

CURRICULUM VITAE**State University of New York at Stony Brook
Health Sciences Center****Name:** Dr. Melissa L. Bessaha**Mailing Address:**School of Social Welfare
Health Sciences Center, Level 2, Room 093F
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook, NY 11794-8230**Office Telephone:** 631-638-2514**Office Email:** melissa.bessaha@stonybrook.edu**HIGHER EDUCATION**

<u>Dates</u> <u>From</u> <u>To</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Institution & Location</u>	<u>Field</u>
8/2012 – 5/2016	Ph.D.	University of Maryland School of Social Work Baltimore, MD	Social Work
8/2007 – 5/2009	M.S.W.	New York University Silver School of Social Work New York, NY	Social Work
8/2005 – 5/2007	M.A.	Stony Brook University Stony Brook, NY	Psychology
8/2001 – 5/2005	B.S.	Stony Brook University Stony Brook, NY	Psychology

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

<u>Dates</u> <u>From</u> <u>To</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Institution & Location</u>
8/2016 – present	Assistant Professor	Full Time	Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare Stony Brook, NY
8/2015 – 5/2016	Adjunct	Part Time	University of Maryland School of Social Work Baltimore, MD

8/2009 – 7/2012	Counseling Faculty	Full Time	CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice SEEK Department New York, NY
8/2009 – 5/2012	Adjunct	Part Time	CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice SEEK Department New York, NY
1/2007 – 5/2007	Adjunct	Part Time	Stony Brook University Psychology Department Stony Brook, NY

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

<u>Dates</u> <u>From</u> <u>To</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Institution & Location</u>
9/2014 – 5/2016	Academic Research Fellow	Part Time	University of Maryland Baltimore, MD
8/2012 – 7/2016	Graduate Research Assistant	Part Time	University of Maryland School of Social Work Baltimore, MD
5/2014 – 9/2014	Consultant	Part Time	Yleana Leadership Academy New York, NY
9/2008 – 5/2009	Counselor (<i>Social Work Intern</i>)	Part Time	Long Island University at C.W. Post; Counseling Center Brookville, NY
2/2008 – 7/2010	Proctor	Part Time	Advantage Testing of Long Island Roslyn, NY
9/2007 – 5/2008	Counselor (<i>Social Work Intern</i>)	Part Time	Mental Health Association of NYC New York, NY
6/2004 – 7/2007	Graduate Research Assistant	Part Time	Stony Brook University Psychology Department Stony Brook, NY

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Institution & Affiliation</u>
2021 – present	Member	America East Academic Consortium (AEAC) Advisory Group
2020 – present	Consulting Editor	<i>Social Work Research</i>
2020 – present	Member	Youth and Young Adult Mental Health Group; New York University Silver School of Social Work
2020 – present	Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) MSW Student Mentor	Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) MFP Mentoring Program
2019 – present	Journal Ad Hoc Reviewer	<i>Disability Studies Quarterly, International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Health & Well-being, Assessment, Computers & Education, Journal of American College Health</i>
2018 – present	Editorial Board Member	<i>Social Work in Mental Health</i>
2017	Invited Session Chair	Session on Immigration related issues in emerging adulthood, Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood (SSEA) Conference
2017	Abstract Reviewer	Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood (SSEA) Conference
2017	Invited Session Moderator	Session on Costs determinants of mental health care, Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)
2017 – present	Journal Ad Hoc Reviewer	<i>Psychiatry Research</i>
2017 – present	Journal Ad Hoc Reviewer	<i>Social Work in Mental Health</i>
2015 – present	Journal Ad Hoc Reviewer	<i>Research on Social Work Practice</i>
2015 – 2016	Board Member	Downtown Partnership of Baltimore Inc., University of Maryland Representative

CERTIFICATION, TRAINING, & LICENSURE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Training</u>
1/2021 – 5/2021	National Research Mentoring Network (NRMN) NIH Grant Writing Coaching Groups Study

