

Sarah Y. Vinson, MD

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Education

Bachelor of Science, Chemistry, Summa Cum Laude April 2004 Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University

Medical Degree May 2007
University of Florida College of Medicine
Research Honors
Chapman Humanism Honors Society
ΑΩΑ Honor Medical Society (Alumna Inductee)

Residency and Fellowship Training

General Psychiatry Residency July 2007 – June 2011 Harvard Medical School/Cambridge Health Alliance

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship July 2010 - June 2012 Emory University School of Medicine

Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship July 2012 – June 2013 Emory University School of Medicine

Specialized Training

Victims of Violence Program September 2009 – June 2010 Harvard Medical School/Cambridge Health Alliance

Medical and Psychological Documentation of Asylum Seekers February 6, 2010 Physicians for Human Rights Training Course

Forensic Interview Protocol for Children, Adolescents and Vulnerable Adults August 24 - 28, 2015 Cornerhouse On-Site Training Course

Lean for Healthcare March 27-28, 2018

Johns Hopkins Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety and Quality

Licensure and Certification

Nationally Board Certified in General/Adult Psychiatry, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology as of September 13, 2012

Nationally Board Certified in Child Psychiatry, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology as of September 23, 2013

Nationally Board Certified in Forensic Psychiatry, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology as of October 15, 2013

Georgia Medical License as of April 1, 2010

Controlled Substance Registration as of May 19, 2010

Florida Expert Witness Certificate as of July 8, 2015

Academic Appointments

Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Pediatrics, Morehouse School of Medicine July 2018 - present

Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry, Morehouse School of Medicine August 2013 – June 2018

Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Morehouse School of Medicine July 2016 – June 2018

Clinical Adjunct Faculty, Emory University School of Medicine July 2012 – present

- Supervision and Case-Based Teaching of Emory Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellows and Forensic Psychology and Psychiatry Trainees June 2015 - Present
- Rotation Director, Supervision and Teaching of Emory Child and Adolescent Psychiatry fellows' forensic rotation; teaching forensic report writing and reviewing practice guidelines regarding forensic issues/evaluations in child and adolescent psychiatry July 2012 – June 2015
- Supervision and teaching of Emory Forensic Psychiatry fellows in a jail-based competency restoration program July 2013 – June 2015

Boards, Advisory Positions and Political Appointment

Pew Charitable Trusts, Expert Advisor on Racial Equity in Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Systems June 2021 – Present

MindMed (Nasdaq: MNMD) Board of Directors May 2021 - Present

Juvenile Justice State Advisory Group February 2021 – Present

Appointed by the Governor of Georgia

Georgia School Based Behavioral Health Leadership Committee, September 2020 – Present

National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness August 2020 - Present

 Invited by the Conference of Chief Justices and Conference of State Court Administrators to task force charged with making policy and practice recommendations to improve state courts' responses to people with mental illness

Georgia Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission September 2019 – present

- Appointed by the Governor of Georgia to the 24-member Commission
- Appointed as Chair of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Sub-committee

Advisory Group on Racism for the Psychiatric Services Journal August 2020 - Present

Community Mental Health Journal Editorial Board April 2020 – Present

The Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law April 2020 – Present

University of Florida College of Medicine Alumni Board April 2020 – Present

Scientific Advisory Board of the Addiction Policy Council January 2019 – Present

Psychiatric Advisor and Trainer for the Judges and Psychiatrists Leadership Initiative of the Council on State Governments and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation, June 2018 – Present

American Association of Community Psychiatrists Summer 2016 - Present

Work Experience

Principal Consultant at Lorio Forensics July 2020 – Present

- Forensic Psychiatric Consultation Services
 - Civil including but not limited to independent medical/psychiatric evaluations/consultation for psychic injury, fitness for duty, medical malpractice, political asylum, child custody and Title IX cases

- Criminal including but not limited to independent medical/psychiatric evaluations/consultation for criminal responsibility/insanity, trauma evaluations, competency to stand trial, mitigation, transfer hearings, adolescent and developmentally disabled adult psychosexual evaluations, child witness competency/reliability evaluations and consultation, consultation regarding and performance of child witness forensic interviews
- o July 2013 July 2020 forensic services were provided under the Lorio Psych Group entity

Private Practice Psychiatrist at the Lorio Psych Group July 2013 – Present

- Clinical care including assessment, diagnosis and treatment of children, adolescents and adults
 - o Treatment for child, adolescent and adult patients with mood disorders, anxiety disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism spectrum disorder, racial trauma, and adjustment/life transition issues. Treatment modalities including but not limited to psychotherapy, environmental and lifestyle interventions and/or psychiatric medications.

Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) August 2013 - Present

- Medical Advisor, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) Center of Excellence to Address African American Behavioral Health Disparities, October 2020 - Present
- Program Director, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship, February 2019 Present
- Steering Committee Member for the Collaborative Anti-Racism Initiative for Emory School of Medicine, Morehouse School of Medicine and Grady Hospital
- Interim Medical Director, Chris 180 August 2019 June 2020
 - Policy development, chart review, clinical care, training creation and delivery, casebased supervision
- Department of Juvenile Justice Regional Youth Detention Center Psychiatrist July 2015 June 2019
 - Psychiatric assessment, psychopharmacology treatment, and team treatment participation for detained youth
- Outpatient Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Educational Clinic July 2015 present
 - Assessment, treatment and referrals for behavioral health complaints in children and adolescents and teaching and supervision of Morehouse School of Medicine psychiatry residents in a psychopharmacology clinic located within a public sector setting
- Rotation Director for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Rotation for Pediatric Residents July 2015
 present
 - o Patient care and supervision in a public sector child psychiatry clinic
- Course Director for Forensic Psychiatry Lecture Series for Psychiatry Residents July 2015 December 2020



- Rotation Director for Forensic Psychiatry Elective for Medical Students and Residents July 2015 present
- Course Director for Trauma Lecture Series July 2018 present
- Co-Course Director for Fundamentals of Medicine, Human Behavior Section, 1st Year Medical Student Course July 2015 – June 2017
- Faculty Advisor for PGY3 Resident July 2016 June 2020
- Faculty Advisor for Morehouse School of Medicine Student Interest Group July 2017 present
- o Chair of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Committee January 2018 June 2020
- Annual Resident Retreat Facilitator Spring 2017
- Satcher Health Leadership Institute July 2015 June 2016
 - Health Disparities in African-American Populations Lecturer for Satcher Health Leadership Institute Health Policy Fellowship, 2018, 2017, 2016
 - Child and Adolescent Psychiatry consultation regarding primary care and behavioral health integration projects, July 2015 – present
 - Needs assessment, program development and service delivery in co-located pediatric/child and adolescent psychiatry clinic, August 2013 – June 2014
- Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team Psychiatrist August 2013 June 2015
 - ACT serves patients with severe, persistent mental illness by providing multidisciplinary care in community as well as clinic settings. Many ACT patients are forensically involved and were referred directly from jails or the forensic units of Georgia Regional Hospital.
- Co-Course Director Forensic Psychiatry Lecture Series for Psychiatry Residents July 2014 June 2016
- Co-Course Director and Creator Forensic Psychiatry Rotation for Medical Students July 2014 June 2016
- Psychotherapy Supervisor July 2014 July 2015

Carter Center Consultant January 2017 - July 2018

Developed Curriculum and Provided Instruction regarding Child and Adolescent Substance
Use Disorders used in the training of nurses, physician assistants and mid-wives in the country of
Liberia

BIG Technology Founder Incubator Mental Wellness Consultant June 2017 – September 2017

 Mental wellness educational group programming and group facilitation as well as providing individual coaching sessions for black and Latinx female tech entrepreneurs

Mental Health Integrated Care Consultant at the HEALing Community Center July 2015 – June 2017



 Established community mental health partnerships, developed mental health policies and procedures, provided education for staff and clinicians regarding mental health, phone and direct patient consultation

National Alliance on Mental Illness, Georgia Consultant October – April 2017

 Development of National Alliance on Mental Illness Georgia Chapter Crisis Intervention Training Youth Curriculum

Medical Director of the Fulton County Jail Competency Restoration Program August 2013 – June 2015

- The program serves up to 16 inmates in Fulton County Jail and provides services including psychiatric treatment, legal education groups, individualized legal education, and cognitive remediation
- Medical Director responsibilities included overseeing the psychiatric care of the inmates in the program, supervising the Emory Forensic Psychiatry Fellows who provided patient care, working with an interdisciplinary treatment team, contributing to program development and assessment, and reviewing and editing correspondence to the court regarding the inmates in the program.

