

Nikia D. Grayson, DNP, MPH, MSN, MA, CNM, FNP-C, FACNM
Chief Clinical Officer
CHOICES Center for Reproductive Health
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CURRICULUM VITAE
Updated April 2024

EDUCATION:

Date	Degree	Institution	Major/Area of Expertise
08/2017	Post-Master's	Frontier Nursing University	Nurse Midwifery
05/2016	DNP	University of Tennessee	Family Nurse Practitioner
05/2013	MSN	University of Tennessee	Nursing
05/2009	MA	University of Memphis	Anthropology
05/2006	MPH	Howard University	Public Health
05/1998	BA	Howard University	Communications

LICENSURES and CERTIFICATIONS:

Date	Type	License Number
2017-Present	American Midwifery Certification Board	Certification #04535
2016-Present	American Academy of Nurse Practitioners	Certification #F1116262
2016-Present	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Tennessee	22380
2013-Present	Registered Nurse, Tennessee	191425
2011-Present	Basic Cardiac Life Support	N/A
2013-Present	Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP)	N/A

EMPLOYMENT:

Choices Memphis Center for Reproductive Health — June 2017 – Present Chief Clinical Officer/Certified Nurse Midwife/Family Nurse Practitioner Leads all clinical programming and strategies aimed at meeting clinical benchmarks for quality and productivity, ensuring proper client care is being provided in accordance with all clinical programs. Manages a nurse-midwifery led clinic that provides comprehensive reproductive healthcare in Memphis/Shelby County and Carbondale, IL (gynecological, gender affirming healthcare, abortion, prenatal, birth and postpartum care). Supervise all clinical service protocols and practices. Provide supervision, coaching and mentoring of all clinical staff. Maintains a clinical practice as a nurse-midwife and family nurse practitioner. Oversees the provision of reproductive health care, antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum care of patients. Acts as a preceptor for nursing students, advanced practice nursing students, and residents. Facilitate a comprehensive range of patient services and direct care, including women's healthcare, prenatal care and support, labor and delivery

care and postpartum care, family planning, STD education and general nutrition/wellness. Perform patient physicals, comparing and contrasting results with established patient histories and medical records in order to provide proper diagnosis and facilitate appropriate treatment. Team with physicians to provide comprehensive patient care, referrals and high-risk management strategies. Assess patients in order to prescribe medications within all established regulations, standards and protocol. Maintain documentation, including medical records, as a means of continuing patient treatment. Serve as preceptor to students during gynecological and obstetrical/prenatal rotations.

Midwives College of Utah — January 2018 – January 2023 Adjunct

Professor/Obstetrics/Women’s Health Clinical Instructor Teach midwifery, obstetrics and women’s health courses in the midwifery program to students training to become midwives. Provide online lecture-based instruction to bachelors and masters students.

The Regional Medical Center at Memphis, Memphis, TN — September 2013 – June 2017

Labor and Delivery, Postpartum Nurse Delivered expert nursing care to childbearing women from local communities referred for high-risk care at a trauma one level hospital, emphasizing patient-centered, evidence-based practice and customer satisfaction. Provided skilled nursing assistance in operating room and recovery room care of obstetric patients. Experience working in Labor and Delivery, Recovery, Postpartum, and Well Baby Nursery.

University of Memphis, School of Nursing — September 2015 – May 2017 Adjunct

Professor/Obstetrics/Women’s Health Clinical Instructor Taught obstetrics and women’s health clinical courses in the BSN nursing program to students training to become nurses. Provided both lecture-based and clinical instruction to students in patient care practices. Trained and evaluated students on nursing skills. Trained students on how to work as part of a medical interdisciplinary team in acute care settings. Observed clinical students during practicums and rounds.

LeMoyne Owen College — September 2008 – April 2013 Wellness Director/Adjunct Professor

Director of the LeMoyne-Owen College/Meharry Wellness Program and Public Health Professor: Responsible for managing the wellness program at LeMoyne-Owen College in association with Meharry Medical College. Collaborated with students and community partners to create community based participatory research programs to address health disparities in Memphis/Shelby County. Developed policies, procedures, budgets and program evaluations for the wellness program. Supervised all wellness staff and students. Taught students health research methodologies and public health theories and practices. Developed and taught: Introduction to Public Health, Minority Health Disparities, Global Health and HIV/AIDS in Society.