11/2019	Narcan (Naloxone) Training, NYC Department of Health
2/2019	Lunch with Partners, Student Accessibility Support Center Training for Faculty/Staff
9/2017	Stony Brook University, Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science Training Workshop
6/2016	University of Michigan, Program for Research on Black Americans Summer Mentoring Workshop, Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research
2015	Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Learning Academy's Teaching for Social Justice: Race, Poverty, and Ethnicity
8/2015	University of Pennsylvania Equity Institute, Center for the Study of Race and Equity in Education
4/2015	Agency of Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Medical Expansion Panel Study (MEPS) Data Users' Workshop
2/2013	People's Institute of Survival and Beyond, Undoing Racism/Community Organizing Workshop
9/2013	Second Annual Symposium on Social Determinants of Health: Action for Equity, Johns Hopkins University, Urban Health Institute
2011	Seminar in Field Instruction (SIFI) Certification, Columbia University
2008	Safe Zone Certification with the NYU Office of LGBT Student Services
2009 – present	Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW), New York State #81066-1

PROFESSIONAL & SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Date of Initial Membership</u>	<u>Position(s)</u>
The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)	2019	Member
Special Interest Groups of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR): <i>Eradicate Social Isolation and Immigration & Refugees</i>	2018	Member

International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW)	2018	Member
Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)	2014	Member
Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)	2012	Member
Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood (SSEA)	2012	Member
Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA)	2012	Member

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL HONORS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Honor</u>
2019	Invited Commencement Speaker, SBU Psychology Department Commencement
2019	Finalist for the emerging scholar representative on the Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood (SSEA) Governing Council
2015 – 2016	Fellow, Minority Fellowship Program, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); <u>Amount awarded</u> : \$22,900
2015	Dean Nomination for the UMB Champions of Excellence Award
2013 – 2016	Doctoral Travel Award, UMB School of Social Work
2012 – 2016	Doctoral Program Full Tuition Scholarship, UMB School of Social Work
2011	Honorary Faculty at Dean’s Reception, CUNY John Jay College
2010	Honorary Faculty Member of Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society
2009	President’s Service Award, New York University (NYU)
2009	Selected as Master of Social Work Student Representative, NYU Commencement Ceremony
2007 – 2009	Tuition Merit Scholarship, NYU, Silver School of Social Work
2003 – 2004	Dean’s List, Stony Brook University
2004	Psi Chi National Psychology Honor Society

RESEARCH SUPPORT: GRANTS, CONTRACTS

Current

<u>Dates</u>		<u>Role</u>	<u>Title, Funder, Amount, Project Description</u>
<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>		
2021 – 2022		PI	<p><u>Title:</u> <i>Building a network of community organizations and local health agencies to prevent loneliness among recent migrant youth and emerging adults</i></p> <p><u>Co-PI:</u> Miguel Muñoz -Laboy, DrPh</p> <p><u>Funder:</u> Stony Brook University Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR)</p> <p><u>Amount:</u> \$50,000</p> <p><u>Project Goal:</u> To develop the content for a comprehensive, culturally-responsive multilevel loneliness prevention intervention prototype for recent migrant youth and emerging adults.</p>
2020 – 2022		Co-I	<p><u>Title:</u> <i>Barriers to retaining and graduating STEM students with disabilities</i></p> <p><u>PI:</u> Michelle Ballan, PhD; Jason Trelewicz, PhD</p> <p><u>Funder:</u> Stony Brook University Diversity Initiative Grant</p> <p><u>Amount:</u> \$50,000</p> <p><u>Project Goal:</u> To develop an enhanced understanding of SBU students’ with disabilities needs, challenges, and opportunities within STEM.</p> <p><u>Bessaha’s Role:</u> To assist with conducting focus groups with students registered with disability services who have declared STEM majors and analysis of data.</p>

Completed

<u>Dates</u>		<u>Role</u>	<u>Title, Funder, Amount, Project Description</u>
<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>		
2015 – 2016		Co-I	<p><u>Title:</u> <i>MPathy and Medherent pilot test support</i></p> <p><u>PI:</u> George Jay Unick, PhD</p> <p><u>Funder:</u> University of Maryland Competitive Innovation Research Grant</p> <p><u>Amount:</u> \$75,000</p> <p><u>Project Goal:</u> To examine the effects of socioeconomic predisposing, social connectedness, and cultural-stigma related cognitive predictors on the likelihood, duration, and severity of loneliness and to determine the magnitude, pathways, and directionality of the associations between loneliness and mental health, substance misuse, and sexual risk indicators.</p> <p><u>Bessaha’s Role:</u> To co-lead pilot study on using the M-Pathy telehealth clinical application among community-based Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams in Baltimore, MD; created and conducted structured research interviews with ACT teams to explore clinicians’ attitudes about technology and agency capacity to integrate technology in workflow.</p>

