

Student Website Profiles

Fourth year +
bealsies@ku.edu

Sarah's research advisors are Yo Jackson and Michael Roberts. Her research interests include child maltreatment, cognitive and social factors that may lead to resilient outcomes in children experiencing stress and trauma, and parental and family influences on children's mental health, as well as policy and systemic factors in child mental health service provision.

christophercushing@ku.edu

Some of my research interests include adherence to medical and behavioral treatment recommendations, eHealth, patient-centered outcomes in intervention trials, pediatric pain, and psychosocial benefits of physical activity. My clinical interests primarily revolve around pediatric health behavior, coping with chronic illness, and family adjustment to illness.

ldrerup@ku.edu

Lauren's primary research advisor is Yo Jackson. She also collaborates with Michael Roberts on a program evaluation for a summer dance camp for at-risk youth. Her research interests include resiliency in children exposed to various types of trauma (e.g., child maltreatment, exposure to community violence), the measurement of childhood stress, and the role of emotional-social intelligence in psychological adjustment. Lauren's practicum placements have included KU Medical Center and KU Child and Family Services Clinic.

Allison.r.harris@gmail.com

Allison conducts research with Ric Steele. Her research interests include examining the relation between children's physical appearance, peer relationships, self-perceptions, and peer victimization, as well as examining risk and resilience factors associated with poor body image and eating disorders.

kalani@ku.edu

Kalani works with Yo Jackson. His research interests involve children and trauma, with most recent projects looking at both cognitive and contextual factors buffering against negative mental health outcomes in children at-risk for psychopathology (i.e., children in foster care). He also works in the Peers and Emotional Health Research Lab on the University of Kansas Friendship Study.

Sangeeta@ku.edu

Sangeeta's research advisor is Yo Jackson. She has also collaborated with Michael Roberts, Matt Reese (Center for Child Health and Development), and Larke Huang (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) on several projects. Her research interests include child abuse and neglect, protective factors in children, parenting across cultures, and cultural differences in psychological development. She is currently the graduate student representative for the APA Society for Child and Family

Policy and Practice. Sangeeta's practicum placements have included the KU child and Family Services Clinic and the KU Medical Center.

msampilo@ku.edu

Marilyn completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Miami and entered the clinical child doctoral program at KU in Fall 2007. She has a variety of interests in the areas of pediatric and clinical child psychology. She is particularly interested in the influence of peer relations and friendships on adjustment in youth with chronic illness and the effects illness can have on social development. She is also interested in psychosocial factors that predict non-adherence to treatment and prevention efforts targeting these factors.

jvanallen@ku.edu

Jason's primary research advisor is Ric Steele. Jason has a broad interest in pediatric psychology and peer relationships, with a focus on the role of individual strengths in response to interventions. His past research projects have involved the study of the construct Hope in both adult and child populations. His current research interests include measure development, children's responses to pediatric weight management programs, the role of Hope in physical activity, and the role of goal-oriented constructs in diabetes management.

Third year

erinhambbrick@ku.edu

Erin's research advisor is Dr. Vernberg, but she also works with Dr. Jackson on several trauma-related research projects. Research interests include the effects of child maltreatment on neurodevelopment, risk and protective factors (e.g., coping strategies) for mental health following child trauma, the impact of meaning making processes on adaptation following disasters, Disaster Mental Health and Psychological First Aid, and dissemination of evidence based practice. Currently, she works on two grant-funded projects: 1) Dr. Vernberg's Psychological First Aid grant, where the goal is to disseminate PFA and make it accessible to community mental health centers and volunteers, and 2) Dr. Jackson's SPARK project, a grant designed to study factors that promote resilience in children. Erin's primary practicum placement is at Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics in Kansas City, Missouri.

sschwartz@ku.edu

Sonia's primary research advisor is Eric Vernberg. She also collaborates with Paula Fite and Yo Jackson on several projects. Her research interests include the impact of trauma exposure (e.g., violence, natural disasters) on youth mental health outcomes, the role of peer relationships (e.g., social support, peer victimization) and lifestyle factors (e.g., physical activity) on youth mental health outcomes following trauma exposure, and the transportation of evidence-based interventions into community settings. Sonia's practicum placements have included KU Medical Center and the KU Child and Family Services Clinic.

lbwilco@ku.edu

Leni's research advisor is Eric Vernberg. Her broad research interests include children's peer relationships, social adjustment, and the implementation of evidence-based interventions. Currently, she is involved with projects regarding adolescent social adjustment following residential moves, development and community implementation of an evidence-based intervention for children who misuse fire, and implementation of a school-based mentoring program for aggressive children.

