
Nadra C. Tyus, DrPH

Managing Associate

SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

Nadra Tyus DrPH, is Managing Associate at Community Science. She has expertise in community and behavioral health. She also has research and applied experience in community health initiative implementation. Many of the activities Nadra has been engaged in focuses on prevention work with communities and coalitions to address racial and ethnic disparities in health.

Prior to joining Community Science Nadra was a Health Program Manager at the Black Women's Health Imperative, a national nonprofit focused on addressing health issues disproportionately affecting Black women. At the Imperative, Nadra was Project Director of a CDC-funded diabetes prevention education program and developing research, program and policy protocols for addressing health disparities among Black women and girls. For this program, Nadra provided technical assistance to grantees in over 6 cities across the nation.

Nadra was a postdoctoral fellow at the Johns Hopkins University Urban Health Institute (UHI) at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She conducted several pilot research studies examining social and environmental factors contributing to disparate health issues. These studies included an exploration of a wide range of health topics including poverty, access to health care, relationships, cancer, and STDs/HIV. While conducting these studies, Nadra used various qualitative and quantitative methods to gain a greater understanding of these health topics.

She has worked with community leaders and organizations to build capacity to address health inequities in Baltimore, Maryland. She led several of the UHI's efforts to develop relationships with faith and community-based organizations in Baltimore to bridge the disconnect between the community and an academic medical institution.

Nadra has worked on several community health studies including one with Dr. Alan Green from the School of Education at Johns Hopkins University which examined factors impacting women who recently left transitional housing and were raising children in Baltimore. She managed a systematic review of studies (years 1990-2005) conducted about the health of Baltimore. She led a team of four researchers for this review based on a community survey of health concerns and needs performed earlier. Nadra was part of the strategic planning process for the Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute. While working with colleagues to evaluate the Institute's impact, she introduced the use of a logic model to determine if institutional activities coincided with the goals and mission of the UHI. She also worked to incorporate a reflective process for examining the work of the UHI which was very instrumental in revealing system and organizational changes required to accomplish the goals of the Institute.

EDUCATION

- 2005- 2008 **Johns Hopkins University**, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
Postdoctoral Fellow, Urban Health Institute
Department - Population, Family, and Reproductive Health
- 2002 - 2005 **University of Pittsburgh**, Graduate School of Public Health, Pittsburgh, PA
Doctorate of Public Health
Major - Behavioral and Community Health Sciences
- 1999 - 2000 **Northwest Ohio Consortium for Public Health**, Toledo, OH
Medical University of Ohio
Master of Public Health
Major - Health Promotion and Education
- 1996 - 1998 **Ohio University**, Athens, OH
Bachelor of Science
Major - Biological Sciences
- 1994 - 1996 **Allegheny College**, Meadville, PA
Major – Biological Sciences, Transferred.

WORK HISTORY

5/2009 – Present

Community Science, Inc.

Managing Associate

Gaithersburg, MD

Provide technical support and conduct research for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of initiatives that focus to eliminate health disparities, improve the health and well-being of children, and reduce risk-behaviors among adolescents.

7/2008 – 5/2009

**Black Women’s Health
Imperative**

Health Program Manager

Washington, DC

Dr. Tyus engage and sustained community relationships to enhance health-related program, policy, and research goals of the organization; directed project activities and provided technical assistance for a CDC-funded community-based diabetes awareness and prevention education project in 6 cities across the nation; assisted with program planning and the development of policy statements regarding reproductive and sexual health disparities

8/2005-7/2008

**Urban Health Institute, Johns Hopkins
University**

Postdoctoral Fellow

Baltimore, MD

Responsibilities:

- Develop and maintain relationships with the community to foster community-academic and community-based participatory research projects.
- Provide guidance and supervise masters and doctoral level students on how to conduct research on urban health issues using a community-based approach.

- Support the community health worker (CHW) program at the Urban Health Institute.

Accomplishments:

- Assisted with the planning and development of a community-led health needs assessment in Baltimore, Maryland
- Coordinated and conducted 3 Faith forums that enhanced communication between Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions and the surrounding community
- Planned and conducted a qualitative pilot study with colleagues from the School of Education which examined the myriad of factors affecting women living in transitional homes and the impact their experiences have on raising children; Study results informed the need to incorporate capacity building strategies into the creation of social support services for a new community school being developed in East Baltimore.
- Coordinated the planning, implementation, and dissemination of a large systematic literature review on studies that have been conducted about the population in Baltimore, Maryland since 1990 (over 1100 studies identified); Data manager and analyzer for this large project.
- Developed core objectives for the incorporation of cultural competency into the teaching of all courses in the Department and within faculty and student research activities.
- Initiated and Developed an SPSS database of East Baltimore residents whom CHWs have assisted with navigating the healthcare system and acquiring health insurance; Conducted two data analyses projects with this data which investigated the perceived risk of Diabetes Mellitus among low-income, urban populations and examined the health status and healthcare utilization patterns of urban, homeless adults.
- Coordinated and led the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) in the planning of the 2007 International Conference on Urban Health (ICUH) in October 2007, Baltimore, MD.
- Initiated and conducted a systematic review of randomized controlled trials using community health workers; published a manuscript on this review
- Incorporated sexually transmitted disease education and prevention activities as part of the community health worker outreach services in East Baltimore

6/2007 – 7/2008
 Postdoctoral Fellow

**Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public
 Health, Center for STD Research and
 Prevention
 Baltimore, MD**

Responsibilities

- Develop and implement pilot studies that examine factors influencing, racial and ethnic disparities in sexual health outcomes

Accomplishments:

- Initiated, coordinated, and collected data for a pilot study exploring perceptions of acceptability and feasibility of rapid HIV testing among diverse populations using a mobile STD testing unit; developed the study protocol, recruitment materials, survey instrument, IRB application, and consent form for this study.
- Completed a quantitative data analyses project on sexual partner attributes (i.e. incarceration history, age of partner, etc.) of young women that increased their risk of chlamydia and/or gonorrhea infection.

6/2005 – 8/2005

Intern

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention**

Atlanta, GA

Assisted with qualitative data coding using CDC EZ-Text for a study examining sexual and HIV testing behaviors among men who have sex with men (MSM).

8/2004 – 8/2005

Graduate Student Researcher

**Center for Minority Health, University of
Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health**

Pittsburgh, PA

Assisted with quality control of Project EXPORT (Excellence in Partnerships for Community Outreach, Research on Health Disparities and Training) health activities; also, worked with community coalitions to address health disparities in Pittsburgh and conducted literature reviews for health disparity manuscript writing on research with community advisory boards (CABs) and risk communication for minority communities regarding bioterrorism.

1/2003 – 8/2005

Research Assistant

**Center for Research on Health Care, University
of Pittsburgh Medical Center**

Pittsburgh, PA

Conducted quantitative data analyses for the study of psychosocial and environmental predictors of Gonorrhea and Chlamydia infection and testing among high-risk young women.

6/2004 – 8/2004

Summer Fellow

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
National Center for Infectious Diseases (NCID)**

Atlanta, GA

Assisted with program management and coordination of activities for the Clean Hands Coalition (CHC).

8/2002 – 8/2004

Graduate Student Researcher

**Department of Behavioral and Community
Health Sciences, University of Pittsburgh**

Pittsburgh, PA

Managed data and conducted interviews for the study of potential differences in patient-provider communications regarding prostate and colorectal cancer screening among African American and Caucasian men at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA

8/2000 – 12/2000

Intern

**Toledo-Lucas County Health Department,
Minority Health Department**

Toledo, OH

Planned physical and nutritional activities for African-American and Hispanic women in the greater Toledo community; assisted the department in writing a grant to fund additional public health activities for the African-American community. Created an evaluation tool for future health promotion programs

8/1999 – 12/2000

Graduate Assistant

**Northwest Ohio Consortium for Public Health,
University of Toledo**

Toledo, OH

Developed surveys to explore college perceptions of binge drinking on the University of Toledo's campus and developed a survey to elicit information concerning condom use on the University of Toledo's

campus (to improve STD and substance abuse prevention services on campus). Creator and co-founder of the newsletter for the Northwest Ohio Consortium for Public Health's MPH program (the Public Health Reporter), Assisted the Co-Director of the MPH program with planning and evaluating various public health activities in the community

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

10/2006 – 7/2008

Instructor

**Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg School of
Public Health Population, Family, and
Reproductive Health Department,
Baltimore, MD**

Special Studies Seminar: Reviewing the Literature on the Health of East Baltimoreans
(Students - 17 Masters and Doctoral Students; some Preventive Medicine fellows)

8/2006 – 12/2007

Adjunct Faculty

**Towson University, Department of Health
Sciences
Baltimore, MD**

HLTH 639: Introduction to Health Behavior and Health Promotion
(Students - 22 Masters Students)

2/2006 – 12/2007

Instructor

**Urban Health Institute, Johns Hopkins
University
Baltimore, MD**

Introduction to Sexually Transmitted Diseases
(Students - 6 Community Health Workers)

PUBLICATIONS

Tyus, NC. Gibbons MC. (2008) Social Determinants of Health Disparities (Book Chapter). *In eHealth Solutions for Healthcare Disparities*. Springer.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Gibbons MC, **Tyus NC.** (2007). Systematic Review of U.S.-Based Randomized Controlled Trials Using Community Health Workers. *Progress in Community Health Partnerships*, 1(4): 371-381.