Submitted and Scored

<u>Dates</u>		<u>Role</u>	<u>Title, Funder, Amount, Project Description</u>
<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>		
2020	– 2021	MPI	<p><u>Title:</u> <i>Loneliness and social connectedness among Latinx young adults</i> <u>MPI:</u> Miguel Muñoz-Laboy, DrPh <u>Funder:</u> National Institute of Mental Health, R01 [PA-19-373] <u>Amount:</u> \$2,740,318 <u>Project Goal:</u> To examine the effects of socioeconomic predisposing, social connectedness, and cultural-stigma related cognitive predictors on the likelihood, duration, and severity of loneliness and to determine the magnitude, pathways, and directionality of the associations between loneliness and mental health, substance misuse, and sexual risk indicators. <u>Score:</u> 36 percentile; <u>Innovation:</u> 44</p>

COURSES DIRECTED

<u>Date</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>
<u>2020 – 2021</u>			
Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 504- Human Behavior in the Social Environment (asynchronous)	26
Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 535- Organizational Leadership in FYT Systems of Care, Families, Youth, & Transition to Adulthood (FYT) Specialization	30
Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 591- Social Work in Higher Education: Practice in Colleges and Universities	17
Fall	Stony Brook University	HWC 504- Human Behavior in the Social Environment (asynchronous)	26
Fall	Stony Brook University	HWC 534-Advanced Policy Practice, FYT Specialization	29
<u>2019 – 2020</u>			
Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 579- Social Work in Higher Education	12
Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 535- Systems of Care: Critical Approaches and Analysis, FYT Specialization	16
Fall	Stony Brook University	HWC 504- Human Behavior in the Social Environment (asynchronous)	29
Fall	Stony Brook University	HWC 504- Human Behavior in the Social Environment	22
Fall	Stony Brook University	HWC 534-Advanced Policy Practice, FYT Specialization	16

2018 – 2019

Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 579- Social Work in Higher Education	24
Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 535- Systems of Care: Critical Approaches and Analysis, FYT Specialization	22
Fall	Stony Brook University	HWC 504- Human Behavior in the Social Environment	10
Fall	Stony Brook University	HWC 534- Advanced Policy Practice, FYT Specialization	22

2017 – 2018

Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 579- Social Work in Higher Education	22
Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 505- Integrating Seminar	30
Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 595- Independent Study	1
Fall	Stony Brook University	HWC 504- Human Behavior in the Social Environment	35
Fall	Stony Brook University	HWC 504- Human Behavior in the Social Environment	26

2016 – 2017

Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 579- Social Work in Higher Education	7
Spring	Stony Brook University	HWC 505- Human Behavior in the Social Environment II	23
Fall	Stony Brook University	HWC 504-Human Behavior in the Social Environment I	15
Fall	Stony Brook University	HWC 504- Human Behavior in the Social Environment I	33

2015 – 2016

Spring	University of Maryland	SOWK 706- Mental Health and Social Policy	30
Fall	University of Maryland	SOWK 600- Social Welfare and Social Policy (co-Instructor with Dr. Michael Reisch)	25

2015 – 2016

Fall/Spring	John Jay College of Criminal Justice	FRC 101- Freshman Colloquium	25/30
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2007

Spring	Stony Brook University	PSY 301- Research and Writing in Psychology	25
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MENTORING ACTIVITIES**Dissertations Supervised as Committee Member**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Current Position</u>
April 2020	Amie Vedral Cohen	Dissertation Title: <i>Participation and service-oriented campus culture as promoters for the academic success of Latino/a students at four-year institutions</i>	Lead College Advisor, Stony Brook University

MSW & MPH Students

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Mentee</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Current Position</u>
2021 – present	Kathleen Scarborough	Supervised MPH Capstone Project: <i>Impact of COVID-19 on Students at Stony Brook University</i>	Assistant Clinical Professor; Stony Brook University Department of Family, Population, and Preventive Medicine
2021 – present	Ushana Persaud & Rukshana Asfi	Hired as research assistants on OVPR Seed Grant Study	Current SBU MSW Students
2020 – 2021	Kiriaki Gatanas	Co-authored publication in <i>Child and Adolescent Mental Health</i>	School Social Worker, NYC Department of Education
2019 – present	Jessica Younger	Co-authored manuscript for publication using COVID-19 study data	Social Worker, The Institute for Family Health