Contract Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist February 2013 – February 2014

Progressive Consumer Counseling 5536 Old National Hwy #100, College Park, GA 30349

Psychiatric Admissions Unit/On-Call Psychiatrist March 2013 – December 2013

Georgia Regional Hospital 3073 Panthersville, Rd. Decatur, GA 30034

Professional Memberships and Organizations

American College of Psychiatry October 2020 - present

 Selected for this honorary association whose membership is limited to psychiatrists who have demonstrated outstanding competence in the field of psychiatry and achieved national recognition in clinical practice, research academic leadership, or teaching

Georgia Council on Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Summer 2010 - present

- o Immediate Past President July 2018 June 2019
- President February 2016 June 2018
- Vice-President / President Elect June 2015 February 2016
- Secretary /Treasurer June 2014 June 2016
- Advocacy Liaison July 2013 June 2014
- Trustee-At-Large July 2013 June 2014
- Executive Board Resident Representative July 2011- June 2012

Member Summer 2010 – present

American Association of Community Psychiatrists

- Community Psychiatry Model Curriculum Committee Chair June 2018 Present
- Southern Region Representative June 2018 present
- o Early Career Psychiatrist Board Member Summer 2016 May 2018
- Member Spring 2016 present

Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association

- Vice President Summer 2020 Present
- o Treasurer Summer 2019 Summer 2020
- Secretary Summer 2018 Summer 2019
- o Chair of the Community Psychiatry Committee Summer 2018 present
- Co-Chair of the Early Career Psychiatrist Committee Summer 2016 Summer 2018
- Trustee Spring 2014 Summer 2017
- o Member Summer 2010 present

American Psychiatric Association (APA)

- Presidential Appointee to Chair the Scientific Program Committee of the 2021 Mental Health Services Conference, May 202 – October 2021
- Presidential Appointee to the Scientific Program Committee of the 2020 American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2019 – May 2020
- o Presidential Appointee to the Council on Communications, May 2016 present
- Presidential Appointee to the 2019 Scientific Program Committee of the Institute on Psychiatric Services, January 2018 – October 2019
- Co-Chair of APA Knowledge Exchange Committee for the May 2016 Annual APA Meeting, February 2016 – May 2016
- APA SAMHSA Fellow Appointee to the Council on Advocacy and Government Relations 2009
 2011
- Member 2005 present, Fellow 2015 present

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fall 2007 – present

- Appointee to Policy Statement Advisory Committee Winter 2010 Fall 2012
- Member 2007 present

American Academy of Psychiatry and Law Member Spring 2012 – 2013, Spring 2021 - Present

Physicians for Human Rights 2009 – 2011

Cambridge Health Alliance Committee of Interns and Residents Patient Care Fund Committee 2007 – 2010

University of Florida Medical College Council 2005 – 2007

- o President 2006 2007
- Vice-President 2005 2006

University of Florida College of Medicine Admissions Committee Fall 2006 – Spring 2007

One of ten 4th year medical students selected by College of Medicine Faculty

Publications

Shadravan S.M., Edwards M.L., **Vinson S.** Dying at the Intersections: Police-Involved Killings of Black People With Mental Illness. Psychiatric Services, June 2021

Vinson, S., Dennis, A., Systemic, Racial Justice-Informed Solutions to Shift "Care" from the Criminal Legal to the Mental Health Care System. Psychiatric Services, May 2021

Robles-Ramamurthy, B., Coombs, A., Wilson, W., **Vinson, S.,** Black Children and the Pressing Need for Anti-Racism in Child Psychiatry. Journal of American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, April 2021

Shim, R., **Vinson, S.,** Social (In) Justice and Mental Health, Editors. *Washington D.C.* American Psychiatric Publishing, 2021

Shim, R., **Vinson, S.**, Social (In) Justice and Mental Health in Shim, R., Vinson, S., editors Social (In) Justice and Mental Health. *Washington D.C.* American Psychiatric Publishing, 2021

Wilson, W., Cotton, N., **Vinson, S.**, Social (In) Justice and Child Trauma in Shim, R., Vinson, S., editors Social (In) Justice and Mental Health. *Washington D.C.* American Psychiatric Publishing, 2021

Reese L., Amosu, S., **Vinson, S.**, Social (In)Justice and the Carceral System in Shim, R., Vinson, S., editors Social (In)Justice and Mental Health. *Washington D.C.* American Psychiatric Publishing, 2021

Cyrus, K., **Vinson, S.**, Social Justice and Advocacy in Shim, R., Vinson, S., editors Social (In) Justice and Mental Health. *Washington D.C.* American Psychiatric Publishing, 2021

Vinson, S., Shim, R., Social Justice and Mental Health: A Call to Action in Shim, R., Vinson, S., editors Social (In) Justice and Mental Health. *Washington D.C.* American Psychiatric Publishing, 2021

