

PA-PAC Questionnaire for Candidates for City Council Appointment **2018**

When answering this questionnaire, please repeat the questions in your response document with each question numbered and organized as it appears here. Type your responses in italics, bold, or a different font to distinguish your responses from the questions. Please do not use colors. Please try to confine your responses to the word limits set for each question. They should be generous. Do not feel obliged to exhaust the limit for each question.

Please return the completed form with your resume or personal history describing your education, work history, community service, and prior political experience as soon as possible, but by December 22, 2017, at the latest.

You may e-mail your responses to Tom Miller at tom-miller1@nc.rr.com or you may send a printed copy of your responses to Durham PA-PAC c/o Tom Miller 1110 Virginia Avenue, Durham, NC 27705-3262

Please note that following the December 22 deadline, the Durham People's Alliance PAC may publish your responses to this questionnaire and your resume.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire and your willingness to serve the people of Durham.

Candidate's name: Kaaren M. Haldeman

Address: 1 West Bridlewood Trail Durham, NC 27713

E-mail Address: kaargav@gmail.com

Phone: 919-672-5445

Government and the Public Good

1. Of all the issues confronting city government, which single issue is most important to you and why? What would you do about it if elected? *Please limit your answer to 300 words.*

I would like to see greater engagement with communities who suffer a disproportionate amount of violence with emphasis on innovations in prevention and a commitment to improving and nurturing police-neighborhood relations. While there are several key issues confronting city government, my work in gun violence prevention brings into sharp relief the interrelationships between all of them. If our citizens living in areas of Durham that bear more of the burden of violence are only concerned with survival and the survival of their children, there is little desire, energy or will to engage as full members of a healthy and community-driven city. While economic opportunity, housing and food security, quality public schools, access to child care, transportation, criminal justice reform, racial and gendered wage gaps loom large as some of those key issues, dialogue and citizen-participation is difficult when parents worry about the basic safety of their families. I care deeply about families who must resort to hiding in a bathtub in order to avoid gunfire, or families who don't send their children or grandchildren out to

play—even in daylight—because they feel it’s unsafe. Community members who feel targeted by law enforcement/racial profiling present the specific challenge to creatively and collectively improve those relationships.

As an activist and advocate in gun violence prevention, I meet too many families who have suffered the deep loss of a child or another loved one. A common narrative in Durham includes unsolved murders and a feeling that the city could do more to help bring justice to grieving families. I would work toward improving the trust in city government with an understanding that there is a history of disenfranchisement and a feeling that Durham—a generations-long hometown for some—is fast becoming a city to which they and their families do not belong.

2. What can the city do to lift the wages of the lowest paid workers in Durham and reduce growing income inequality in our community? Where in our community do you see opportunities for city government to address the racial wealth gap? *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

I believe that in order to improve wage conditions and economic inequality experienced by our lowest paid workers and their families, we need to engage those workers in meaningful conversation to collectively approach solutions. As a values-driven city that prides itself on inclusion and equality, I would love to see more direct engagement with those we are assisting and work to create partnerships as we address growing income inequality and the racial wealth gap.

I confess that I’m not well-versed in the economics of city government and would rely on fellow council members and city employees to help me better understand the capabilities of city government to directly lift wages in the context of budget priorities. I would be interested in a conversation about co-op models of local businesses, using the Durham Co-op Market and other co-op driven cities as models. Co-ops could not only serve to improve wages in local communities, but depending on the model would help foster senses of shared responsibility, create collective space for critical and informal conversation, and provide needed remedies to food insecurity or other pressing issues (e.g., child care; transportation).

By building trust through consistent dialogue, our city can become the truly multi-vocal place we call home. It’s most important to fully understand what the “racial wealth gap” means—how do we understand it as a city council, how is it experienced by the citizens most affected, how does our city as a whole understand it/address it? By speaking directly to various communities—affected directly or indirectly by this gap—we come to a better understanding of how to address it together. In my opinion, as an engaged city, there are no limits to what Durham can accomplish—even in seemingly complex areas where so many other cities have failed.

