-acute services, shelters, and mental health treatments.

Care Management Planner**2011 – 2022****NYU Langone Health, New York – Social Services/Care Management**

- Support Psychiatry, Emergency Room/Urgent Care, Observation, Heart Failure & Tobacco Cessation Programs.

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- Assist with referrals for behavioral health programs, post-acute services, and referrals to other facilities.
 - Build relationships with clinicians in the community, facilities, and other in-state and out-of-state programs.
 - Identify patients benefitting from clinical trials, education programs to stop smoking, and disease prevention.
 - Liaison between preferred home care services and NYU Emergency Department/Urgent Care to decrease readmissions.
 - Obtain authorization for transition to the next level of care and contact the health insurance provider for discharge information.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Supervisor, Government Services

2019 – 2021

Horne LLP, Mississippi

- Worked with state and federal funding to start the first program for both New York State and Colorado on policies and procedures to form the Rental Assistance Program.
- Worked with state officials to develop standard operating procedures for the program.
- Created policies and procedures for staff to cure applications.
- Trained all case management staff and supervisors on a new program for New York State Rental Assistance Program.
- Scheduled staff to ensure adequate coverage.
- Established case management process flow.

Director of Development & Communications

2018 - 2019

Forgotten Voices International, Pennsylvania

- Managed the communications department and developed annual appeals, including mailings and annual fundraising drives.
- Developed strategies and execution of programs and community involvement in the United States and Africa.
- Organized with country directors in Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Malawi to bring community stakeholders.
- Collaborated with community leaders and organizations to begin a policy process for Africa on orphan care.
- Oversaw grant management for three countries in research, proposal writing, and reporting requirements.
- Worked as a community advocate for the orphan crisis locally and internationally to help families navigate systems.
- Worked with the executive director and board of directors and attended all meetings.

Director of Missions Department

2014 - 2018

Brooklyn Tabernacle, New York

- Organized seven to nine annual domestic and international medical trips for doctors, nurses, and medical teams.
- Managed 28 staff members and 31 volunteer leaders that served in different parts of the country.

- Provided support for community organizations and built relationships with key stakeholders.
- Tracked and follow-up with communities by developing feedback forms and surveys for conferences.
- Supported the organization's missionaries, interns, and associates, who served in different locations worldwide.
- Led efforts to create advertisements, marketing communications, newsletters, and announcements.
- Wrote and managed operating grants for programs in eleven countries.
- Liaison between Missions and Finance to forecast fundraising projections from individuals, foundations & corporate giving.

Vice President of Communications and Development
World Compassion Fellowship, New York (NGO)

2011 – 2018

- Build a team, developed, and hired medical staff for new medical clinics, and worked with local physicians and hospitals.
- Provided medical services in rural and vulnerable communities.
- Worked with groups to offer international programs and support to communities, schools, and businesses.
- Identified and built partnerships with businesses and community leaders for community initiatives.
- Built and maintained relationships with domestic and International philanthropic communities and donors.
- Provided monthly reports to management required by the board of directors' board meetings.
- Prepared business development seminars for international communities and taught fundraising to the community.
- Created funding campaigns and developed grants and contract tracking systems for foundations and corporations.
- Wrote grants and received over a half-million dollars to fund new programs in other countries.
- Managed all aspects of proposal development, narrative, and financial reports by the development/fundraising team.
- Established and managed the first donor database (CRM) for the organization to maintain hundreds of donors.
- Managed marketing teams created branding and marketing materials and designed and managed the website.

Interim Director of Development
Doublestop Foundation, New Jersey

2011 – 2012

- Wrote general operating and program grants for the organization and maintained existing grants and donations.
- Worked with board members to prepare sponsorship levels and created marketing materials.
- Liaison between finance and development to maintain reporting streams.

Community Relations Specialist - Project Director, College Education Program 2007 - 2011

New York Organ Donor Network, New York

- Managed a staff of eight along with a group of 100 volunteers and two administrative assistants.
- Cultivated relationships with companies, community leaders, foundations, clergy, faculty, and college administrators.
- Supervised the development of marketing campaigns and prepared students for campaign competitions.
- Guest lecturer in sixteen CUNY colleges on organ and transplant education.
- Collaborated and managed over 2,000 students & 43 faculty members to design and develop public relations campaigns.
- Held focus groups, evaluations for strategic plans, in-depth interviews, and qualitative and quantitated studies.
- Wrote and reviewed clinical/communication abstracts, progress, and interim reports mandated by government agencies.
- Wrote general operating grants for College Education Program - Health Resources and Services Administration grant (HRSA), National Institutes of Health (NIH), symposiums, and website funding raising over \$1 million.
- Handled pre-grant and post-grant administration for HRSA as a sub-contract and budget.
- Created a manual for student groups and facilities in New York City colleges to promote education and instructions to become an organ donor.
- Wrote grant proposals and obtained funding through corporations, foundations, and pharmaceutical companies.
- Analyzed and tracked data to identify barriers to donation and the effectiveness of media and grassroots intervention models.
- Developed and maintained information on the organizational micro-website to increase viral marketing.
- Wrote copy and design for brochures and posters for educational purposes for the organization.