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>
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School of Social Welfare

2020 – 2021	<i>Member, SSW Doctoral Program Committee</i>
2019 – 2020	<i>Member, SSW MSW Program Enrollment Committee</i>
2018	<i>Member, SSW MSW Community Learning Day Planning Committee</i>

2018 – 2019 *Member, SSW Search Committee*

2017 – present *Chair, SSW MSW Specialization: Families, Youth, & Transition to Adulthood*

2017 *Member, SUNY School of Optometry Social Worker Hiring Committee*

2016 – present *Member, SSW MSW Program Committee*

2016 – 2019 *Member, SSW MSW Curriculum Committee*

2016 – 2017 *Member, SSW Field Education Committee*

2016 *Invited Speaker, SSW event- A Community Conversation for Social Workers: The Way Forward*

Stony Brook University

2019 – present *Member, Leadership Symposium Planning Committee*

2018 – present *Member, Office of the President’s ADA Advisory Committee*

2017 – present *Member, Office of the President’s Undergraduate Male Student Academic Completion Team*

2017 – 2018 *Member, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Mental Health Milestones Group*

2017 – 2018 *Co-Chair, CAPS Assessment Working Subgroup*

University of Maryland

2017 *Guest Panelist, SSW “Academic Job Market for PhD Students”*

2013 – 2015 *Guest Panelist, MSW Research Scholars Program*

2013 – 2016 *Incoming SSW Doctoral Student Mentor*

2013 – 2016 *Member, SSW Student Recruitment Committee*

2012 – 2016 *Student Representative, SSW PhD Program Committee*

2012 – 2016 *Member, Graduate Student Association*

John Jay College of Criminal Justice

2009 – 2012 *Member, SEEKfest Planning Committee for Freshman Students*

2009 – 2012 *Member, SEEK Awards Planning Committee*

2009 – 2012 *Member, Academic Probation Committee*

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed

*Student at time of publication

1. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Hayward, R.A, Gatanas, K.* (in press). The role of youth and young adults in natural disaster mitigation and response: A scoping review. *Child and Adolescent Mental Health*.
2. Hammock, A., Hayward, R.A., McKillop, J., Kohli, E., & **Bessaha, M.L.** (in press). Co-parenting and masculinity in a fatherhood program designed to prevent intimate partner violence. *Family Relations*.
3. Mushonga, D., Fedina, L., & **Bessaha, M.L.** (2021). College student perceptions of institutional responses to sexual assault reporting and general help-seeking intentions. *Journal of American College Health*, 69(3), 585-591. doi: 10.1080/07448481.2019.1705827
4. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Reed, R., Donlon, A., Mathews, W., Bell, A., & Merolla, D. (2020). Creating a more inclusive environment for students with disabilities: Findings from participatory action research. *Disability Studies Quarterly*, 40(3). doi:10.18061/dsq.v40i3.7094
5. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Cornelius, L., & Unick, G.J. (2020). Barriers to behavioral health service utilization among first-generation immigrant emerging adults. *Social Work in Mental Health*, 18(1), 55-74. doi: 10.1080/15332985.2019.1679323
6. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Sabbath, E.L., Morris, Z., Malik, S., Scheinfeld, L., & Saragossi, J. (2020). A systematic review of loneliness interventions among non-elderly adults. *Clinical Social Work Journal- special issue on social isolation*, 48(1), 110-125. doi: 10.1007/s10615-019-00724-0
7. Thompson, T., Rodebaugh, T.L., **Bessaha, M.L.**, & Sabbath, E.L. (2020). The association between social isolation and health: An analysis of parent-adolescent dyads from the Family Life, Activity, Sun, Health, and Eating Study. *Clinical Social Work Journal- special issue on social isolation*, 48(1), 18-24. doi: 10.1007/s10615-019-00730-2
8. Fedina, L., Mushonga, D., **Bessaha, M.L.**, Jun, H.J., Narita, Z., & Devylder, J. (2019, online advance). Moderating effects of perceived neighborhood factors on intimate partner violence, psychological distress, and suicide risk. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. doi:10.1177/0886260519884687
9. Dixon, Z.,* **Bessaha, M.L.**, & Post, M. (2018). Beyond the ballot: Immigrant integration through civic engagement and advocacy. *Race and Social Problems, special issue on immigration*, 10(4), 366-375. doi: 10.1007/s12552-018-9237-1
10. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Solis, C., Franks, C., Yoon, J., Dualeh, D., Monroy-Caceres, H., Cuesta, G., & Rodriguez, E. (2018). Social work in higher education: Internships in opportunity programs. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*, 38(4), 417-430. doi: 10.1080/08841233.2018.1500412