3. How should the city measure the benefits and costs of incentives to promote development especially as those benefits and costs affect low-income residents of Durham? How would you use these measurements when deciding to vote for or against a proposed incentive? *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

Short answer? Carefully. As I mentioned in above responses, in some areas of our city there is a growing feeling of being left out of the new economic success of downtown Durham. I know this isn’t news to our city officials, and I am glad for elected representatives who take this specific issue very seriously. Building communities of trust are important in any steps moving forward that directly or indirectly affect our low-income residents.

I would use the information from expanded and consistent community conversations to add to the mix of information when deciding on costs and benefits of incentives. Building on shared trust between city government and citizen, I would ask the questions: Who is included in the incentives? [e.g., What kind of businesses? Who are the business owners? How do they see themselves as part of Durham?]; What might be the costs to low-income communities? Will low-income communities feel welcomed by new business or are we neglecting the needs/wishes for development that they have articulated? How do low-income communities and those who are not low-income talk about development and incentives? How does each see costs and benefits? How does each experience those costs and benefits?

As a social scientist and activist, I believe it's important to get out and talk to people. Numeric measurements of the economic impact of these incentives are also important—as Durham needs to attract new and robust revenue from which we can all benefit—but I would hope that we would take very seriously how people across the city feel about specific projects and whether those projects support a city of inclusion and a Durham for all that we hope to be.

4. What actions should the city take to expand job creation and job quality? In your answer, please comment on the city's potential involvement in entrepreneurship, worker-owned cooperatives, and union organizing. *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

As mentioned in an above response, I would love to see the city encourage and participate to the best of their ability in the creation and support of cooperatives. Co-op models are diverse in their ownership structures, services/goods provided and in their ability to generate feelings of community trust and responsibility for one another. Additionally, city-wide initiatives—such as competing grants (e.g., matching neighborhood grant program); listening sessions in neighborhoods in need of job creation and improved quality; or other means by which to enhance community input on job type, wages and goods/services to meet local needs would all be essential parts to making decisions regarding job creation and quality. City involvement in entrepreneurial training could be a critical part of building a well-prepared workforce and could enlist community leaders and successful local entrepreneurs in the process. City-sponsored training could improve trust and a desire for continued dialogue from across the city. In terms of union organizing, I would have to understand more about union goals and culture in order to determine a city role in their formation. As a member of Faculty Forward, I celebrated the formation of the Duke Faculty Union last year. I understand the positive role a union can take in ensuring the safety, security and equitable pay of its members but also understand how abuses of power within unions can leave the best interests of workers behind. If workers feel that a union is the best choice for them, I would confer with city council and other city officials to define what role, if any, the city government would play.

Ultimately, I believe that co-operatively improving economic opportunity that elevates wages, improves community sustainability and overall health are essential building blocks of our goal of an inclusive and vibrant Durham.

Housing, City Planning, and Neighborhoods

5. What does “gentrification” mean to you? What, if anything, should be done about it? How, if at all, is the issue of gentrification implicated in the Planning Department's current review of zoning in East Durham, the proposed creation of an Alston Avenue Design District, and the redevelopment of the former Fayette Place property? *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

In my experience, “gentrification” means displacement of native (usually city) populations as a result of often expensive renovations of downtown and associated neighborhoods. It is both welcomed by the those who see it as economic advancement and cultural attraction and feared as a point of anger and disenfranchisement for those who are displaced and the histories they represent.

There are a few issues here. I think the sense of gentrification as “creeping” needs to be directly addressed, with a responsibility to carefully evaluate the kinds of projects that are approved by the city that contribute to that feeling of unease. Again, including communities who could be displaced or disenfranchised by development projects on the edges of or in their neighborhoods - -as in East Durham--in the conversations about development is critical. Creeping development that doesn’t feel inclusive at best or hostile at worst does more to further divide communities already struggling to survive from those enjoying the new vibrancy of downtown. Ask the neighbors on Driver St. or Angier to provide input on how they see gentrification. While the term is alienating, neighborhoods can imagine the kind of community in which they’d like to live. It may include successful storefronts open on their corner; a safe and walkable center; a vibrant local economy; green spaces in which their children can play; the ability to work and live in the neighborhood of their grandparents, among other possibilities.

