

**Colleen M. Caron Ph.D.**Education

9/82 – 5/86

Quinnipiac University: Hamden, Connecticut. B.S  
Degree in Physical Therapy. Cum Laude.

9/91 – 5/93

University of Connecticut: Storrs, Connecticut. M.S.  
in Interdisciplinary Health Research and Education

9/96 – 5/2000

Temple University: Philadelphia, PA., PhD in Public Health  
Department of Public Health  
Dissertation: Multilevel, ecological analysis of socioeconomic  
determinants of health behaviors and outcomes in a community-level  
intervention among women of color in urban environmentsEmployment History

11/05-present

Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth & Families**Data, Evaluation and Research Director, Epidemiologist**

- Design, implement, and direct Program Planning and Evaluation, and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) within Child Welfare System of Care (child welfare, juvenile justice, behavioral health) to improve and evaluate service quality, and evaluate child, family and system outcomes
- Direct and lead a team of epidemiologists/researchers in research, program planning and evaluation using mixed methods
- Plan and direct mixed method research designs, program planning and evaluation for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of program and policy interventions on child, family, and system outcomes
- Collaborate internally with Department administrators and program managers, and externally with contracted providers in identifying the root causes of outcomes, developing theories of change to inform logic models, selection of interventions, program planning, monitoring and evaluation
- Direct advanced analytic methods for both root cause analysis, surveillance and program evaluation. Predictive analytics: cross sectional, case control, longitudinal, survival analysis, generalized estimating equation, interrupted time series, propensity score matching, advanced sampling methods
- Integrate a public health prevention framework (primary, secondary, tertiary prevention) and ecological model (social determinants of health) to child welfare research, program planning and evaluation
- Develop Departmental surveillance system to rapidly identify areas of need and inform programs
- Collaborated with Department administrators as part of an overall CQI system and feedback loop the implementation of an internal active division management with program managers and staff and external active contract management with providers. Collaborated with program managers to identify key indicators that would assist them in managing their staff. On a monthly basis program managers and program staff review data inclusive of process indicators and deep dive topics intervention outcomes
- Integrate program planning and evaluation framework measures for disproportional outcomes across marginalized populations to inform development of population tailored interventions
- Co-lead Evaluator for Federal Grants awarded to the Department
- Present analytic reports and findings at national conferences, State Legislature, and various audiences on child, family and system outcomes
- Managed Department Evaluation Contract with University partner

**Independent Consultant****2009-present****JBS International**

- United States Children's Bureau Consultant for Child and Family Service Reviews Second Round; Co-site leader and Reviewer; Round 3 trained (2005, 2017)
- U.S Children's Bureau sponsored National Webinar presentations as part of the CQI Training Academy to state child welfare agencies [Webinar Content Areas: Evaluation, Research Design and Methods, Logic Models, Health behavior theories and theories of change) (2012-2013)

- U.S. Children's Bureau sponsored Building Evidence Training Project member– Develop curriculum for Social Work academic course and child welfare agency front line staff aimed at developing skills in research of root causes, evidence-informed interventions and evidence-informed best practice (2018-present)

### **Independent Data Analytic and Research Consultant**

**2015-present**

**ICF, Fairfax VA: Center for the States**

Consultant and technical assistance nationally to state child welfare agencies in the areas of surveillance, research design, research methods, evaluation design, data collection methods, survey design, data analytics, data interpretation, and CQI

- Projects ranged from 3 months to 14 months and included working with states to build and enhance their data analytic and evaluation capacity. Focused on developing agency skills in an analytic framework and change management approach. Skill development included identifying the problem, developing a research question(s), identifying the research design, identification of the data elements needed for analysis, data analysis, quantitative and qualitative, identifying the intervention best matched to address the problem, implementing the intervention, measuring fidelity to the intervention, data analysis, and program evaluation to make adjustments where needed and evaluate the impact of the intervention. Also provided technical assistance on a range of data analytic methods inclusive of population epidemiological methods (i.e. odds ratio) and approaches. Provided consultation on developing a theory of change, development of a logic model as part of the analytic approach. Provided consultation on applying a public health model to child welfare, behavioral health, and juvenile justice with a focus on Primary, Secondary, Tertiary Prevention Framework and the Socio-Ecological Model and Social Determinants of Health.

