

Telephone: Office (315) 443-9808

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY:

Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York

Ed.D.	Adult Education/Administration
M.S.	Rehabilitation and Vocational Counseling
M.S.N.	Nursing Education
C.R.C.C.	Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Certification in Gerontology

Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan

B.S.	Nursing Education Licensure: R.N. State of New York
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Harvard Graduate School of Education

Institute for Management and Leadership in Education

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Executive Nurse Fellowship Program

Bryn Mawr College

Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Syracuse University David B. Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics, Department of Public Health, Food Studies and Nutrition, Syracuse, New York

PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE 2005-Present

My primary responsibility involves directing minority health initiatives to develop academic and community partnerships to reduce health disparities and promote health and healthy lifestyles among minority communities as consistent with the Healthy People 2010 federal mandate. This role includes: teaching; designing curriculum infusion programs and creating opportunities for faculty to foster cultural competence, health literacy and health promotion content into regular course offerings in classroom and non-traditional community settings; representing the College within the University and the community in the planning, administration and management of community-based participatory research in minority communities; and identifying funding resources and facilitating grant development to foster the mission of the college.

Syracuse University College Human Services and Health Professions, Syracuse, New York

ASSISTANT DEAN 2001 – 2005

Provide administrative oversight for student affairs and related projects to enhance the quality of the student experience and promote development of the whole student. Role included: establishing collaborative partnerships with faculty, staff and students within the College and the University and other academic institutions to promote student academic improvement and success.

Syracuse University College of Nursing, Syracuse, New York

ASSISTANT DEAN 1995 - 2001

Represented the College in University coordinating bodies and the general Syracuse community. Managed the day-to-day administrative activities for the efficient functioning of the College of Nursing. Provided leadership in support of all academic programs. Managed the clinical information system including: coordination with risk management to maintain contract compliance with University requirements, maintenance of agency relations, clinical scheduling and related clinical matters.

Finger Lakes Community College, Geneva, New York

DIRECTOR OF EXTENSION CENTERS 1993 - 1995

Represented the college in the community and established working relationships, networks and partnerships in service areas as consistent with institutional goals and priorities. Functioned as manager for the daily operations of all center activities. Managed and coordinated educational programs and academic services. Coordinated course scheduling and registration follow-up.

Plaza Health Center, Syracuse, New York

DIRECTOR OF NURSING CARE SERVICES 1991 - 1992

Provided leadership in the development, implementation and evaluation of nursing standards, nursing practice and continuous quality improvement in the Nursing Care Services Department.

New York State Department of Health, Division of Public Health Protection, Albany, New York

HEALTH MANAGEMENT FELLOW 1990 - 1991 (One year appointment)

Managed and conducted a statewide research project which incorporated prescription drug use and the prescribing drug patterns of practitioners into the Infant Mortality Review Program. Worked cooperatively with Health Department staff, legal counsel and third party payers (Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Healthcare Insurance Plan, HMO's, etc.) to gain access to health care claim files statewide. Worked as a consultant to the Division of Health Care Standards and Surveillance and the Office of the Deputy Commissioner to compare hospital incident reporting practices among Harvard Study Group hospitals versus non-study hospitals.

Onondaga County Department of Health, Infant Mortality Review Program, Syracuse, New York

ADMINISTRATOR 1990 - 1991

Developed program operations for the comprehensive review of infant deaths in Onondaga County. Supervised program planning, development, and implementation; formulated policies and procedures; monitored policy analysis; and coordinated data collection and analysis. Formulated and coordinated interprofessional Community Review Team (CRT) activities. Functioned as Chairperson for monthly CRT meetings and managed community partnerships.

Harvard University - School of Law - School of Medicine - School of Public Health, Medical Malpractice Project, Cambridge, Massachusetts

REGIONAL MANAGER 1988 - 1989

Coordinated program planning, development and implementation of the Harvard Medical Malpractice Project. Formulated and monitored policy analysis and procedures for the review of thousands of medical records. Monitored data collection and analysis. Functioned as a liaison and "trouble shooter" between the participating hospitals within New York State and Harvard University. Supervised a medical staff of several hundred.

Syracuse University - College of Nursing, Syracuse, New York

RESEARCH CONSULTANT 1989 - 1990 (part-time)

Worked cooperatively with nursing faculty and participated in data collection and analysis. Conducted needs assessments and designed research instruments. Provided consultation with other researchers and faculty concerning specific projects (nationwide).