I attended the Durham CAN meeting in April of last year at Monument of Faith Church when the purchase of Fayette Place was put before the city council. The commitment of nearly every council member was met with applause and cheering not because they had agreed to wrest to property from negligent owners, but because it was a symbolic and concrete commitment to the history of Hayti, its prominent place in Durham’s identity and to the people who live there now. Moving forward, participation from the people living near Hayti and NCCU and other community stakeholders is essential not only to provide input on the future of the land, but to build critical trust between city government and neighborhoods. With trust, communities could redefine improvements to their communities as just that, rather than gentrification.

6. What should the city seek to accomplish through its power to stimulate and regulate growth? What principles and considerations will guide your decisions in zoning cases and other development issues? Illustrate your answer with a recent controversial zoning case. Did the city decide the case correctly? *Please limit your answer to 500 words.*

I may have answered portions of this in previous responses, but I believe that the city of Durham should use its powers for the good of all, as I believe this city council intends to do. Zoning and development decisions will again benefit from community input in forums that encourage fullest participation possible. Online public comment may not suit community members who have no access to internet. Face to face conversation may be convenient for some but not others with transportation or other barriers. It would be incumbent on city council to understand the best forms of communication to invite the greatest input.

If appointed, I will need to take time to understand more about zoning and would rely on fellow council members and city documents to educate me on the history of zoning decisions. However, I am glad to know that we live in a city that understands zoning as a controversial issue, that there are pros and cons, that there are intended and unintended consequences for each decision. I’m glad to see that on our city website that there is a commitment to transparency of process where online users can search the Unified Development Ordinance (as I did) and that public hearings have been held on a variety of zoning issues. I’m most familiar with the recent controversy over zoning in Old East Durham—one that aims to encourage investment while balancing the challenges property owners would have to comply with re-

zoning. While community members have provided input, an added challenge to city council is to understand that not everyone will be happy with their decision and how to move forward not only with zoning, but in how they commit to building and keeping trust in Old East Durham.

7. Under what circumstances would you vote to approve a rezoning that does not include commitments to meet the city's affordable housing goal? If you answered yes, how would you ensure that the city meet its goal? Please illustrate your answer with a recent case. *Please limit your answer to 500 words.*

Honestly, I would need to know as much information as possible before voting to approve or not approve such a rezoning. I would also want to know how the city can balance targeted goals (in terms of numbers) with affordable housing goals that are not numeric. I believe that understanding what affordable housing means and who is in need of it are both critical pieces of any decision related to the issue. Finally, I would like to see the city move toward the concept of "affordable homes" rather than housing. Too many of our low-income residents move from dwelling to dwelling and are unable to establish a sense of place they can call home. I would encourage the city council to work toward goals of affordable homes—places of stability and warmth that promote healthy lives, families and communities.

City Finances, Capital Improvements, Transportation, and City Services

8. If the city needs more revenue for a basic public service, do you, in general, favor a new or increased user fee or a property tax increase? Residential trash pickup is an example of a basic service. *Please limit your answer to 250 words.*

Again, I would have to have more information about the financial burden that a fee or tax increase would have across the city.

9. Do you support or oppose Durham's plans for rail-based transit? If federal funding for the project is denied, what must Durham do about transportation, urban planning, housing, taxes, and infrastructure? *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

Yes, I support it as part of a larger plan for the Research Triangle. If federal funding is denied, I would encourage partnerships across the Triangle to creatively and efficiently address transportation needs. Our universities are powerful resources for expertise in everything from urban and environmental planning to the economic costs of growing cities and, through town-gown partnerships, could collaborate on infrastructure that makes sense locally and as part of a triangle-wide system. Ridership studies, accessibility of bus stops, affordable fares, etc. would all be part of an information gathering process leading to next steps of implementation.