HONORS & AWARDS

Date	Honor or Award
2023	Fellow in ACNM
2021-2022	Aspen Fellow
2019-2020	Rockwood Leadership Fellow
2018-2019	Duke Johnson and Johnson Nurse Leaders Fellow
2016	SisterReach Bisola Marignay Award
2012, 2013-16	UTHSC Chancellor's Scholarship Award
2015-2016	Core Align Generative Fellow
2011-2013	President of the UTHSC College of Nursing Black Student Association
2013	Black Student Association Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement
2013	Community Service and Student of the Year
2012	Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award
2007-2009	University of Memphis Graduate Assistantship
2007	Howard University Multidisciplinary Public Health Award

Membership in Professional Organizations

Dates	Name of Organization	Role
2018-Present	Black Mamas Matter Alliance	Member
2015-Present	American College of Nurse-Midwives	Board Member Region III
2012	Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society	
2007-Present	American Public Health Association	
2009-Present	Society for Applied Anthropology	
2012-Present	Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated	

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Paul Cornely Public Health Student Symposium —(2006) Poster Presentation: Building Tobacco and Marijuana Awareness Among Adolescents: Helping Teens Develop Self-Resistance Skills — **Nikia Grayson** and TyWanda L. McLaurin-Jones, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2. 28th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions, Society of Behavioral Medicine —(2007) Poster Presentation: Implementation of School-Based Health Screenings and Health Education in an Urban Middle School — TyWanda L. McLaurin-Jones, PhD, Marjorie Gray, MPH, **Nikia Grayson, MPH** , Christina Ramsey, MPH and Pamela L. Carter-Nolan, PhD, MPH. Community & Family Medicine, Howard University, Washington, D.C.
3. Presentation for the Memphis/Shelby County Health Department —(2008) Research and Evaluation Presentation: Rapid Ethnographic Community Assessment Report or Syphilis in the poverty counties of Memphis and Shelby County — **Nikia Grayson, MPH** , LaRonia Sawyer
4. Presentation for Meharry Summer Institute —(2010) Presentation: Social Determinants of Health and Memphis, TN- Where We Are and What We Have to Do. — **Nikia Grayson, MPH, MA**, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN

5. Presentation for Meharry Medical College Symposium —(2011) Presentation: Food and Access in Memphis— **Nikia Grayson, MPH, MA**, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN
6. Presentation for Meharry Summer Institute — (2011) Presentation: Strategies for Identifying and Engaging Communities in Research— **Nikia Grayson, MPH, MA**, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN
7. Presentation for American Public Health Association —(2013) Presentation: IMPACT of infant mortality awareness on the health behaviors of African American Men in Memphis, TN — Justin Tate, **Nikia Grayson, MPH, MA, MSN, RN** , Calverta McMorris, EdD, Kimberly Lamar, PhD, MPH, MSEH
8. Presentation for American Public Health Association —(2013) Conference Paper American Public Health Association: Real Talk: A partnership to bring HIV/AIDS education and awareness to a local congregation — Chasity Otteridge, **Nikia Grayson, MPH, MA, MSN, RN** , Calverta McMorris, EdD, Kimberly Lamar, PhD, MPH, MSEH
9. Presentation for Mid-south HIV Conference —(2015) Presentation: Caring for the Transgender Client Living with HIV — **Nikia Grayson, DNP(c), MPH, MSN** , Marye Bernard, DNP
10. Presentation for Take Root Conference —(2017) Presentation: Using an All Options Approach to Abortion and Pregnancy Care— **Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, FNP-C** , Mary Badame, Amanda Lamm, Katy Leopard
11. Presentation for Healthy and Free Tennessee —(2017) Presentation: The Importance of Centering People of Color in Birth Work— **Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, CNM, FNP-C** , Terri Lee-Johnson, Kristin Mejia, Monique Weeks
12. Presentation for Midwives Alliance of North America —(2017) Presentation: Using Midwifery and Functional Medicine for Preventative Health Measures in Prenatal Care — **Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, CNM, FNP-C** , Jodilyn Owen, LM, CPM
13. Presentation for Take Root Conference —(2018)— Presentation: Birth Justice is Reproductive Justice— **Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, FNP-C**, Kwajelyn Jackson, Pamela Merritt, Jennie Joseph
14. Presentation for Shelby County Department of Health —(2018) — Presentation: Contraceptive Methods: Improving Access, Dispelling Myths — **Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, FNP-C**
15. Presentation for Midwives Alliance of North America —(2018) — Presentation: Midwifery and Abortion Care— **Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, FNP-C**, Amy Levi, Kalin Gregory-Davis
16. Presentation for Black Mamas Matter Alliance Conference — (2018) — Full Spectrum Support and Services for Black Mamas —**Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, FNP-C**, Kwajelyn Jackson
17. UCSF OB/GYN Grand Rounds- From Pro-Choice to Pro-CHOICES — **Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, CNM, FNP-C** —(2019)
18. Presentation for Abortion Care Network —(2019) — Operationalizing Reproductive Justice Principles in Clinical Research: Methodological Approaches, Ethical Considerations, & Practical Applications — Monica McLemore, PhD, MPH, RN, Karen