Murray, P., **Vinson, S.**, Social Determinant of Children's Mental Health in Cultural Psychiatry in Children, Adolescents and Families. *Washington D.C.* American Psychiatric Publishing, 2021



Fowler, B., **Vinson, S.**, Digital Media, Culture and Child and Adolescent Mental Health in Cultural Psychiatry in Children, Adolescents and Families, *In Press. Washington D.C.* American Psychiatric Publishing, 2021

Vinson, S., Waldman, R., A Pandemic Paused the U.S. School to Prison Pipeline: Potential Lessons Learned. The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health, Published Online September 2020

Vinson, S., Coffey, TT, Jackson, N, McMickens, CL, McGregor, B, Leifman, S. Two Systems, One Population: Mental Healthcare, Criminal Justice and Marginalized Populations Living with Mental Illness. Psychiatric Clinics Fall 2020, Published Online June 30, 2020

Vinson, S., Vinson, E., (2018) Pediatric Mental Health for Primary Care Providers: A Clinician's Guide. New York: New York: Springer.

Vinson, S., (2018) Consideration on Resilience in At-Risk Youth in Vinson, S., Vinson, E., editors. Pediatric Mental Health for Primary Care Providers: A Clinician's Guide. New York: New York: Springer. p. 3-11.

Mattox, G., **Vinson**, **S.**, (2018) Culturally Competent Approaches to ADHD: Issues in African-American Populations. *Psychiatric Times*. September Vol. 35 Issue 9.

Hoffman, C., **Vinson, S.** (2018) Book Review of Forensic Interviews Regarding Child Sexual Abuse: A Guide to Evidence-Based Practice, *Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and Law Online*, Vol. 46 Issue 3.

Waldman, R., **Vinson, S.**, Howard, J., Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Youth in the Justice System, Florida Coastal School of Law Law Review, Fall 2015. Vol. 17 No.1.

Editorial Review Team Member for "A Core Set of Outcome Measure for Behavioral Health Across Service Settings. Supplement to Fixing Behavioral Health Care in America: A National Call for Measurement-Based Care in the Delivery of Behavioral Health Services" published by The Kennedy Forum in 2016.

Vinson, S., (2012) BlackMentalHealthNet.com A Forum for Culturally-Sensitive Psychoeducation and Mental Health Discussion. AACAP News. March/April Vol. 43 Issue 2.

Vinson S., Graham N., Gold M. (2006) Socioeconomic Inequities Often Translate into Health Inequities. Journal of the National Medical Association, 98, pg. 816-817.

Vinson S., Foote K, Okun M. (2006) The Past Present and Future of Psychosurgery: Is there a Role for Deep Brain Stimulation? In: Laderman G and Eisen A, eds. Science, Religion And Society: An Encyclopedia of History, Culture, And Controversy, ME Sharpe, New York.



Jacobs W., Repetto M., **Vinson S.**, Pomm R., Gold M., (2004) Random Urine Testing as an Intervention for Drug Addiction: Drug Screening Can Play a Critical Role in the Treatment of Physicians with Substance Abuse Disorders. *Psychiatric Annals*, 3, pg. 781-785.

Peer Reviewed and Invited Continuing Medical Education Presentations

Social (In)Justice and Mental Health, Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Invited Speaker with Ruth Shim, MD, MPH, The New York State Psychiatric Institute at Columbia University Medical Center Grand Rounds, May 2021

Social (In) Justice and Mental Health, Harry Ford Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Invited Speaker, Massachusetts General Hospital - Harvard Medical School, March 2021

Social (In) Justice and Mental Health, University of California at Davis Luke and Grace Kim Visiting Professor and Psychiatry Grand Rounds Speaker, March 2021

Social (In)Justice and Children's Mental Health, Invited Speaker, Tulane Medical School Child Psychiatry Grand Rounds, February 2021

Social (In)Justice and Children's Mental Health, Invited Speaker, Morehouse School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Grand Rounds, February 2021

Social (In) Justice and Mental Health, Invited Speaker, University of California San Francisco Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Grand Rounds, February 2021

Social (In)Justice and Mental Health, Invited Speaker, Einstein Medical Center Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds, February 2021

Social (In) Justice and Children's Mental Health, Invited Speaker, Medstar Georgetown University Hospital Child Psychiatry Grand Rounds, January 2021

Social (In)Justice and Mental Health, Invited Speaker, Stanford Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Grand Rounds, December 2020