Walls Associates - Highland Park, New Jersey

ADMINISTRATOR 1985 - 1988

Developed curriculum and implemented and evaluated health programs and workshops for Vietnam Veterans. Established partnerships and networks with agencies and corporations nationwide.

Morehouse School of Medicine - Department of Community Medicine and Family Practice - Faculty Development Program - Atlanta, Georgia

ADMINISTRATOR 1981 - 1984

Planned, implemented and evaluated programs and workshops in the State of Georgia, which focused on enhancing the administrative and educational skills of family physicians. Specific responsibilities included: development and coordination of regional advisory committee, needs assessment, curriculum development, evaluation and research.

New York State Division for Youth - Program for Pregnant Teenagers involved in the Criminal Justice System - Syracuse, New York

DIRECTOR 1977 - 1980

Administered daily program operations; formulated policies and procedures; provided program planning and development; provided staff development/training and supervision; conducted research and analysis; provided grants development and administration and functioned as public relations and marketing agent.

Upstate Medical Center, College of Nursing, Syracuse, New York

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR (NURSING) 1974 - 1976

Provided clinical supervision and nursing instruction; developed research projects related to innovations in teaching methodology and nursing curriculum development.

PUBLICATIONS

Cowart, L.W., Brown, B., & Biro, D. (2004). Educating African American Men about Prostate Cancer: The Barbershop Program. *American Journal of Health Studies*, 19(4), 205-213.

Book Chapter: "Interprofessional Learning Community" in the book entitled, "Building and Sustaining Learning Communities: The Syracuse University Experience," (2004) Middlemiss, MA., Raj, S., Carter, B. *Cowart, L.*, Hensel, M.L, Horacek, T. and Smith, C.

Cowart, L.W., Wasserman, T., Stein, R.F., Reader, L., Brown, B. (2010). "Targeting Obesity Among African Americans through nutrition, fitness, and faith: Designing and testing a community-driven pilot program". *The Association of Black Nursing Faculty Journal*, 21(1), 4-10.

PRESENTATIONS

Surgeon General's Healthy Youth Panel Discussion. SUNY Upstate Medical University, College of Medicine AMA Student Chapter, Syracuse, NY, 2009.

The Anti- Cancer Connection: Strategies for Life. SUNY Upstate Medical University, Upstate Cancer Symposium, Syracuse, NY, 2009.

Syracuse Inner-City and Dewitt Rotary Clubs. Building an Academic-Community Partnership to Reduce Obesity and Promote Healthy Lifestyles among African American Families. Syracuse, NY, 2009.

Health Revival: The Truth About Behavioral Change Among African Americans Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, Evangelical Church of God in Christ, Syracuse, NY, 2009

Presentation to the Kazakhstan Delegation. These visitors were invited to the United States under the auspices of the Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program.

This program was arranged by the Academy for Educational Development.

Presentation: “*Community Driven Intervention: Lowering and Promoting Healthy Lifestyles among African Americans.*” Syracuse University, College of Human Services and Health Professions, Department of Health and Wellness, Syracuse, NY, 2007.

Conference paper. Building an Academic-Community Partnership to Reduce Obesity and Promote Healthy Lifestyles among African American Families. 2nd Annual Health Disparities Conference, Columbia University, New York, NY, 2007.

Genesis Health Project Women’s Conference. Together We Can Develop Healthier Lifestyles. Evangelical Church of God In Christ, Syracuse, NY, 2007.

Poster Presentation. Genesis Health Project, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Washington, DC, 2006.

Barbershop Talks. Nurses Eliminating Cancer Disparities Among African Americans Through Education, Practice, Research and Advocacy. NCI-ONS Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Program for HBCU/Minority Nurse Educators. Miami, Florida, 2003.

Health for the Soul. Evangelical Church of God In Christ, Syracuse, New York, 2003.

Moving from Success to Significance. Syracuse University School of Nursing, ALHANA student organization, 2003.

Reducing Obesity in Minority Populations. Women’s Conference. Living Water Church of God in Christ. Syracuse, New York, 2003.

Prostate Cancer Awareness and Promoting Healthy Lifestyles Among African American Men. Vitagrant Program. Community Unified Today, Inc. Geneva, New York, 2003.

Prostate Cancer: Healthy and Whole. Muslim Men’s Symposium, Syracuse University School of Nursing, 2003.

Promoting Healthy Lifestyles Among African American Men. Men’s Conference. Tucker Missionary Baptist Church. Syracuse, New York, 2003.