11. Erekaha, S., Cornelius, L., **Bessaha, M.L.**, Ibrahim, A., Adeyemo, G. D., Fadare-Adeniyi, M., Charurat, M., Ezeanolue, E., & Sam-Agudu, N.A. (2018). Exploring the acceptability of Option B Plus among HIV-positive Nigerian women engaged and not engaged in the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV cascade: A qualitative study. *Sahara J- Journal of Social Aspects of HIV-AIDS*, 15(1), 128-137. doi: 0.1080/17290376.2018.1527245
12. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Shumway, M., Smith, M.E., Bright, C.L., & Unick, G.J. (2017). Predictors of hospital length and cost of stay in a national sample of adult patients with psychotic disorders. *Psychiatric Services*, 68(6), 559-565. doi: 10.1176/appi.ps.201600312
13. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Schuler, B.S., & Moon, C.A. (2017). Social workers' perceptions of training preparedness and social justice norms on workplace empowerment. *Journal of Social Service Research*, 43(2), 181-192. doi:10.1080/01488376.2016.1226228
14. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2017). Factor structure of the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale (K6) among emerging adults. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 27(5), 616-624. doi: 10.1177/1049731515594425
15. Schuler, B.R., **Bessaha, M.L.**, & Moon, C.A. (2016). Addressing secondary traumatic stress in the human services: A comparison of public and private sectors. *Human Service Organizations: Management, Leadership, & Governance*, 40(2), 94-106. doi: 10.1080/23303131.2015.1124060
16. Bright, C.L., Young, D., **Bessaha, M.L.**, & Falls, B. (2015). Perceptions and outcomes following teen court involvement. *Social Work Research* 39(3), 135-146. doi: 10.1093/swr/svv018

Book Chapters

1. Brown, S., Sabbath, E.L., Cosby, R., **Bessaha, M.L.**, Munson, M., Kong, J.E. Crewe, S.E., Tracy, E.M., & Lubben, J. (in press). Eradicate social isolation. In Barth, R.P., Shanks, T.R., Messing, J., & Williams, J.H. (Eds.). *Grand challenges for social work and society*. (2nd ed.). London: Oxford University Press.
2. Klein, D.N. & **Bessaha, M.L.** (2009). Depressive personality disorder. In T. Millon, P.H. Blaney, & R.D. Davis (Eds.), *Oxford textbook of psychopathology* (2nd ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.

Dissertation

Bessaha, M.L. (2016). Behavioral health among foreign-born and U.S.-born emerging adults: Barriers to seeking services, college enrollment status, and service utilization. University of Maryland, Baltimore. *Committee Co-Chairs*: Llewellyn Cornelius, PhD; George Jay Unick, PhD

Manuscripts Under Revise and Resubmit

1. Deluca-Acconi, R., **Bessaha, M.L.**, Mendoza, M., & Valesquez, N. (revisions submitted). How did we get here and where do we go from here?: Supporting undocumented students through a pandemic

Manuscripts Under Review

1. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Lu, W., & Muñoz-Laboy, M. (under review). Examining the effects of loneliness on depression, anxiety, and substance misuse among socio-economically marginalized Latinx men
2. Jabbari, J., **Bessaha, M.L.**, Malik, S., Ferris, D., Brickman, S.*, Schiff, M., Pat-Horenczyk, R., Grinstein-Weiss, M., & Frank, T*. (under review). How does social support in higher education relate to learning availability during COVID-19? A multi-group structural equation model from the U.S. and Israel
3. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Mushonga, D., Fedina, L., & Devylder, J. (under review). Loneliness, social support, and mental health service use during the transition to adulthood
4. Shimizu, R.*, **Bessaha, M.L.**, Ben-David, S., Moore, K., Rodwin, A.*, & Munson, M. (under review). Recovery among young adults with serious mental illness