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: Impairment (Under)Treatment and Stigma, Invited Speaker, University of Tennessee Health Science Center Psychiatry Grand Rounds, November 2020



Pediatric Depression and Anxiety in the Age of COVID, Invited Speaker, Georgia Chapter of the American Association of Pediatricians Pediatrics on the Parkway Annual Meeting, October 2020

Reimagining Excellence: Achieving Equity as the Outcome, Discussant, American Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Annual Meeting, October 2020

AACAP Annual Meeting Media Theatre for Emmanuel: The Untold Story of the Victims and Survivors of the Charleston Church Shooting, Discussant, October 2020

Improving Knowledge Skill and Attitudes Regarding Racial Bias in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Speaker and Discussant, American Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Annual Meeting, October 2020

Structural Racism and Black Children's Mental Health, Invited Speaker, University of Tennessee Health Science Center Pediatric Grand Rounds, August 2020

Ghosts in the Office: Structural Racism and Black Mental Health Inequities, Invited Speaker, Colosseum Health Psychiatry Department Grand Rounds, March 2020

Diverse Perspectives and Practical Strategies in URM Psychiatry Recruitment, Retention and Development, Presenter and Small-Group Discussion Leader, American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training Annual Meeting, February 2020

Women in Psychiatry: Money, Career and Allyship Considerations, Invited Presenter, Georgia Psychiatric Physician's Association Winter Meeting, February 2020

The Structural Trauma to Prison Pipeline: Implications for Child & Adolescent Mental Health Professionals, Invited Speaker, Tulane Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Division Grand Rounds, February 2020

Ghosts in the Office: Historical and Contemporary Considerations in Black Mental Health and Substance Use, Invited Speaker for the Addiction Medicine Grand Rounds, Morehouse School of Medicine, January 2020

Structural Racism: Why Medicine is No Better - But Should Be, Invited Keynote Speaker, Racism Awareness Week, Florida State University College of Medicine, January 2020

Disparities at the Intersection of Mental Health and Criminal Justice: A Round Table Discussion, Speaker and Panelist, American Psychiatric Association Institute on Psychiatric Services Meeting, October 2019



Social Determinants of Children's Mental Health, Invited Speaker, Georgia Psychiatric Physician's Association Summer Meeting, August 2019

Hip-Hop: Cultural Touchstone, Social Commentary, Therapeutic Expression and Poetic Intervention, Chair and Presenter, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2019

Ghosts in the Office: Historical and Contemporary Structural Considerations in Black Mental Health, Chair and Presenter, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2019

Inequity by Structural Design: Psychiatrists' Responsibility to Be Informed Advocates for Systemic Education and Criminal Justice Reform, Chair and Presenter, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2019

Police Brutality and Black Americans: Evaluating the Problem, Understanding Its Impact on Mental Health, and Finding Solutions, Presenter, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2019

Pediatric Integrated Care: The Big Picture and Practical Nuts & Bolts, Chair, Presenter, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2019

Advancing Psychiatrists Influence Within the Criminal Justice System: Moving the Stepping Up Initiative Forward, Presenter, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2019

Treating Black Children and Families: What Are We Overlooking?, Presenter and Panelist, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2019

Successful Negotiations for Women in Academic Medicine Workshop, Presenter, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2019

Double Trouble: Pediatric Anxiety and Depression – Invited Speaker for the Georgia School Based Health Conference, Atlanta, GA, May 2019

Pediatric Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder - Invited Speaker, Cherokee Health Systems Clinician 4 Hour Workshop, Knoxville, TN, May 2019

Double Trouble: Pediatric Anxiety and Depression – Invited Speaker for the University of Florida College of Medicine Pediatrics Grand Rounds, April 2019



Double Trouble: Pediatric Anxiety and Depression – Invited Speaker for the Piedmont Columbus Regional – The Children's Hospital Grand Rounds, March 2019

Social Media and Sanity – Must Know Info. for Working with Digital Natives, Invited Speaker for the Georgia Psychiatric Physician's Association Winter Meeting, January 2019

Black Mental Health in Primary Care and Emergency Departments: Frontline Perspectives and Future Possibilities, Session Chair and Speaker, Black Psychiatrist of America Transcultural Conference, Bermuda, November 2018

Mental Healthcare Guidelines for Treatment with African Americans, Invited Workshop Speaker and Curriculum Developer for CEU Event for Park Center in Fort Wayne, IN, October 2018