Co-panel presenter on Live Web-stream to State Child Welfare Systems in “Applying a Public Health Framework and Data Analysis to Child Welfare Outcomes with focus on victims of sex trafficking in child welfare”. (2016)

Co-presenter of “Predictive Analytics in Child Welfare” Webinar delivered to the National Child Welfare Gateway Agency. (2016)

2/01-11/05

Rhode Island Department of Health

### **Senior Epidemiologist and Evaluator: Disease Prevention and Control Division**

- Consult and collaborate with program managers to integrate public health concepts, analyze and use surveillance data and program evaluation data to guide program interventions and policies for optimal child, family and community level outcomes with focus on chronic diseases
- Design and conduct quantitative and qualitative research to inform the design and implementation of data-driven and evidence-based programs, and program evaluation
- Develop and institute a statewide data surveillance system and coalition inclusive of decision makers from the health plan industry, hospital industry, health centers, community-based agencies, state-agencies to build cross-system data sharing, data analysis, and monitoring
- Design and deliver departmental staff training on the application of public health principles, and theoretical frameworks in program development and evaluation
- Co-PI on interdepartmental grants, grant writing and recipient of external funding
- Collaborate with departmental program in designing a statewide surveillance survey system to include neighborhood-level factors
- Design and conduct state-wide surveys
- Member of Minority Health Coalition

### Chief of Health Communication and Evaluation:

- Supervise, coordinate, design, pilot test and evaluate health communications and health promotion materials including department website, TV, print, and reports
- Apply and integrate health communication and social marketing theory research for development of public health campaigns, interventions and health communication messages/products
- Design and deliver program planning and evaluation training to community based organizations
- Design and deliver training to community based organizations on designing and adapting health education materials for low literacy or newly arrived non-English speaking populations
- Development of department-wide communication policies, procedures, manuals, and training

11/98–2/01

Brown University Center for Primary Care and Prevention:**Researcher and Co-Investigator:** federal grant funded community health intervention research projects

- National Cancer Institute funded research to promote physical activity, healthy eating, weight management, and cancer prevention with African-American women
- Design and directed *Applied Geographic Information Systems* for a multilevel analysis of socio-environmental factors on individual, family, and neighborhood census tract block group levels impacting on health behaviors and health status outcomes
- Grant writing, research design, program design, implementation, data analysis, and evaluation
- Coordinate and manage field data collection and management, development of training manuals, training of field staff, quality control and generate reports
- Coordinate multiple research projects in departmental Survey Center including survey design for computer (CATI) and hard copy, quality control, staff training, and generate reports
- Establish and maintain linkages among university, community based and private agencies
- Publish reports and provide presentations for public consumption on transforming research findings into evidence-based, data-driven community and family based health-related programs

7/95–5/2000

Temple University: School of Education; Center for Research on Families and Human Development**Researcher and Co-investigator:** Philadelphia, PA

- Maternal and Child Health Grant, Todos Los Ninos Project – a family-centered intervention research project for Latino families
  - Co-lead a multidisciplinary applied research team (social workers, early intervention providers, early childhood educational consultant) implementing a home-based demonstration project to identify children at risk of poor child well-being outcomes, inclusive of program design, evaluation data analysis, and findings report
  - Design and conduct needs assessment, program design, program implementation, coordinate and train interdisciplinary team of health, child development, and social service personnel for development of a home-based, family-centered service delivery model for Latino families with young children
  - Lead research design, quantitative and qualitative research methods, data analysis
  - Establish collaborative relationships among university programs, city government, community based organizations and private sectors
- Undergraduate teaching