10. Does the city's investment in bus transportation reach the population that needs it most? What else can be done to improve bus transportation access and affordability? *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

I see transportation as interconnected with economic opportunity, the ability to perform essential daily or weekly tasks like grocery shopping or getting to work or school and the basic civic function of voting. I would need to learn more about Durham transit across the city, the condition and accessibility of bus stops and how buses are used in order to understand whether the system currently meets the needs of those who require it the most. However, by attending the Durham Board of Elections meetings in November and December of last year, when Durham debated changes in early and Sunday voting, residents explained that it was difficult for them to vote due

to poor accessibility of bus stops for the elderly and for those who have physical impairments. The implication was that bus service did not meet the needs of a large segment of our population. I would encourage the city council to look at Chapel Hill's free transit and evaluate such a model for Durham.

11. Would you support a property tax relief program, for example, a circuit breaker, to reduce the tax burden on homeowners with limited resources and help them stay in their homes? If your answer is yes, please describe the program or programs you would support. If your answer is no, please explain. *Please limit your answer to 300 words.*

Yes. I would need to educate myself on programs already in operation in other parts of North Carolina and across the country that specifically address this problem. Ultimately, I believe that helping residents stay in their homes and in their neighborhoods is an important long-term effort to encourage stability and security that leads to healthy communities.

12. What is the city's most pressing capital improvement priority? *Please limit your answer to 300 words.*

There are probably many competing ideas for the most pressing priority and I would need to learn more about the options currently on the table. However, I think historic preservation of the civil rights and African American history of Durham should be part of any priority.

13. What would you push for in the city's upcoming budget? *Please limit your answer to 300 words.*

I would like to see more money devoted to community engagement of our neighborhoods, with specific linguistic outreach to Hispanic communities.

Policing and Public Safety

14. Is there a trust problem between the people of Durham and the police department? Are you satisfied with the department's responses to issues of use of force, racial profiling, deployment of personnel, searches, and communication with the public? *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

Recent events in our city in the context of a nationwide acknowledgment of police violence primarily directed at people of color have contributed to both a deeper breach of trust between communities and law enforcement and a mobilization of social movements like Black Lives Matter to directly address it. While attending monthly luncheons of the Religious Coalition for a Nonviolent Durham, I learned that law enforcement used to attend the luncheons. Conversations between police and the people of Durham were able to happen in the context of a faith-based environment, and relations were not as strained as they are now. Recently, I have seen sheriff deputies attend the meetings—something I haven't regularly seen in the last five years. I believe it's important for police to attend these meetings and to openly discuss the reasons for the distrust and the ideas people have to address it. Mutual interest in keeping our streets safe while protecting the lives of our families should be part of those discussions.

I cannot say whether I'm satisfied with the police department's responses as I think they are still in process. I have met with Chief Davis on a few occasions and am eager to see how changes in the department will result in an end to racial profiling and the use of excessive force. While police training should include deep dives into racial sensitivity and equity, we're talking about perceptions of one

another that are deeply engrained. The Religious Coalition and its partners have been working to end the violence for decades and understand the landscape possibly better than any other organization. Their city wide members, including Bull City United, are invaluable resources in developing creative solutions to the stressed relations between the police and the people of Durham. It's important to remember that many of our police officers are from Durham, are people of color, and are part of Durham families. Addressing the problem of trust should begin with meaningful dialogue and an emphasis on our shared values of the safety and security of our families and our neighborhoods.

15. To what degree, if any, should the city cooperate with U.S. Department of Immigration & Customs Enforcement? Should the city become a sanctuary city? If your answer is yes, for whom should the city provide sanctuary and by what means should sanctuary be provided? If your answer is no, please explain your reasons. In either case, please be specific. *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

I do not believe that Durham should cooperate with the US Department of I.C.E. Currently, the federal dept. seeks to undermine families and deport men and women, sometimes teens, who only know this country as their own or who have fled violence in their home country. I believe we should stand strong as a sanctuary city for those with sensitive immigration status in danger of being taken from their families. I know of several people living in sanctuary already in houses of worship and have supported my own friends with sensitive status during this time. My concern is the fear that families continue to experience that affects their daily lives. I have seen children in tears explain how they may have to take care of younger siblings if a parent is deported. These are heartbreaking times. Proclaiming Durham as a sanctuary provides some relief to that fear, helping families continue to grow and flourish in our city and for children to believe they will have a successful future here.