Alternatives to Incarceration for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness: Opportunities and Challenges, Speaker and Panelist, American Psychiatric Association Institute on Psychiatric Services, October 2018

Women Psychiatrists and Money: Personal Practicalities, Payment, Professional Practice and Power, Session Chair, American Psychiatric Association Institute on Psychiatric Services, October 2018

Race From Our Past – How the History of Psychiatry Creates a Present Legacy of Racism in Clinical Practice, Speaker and Panelist, American Psychiatric Association Institute of Psychiatric Services, October 2018

Maintenance of Certification II: Mental Health Issues Early Identification & Intervention, Invited Lecturer, Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Pediatrics on the Perimeter Conference, September 2018

Management of Pediatric Psychiatric Emergencies, Invited Lecturer, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Updates in Pediatric Emergency Medicine: What to Expect When You are Suspecting Conference, September 2018

Warehousing – How Did We Get Here? Cutting Mass Incarceration in the United States – The Physician's Responsibility, Panelist, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2018

Women Psychiatrists and Money: Personal Practicalities, Payment, Professional Practice and Power, Session Chair, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2018

Ghosts in the Office: Historical and Contemporary Considerations in Black Mental Health and Substance Use, Invited Speaker for the Psychiatry Department Grand Rounds, Cambridge Health Alliance/Harvard Medical School, April 2018



Ghosts in the Office: Historical and Contemporary Considerations in Black Mental Health and Substance Use, Invited Speaker for the Addiction Medicine Grand Rounds, Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University, March 2018

Social Exclusion and Health Disparities, Invited Speaker for the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic Center for Public Service Psychiatry Community Psychiatry Forum, November 2017

An Expert's Opinion: Making the Most of Expert Witnesses, 2018 Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys 14th Annual CLE at Sea Conference and Retreat, October 2017

Big Goals, Small Steps: The Psychiatrist's Journey to Advocate, Chair and Panelist, American Psychiatric Association Institute on Psychiatric Services, October 2017

Development of a Psychiatry Mini-Rotation for Pediatric Interns, American Psychiatric Association Institute on Psychiatric Services, October 2017

Media Presentation: 3 ½ Minutes, Ten Bullets: Psychiatric Perspectives on Race-Based Shooting Deaths in America, Panelist, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2017

The Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Studies and Their Implications for Medical Ethics, Grady Ethics Grand Rounds – Invited Speaker, May 2017

Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Emergencies, Pediatric Emergency Medicine Lecture at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta – Invited Speaker, May 2017

Advocacy: An Ethical Responsibility with a Myriad of Avenues, Alfred Dewitt C. Alfred, Jr. Psychiatric Research Symposium – Invited Speaker, April 2017

Pediatric Depression for General Pediatricians: Screening, Treatment and Referral, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Continuing Medical Education Event – Invited Speaker, November 2016

Myths and Realities of Correctional Psychiatry, Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association Summer Meeting – Invited Speaker, 2016

Media Presentation: What Happened Miss Simone?, Session Chair and Panelist, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2016

Black Lives and the Juvenile Justice System, Session Chair, American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, May 2016



Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, National School-Based Health Care Convention – Invited Speaker, Summer 2016

Attention Deficit Disorder in Children and Adolescents, Presenter, Grady Hospital Ambulatory and Community Medicine Grand Rounds, Spring 2015

Screening for Pediatric Depression in Primary Care, Morehouse School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Grand Rounds, Atlanta, GA Winter 2014

Screening for Pediatric Depression in Primary Care, Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Pediatrics on the Perimeter Conference, Atlanta, GA Fall 2014

Psychiatric Emergencies, Emory School of Medicine Pediatric Emergency Medicine Conference – Invited Speaker, Atlanta, GA Fall 2014

Child and Adolescent Bipolar Disorder, Morehouse School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics Grand Rounds, Atlanta, GA Spring 2014

"Love is All that Made Sense: A Mother Daughter Memoir." Chair and Panelist of Media Presentation. American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist Annual Meeting. Orlando, FL Fall 2013

E-Psychiatry: How Innovative Websites Reach Diverse Populations. Speaker and Panelist. American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA Spring 2013

Putting Parents to the Test: Do They Know Enough to be Effective Educational Advocates? American Academy of Psychiatry and Law Poster Session. Montreal, QC Fall 2012

Interpersonal Violence in a Cross-Cultural Treatment Setting. Co-chair and Speaker. American Psychiatric Association, Institute on Psychiatric Services. Boston, MA Fall 2010

Mental Health Utilization Pre and Post Incarceration and Undiagnosed Mental Illness in a Nationally Representative Sample of Black and Latino Prisoners with White prisoners as Controls. Black Psychiatrist of America 2008 Transcultural Conference. St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands Fall 2008.