Ken Crest: Part-time employment: Philadelphia, PA

- Pediatric physical therapist part of a multidisciplinary team – social services, allied health professional, educational professionals delivering family-centered services to families of diverse populations caring for children with special health care needs within Philadelphia

10/93–10/94

Children's Hospital of New Orleans:**Educational Coordinator and Senior Physical Therapist, Service Provider** (pediatrics)

- Develop staff training, staff educational development
- Collaborate with health care agencies in the development and implementation of educational maternal and child health community outreach programs, tracking of service delivery utilization,
- Coordinate clinical internships with academic institutions
- Hospital wide committee member-develop departmental protocols, and program evaluation
- Direct care and family education in neonatal intensive care unit, pediatric intensive care, burn unit, oncology and home-based, family-centered services

9/91–8/93

University of Connecticut: Graduate school research

## Research and Project coordinator

- Motivational factors and barrier to mammography utilization and enhance health service delivery to Latina American women
  - Design and direct community outreach, needs assessment, survey design, focus group interviews in Spanish and English, qualitative and quantitative data collection
  - Deliver reports to community leaders on research findings and implications for developing a community-wide network and health service to women to promote mammography utilization
  - Collaborate with various health, academic and community based organizations
- Collaborate with local health department to evaluate health service delivery to urban teens who were pregnant
  - Research design, survey design, conduct focus groups and administer surveys, database management and analysis
  - GIS and spatial analysis to analyze relationships among community factors, health service delivery, and birth outcomes

10/88–7/91

### Massachusetts Easter Seal Society:

Physical therapist to pediatric population in home based Early Intervention Program and Boston public school system

- Conduct program evaluation of educational programs with emphasis on special needs
- Work directly within the homes of urban families in child development and health
- Write and formulate Individualized Service Plans and Individualized Educational Plans in collaboration with health and educational team, and family

9/86–8/88

Greenery Rehabilitation: Physical therapist for adult population with traumatic head injuries.

Boston City Hospital: Physical therapist for acute care hospital.

## International Experience

Central America

China – Co-lead public health educational training to medical professionals

## Publications: Peer Reviewed Publications

Connell, C.M., Bory, C.T., Huang, C.Y., Genovese, M., **Caron, C.** & Tebes, J.K. Caseworker assessment of child risk and functioning and their relation to service use in the child welfare system. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 99, 2019.

Vidal, S., Steeger, C.M., **Caron, C.**, Lasher, L. & Connell, C.M. Placement and delinquency outcomes among system-involved youth referred to Multisystemic Therapy: A propensity score matching analysis. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Service Research*, 44,4, 2017 853-866.

Vidal, S., Prince, D., Connell, C.M., **Caron, C.**, Kaufman, J. & Tebes, J.K. Maltreatment, family environment and social risk factors: Determinants of the child welfare to juvenile justice transition among maltreated children and adolescents. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 63, 2017, 7-18.

Huebner, R. A., Watson, P., Dyer, L., Borsheim, C. & **Caron.C.** Building learning organizations within public child welfare agencies through internal research capacity. *Child Welfare*, 93, 5, 2016, 83-102.

Huang, C.Y., Bory, C.T., **Caron, C.**, Tebes, J.K., & Connell, C.M. Relationship of risk assessment to placement characteristics in a state child welfare population. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 46, 2014, 85-89.

Connell, C.M., Vanderploeg, J.J., **Caron, C.**, Saunders, L., Katz, K.H.,& Tebes, J.K. Maltreatment following reunification: Predictors of subsequent CPS contact after children return home. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 33, 2009, 218-228.

Vanderploeg, J.J., Connell, C.M., **Caron, C.**, Saunders, L., Katz, K.H.,& Tebes, J.K. The impact of parental alcohol or drug removals on foster care placement experiences: A matched comparison group study. *Child Maltreatment*, 12, 2007,125-136.

Pearlman, D.; Zierler, S., Meersman, S., Hyun, K; Viner-Brown, S., **Caron, C.** Race disparities in childhood asthma: does where you live matter? *Journal National Medical Association*, 98, 2, 2006, 239-247.