16. Should the city allocate more, less, or about the same money to policing? Please explain your answer. If your answer is less, would you allocate more money to other services to improve public safety? Again, please explain. *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

I need to understand more about the budget and hear from different perspectives before allocating more or less money to policing. I would like to see some money allocated to innovative alternatives to policing that would promote public safety, including school-based programs that emphasize mutual respect, personal dignity, nonviolent conflict resolution, and building a sense of responsibility for the safety of one another.

Civil Rights

17. Name one issue in Durham that directly impacts, or is directly impacted by, race inequity and how can the city incorporate a race equity framework in addressing this issue? *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

It's difficult to choose only one issue impacted by race inequity, as there are many interrelated issues including economic opportunity, criminal justice reform, restorative justice, food and housing insecurity, gun violence, health inequalities and access to quality public education. If we look specifically at violence in low-income and poor neighborhoods of color, our first step is to acknowledge that histories of economic depression and poor access to jobs and education, combined with incarceration rates well above those of white communities are part of the root system of the violence. I would recommend looking at other communities who have implemented a racial equity framework and the tools already available in order to make race equity an integral part of the decision-making processes aimed at developing policies to end the violence. Inviting, recruiting and training community members to be part of race equity teams would be essential and would provide community support for neighborhood

programs. As mentioned in my above responses, data from communities most affected is important in moving forward with solutions that work. We would need to identify the data and how to collect it, including qualitative data from families and neighborhoods with intimate experience with violence as a part of daily life. Finally, we should seek alliances across government and community to work in partnership for a meaningful solution. As someone who has worked in gun violence prevention (over 85% of Durham homicides are committed with a firearm), I know that affected communities feel a deep sense of urgency to solve this problem. A city council operating in a race equity framework would prioritize this issue and feel that sense of urgency too.

18. If the city could adopt an ordinance concerning the civil rights of members of the LGBTQ community, what provisions should that ordinance contain? *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

I believe an ordinance should include the provision that LGBTQ+ community members will be protected from any violations of human dignity including state law that forces someone to align with biological sex on a birth certificate. The City of Durham acknowledges and supports gender fluidity and respects individuals' rights to align according to their own experience. It would also include a provision guarding against any discrimination on the basis of gender identity.

Personal and Political

19. What would you bring to the city council that is not already represented by the members who are currently serving? You may wish to consider your background, education, experience, and set of skills when responding to this question. *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

As a social scientist and ethnographer, I bring an approach to politics that is embedded in community voices. My training and education in race-gender-class intersectionality and (in)equality may not be wholly new to the city council, but they ground my thinking in nearly all aspects of my social and activist life. Writing on, researching and advocating for socially just solutions to racism (systemic, institutional, structural, interpersonal), civil rights and health inequalities, and as a white woman working in communities of color I am deeply committed to cross-cultural communication and understanding intra-cultural differences in how people experience the world around them. As an advocate and gun violence prevention activist, I am able to more fully understand the intersections of violence, policy and other social challenges. As I've probably made pretty clear in my responses, I believe in consistent and meaningful conversations with our neighbors across the city in order to forge ahead toward a Durham we can all love and call home.

Finally, as an activist who has spent a great deal of time at the NC General Assembly, I am able to understand the place that Durham occupies in the current landscape of state politics. While we need to directly address the needs of the people of the City of Durham, it's also clear that regressive policies at the state and now federal levels are impacting us all. To that end, I bring to the city council my experience at the General Assembly and will advocate strongly for Durham to bring its progressive values-driven voice to the state and to become *the* progressive leader in North Carolina.

20. Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offence other than a minor traffic offense? If your answer to this question is yes, please describe the charge or charges, the circumstances, and the outcome. *Please limit your answer to 250 words.*

No.

21. For whom did you vote in the 2012 and 2016 presidential and gubernatorial elections? For whom did you vote in the 2014 U. S. Senate election? *Please limit your answer to 75 words.*

Barack Obama-Joe Biden

Hillary Clinton-Tim Kaine

Kay Hagan

Please don't forget to provide us with a resume or personal history.