Invited Continuing Legal Education Presentations

Social (In) Justice, Trauma and Mental Illness, Invited Speaker for Improving the Court and Community Response to Persons with Mental Illness and Co-Occurring Disorders Through Compassion and Hope, October 2020

Identifying Clients Living with Mental Illness, Invited Speaker for the Defender Services Office Training Division, September 2020

Commonly Misunderstood Signs and Symptoms of Mental Illness and Trauma, Invited Speaker, Administrative Office of the United States Courts and the Federal Death Penalty Resource Counsel Project - Authorized Case Consultation & Training, January 2020

Trauma-Informed Legal Interviews of Children & Adolescents, Invited co-presenter with Professor Randee Waldman of Emory Law School, Emory Law School Trauma-Informed Legal Services Workshop, January 2020

The Trauma to Prison Pipeline, Invited Plenary Speaker, Winning Strategies Seminar – Mindful Advocacy: Learning, Litigating and Leading on Mental Health Issues, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts Defender Services Office Training Division, November 2019

Developmental Considerations in Justice-Involved Youth, Raise the Age Training for North Carolina Juvenile Justice Prosecutors, November 2019

The Trauma to Prison Pipeline: Why Your Client's Childhood Experiences Matter, Invited Speaker, Telling the Client's Story CLE Conference Presented by the Georgia Capital Defender, Ninth Circuit Orange and Osceola Public Defender and National Center for Forensic Science, November 2019

Using Childhood Trauma as Sentencing Mitigation Evidence, Federal Defender Investigator and Paralegal Seminar, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts Defender Services Office Training Division, Invited Speaker, Baltimore, MD, May 2019

Using Childhood Trauma as Sentencing Mitigation Evidence, Winning Strategies Seminar, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts Defender Services Office Training Division, Invited Speaker and Co-Presenter with Paul Gill, Esq., Assistant Federal Public Defender, Miami, FL, January 2019

Understanding Your Therapy and Evaluation Options: What Would be Most Useful in Your Custody Case, Invited Speaker and Panelist, DeKalb Bar Association, Family Law Division CLE, October 2018



An Expert's Opinion: Making the Most of Expert Witnesses, 2017 Southern Juvenile Defender Regional Summit – Invited Speaker, June 2017

Black Attorneys and the Case for Self-Advocacy: Population Specific Considerations in the Risk, Prevention and Treatment of Depression and Alcohol Use Disorder, National Bar Association Young Lawyer's Division Conference and Retreat, February 2017

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 101, Juvenile Defender Training Conference – Invited Speaker, Spring 2016

Adolescent Mental Health, State Bar of Georgia Child Advocacy and Protection Seminar – Invited Speaker, Winter 2016

Our Sisters, Ourselves: Special Considerations in the Mental Health of Black Women Attorneys, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys Continuing Legal Education Conference, Fall 2015

Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys Continuing Legal Education Conference, Fall 2015

Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Youth in the Justice System, Co-Presenter along with Randee Waldman, J.D. Youth and the Law Florida Coastal School of Law Symposium, Spring 2015

Child and Adolescent Mental Illness and Treatment in a Nutshell, Lecture for the Child Attorneys of Fulton County – Invited Speaker, Fall 2013

Select Awards

Atlanta 40 Under 40 Award Recipient, 2020 Class

National Alliance for Mental Illness Exemplary Psychiatrist Award, May 2020

American Psychiatric Association Minority Fellowship Outstanding Alumna Award, May 2020

Atlanta Business Chronicle 2018 Health Care Heroes Rising Star Award Finalist, May 2018

2018 University of Florida College of Medicine Outstanding Young Alumni Award, January 2018

Community Preceptor Teaching Award, Morehouse School of Medicine, July 2017

Community Preceptor Teaching Award, Morehouse School of Medicine, July 2016



Morehouse School of Medicine Psychiatry Faculty of the Year 2014-2015 Academic Year, Awarded Summer 2015

Georgia Council on Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Advocacy Fellowship Award Winner, Spring 2011

Jean Spurlock Outstanding Resident Award from Black Psychiatrists of America, Winter 2010