Manuscripts in Progress

1. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Malik, S., Scarbrough, K., Ho, W., & Younger, J. Loneliness, emotional support, perceived health, and help-seeking behaviors among graduate students
2. Rose, T., **Bessaha, M.L.**, Forrester, P.*, & Adamczyk, A. Relationship between religious involvement and connectedness in adolescence on wellbeing in early adulthood
3. Jabbari, J., **Bessaha, M.L.**, Malik, S., Ferris, D., & Frank, T.* Do COVID-19 hardships explain the relationships between race, gender, and mental health?: A moderated mediation model of university students
4. Lu, W., **Bessaha, M.L.**, & Muñoz-Laboy, M. Major depression, substance use disorders, and co-occurring conditions: National trends and treatment disparities among emerging adults in the United States

PRESENTATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations

International

1. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Mushonga, D., & Fedina, L. (2019, October). *College student perceptions of institutional responses to sexual assault reporting and general help-seeking intentions*. Oral presentation at the Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood (SSEA), 9th Conference, Toronto, ON.

2. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Reed, R., Donlon, A., Matthews, W., Bell, A., & Merolla, D. (2019, October). *Voices heard: College students with disabilities use participatory action research to enact campus-wide change*. Symposium at the SSEA, 9th Conference, Toronto, ON.
3. **Bessaha, M.L.** Solis, C., Franks, C., Yoon, J., Dualeh, D., Monroy-Caceres, H., Cuesta, G., & Rodriguez, E. (2018, July). *Social work in higher education: Internships in opportunity programs*. Poster presented at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development (SWSD), Dublin, Ireland.
4. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2018, July). *Barriers to mental health service utilization among emerging adult immigrants in the United States*. Oral presentation at the Joint World Conference on SWSD, Dublin, Ireland.
5. Ko, J. & **Bessaha, M.L.** (2016, June). *Help-seeking behaviors among working-age adults with suicidal ideation*. Oral presentation at the Joint World Conference on SWSD, Seoul, Korea.

National

1. Newman, T., Florio, M., Mastroleo, N., Ekas, A., Thorne, K., **Bessaha, M.L.**, O'Neil, P., & Renner, D. (2021, October). *Assessing mental health awareness in collegiate athletics: Insights from key stakeholders across a Division I athletic conference*. Featured presentation presented at the Alliance of Social Workers in Sport 7th Annual Social Work in Sports Symposium, Virtual Meeting.
2. Lu, W., **Bessaha, M.L.**, & Muñoz-Laboy, M. (2021, November). *Major depression, substance use disorders, and co-occurring conditions: National trends and treatment disparities among emerging adults in the United States*. Oral presentation at the SSEA, 10th Conference on Emerging Adulthood: Well-being During Emerging Adulthood: Challenges & Opportunities, Virtual Meeting.
3. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Mushonga, D., Fedina, L., & Devylder, J. (2021, November). *Association between loneliness, mental health symptoms, and treatment use among emerging adults*. Oral presentation at the SSEA, 10th Conference on Emerging Adulthood: Well-being During Emerging Adulthood: Challenges & Opportunities, Virtual Meeting.
4. **Bessaha, M.L.** & Hayward, R. A. (2021, January). *The role of youth and young adults in natural disaster mitigation and response: A scoping review*. Poster presented at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR), 25th Annual Conference: Social Work Science for Social Change, Virtual Meeting.
5. Shimizu, R. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Ben-David, S., Moore, K., Rodwin, A., & Munson, M. (2021, January). *Recovery among young adults with serious mental illness*. Poster presented at the SSWR, 25th Annual Conference: Social Work Science for Social Change, Virtual Meeting.
6. **Bessaha, M.L.** & Hayward, R. A. (2020, July). A review of youth and young adults' engagement in natural disaster mitigation, response, and recovery. Oral presentation at the Natural Hazards Center Researchers Meeting, Virtual Meeting.
7. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Sabbath, E.L., Morris, Z., Malik, S., Scheinfeld, L., & Saragossi, J. (2020, January). *A systematic review of loneliness interventions among non-elderly adults*. Poster presented at the SSWR, 24th Annual Conference: Reducing Racial and Economic Inequality, Washington, DC.
8. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2019, August). *Social work in higher education: A critical dialogue on social work's responses to social problems in higher education*. Symposium on Social Work

Responses to Social Problems in Education at the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) 2019 Annual Meeting, New York, NY.

9. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Reed, R., Donlon, A., Matthews, W., Bell, A., & Merolla, D. (2019, May). *Creating more inclusive environments for students with disabilities: Findings from participatory action research*. Poster presented at the 31st Annual Postsecondary Disability Training Institute (PTI), Boston, MA.
10. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2019, January). *Behavioral health service use among first-generation emerging adult immigrants: Implications for higher education policy and practice*. Symposium on Immigrant Youth, Higher Education, and the Transition to Adulthood at the SSWR, 23rd Annual Conference: Ending Gender-Based, Family and Community Violence, San Francisco, CA.
11. Hammock, A., Hayward, R.A., **Bessaha, M.L.** (2019, January). Coparenting communication and hybrid masculinity in a fatherhood program. Poster presentation at SSWR, 23rd Annual Conference: Ending Gender-Based, Family and Community Violence, San Francisco, CA.
12. Forrest-Bank, S., Cuellar, M., **Bessaha, M.L.**, & Story, E. (2018, January). *Relationships among childhood environmental factors and young adult psychological distress*. Oral presentation at the SSWR, 22nd Annual Conference: Achieving Equal Opportunity, Equity, and Justice, Washington, D.C.
13. Fedina, L., **Bessaha, M.L.**, & Backes, B. (2017, November). *Factors associated with sexual assault police reporting and victim service utilization among college-enrolled emerging adults*. Oral presentation at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
14. **Bessaha, M.L.** & Ko, J. (2017, November). *Behavioral health among emerging adults: College enrollment status, barriers to seeking services, and service utilization*. Oral presentation at the SSEA, 8th Conference, Washington, D.C.
15. **Bessaha, M.L.** & Fedina, L. (2017, November). *Sociocultural predictors of psychological help-seeking behaviors among emerging adult immigrants: A systematic review*. Oral presentation at the SSEA, 8th Conference, Washington, D.C.
16. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Shumway, M., Smith, M., Bright, C.L., & Unick, G.J. (2017, January). *Predictors of hospital length and cost of stay in a national sample of adult patients with psychotic disorders*. Oral presentation at the SSWR, 21st Annual Conference: Ensure Healthy Development for all Youth, New Orleans, LA.
17. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2016, October). *Factor structure of the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale among emerging adults*. Oral presentation at the Sixth International Conference on Health, Wellness & Society, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
18. Backes, B., **Bessaha, M.L.**, & Fedina, L. (2016, January). *Female victims of physical and sexual violence: Differences in seeking standalone services post-victimization*. Oral presentation at the SSWR, 20th Annual Conference: Grand Challenges for Social Work, Washington, D.C.
19. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Bright, C.L., & Unick, G.J. (2016, January). *Predictors of length of hospital stay using a national sample of emerging adult patients with psychotic disorders*. Poster presented at the SSWR, 20th Annual Conference: Grand Challenges for Social Work, Washington, D.C.
20. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Belcher, J., Himelhoch, S., Kreyenbuhl, J., & Unick, G.J. (2014, January). *Barriers, attitudes, and capacity for mobile technology adoption in a community ACT*

provider. Poster presented at the SSWR, 19th Annual Conference: The Social and Behavioral Importance of Increased Longevity, New Orleans, LA.

21. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2014, October). *Perceptions of training preparedness and social justice norms on workplace empowerment*. Poster presented at the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Tampa, FL.