African American and Latino Male Health Issues. “Coming Back Together,” Syracuse University Office of Program Development. 2002.

Prostate Cancer Awareness. Southern Missionary Baptist Church, National Council of Negro Women Syracuse Section, Annual Health Symposium, Syracuse, New York, 2002.

Healthy Living. Living Water Church of God In Christ, Syracuse, New York, 2001.

Daring to Dream Again. Hobart and William Smith Colleges; April 1994.

Infant Mortality Review. New York State Department of Health, Albany, New York, August 1990.

An individualized outreach educational skills building program as an alternative to faculty development workshops for teachers of family medicine. A pilot study, August 1984.

Enhancing Teaching Skills In a Medical Environment. Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia, 1983.

Veteran Affairs Officers. U.S. Small Business Administration, Washington, D.C. nationwide project, 1983-84.

RESEARCH FUNDED

The Genesis Health Project Network: “Diabetes Prevention and Management Program”, **Excellus BlueCross BlueShield**, 2009, **\$106,550**

The Genesis Health Project Network: “Diabetes Prevention and Management Program”, **CDC Bronx Health REACH**, 2008, **\$35,000.**

The Genesis Health Project Network: “Bridging the Gap Through Pastoral Entrepreneurship In Underserved Communities” , **Syracuse Campus-Community Entrepreneurship Initiative**, 2009, **\$12,000.**

The Genesis Health Project Network: “Building Entrepreneurship Skills within the Health Environments.” **Syracuse Campus-Community Entrepreneurship Initiative**, 2008, **\$12,000.**

“ Cancer Education for African American Men in Non-Traditional Settings”. Genesis Health Project, **Cancer Research and Prevention Foundation**, 2007, **\$15,000.**

“Reducing Obesity Among African-Americans”. Genesis Health Project, **Excellus BlueCross BlueShield**, 2006, **\$82,000**; 2003, **\$60,000.**

“Promoting Healthier Lifestyles Among African-Americans”: Genesis Health Project, **Rosamond Gifford Foundation**, 2006, **\$25,223**; 2005, **\$3,000.**

“Reducing Obesity Among African-Americans”: Genesis Health Project, **Wegmans Corporation**, 2006, **\$5,000**; 2004, **\$5,000.**

“Targeting Obesity through Fitness, Nutrition, Faith and Community.” Genesis Health Project, **US Department of Health and Human Services (Brochure)**, 2005, **\$2,500.**

“Reducing Obesity Among African-Americans”: Genesis Health Project, **Wal-Mart Corporation**, 2005, **\$2,500.**

Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Grant, 2003, **\$45,000.**

Pfizer Health Literacy Visiting Lecturer Award, 2003, **\$4,500.**

“Interprofessional Learning Community,” **Syracuse University Vision Fund**, 2003, **\$5,000.**

“Healthy You @ SU – health newsmagazine for students by students,” **Syracuse University Vision Fund**, 2003, **\$5,000**.

“Barbershop Facilitate Education of African American Men about Prostate Cancer,” **Amgen Pharmaceutical, Inc.**, 2001, **\$8,400**.

“Prostate Cancer Research,” **Syracuse University Research and Computing**, 2001, **\$9,000**.

“Prostate Cancer: It’s a Matter of Color,” **Syracuse University Vision Fund**, 2001, **\$5,000**.

“Assessing the Health Needs of 100 African American Men,” **US Department of Health and Human Services**, 2000, **\$2,500**.

“Prostate Cancer: Educating African American Men in Barbershops,” **New York State Department of Health’s Office of Minority Health**, 2000, **\$5,000**.

“Prostate Cancer Education Council, Blueprint For Action,” **New York State Department of Health’s Office of Minority Health and the National Kidney Foundation**, 1999, **\$10,000**.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Chancellor’s Citation for Excellence, Syracuse University, 2013.

Post-Standard Achievement Award, Post-Standard Daily Newspaper, 2012.

Dan and Mary Lou Rubenstein’s Social Justice Award, Social Workers United, Syracuse University School of Social Work, 2012.

Robert F. Allen Symbol of H.O.P.E. Award, American Journal of Health Promotion, 2011.

Health Disparities Excellence Award. National Institutes of Health. US Department of Health and Human Services, 2009.

Richard Allen Award for Health Service to the Community, African Methodist Episcopal Church, 2008.

Syracuse University Chancellor’s Award for Public Engagement and Scholarship, Genesis Health Project, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005.