Kaaren M. Haldeman, PhD MPH

1 W. Bridlewood Trail, Durham, NC 27713

Ph: (919) 672-5445

Email: kaargav@gmail.com

Twitter: @kaargav

Medium: <https://medium.com/@kaarenhaldeman>

About Me

I have spent the last several years in the borderland of academia and activism, where I've honed my communications skills as a coalition builder, social media community manager and spokesperson. Most recently, I've worked as an advocate and activist in gun violence prevention and am currently writing a book about mothers in the modern movement. I've spent much of my citizen-activist life at the N.C. General Assembly and the City of Durham advocating for safer gun laws and a wide range of progressive issues while developing a deep understanding of the legislative landscape. My training in anthropology helped develop and enrich my cross-cultural communication skills in order to understand and collectively address the complex social problems we face as a diverse community. As an intersectional scholar and activist, I am equally at ease as a researcher, writer, social media storyteller, advocate and community organizer. My greatest strength is building interpersonal relationships with diverse stakeholders in order to create support for meaningful change.

Education

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

1999-2006

Doctor of Philosophy, Anthropology

Dissertation Title: Expectant Fears and Racialized Reproduction: African American Women's Lived Experiences of Pregnancy and Motherhood

University of California, Berkeley, CA

1997- 1999

Masters of Public Health, Nutrition

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

1991- 1992

Doctoral student, Nutritional Biochemistry

University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

1987- 1991

Bachelor of Science Magna cum Laude

Major: Animal Science, Minor: Human Nutrition

Experience

Rise to Run—Durham, NC Hub

Volunteer lead organizer (May 2017-present)

Goals: to engage and recruit young progressive women to run for political office or work at a high level on political campaigns

Building grassroots organization to support and train progressive young women to run for political office on the campus of North Carolina Central University; recruiting women leaders to local advisory council; developing strategic plan to recruit high school and college-aged progressive women to join Rise to Run with emphasis on women of color and from diverse economic, gendered, religious, immigration backgrounds; liaise with national organization

Duke University Medical Center-National Center for Child Traumatic Stress (NCCTS)

Qualitative Analyst--Contractor (March-June 2017)

Goals: to analyze large set of qualitative data to present at annual conferences, provide feedback to clinicians and sites, and develop strategic social media plan for NCCTS

Analyzed survey responses from large data set using qualitative software NVivo and content analysis; collaborated in codebook and thematic development; presented visual and textual data for presentation to

diverse stakeholders; compiled executive summary and report; suggested next steps in social media strategy

NC Democratic Party-Durham Coordinated Campaign Office

Volunteer canvasser (September-November 8, 2016)

Goals: to register voters in Durham and help turn out the Democratic vote by canvassing door-to-door in Durham and Wake counties

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America-NC Chapter

Volunteer Chapter Leader (May 2013-Dec 2014), Volunteer (Jan 2013-present)

Goals: to advocate and enact change toward evidence-based gun policy; to understand evidence base from public health and social science perspective; to help frame gun violence as public health epidemic; to promote behavioral change around gun safety

- **Management**

First statewide leader of NC chapter; Led growing statewide team of both field and leadership volunteers in NC; grew, stabilized chapter in early phases of organization; led crisis management; acted as liaison between national organization and NC chapter; current spokesperson/media contact; collaboratively strategize vision, plan for advocacy in NC; organize local events; visit legislators to develop relationships, advocate; use large database for managing volunteers and outreach

- **Community engagement**

Managed early community of advocates and leadership team via Facebook; speak at community meetings/groups about gun violence prevention and gun safety; establish long-term relationships with local community organizations/stakeholders and other nonprofit advocacy orgs; host events; participate in advocacy rallies, marches, legislative outreach

- **Social Media/Storytelling**

Created original content and ensured security of Facebook page for Triangle and statewide chapters; monitored news for relevant stories; proficient on Twitter, Facebook

UNC-Chapel Hill Department of Social Medicine [Nov 2009-May 2014]

Post-doc

Goal: To inform best practices in biobanking procedures that take into account ethical, legal and social implications (ELSI) of tissue, blood, DNA donation.

