

Dashauna Michelle Ballard

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Lifelong learner and postdoctoral fellow looking to enhance skills in teaching, research, and communication. Proficient in curriculum and protocol development, scientific writing (including abstract development and literature reviews), and teaching. Completed over 20 public health research presentations at national conferences. Awarded school-level “Alabama Teacher of the Year” and “Innovative Technology” Apple Awards for excellence in education in the Tuscaloosa City Schools District. Contributed grant writing and data management efforts to a successfully awarded six-figure, city-sponsored workforce development grant.

EDUCATION

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| The University of Alabama | 2015-2022 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Doctor of Philosophy• Major: Health Education and Health Promotion• Dissertation: School bullying in African American adolescents: An examination of contributing factors | |
| The University of Alabama at Birmingham | 2013-2014 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Master of Public Health• Major: Health Behavior | |
| The University of Alabama | 2011-2013 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bachelor of Science in Biology• Major: Biology | |

CAREER SUMMARY

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| IRACDA-MERIT Postdoctoral Fellow | July 2022 - Present |
| <i>Lister Hill Center for Health Policy, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL</i> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conducted literature reviews and provided structural design expertise in the development of a culturally-tailored, diabetes self-management education and support (DSMES) program in collaboration with local healthcare entities• Assisted in the writing and development of an awarded, 6-figure city-development grant that focused on the implementation of a culturally-tailored, diabetes self-management education and support (DSMES) program• Use SPSS for statistical analyses of quantitative data, including data management, descriptive statistics, inferential statistics, and interpretation of results.• Engage with local community stakeholders for the purposes of improving public health policy in the Birmingham, Alabama metropolitan area• Write and develop scholarly articles suitable for journal publication• Prepare and submit local, regional, and federal grant applications for research funding purposes• Design and teach curriculum for collegiate Science courses | |

Adjunct Assistant Professor

January 2024 – May 2024

Department of Health Science, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

- Online Health Disparities Course Instructor: Design and teach graduate-level curriculum that covers topics related to health disparities, including their causes, impacts, and potential solutions
- Lead discussions and facilitate learning experiences for students.
- Evaluate student performance through analysis of assignment, exam, and other assessment data
- Provide guidance and support to students, including advising them on academic and career matters related to health disparities

Public Health Educator

April 2021 - June 2022

Office of Women's Health, Alabama Department of Public Health, Shelby County, AL

- Led research efforts for two scientific research projects that were accepted for presentation at local and regional conferences
- Implemented research-focused and culturally-tailored educational curriculum for various public audiences
- Conducted outreach activities among target population and health professionals in 6 rural Alabama counties to promote awareness of Family Planning services available through the county health department
- Provided training to peer public health educators in areas of community engagement, community outreach, and relationship-building in underserved populations
- Evaluated program marketing materials to ensure appropriateness and suitability for target audience

Accommodations Specialist

August 2020 - March 2021

Office of Disability Services, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

- Collaborated with students to determine reasonable disability accommodations based on current academic needs
- Processed COVID-19 academic assistance requests
- Trained staff on COVID-19 academic request procedures
- Evaluated disability documentation to assess degree of disability limitation and current disability symptoms
- Maintained confidentiality of student records
- Documented results of interactions with students, faculty members, and parents

Science Teacher

August 2017 - July 2020

Oak Hill School-Success Prep Academy, Tuscaloosa City Schools, Tuscaloosa, AL

- Incorporated evidence-based practices to provide high-quality academic instruction based on the Alabama Course of Study-Science in 5 Science courses (Biology, Physical Science, Environmental Science, and Earth and Space Science courses)
- Evaluated student learning progress through analysis of exam, assignment, and other assessment data for over 120 students
- Utilized instructional technology tools (Canvas, Nearpod, Padlet, etc.) to create engaging and interactive lessons for a maximum of 60 students per academic year

- Lead Teacher for Success Prep program: Managed program operations for a team of 10 teachers under the guidance of school administration
- School Web Leader: Managed content for school website and social media pages

Medicaid Eligibility Specialist

June 2015 - August 2017

Family Certification, Alabama Medicaid Agency, Birmingham, AL

- Evaluated Medicaid eligibility based on applicant's financial eligibility according to state law
- Utilized CARES and AMAES software systems to enter client data
- Monitored changes in eligibility during certification period
- Interacted with clients and handled case inquiries

AWARDS

Alabama Teacher of the Year for Oak Hill (STARS/Success Prep Academy)

- Award that recognizes outstanding achievement as an instructor within the Tuscaloosa City Schools educational system

Innovative Technology Award for Oak Hill (STARS/Success Prep Academy)

- Award that recognizes outstanding efforts for incorporating technology in academic instruction within the Tuscaloosa City Schools educational system

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Data Management/Grant Writing Specialist

- Contributed grant writing efforts to MedsPLUS Consulting, LLC's proposal for the awarded "Building Opportunities for Lasting Development (BOLD)" grant sponsored by the City of Birmingham; Presently oversee the data management efforts for the awarded project which focuses on evaluating the effectiveness of incorporating community health workers into diabetes self-management education and support activities.

Research Data Analyst

- *Current Research:* Utilize SPSS to analyze quantitative data collected from a diabetes education research project, focusing on changes in clinical outcomes such as blood A1C, blood pressure, blood cholesterol, blood sugar, and weight. Tasks include data cleaning, coding, and running complex statistical tests to derive meaningful insights.
- *Doctoral Dissertation:* Conducted advanced statistical analyses using SPSS on a national data set (School Crime Supplement to the National Crime and Victimization Survey) to examine factors that contribute to school bullying in Black adolescents. Specific analysis techniques for this effort included Chi-square and binary logistic regression.

