



# Introduction

Department of Family Science, School of Public Health, University of Maryland

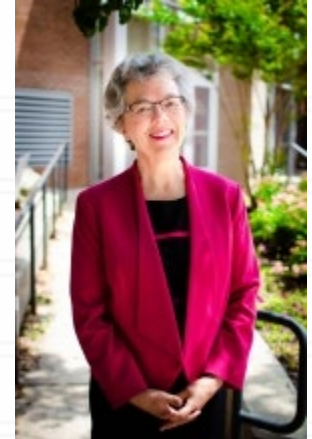


UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND

# Leadership

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**Sandra Crouse Quinn, Ph.D.** is professor and Chair of the department. She is also Senior Associate Director of the Maryland Center for Health Equity. She has extensive experience working in racial/ethnic health disparities, vaccine acceptance, health communications, and community engagement in research.

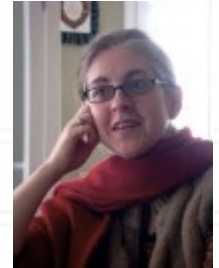


**Elaine Anderson, Ph.D.** is a professor and former department chair. She is the founder of the Maryland Family Impact Seminar. Her research focuses on family and health policy, particularly, policies focused on marginalized children and families.



# Research Team Faculty

**Marian Moser-Jones, Ph.D., M.P.H.** is an associate professor. She is a social historian and ethicist of public health with expertise in maternal and child health and the history of public health and human services. She leads the effective programs literature review.



**Dr. Edmond Shenassa, Sc.D., M.A.,** is an associate professor. He is an epidemiologist. His work focuses on 1) race-specific effects of social determinants of health, and 2) developmental origins of health and disease, with emphasis on the health effects of exposures in utero. He is the PI of the Rhode Island Birth cohort study. He leads the risk factors literature review.



**Dr. Marie Thoma, Ph.D., M.H.S.,** is an assistant professor. She is a reproductive and perinatal epidemiologist. Her research focuses on population-based methodologies to improve our understanding of reproductive health factors and their implications for maternal/infant health including birth spacing and quality family planning. She leads the inventory of existing programs.



# Other Research Personnel

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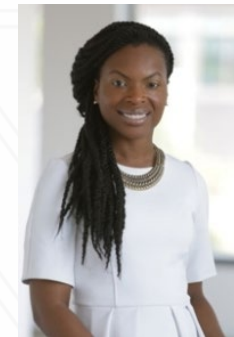
**Dushanka Kleinman, M. Sc.D., D.D.S.** is Associate Dean for Research and a professor in the Epidemiology and Biostatistics Department. Prior to joining UMD, she has 28 years of government service in the USPHS Commissioned Corps.



**Amelia Jamison, M.A.A., M.P.H.** is a faculty research assistant for the Center for Health Equity. Her background is in social anthropology and epidemiology. She serves as project administration and support.



**Devlon Jackson, Ph.D.,** is a study coordinator with the Center for Health Equity and the Center for Health Literacy. Her background is in health communication and informatics, particularly related to diverse populations and underserved racial/ethnic populations. She assists with data collection for the inventory.



# Doctoral Research

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**Jessica Gleason, PhD., M.P.H.** recently completed her PhD in Maternal and Child Health. Her research focuses on reproductive and perinatal epidemiology, including racial disparities in birth outcomes.



**Debbie Shelef, M.P.H.** is a doctoral student in Maternal and Child Health. She has 15 years of experience leading research and intervention programs at Children's National Health System in DC.



**Dane de Silva, M.P.H.** is a doctoral student in Maternal and Child Health. He worked as a data analyst and coordinator for a Canadian perinatal database geared towards improving high-risk and preterm birth outcomes.



**Lisa Tolchin, M.H.S., M.O.T.** is a doctoral student in Family Science. She has worked in community-based education, research, and intervention with children and adolescents.



# Undergraduate Researchers

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**Arrey Takor** is a senior in Public Health Science. He has experience working with in the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment and Intervention Program Laboratory for adolescent and family research.

**Nava Katz** is a sophomore in Behavioral and Community Health. She also volunteers at a Pregnancy Aid Center in College Park, MD.

**Anne-Olive Nono** is a Senior in Behavioral and Community Health. She is also pursuing a Black Women's Studies Minor.

**Marie Ngobo Ekamby** is a junior in Public Health Science and part of College Park Scholars.

**Afua Nyame-Mireku** is a junior in Public Health Science and is also pursuing a certificate in Women's Studies. She volunteers at a Pregnancy Aid Center in Greenbelt, MD and has interned with the National Women's Health Network.