Gans, K., Kumanyika, S., Lovell, J; Risica, P., Goldman, R., Odoms-Young, A., Strolla, L.,Decaille, D., **Caron, C.**, Lasater, The Development of SisterTalk: a cable TV delivered weight control program for black women. *Preventive Medicine* 37, 2, 2006, 654-667.

#### Non-Peer Reviewed:

**Framework Group (Contributor Caron, C.)**. "A Framework To Design, Test, Spread And Sustain Effective Practice in Child Welfare." Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services . February 2014.

**Caron, C.;** Gjelsvik A. The social matrix of physical activity in Rhode Island. *Medicine and Health in Rhode Island*, 88, 2, 2005, 284-285.

**Caron, C;** Gjelsvik A; Buechner, J. The impact of poverty on prevention practices and health outcomes among persons with asthma *Medicine and Health in Rhode Island* 88, 2, 2005, 60-62.

**Caron, C.** Asthma in Rhode Island. RI Department of Health Surveillance Publication, 2004.

**Caron, C.;** Gjelsvik, A.; Harvey, E.; Fulton, J. The public health impact of the Smokefree Public Place and Workplace Law in Rhode Island on adults with asthma in the Rhode Island workforce *Medicine and Health in Rhode Island*, 88,3, 2005, 101-102.

Marshall, R.; **Caron, C.;** & Takach, Mary Jo. Embedding a reporter in a "Dress rehearsal for a nightmare". *The Public Health Communicator* Fourth Quarter, 2003.

**Caron, C.** Training Manual for Community Outreach Educators in a Community-based Intervention. SisterTalk. Brown University Center for Primary Care and Prevention. 1998.

#### Professional Presentations

2019

Caron, C., Kim, Kyeonghee. Longitudinal analysis and predictors of juvenile justice involvement among children in foster care. Oral presentation American Public Health Association, November 2019

2019

Caron, C. Kim, Kyeonghee Kim. Application of Primary, Secondary, Tertiary Prevention and Socio-Ecological Model in Child Welfare safety, removal and permanency rates by individual, family and community factors. Oral presentation accepted. Child Welfare Evaluation Summit, August 2019

2019

Caron, C. Invited panel presentation. Applying a Public Health Prevention Model in Child Welfare Program Planning and Evaluation, Organizational design and measuring impacts. Child Welfare Evaluation Summit, August 2019

2018

Caron, C. & Kim, Kyeonghee. Applying a public health framework in evaluating child welfare outcomes with a focus on disproportionality and social determinants of health. RI Health Equity Conference.

2017

Vidal, S., Prince, D., Connell, C., Caron, C., Kaufman, J., & Tebes, J. (2017, March). Maltreatment, family environment, and social risk factors: Determinants of the child welfare to juvenile justice transition among maltreated children and adolescents. Paper presented at the AP-LS Annual Conference (Seattle, Washington).