Regional

1. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Solis, C., Franks, C., Yoon, H., Dualeh, D., Monroy-Cacere, H., Cuesta, G., & Rodriguez, E. (2017, April). *Life after Tri-State: From practice to publication*. Oral presentation at the Tri-State Consortium of Opportunity Programs in Higher Education, 14th Biennial Conference, Atlantic City, NJ.
2. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Solis, C., Zummo, J., & Alford, S. (2015, April). *Paradigms that build and sustain effective SEEK/CD student leadership*. Workshop at the Tri-State Consortium of Opportunity Programs in Higher Education, 13th Biennial Conference: Bringing the Future into Focus the Shifting Paradigms of Higher Education, Tarrytown, NY.
3. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2014, March). *Perceptions of training preparedness and social justice norms on workplace empowerment*. Poster presented at the 35th Annual Graduate Research Conference, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD.
4. Franks, C., **Bessaha, M.L.**, Son, M., Alford, S., Diaz, V., Jagielnicka, J., Johnny, W., Afzal, A., Luperon, C., & Dixon, Z. (2013, April). *Social justice and creative engagement: Syllabus as dialogue*. Oral presentation at the Tri-State Consortium of Opportunity Programs in Higher Education, 12th Biennial Conference: Access and Opportunities: Keeping America's Promise, Elizabeth, NJ.
5. Franks, C., **Bessaha, M.L.**, Son, M., Alford, S., Diaz, V., Jagielnicka, J., Johnny, W.,... & Dixon, Z. (2012, December). *Creative engagement through the curriculum development process*. Workshop at the CUNY Sharing What Works Conference: Creative Engagement: Bridging Possibilities between Students, Campus and Community, Borough of Manhattan Community College, New York, NY.
6. King-Toler, E., **Bessaha, M.L.**, Diaz, V., Son, M., & Franks, C. (2011, March). *Using social media to engage students*. Workshop at the Tri-State Consortium of Opportunity Programs in Higher Education, 11th Biennial Conference: Assessing Our Past and Planning Our Future in a Changing World, Tarrytown, NY.
7. King-Toler, E., **Bessaha, M.L.**, Diaz, V., Son, M., & Franks, C. (2010, December). *Using social media to engage students*. Workshop at the CUNY Sharing What Works Conference: Contemporary Needs of Students in Higher Education, CUNY Lehman College, Bronx, NY.

Invited Presentations & Workshops

1. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2018, July). *Trauma among young adults: Practice, policy, & research*. Keynote address at the Boldly Crowned, Inc. nonprofit launch event, New York, NY.
2. **Bessaha, M.L.**, Reed, R., Donlon, A., Blake, J., Castellanos, J., Fallon, A., Fernandez, A., Gurba, A., O'Brien, P., Mazzio, J., Nikprelaj, K., Ruotolo, L., Matthews, W., Bell, A., Merolla, D., & Pessier, J. (2018, May). *Empowering students with disabilities: Findings from engaging in participatory action research*. Presentation to Stony Brook University student affairs administrators and ADA Committee, Stony Brook, NY.
3. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2018, March). "Nevertheless she persisted". Invited panelist for event Honoring Women Who Fight for Inclusion of All Women. Suffolk JCC. Commack, NY.

4. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2017, July). *Netiquette and digital citizenship: Putting your best self forward*. Workshop at the Incoming SEEK Student Summer Academy CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY.
5. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2017, May). *Got stress? Thriving beyond challenges*. Workshop at Lawyers for Children agency for foster youth, New York, NY.
6. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2016, June). *From digital citizenship to digital leadership: Preparing future college student leaders*. Workshop at the CUNY Special Programs Student Leadership Academy: Developing Leaders for a Changing World, Callicoon, NY.
7. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2015, June). *Engaging college students in effective leadership and digital citizenship*. Workshop at the CUNY Special Programs Student Leadership Academy: Developing Leaders for a Changing World, Glen Cove, NY.
8. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2014, June). *Student leadership and digital citizenship: A costs-benefits analysis of social media*. Workshop at the CUNY Special Programs Student Leadership Academy: Developing Leaders for a Changing World, Glen Cove, NY.
9. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2013, June). *Social media: The good, the bad, and the debatable*. Workshop at the CUNY Special Programs Student Leadership Academy: Developing Leaders for a Changing World, Glen Cove, NY.
10. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2011 & 2012, June). *Leadership and power of great social networking*. Workshop at the CUNY Special Programs Student Leadership Academy: Developing Leaders for a Changing World, Glen Cove, NY.

Other Presentations: Guest Lectures

1. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2015). *Planning for graduate school*. Lecture given to undergraduate psychology students at University of Maryland, College Park. Instructor: Lea Dougherty, PhD.
2. **Bessaha, M.L.** (2013, 2014, 2015). *Cultural empathy and practice*. Lectures given to MSW students at UMB School of Social Work on using the Culturagram (Congress, 2007) and engaging in cultural empathy with clients. Instructors: Debbie Gioia, PhD; Catherine Kelly Moon, MSW.