Second year

k255c236@ku.edu

Kimberly's primary research advisor is Michael Roberts. Her research interests are broadly in the field of pediatric psychology, specifically related child and familial adaptation to chronic illness. Kimberly has a particular interest in elements of culture that interact with illness and recovery processes, and she is also interested in transitions to survivorship, with a specific interest in school reintegration following illness or injury. She has also collaborated with Dr. Roberts and members of the Roberts Research Team to examine mentorship relationships within the field of Pediatric Psychology and assists with a program evaluation of a dance camp for at-risk youth. Beginning next year, Kimberly will be a Research Assistant at the Center for Children's Healthy Lifestyles and Nutrition, where she is excited to spend time working with a team devoted to researching prevention and treatment initiatives for childhood obesity.

joyg@ku.edu

Joy's research advisor is Yo Jackson, and her work in the Jackson Lab has centered on the SPARK Project investigating resilience in foster care youth. Her primary interest in clinical child psychology relates to developmental processes of psychopathology, risk and resiliency factors related to maltreatment and other adverse experiences, and employment of statistical modeling techniques to answer complex, developmental research questions. Joy also has an interest in international work and the translation of psychological constructs and tools cross-culturally. Her previous research experience involved projects investigating violence against individuals with disability and substance use in adolescents. Joy is currently working on projects examining the factorial invariance of the BASC-2 in foster youth, sibling and peer interactions, and ethnic differences in maltreatment outcomes.

rkanine@ku.edu

Becca's research advisor is Yo Jackson. She has also worked on Michael Roberts' program evaluation for a summer dance camp for at-risk youth and Eric Vernberg's project on the dissemination of Psychological First Aid (PFA). Her research and clinical interests include child maltreatment prevention and community-based interventions for children exposed to trauma/poverty. Her current practicum site is the KU Child & Family Services Clinic.

odarcc@gmail.com

Cathy has a broad interest in pediatric psychology, with a particular interest in both parent and child psychosocial adjustment to chronic illness or injury. Her past research projects have involved the study of anxiety and illness perception in children with

epilepsy and investigation of posttraumatic stress symptoms in both parents and children following a pediatric burn injury. Cathy is currently investigating the impact of summer camps for children with chronic illness on psychosocial and medical outcomes. Cathy's research advisor is Dr. Michael Roberts, with whom she is conducting research on mentoring in the field of pediatric psychology and future directions for the Interdivision Task Force on Children's Mental Health, an organization affiliated with APA to focus attention on children's issues. She is also working with Dr. Susana Patton at the University of Kansas Medical Center to study mealtime behaviors in a variety of populations, including children with type 1 diabetes and children with special needs. Cathy is currently completing a graduate research assistantship at the Center for Children's Healthy Lifestyles and Nutrition, where she is involved with pediatric obesity research.

angela.tunno@ku.edu

Angela's primary research advisor is Yo Jackson. She also collaborates with Michael Roberts on a program evaluation for a summer dance camp for at-risk youth. She currently works as a graduate research assistant on an R01 grant assessing resiliency factors in a group of foster care youth (SPARK Project). Her research interests include prevention efforts to decrease child maltreatment, community risk associated with child abuse and/or neglect, and resiliency factors of child maltreatment.

First year

kborner@ku.edu

Kelsey's primary research advisor is Ric Steele. Her primary research interests within clinical child and pediatric psychology include pediatric obesity interventions, the role of physical activity in the prevention and treatment of mood disorders, and dissemination of evidence-based practice in community settings. Currently, she is examining the role of physical activity in pediatric obesity interventions. Kelsey's current practicum placement is the KU Child and Family Services Clinic.

spencerevans@ku.edu

Spencer works primarily with Michael Roberts and Geoff Reed (World Health Organization) and also collaborates with Paula Fite. Broadly, Spencer's research interests are in developmental psychopathology and the assessment, diagnosis, and classification of child and adolescent mental disorders. Currently, he is assisting with the formative and summative research for the *International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11)* chapter on mental and behavioural disorders. Projects include a global survey of psychologists, research on how clinicians perceive relationships among disorders, and preparations for the *ICD-11* field trials. Spencer also works with Paula Fite in research on proactive and reactive aggression in youth. His current practicum site is the KU Child and Family Services Clinic.

mlhend@ku.edu

Michelle's primary research advisor is Paula Fite. She also collaborates with Eric Vernberg and Chris Elledge on school-based interventions for aggressive elementary school children. Her research interests are centered on the development, implementation,

and evaluation of evidence-based prevention and treatment interventions for aggressive youth. She is particularly interested in the reactive/proactive aggression distinction and in examining how parenting factors, peer factors, and comorbid internalizing symptoms impact the etiology and treatment of children's aggressive behaviors. Michelle's current practicum placement is the KU Child and Family Services Clinic.

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