Interviewed biobank personnel; collaborated across disciplines as part of large team both in-person and through cloud-based collaborative space

UNC-Chapel Hill Department of Women's Studies [Mar-Jul 2009]

Project manager

Goal: to improve mother-daughter communication around issues of sexuality, intimate relationships and health among African American women and girls.

Managed work force and timeline for summer '09 pilot HIV/AIDS outreach program entitled "UNC African American Mother-Daughter Initiative"; edited and proofread materials for poster and manuscript; analyzed project data and collaborated on future programs

UNC-Chapel Hill Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center [Jan 2007-May 2008]

Consultant

Goal: to publish scholarly work on effects of rural poverty on health of African American families in NC
Analyzed ethnographic research on rural poverty in North Carolina and prepared material for publication

Women's Birth and Wellness Center [Jun 2007-Nov 2012]

Board of Directors [Secretary, Chair]

Goal: to advise executive director on global management, sustainability of freestanding birth center

Co-directed monthly agenda and overall strategy with fellow Board Members regarding fiscal responsibility, sustainability, future goals of WBWC; helped design focus group study of staff and clients to understand best practices, goals; helped begin succession planning for founder

NC State Infant Mortality Study Collaborative [Jan 2005-Jun 2005]

Volunteer consultant, Qualitative Research Subcommittee

Goal: to improve public education programs, inform women's health policy decisions in NC

Generated themes, developed questions, identified participants for focus groups conducted across N.C.

<http://www.nchealthystart.org/downloads2/SIMS%20Final%20Report%20web.pdf>

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Department of Anthropology [Aug 1999-May 2006]

Doctoral Student, Teaching Assistant, National Science Foundation Fellow

Dissertation Goal: to use ethnographic research to understand experiences of stress among African American women in Durham-Chapel Hill, NC during pregnancy in order to address racial disparities in infant mortality and low birthweight

- **Field work:** Established relationships with community participants; conducted in-person interviews over 4 years; constructed life histories in collaboration with a subset of women; conducted interviews with African American healers across NC for 4th semester paper on African American vernacular healing systems
- **Course work/teaching:** Program in Medical Anthropology; teaching assistant for Introductory Anthropology, Comparative Healing Systems, Southern Cultures, UNITAS service-learning, Art of Ethnography

Co-president of Society for Anthropology Students, 2000-2001

Organized events such as Institutional Review Board panel discussion regarding ethics and anthropological research

University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health [Aug 1997-May 1999]

Masters of Public Health Graduate Student

Emphasis in nutrition; participated in community work with Mothers Against Murder and Assault (Oakland, CA) and Berkeley homeless communities

Thesis Goal: to improve binational partnerships at the US-Mexico border across a range of public health issues

Piloted ethnographic research project at Mexico-U.S. border, San Diego-Tijuana region; conducted phone and in-person interviews in English and Spanish; developed introductory questionnaire and in-depth interviews; investigated effective binational partnerships in health contexts, (e.g., tuberculosis, maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, environmental health); analyzed and interpreted qualitative and quantitative data for MPH thesis

Software experience: NVivo; Atlas.ti; Stata; Microsoft Office; VAN

Social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

Languages: English, conversational Spanish (not fluent)

Media

May 13, 2015: [Mothers, Sheriffs, Doctors Call on Lawmakers to Keep Permits for Handguns](#) Jorge Valencia, WUNC

Feb 2015: [After the Shooting](#)- A project of the UNC School of Journalism to address Chapel Hill shooting on Feb. 10. 2015; *Guns, Media* #chapelhillshooting

Jul 9, 2014: [In Depth: Moms Demand Action](#) Time Warner Cable News

Jan 29, 2014: [One Mother's Attempt to Stop Gun Violence](#) Bill Ball, The Independent Weekly

Dec 10, 2013: [Sandy Hook Shooting Still Spurs Gun Debate in NC](#) WRAL News

Other

Society for Applied Anthropology (2007-present)

Recipient-INDY Citizen Award-2014

Jordan High School PTSA -current

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church-Social Justice Committee-current