Tyus NC, Freeman RJ, & Gibbons, MC. (2006) Development of a replicable process for translating science into practical health messages. *Journal of the National Medical Association*, 98(9): 1505-1509.

Mazzaferro KE, Murray PJ, Ness EB, Bass DC, **Tyus NC,** Cook RL. (2006). Depression, stress, and social support as predictors of high-risk sexual behaviors and STIs in Young Women. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 39(4): 601-603.

OTHER RELATED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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| 2006 | Delta Omega, Honorary Society in Public Health Omicron Chapter, University of Pittsburgh, GSPH |
| 2004 | University of Pittsburgh, GSPH, Dean's Endowed Scholarship |
| 2003 | Student Scholar Award, Society of Public Health Education (registration paid to attend the 54 th SOPHE Annual Meeting) |

- 2002 Student Scholar Award, Society of Public Health Education
(registration paid to attend the 53rd SOPHE Annual Meeting)
- 2000 Community Impact Award, Northwest Ohio Consortium for Public Health,
Toledo, OH (Changed a smoking restaurant to a non-smoking establishment by
performing qualitative interviews of restaurant patrons)

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2007 – 2008 Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Center for STD Research and Prevention
T32 Federal Training Grant
- 2006 - 2008 National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, MD
Health Disparities Loan Repayment Program (LRP)
- 2004 – 2005 Center for Minority Health Student Support Program, University of Pittsburgh,
Graduate School of Public Health (awarded \$1900)
- 2004 – 2005 National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Center on Minority Health and
Health Disparities (NCMHD), Grant Number P60 MD-000-207-02
Funded Graduate Student Researcher Position, Center for Minority Health,
University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health
- 2003 - 2004 Center for Minority Health Student Support Program, University of Pittsburgh,
Graduate School of Public Health (awarded \$2000)
- 2002 – 2003 Center for Minority Health Student Support Program, University of Pittsburgh,
Graduate School of Public Health (awarded \$1500)
- 2002 – 2004 Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ),
Grant Number: P01 HS10864-01 (Health Disparities in Minority Adults)
Funded Graduate Student Researcher Position
Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, University of
Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health

RECENT PRESENTATIONS, SYMPOSIA, AND WORKSHOPS

Exploration of Women's Lives: A Glimpse into the Myriad of Factors Impacting the Lives of Women and their Children in Baltimore, MD, Guest Lecturer, Community-Based Participatory Course, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, 2008

Health, Employment Status, and Urban Homelessness, American Public Health Association, Oral Presentation Washington, DC; 2007

Partner Characteristics and STI Outcome of Young Females in an Urban STI Clinic, International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research, Seattle, WA; Poster Presentation, 2007

Racial Variations in Attitudes and Beliefs Toward Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and STD Testing among High-Risk Young Women, American Public Health Association, Boston, MA; Oral Presentation, 2006

Understanding Healthcare Utilization Patterns Among Urban, Homeless Adults, American Public Health Association, Boston, MA; Oral Presentation, 2006

Perceived Risk of Diabetes Mellitus among a Low-Income Urban US Population, International Society for Urban Health, Amsterdam, the Netherlands; Poster Presentation, 2006

Assessing Community Health Needs During Times of Neighborhood Revitalization, Society of Public Health Education Mid-Year Conference, Las Vegas, NV; Roundtable Discussion Leader, 2006

Predictors of Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Screening Behaviors Among High-Risk Young Women, Johns Hopkins University Center for STD Research & Prevention, Baltimore, MD; Oral Presentation, 2006

Relationship of stress, depression, social support and health locus of control with chlamydial and gonococcal infection among high-risk young women, American Public Health Association, Washington, DC; Poster Presentation, 2004

Handwashing and Food Safety: The Importance of the Clean Hands Coalition, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Dr. James A. Ferguson Emerging Infectious Disease Fellowship, Atlanta, GA; Oral Presentation, 2004

An Innovative Approach to the Study of Patient-Provider Communication Regarding Colorectal Cancer Screening, 6th Annual Herbert S. Rosenkranz Dean's Day, University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health, Pittsburgh, PA; Poster Presentation, 2004

African-American Women and HIV: Who Will Take Care of the Village Now? 8th Annual Women's Conference, University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs; Pittsburgh, PA Oral Presentation, 2003