Strategic Partnerships Facilitator

- Led efforts to establish a strategic partnership between academic (University of Alabama at Birmingham and Auburn University) and community-based entities with the goal of expanding telemedicine access to rural residents in the Blackbelt area of Alabama.

STEM Educator

- Provide professional STEM teaching and tutoring services (including curriculum development and implementation) for secondary education students in Anatomy & Physiology, Chemistry, Biology, and Forensic Science

Abstract Evaluator

- Evaluated and rated conference abstract submissions for the American Public Health Association's Mental Health section

Protocol Development

- Developed protocol and contributed training instructions for the Holt Health Lab, a community-based participatory research project

INVITED TALKS

Global Ties Alabama	October 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Literacy and Education in the South 	
Oakwood University	October 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journey to PhD 	
Oakwood University	April 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Things I Struggle With Even Now: Stress Management 	
Banks Academy High School	March 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Bullying Seminar 	
Marshall University	November 2020-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 and disease stigma: Navigating barriers to improve health (Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022) • Socioecological model: Implementation and practice (Fall 2021) 	
Samford University	April 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of religion and spirituality as coping mechanisms in African American students 	

SELECTED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Ballard, D., Long, P., Campbell, J., Jenkins, B., Judd, S. (2024, June 20). Improving social determinants of health (SDOH) and diabetes outcomes in the Magic City: Results from a culturally-tailored community improvement program. National Academy of Public Administration Social Equity Leadership Conference. Stamford, CT, USA.

Ballard, D., Long, P., Campbell, J., Jenkins, B., Judd, S. (2024, April 17). Improving Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and Diabetes Outcomes in the Magic City: Recruitment of Community Health Workers (CHWs) into a culturally-tailored diabetes self-management education and support (DSMES) program. The University of Alabama Rural Health Conference. Birmingham, AL, USA.

Ballard, D. & Turner, L. (2023, November 9). School bullying victimization among black adolescents: The impact of gender differences. American Public Health Association Conference. Atlanta, GA, USA.

Ballard, D., Long, P., Campbell, J., Judd, S. (2023, April 12). Exploring diabetes self-management education and support (DSMES) in underserved populations: Foundations for the Magic City Pilot Study. The University of Alabama Rural Health Conference. Tuscaloosa, AL, USA.

Ballard, D., Long, P., Campbell, J., Judd, S. (2023, March 24). Exploring diabetes self-management in the south: A literature review. Society for Public Health Education Conference. Atlanta, GA, USA.

Ballard, D., Logan, G., Allen-Watts, K. (2022, November 7). School bullying victimization in Black adolescents: An examination of contributing factors. American Public Health Association Conference. Boston, MA, USA.

Logan, G., **Ballard, D.**, Martin, A., Logan, J., Allen-Watts, K. (2022, November 6). Towards advancing health equity: A men's health initiative. American Public Health Association Conference. Boston, MA, USA.

Logan, G., **Ballard, D.**, Allen-Watts, K. (2022, September 29). Hypertension among African Americans in the southern United States: A lifespan prospective on black health. Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Montgomery, AL, USA.

Ballard, D., Greer, G., Al-Assi, N., Famuyiwa, S., Gregory, L., Hardy, J. (2022, April 14) Increasing reach through outreach: The role of public health educators in promoting family planning services in rural Alabama. The University of Alabama Rural Health Conference. Tuscaloosa, AL, USA.

Ballard, D., Greer, G., Al-Assi, N., Famuyiwa, S., Gregory, L., Hardy, J. (2022, April 14). Identifying barriers for utilization of family planning services in rural Alabama: A literature review. The University of Alabama Rural Health Conference. Tuscaloosa, AL, USA.

Allen-Watts, K., Logan, G., **Ballard, D.**, Goodin, B., Cherrington, A., Judd, S. (2022, April 14). Barriers to diabetes self-management for adults living with comorbid chronic pain in the Appalachia and Mississippi Delta and Diabetes Belt Regions: The Risk Underlying Rural Areas Longitudinal (RURAL) Cohort Study. The University of Alabama Rural Health Conference. Tuscaloosa, AL, USA.

Logan, G., Tucker, J., Allen, K., **Ballard, D.**, Martin, A., Logan, J. (2021, October 26). Hypertension among African americans in the southern United States: A lifespan perspective. American Public Health Association. Denver, CO, USA.

Logan, G., Tucker, J., Martin, A., Logan, J., **Ballard, D.**, Allen, K. (2021, October 27). Improving African american men's access to hypertension and diabetes health information and resources in the Appalachia region. American Public Health Association. Denver, CO, USA.

Ballard, D., Dickey, P., Nickelson, J. (2017, April 14). Combining CBPR and engaged scholarship to conduct nutritional and physical activity audits in an underserved community. The University of Alabama's Council of Community Based Partnerships Awards. Tuscaloosa, AL, USA.

Ballard, D., Dickey, P., Nickelson, J. (2016, November 1). Engaged-scholarship/CBPR approach to conducting audits of the nutrition and physical activity environments in an underserved community. American Public Health Association. Denver, CO, USA.

Allen, K., Maye, J., Heverly, T., Reilly, K., Nye, P., **Ballard, D.**, Nickelson, J. (2016, October 31). Understanding the history of an underserved community to inspire community health. American Public Health Association. Denver, CO, USA

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Public Health Association
- Society of Public Health Education

MEDIA APPEARANCES/INTERVIEWS

Second Opinion with Joan Lunden (Season 17)

- Episode: Coronavirus
- Distributed by: American Public Television

NBC Nightly News

- Episode: August 28, 2020
- Distributed by: National Broadcasting Company

NBC News.Com

- Article: “Cleared by the doctors but not by the public: After COVID-19, survivors face stigma”
- Author: Elizabeth Chuck
- Article Date: August 19, 2020