American Psychiatric Association/SAMHSA Minority Fellowship Award 2009-2011

- Resident member of the Committee for Advocacy and Government Relations
- Collaborative community outreach event with the National Alliance on Mental Illness Dorchester/Roxbury/Mattapan branch in MA to recognize minority mental health month
- Programming with minority medical student groups to encourage consideration of psychiatry careers at Tufts and Boston Medical School
- Collaborative community outreach event with the National Alliance on Mental Illness DeKalb branch to recognize minority mental health month
- o Created www.BlackMentalHealthNet.com, a culturally tailored psycho-educational website

American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Education Outreach Program Travel Scholarship Award (one of 20 residents selected nationwide)

Graduation from University of Florida College of Medicine with Honors in Research, Spring 2007

Distinguished Service Award from the University of Florida College of Medicine, Spring 2007

One of three students awarded through peer nominations

Outstanding Achievement in the History of Medicine Award from the University of Florida College of Medicine, Spring 2007

Emerald Award for Outstanding Mentorship from the University of Florida Chapter of the Student National Medical Association, Spring 2007

Ann Copeland Award for Outstanding Service and Mentorship from the University of Florida College of Medicine Office of Minority Affairs, Spring 2007

Selected by medical school peers for the Chapman Chapter of the Gold Humanism Honors Society at the University of Florida, Fall 2006

R.I.S.E. Award and Scholarship in Recognition of Outstanding Community Service and Dedication to Addressing Disparities in Healthcare, Awarded by two U.F. College of Medicine Alumni, Spring 2005

Commendation for Outstanding Leadership, University of Florida, College of Medicine Office of Minority Affairs, Spring 2005

Select Activities and Community Service

Georgia NPR – Political Rewind Guest RE: COVID and Public Schools, February 2021

A Path to Racially Equitable Healthcare, Invited Panelist, Georgia Budget Policy Initiative Insights Conference, January 2021

Shocking Injustices: Mental Healthcare & Black Americans, Invited Panelist, The Kennedy Forum, January 2021

Helping Children Cope with Racial Trauma, Invited Panelist, AASA the School Superintendents Association, October 2020

Helping Children Cope with Racial Trauma, Invited Panelist, Education Now by Harvard School of Education, AASA the School Superintendents Association, October 2020

Innovating in the Workplace, Supporting Mental Health of Young People of Color During COVID-19 and Beyond, The Forum Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in partnership with the Steve Fund, October 2020

Your Hustle, Your Zone, and You - Invited Speaker for the 2019 Yale Black Solidarity Conference, New Haven, CT, February 2019

Typical or Troubled? Child and Adolescent Mental Health. Speaker and Panelist. Fulton DeKalb Hospital Authority Community Health Summit. Atlanta, GA Winter 2014

Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference Health Braintrust Townhall, Panelist, Fall 2015

Confining the Young: Costs and Controversies, Invited Panelist, Rethinking Solitary Confinement: Where Do We Go From Here National Conference at John Jay School of Journalism, April 2018

National Alliance for Mental Illness – Georgia, Board Member, 2017 - Present

Clark Atlanta University, Health Professions Advisory Unit Student Group – Invited Speaker, October 2019

Presentation to Fulton County School Nurses Regarding Child Trauma and Trauma-Informed Care – Invited Speaker, Nov. 2018

National Alliance on Mental Illness – Georgia CIT- Youth, Train-the-Trainer Instructor, May 2018



Trauma-Informed Care Panel Moderator, Georgia School Based Health Conference, May 2018

University of Florida College of Medicine Diversity Week Dean's Grand Rounds, Invited Moderator and Speaker, April 2018

National Alliance on Mental Illness – Georgia CIT- Youth, Train-the-Trainer Instructor, May 2018

Agnes Scott Women in STEM Event Panelist, April 2017

Invited Contributor to the 2016 Kelly Report on Health Disparities in America, a report published by the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust Chair, United States Congresswoman Robin Kelly, October 2016

NPR – Interview on NPR Regarding Police Shootings and Children's Mental Health, July 2016

Invited Panelist/Mental Health expert in "Saving Our Sons" Panel discussion at the National Urban League Conference. Philadelphia, PA. July 2013.

Mental Health expert on "In Contact: Schizophrenia in the Black. Community" WPBA-TV30, PBS Atlanta. May 2012

Panelist at the Delta Sigma Theta Delta Days "Your Blues Aint Like Mine - Depression in Black Women" Session at the Georgia State Capitol March 2012

Vinson S., Vinson E. (2009) No you're not crazy – know you're not crazy. Opinion article regarding mental health help seeking behaviors in the black community. The Bay State Banner, 44 (44). July 2009

