

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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NAME: April L. Murphy, Ph.D., CSW

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login):

POSITION TITLE: Associate Professor

EDUCATION/TRAINING (*Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.*)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Louisville, Louisville, KY	B.S.	12/2003	Economics
Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL	MSW	08/2007	Social Work
University of Louisville, Louisville, KY	Ph.D.	08/2012	Social Work

A. Personal Statement

I have the training and motivation necessary to successfully carry out the proposed research project. I have a background in Economics, with a minor in Finance, which provided me with experience in marketing and finance. I also have expertise in the field of social work, predominantly working with children and families. Both my employment experience and research experience has demonstrated the need for more targeted interventions to address disproportionality in child welfare. With respect to my research experience, I was employed on two federal child welfare grants, where I gained experience in collecting and analyzing data, running focus groups, and writing technical reports that were submitted to the grantor. I also have several publications related to child welfare, including one manuscript that was awarded as Journal Article of the Year.

B. Positions and Honors**Positions and Employment**

2012-2013 Research Methodologist, Signature Research Institute, Louisville, KY
 2014-2020 Assistant Professor, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY
 2019-2021 MSW Online Program Coordinator, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY
 2019- Associate, LifeSkills Center for Child Welfare Education and Research, Bowling Green, KY
 2020- Associate Professor, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY
 2021- Faculty Fellow for Strategic Operations, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY

Other Experience and Professional Memberships

2008- Member, Council on Social Work Education
 2009- Member, Social Welfare Action Alliance
 2016- Reviewer, *Journal of Social Work Education*
 2018- Associate Editor, *Traumatology*
 2018-2020 Chair, Citizens Review Panel, Two Rivers Service Region
 2020- Member, American Association of University Women Public Policy Committee

Honors

2016 Faculty Award for Student Advisement, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY
 2017 MSW Distinguished Teaching Award, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY

2018	MSW Mentor Award, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY
2018	Journal Article of the Year, <i>Journal of Public Child Welfare</i>
2021	Faculty Award for Research/Creative Activity, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY

C. Contributions to Science

1. My early publications were as part of a research team when I was a doctoral student and research assistant for Dr. Crystal Collins-Camargo at the University of Louisville. From two federal child welfare grants, we published a number of publications related to private and public foster care. These publications focused on outcomes related to targeted recruitment, barriers to achieving permanency for children in out-of-home care, and differences between public and private child welfare agencies. I served primarily as the methodologist and data analyst, managing data from the state's child welfare system. One manuscript, where I am listed as the first author, involved the development of a tool to help agencies assess systemic barriers to achieving permanency.
 - a. Grimes, M., Collins-Camargo, C. E., Sullivan, D. E., **Murphy, A. L.**, Hall, J. G., Morris, J. L., Crump, C. A., & Kilby, P. (2009, June). *Project MATCH Phase II Plan: A collaboration between Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, and Murray State University*. Prepared for Department for Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau. Washington, D.C.
 - b. Collins-Camargo, C., Sullivan, D., & **Murphy, A.** (2010). Use of data to assess performance and promote outcome achievement by public and private child welfare agency staff. *Children and Youth Services Review, 33*(2), 330-339. doi: 10.1016/j.childyouth.2010.09.016
 - c. **Murphy, A.**, van Zyl, R., Collins-Camargo, C., & Sullivan, D. (2013). Assessing systemic barriers to permanency achievement for children in out-of-home care: Validation of the Child Permanency Barriers Scale. *Child Welfare, 91*(5), 37-71.
 - d. Sullivan, D., Collins-Camargo, C., & **Murphy, A.** (2014). Identifying barriers to permanency: The recruitment, selection and training of resource parents. *Child and Youth Services, 35*(4), 365-389. doi: 10.1080/0145935X.2014.973488

2. In addition to the contributions discussed above, I have also had the opportunity to collaborate with my colleagues on articles related to leadership in public child welfare. The earliest manuscript was specifically related to using 360-degree evaluations in child welfare in order to promote the professional development of supervisors in public child welfare. This was later expanded on in a study, led by my colleague Dr. Austin Griffiths, related to frontline supervisor health and turnover in public child welfare in one state. I primarily served as a methodologist and data analyst on each of these projects.
 - a. Collins-Camargo, C. E., Sullivan, D. J., & **Murphy, A. L.** (2010). Promoting supervisory development in child welfare: Utilization of 360-degree evaluation. *Professional Development: The International Journal of Continuing Social Work Education, 13*(2), 15-32.
 - b. Griffiths, A., **Murphy, A.**, Desrosiers, P., Harper, W., & Royse, D. (2019). Factors influencing the turnover of frontline child welfare supervisors. *Journal of Public Child Welfare, 14*(5), 553-569. doi: 10.1080/15548732.2019.1652719
 - c. Griffiths, A., Harper, W., Desrosiers, P., **Murphy, A.**, & Royse, D. (2019). "The stress is indescribable": Self-reported health implications from child welfare supervisors. *The Clinical Supervisor, 38*(2), 183-201. doi: 10.1080/07325223.2019.1643433

3. Permanency in child welfare, specifically through reunification where possible, is the ultimate goal of child protective services. However, there are a number of barriers that prevent children from being reunified with their primary caregiver. Some of these barriers have nothing to do with the alleged maltreatment, but rather implicit or explicit biases held by frontline workers and/or other decision makers (e.g., courts). Biases can exist as a result of race, socioeconomic status, history of substance misuse, sexual orientation, and other cultural factors. The first manuscript listed below examined how achieving positive permanency was impacted by where a child and his/her family resided. The second manuscript listed below was a systematic review using PRISMA guidelines and examined evidence-based interventions aimed at reunification where substance misuse was indicated as a factor for removal. This manuscript was awarded as the Journal Article of the Year for the *Journal of Public Child Welfare*.

- a. Griffiths, A., **Murphy, A. L.**, & Harper, W. (2017). Child sexual abuse and the impact of rurality on foster care outcomes: An exploratory analysis. *Child Welfare*, 95(1), 57-76.
- b. **Murphy, A. L.**, Harper, W., Griffiths, A., & *Joffrion, C. (2017). Family reunification: A systematic review of interventions designed to address co-occurring issues of child maltreatment and substance abuse. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*, 11(4-5), 413-432. doi: 10.1080/15548732.2017.1340221

D. Additional Information: Research Support and/or Scholastic Performance

Western Kentucky University Center for Leadership Excellence. *Exploration of Leadership among Kentucky's Social Work Non-Profits*. **April L. Murphy (PI)**. (Funded - \$1,250). Funding Cycle: November 2016-November 2017.

Western Kentucky University Quick Turn Around Grant (QTAG). *Leadership Mapping Scale*. **April L. Murphy (PI)**. (Funded - \$3,000). Funding Cycle: May 2017-August 2017.

Western Kentucky University International Activities Grant (IAG). *Exploring Human Trafficking in Kosovo*. **April L. Murphy (PI)**. (Funded - \$1,250).

Western Kentucky University College of Health and Human Services (CHHS). *Summer Research Fellowship*. **April L. Murphy (PI)**. (Funded - \$18,784).