Syracuse University Chancellor’s Award for Public Engagement and Scholarship, *Healthy You @ SU* publication, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004.

Syracuse University Chancellor’s Award for Public Engagement and Scholarship, HTW311 Health Literacy and HTW 307 Culturally Competent Healthcare, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007.

Syracuse University Chancellor's Award for Public Engagement and Scholarship, Interprofessional Learning Community, 2005, 2004.

Syracuse Press Club Award. First place in newsletter division for *Healthy You @ SU* publication, 2004.

Beloved Community Award. Syracuse Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, 2004.

Mary Elizabeth Carnegie Community Service Award. Syracuse University School of Nursing, 2004.

Administrative Staff Award - Syracuse University College of Human Services and Health Professions, 2003.

Interdisciplinary Collaborative Award – Learning Community – Syracuse University College of Human Services and Health Professions, 2003.

Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellowship Award, 2003.

Syracuse University Chancellor's Award for Public and Community Service, Minority Health Initiative Project, 2001.

New York State Health Fellowship Award. Office of Minority Health, 1991.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Member, Society of Public Health Educators (SOPHE)
- Member, New York State Nurses Association
- Member, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society in Nursing
- Member, Pi Lambda Theta Honor and Professional Association in Education
- Member, Syracuse Area Black Nurses Association
- Member, National Council of Negro Women, Syracuse Section
- Founder and President, Health Literacy Productions, Inc., 2002-present: Health Literacy Productions is a privately owned small business founded to develop culturally competent products for use in a variety of educational settings. The company's mission is to promote health literacy and good health-seeking behaviors, starting with African Americans and prostate cancer. Health literacy will aid in efforts to reduce the incidence and mortality rates of prostate cancer and other health disparities that affect minority populations. In collaboration with Syracuse University and the Prostate Cancer Education Council of Central New York, HLP is seeking funding from the NIH, private interests (e.g., McDonald's Corporation, Laubach Literacy International), and other sources for preliminary Research and Development on a culturally sensitive educational product targeted to African American youth.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- **Executive Director and Founder of The Genesis Health Project, Syracuse University, College of Human Services and Health Professions, Department of Health and Wellness, 2004-present.**

The Genesis Health Project is a community-designed, culturally competent program to reduce obesity and promote healthy lifestyles among African Americans in Syracuse, New York. It targets black families at partner churches in a low-income inner-city area, and is working with them to improve their dietary choices, food preparation techniques, and exercise habits. The key goal is to empower participants to adopt positive health practices and to maintain these behaviors across the lifespan.

- **Editorial Director, *Healthy You @ SU*. 2002 – Present:** *Healthy You @ SU* is a student publication written for students by students to promote positive health seeking behaviors among college students.
- **Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Prostate Cancer Education Council of Central New York, Syracuse University College of Nursing, 1999-present:** The Prostate Cancer Education Council is a 35-member multidisciplinary community-based group that collaborates to heighten public awareness and educate African American men about prostate cancer, including its risk factors, prevention, screening and treatment. As Executive Director, I have developed a number of grant proposals and received funding for various projects from the New York State Department of Health (Office of Minority Health), National Kidney Foundation (Central New York Chapter), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Amgen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Syracuse University.
- **Director, Barbershop Education for African American Men About Prostate Cancer, Syracuse University College of Nursing in collaboration with the Prostate Cancer Education Council of Central New York, 1999-present:** I head this project, which received a planning grant from the New York State Department of Health/ Office of Minority Health. The Barbershop program provides educational sessions in local barbershops to educate African American men concerning prostate cancer, its risk factors, screening, and treatment. Trained nurse educators provide one-to-one teaching, audio/video sessions, and referral resources for barbershop customers. Over 500 African American men have participated in the Barbershop program since its inception.
- **Liaison, Faith-based Community Health Initiative: Churches of God in Christ of Central New York, 1999-present:** This faith-based community health initiative provides health educational programs for churches locally and regionally. Under my leadership, the program offers teaching seminars, screenings, and workshops for health promotion and health literacy concerning various health disparities affecting minority populations.
- **Liaison, Men's and Women's Health, University and Community Partnerships, Syracuse University, 1999-present:** My leadership as liaison for men's and women's health issues has involved consultation with Syracuse University health interest groups (i.e., Student Health Center) and community health care agencies. Such consultation has resulted in University-community based collaborative partnerships that promote health and well-being among men and women of color.