- 2016  
Co-panel presenter on Live Web-stream to State Child Welfare Systems in “Applying a Public Health Framework and Data Analysis to Child Welfare Outcomes with focus on victims of sex trafficking in child welfare”.
- 2016  
Co-presenter of “Predictive Analytics in Child Welfare” Webinar delivered to the National Child Welfare Gateway Agency.
- 2014  
The U.S. Children’s Bureau National Webinar training (4, 2-hour webinar trainings) to all State Child Welfare Agencies. Topic: Implementing Research Methods, Program Planning and Evaluation in Child Welfare. Developed and presented to all U.S. State Child Welfare Agencies. JBS International Consultant for U.S. Children’s Bureau.  
The Prevalence of Psychotropic Medication Utilization in Child Welfare in RI. Center for Health Services and Care. Webinar.
- 2013  
American Association of Public Welfare Attorneys (AAPWA) Annual Meeting. Newport, Rhode Island. Factors Predictive of Child Welfare Permanency Outcomes and the Prevalence of Psychotropic Medication in Child Welfare in RI.
- 2011  
Summer meeting of Council of Juvenile Correction Administrators (CJCA). Florida. Longitudinal Analysis of Recidivism Rates, Predictors and Outcomes of Three Cohorts of Youth in the RI Juvenile Justice System.
- 2009  
United States Children’s Bureau Evaluation Summit, Washington, D.C., Building Evaluation Capacity in Children’s Welfare Systems (panel, oral).
- 2006  
Child Welfare Data and Technology Conference, Washington, D.C. Understanding Placement Stability and AWOL in child welfare (paper, oral).  
Maltreatment following reunification: Predictors of CPS contact after children return home. Paper presented at International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference, Portsmouth, N.H.
- 2004  
American Public Health Association Annual Conference (co-author, non presenter)  
Multilevel analysis of SES on childhood obesity and asthma.
- 2003  
New England Geographic Information System Conference, November, Providence, RI  
Using Census Data, GIS, and Ecological Model for Community Health Interventions (paper, oral).  
New England Epidemiology Conference, October, Providence, RI. Application of Ecological Model, Multilevel analysis of individual, family, neighborhood SES and GIS in a community health intervention designed for weight management and cancer prevention (paper, oral).
- 2002  
APHA national conference, November 2002, Philadelphia, PA. Leveraging the Web to deliver health information: A research study using focus groups, health communication, social marketing (paper, oral).  
16th Annual Conference on Chronic Disease, February Sponsored by Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Atlanta, GA. (paper, oral).
- 2001  
E-government Conference; December, Atlanta, GA; paper Presentation; Research Framework for a Customer-Centric Health Website. (paper, oral).  
ESRI International GIS in Healthcare Conference; October, Washington, DC. Using GIS in Public Health: A Multilevel Analysis of Individual, Family, Neighborhood SES Factors on Health Behaviors (paper, oral).

2000

American Public Health Association National Conference, November, 2000 Boston, MA.: A multilevel analysis of individual, family, and neighborhood SES to evaluate a community intervention health project (paper, oral).

American Public Health Association National Conference November, 2000 Boston, MA. Multilevel Analysis of SES on a community intervention designed to increase physical activity and healthy eating and using Geographic Information (poster presentation).

Brown University, RI.: Multilevel Analysis of Socioeconomic Factors on Selected Health Behaviors: Geographic Information Systems in Public Health (paper, oral).

Brown University, Application and Integration of Community Health Interventions in Family Medicine.

1996  
Delaware Valley Association for Young Children and Education. Philadelphia, PA. Model for bicultural families caring for children with disabilities (paper, oral).

1993  
University of Connecticut, Motivational factors with mammography utilization among Latina-American women (paper, oral).

### **Teaching and Academic Appointments**

2000-present  
Brown University School of Public Health, Professor Epidemiology Practice  
Teach: Epidemiology \ Biostatistics Master of Public Health

2003-2006  
Providence College, Adjunct faculty, Health Policy and Management Program

2000-2002  
Brown University, Adjunct faculty, Center for Study of Human Development  
Brown University Center for Primary Care and Prevention, Lecturer in Family Medicine

1995-1996  
Temple University, Instructor in Community Health Department, School of Education, School of Allied Health

1992  
University of Connecticut, Co-instructor in Physical Therapy Program

### **Statistical and Analytical Software**

SAS, SPSS, Arcview, Epi Info, The Ethnograph, Survey Pro

### **Honors and Awards**

2002  
Excellence Award for health communication research and delivery

5/92  
James P. Cornish Award. Leadership ability working with culturally diverse populations

### **Professional Leadership Membership**

2006-present  
Co-Chair Rhode Island Statewide Epidemiology Workgroup

2002-2006, 2019  
Rhode Island Public Health Association

2000-2007  
American Public Health Association

1999-2006  
Board Member Board Member of Women's Shelter for Domestic Violence

2001-2003  
RI Commission of Women Health committee

**Languages**

Spanish proficiency; Amharic limited; Mandarin limited

**References**

Upon request