- Scott, MD, MPH, Katherine Brown, MD, **Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, CNM, FNP-C**, Sanithia Williams, MD —(2019)
19. Presentation for National Center for Complex Health and Social Need —(2019) — Addressing the Black maternal health and infant mortality crisis: lessons from the Birth Justice movement in Memphis— **Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, FNP-C**
 20. Presentation for National Association of Neonatal Nurses — (2019) — Employing Cultural Humility as a Standard of Care: Addressing the Needs of LGBTQ Families in the NICU — **Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, CNM, FNP-C**
 21. Presentation for Let’s Talk About Sex SisterSong Conference — (2019) —Presentation: Dehumanization and Criminalization of People with the Capacity for Pregnancy, and Pregnancy Outcomes — Aarin Williams, Laurie Bertram, **Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, CNM, FNP-C**, Suzanne Sellers
 22. Presentation for Midwifery Works Conference — (2021) — CHOICES: An Innovative Design —**Nikia Grayson, DNP, MPH, FNP-C**
 23. Keynote Presentation for Fund II Foundation Black Maternal Health Event— (2022) —We Are What We Need: How Investing in Black Midwives Can Improve Birth Outcomes in the United States —**Nikia Grayson, DNP, CNM**
 24. Presentation for Alabama Black Midwives Conference—(2022) —Creating a Center of Excellence: CHOICES Black Midwifery Training Program—**Nikia Grayson, DNP, CNM**, Miajenell Peake, MPH
 25. Presentation for Black Mamas Matter Conference— (2022) —Creating a Center of Excellence: CHOICES Black Midwifery Training Program—**Nikia Grayson, DNP, CNM**, Miajenell Peake, MPH
 26. Presentation for Black Mamas Matter Conference— (2022) — Building for Liberation: Restoring Midwifery as a Model of Care for Black Communities in Policy and Practice— Breana Lipscomb, MPH; Angela Aina, MPH; **Nikia Grayson, DNP, CNM**, Jamarah Amani, LM; Kwajelyn Jackson, & Clarke Wheeler, MPA
 27. Presentation for Birth Center Equity —(2023) —Beloved Economy— **Nikia Grayson, DNP, CNM**
 28. Black Maternal Health Symposium Speaker Tufts University— (2023) — **Nikia Grayson, DNP, CNM**
 29. International Confederation of Midwives Closing Plenary Speaker— (2023) — **Nikia Grayson, DNP, CNM**, Christy Turlington, Robin Lim
 30. Presentation American College of Nurse Midwives— (2023) —From Reclamation to Reality: Creating a Black Midwifery Fellowship as a way to train recently graduated CNMs using a comprehensive reproductive health and justice framework— **Nikia Grayson, DNP, CNM**
 31. Presentation University of South Florida — (2023) —Working Towards Reproductive Justice: How Collaborating with Community Birthworkers is the Way Forward — **Nikia Grayson, DNP, CNM**
 32. Midwifery in Medicaid Business Case Learning—(2024) —Institute for Medicaid Innovation— **Nikia Grayson, DNP, CNM**

33. Presentation for Student Medical Association and Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students — (2024) —Working Towards Reproductive Justice: How Collaborating with Midwives and Community Birthworkers is the Way Forward— **Nikia Grayson, DNP, CNM**

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS: Published

1. Aina, A. D., Asiodu, I. V., Castillo, P., Denson, J., Drayton, C., Aka-James, R., ... & Wolfe, T., **Grayson, N** (2019). Black maternal health research re-envisioned: Best practices for the conduct of research with, for, and by Black Mamas. *Harv. L. & Pol'y Rev.*, 14, 393.
2. Dunn Amore, A.; **Grayson, N.** (2023) Birth in the Home and Birth Center-Chapter 32. Varney’s Midwifery 7th ed.
3. **Grayson, N.**, Quinones, N., & Oseguera, T. (2022). A Model of True CHOICES: Learnings from a Comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Health Clinic in Tennessee that Provides Abortions and Opened the City's First Birth Center. *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*.
4. Jeffers, Noelene K.; Canty, Lucinda; Drew, Michelle; **Grayson, Nikia**; Amani, Jamarah; Marcelle, Ebony; Amore, Alexis Dunn. "Beyond “patient-provider race matching.” Black midwives clarify a vision for race-concordant care to achieve optimal outcomes in Black perinatal health: A commentary on “Do Black birthing persons prefer a Black health care provider during birth? Race concordance in birth” Birth -April 2023.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS: Submitted/Under Review

1. Amore, A, Blair, A., Mitchell A., **Grayson, N (2023)**. Unveiling the Transformative Impact of the CHOICES Community-Based Model on Birthing Parents Outcomes. JOGNN-Under review.—

COURSES TAUGHT/GUEST LECTURE

2018-2023	Well Person Care- Midwives College of Utah	Instructor
Fall, 2021	Professional Issues in Midwifery- University of Penn	Lecturer
Spring, 2022	Culture, Sex, and Childbirth- Univ. of Memphis	Instructor
Fall, 2023	Advanced Leadership Roles- University of Alabama	Lecturer
Spring, 2024	Leadership in Midwifery- Jefferson University	Lecturer

SERVICE:

05/2022	Elected Region III Rep of the ACNM Board
01/2018-Present	Elected to SisterReach Board of Directors