**Bree Alexander, Ph.D., LISW-CP, LCSW-S**

Clinical Assistant Professor | Interim BSW Program Coordinator

University of South Carolina

College of Social Work – Hamilton College

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# Education

2017-2020 **Doctor of Philosophy**, Social Work

Baylor University, Waco, TX

Dissertation: *Public School Response to the Trauma of School Shootings*

Chair: Dr. Helen Harris

Committee: Drs. Samantha Vo, David Pooler, Elissa Madden, Mona Choucair, and Brooke Blevins

2012-2014 **Master of Social Work**

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

2008-2012 **Bachelor of Arts, Psychology**

Furman University, Greenville, SC

# Honors and Awards

2020 Greenville Magazine’s Best and Brightest 35 and Under

SC Black Pages’ Top 20 Under 40

Most Outstanding Dissertation Award, Social Work Nominee

# Research Experience

2021 – present *Co-Investigator*, Diversity and Inclusion in Online PhD Programs

2020 – 2022 *Principal Investigator*, Race and Education Equity among Research and Curriculum in Social Work Programs

2020 – present *Principal Investigator*, Public School Trauma Intervention for School Shootings: A National Survey of School Leaders

2017-2020 *Principal Investigator,* Public School Response to the Trauma of School Shootings

Faculty Supervisor: Helen Harris, EdD

# Teaching Experience

**Current Position**

Fall 2022 -presentClinical Assistant Professor, College of Social Work, University of South Carolina

***Administrative Appointments***

Spring 2023 - present Interim BSW Program Coordinator, College of Social Work, University of South Carolina

Course(s) Taught:

Fall 2022 – present Undergraduate (BSW) courses:

SOWK 311 Diversity and Social Justice in Contemporary Society (Fa ’22)

SOWK 411 Social Work Practice with Groups (Fa ’22)

SOWK 368 Spirituality in Social Work (Spr ’23)

SOWK 309 Life Transitions: Grief and Loss (Spr ’23)

**Previous Positions**

Fall ’20- Su ’22 Texas A&M University Texarkana, Assistant Professor of Social Work

Course(s) Taught:

Graduate (MSW) courses:

SOCW 501 Practice I: Social Work with Individuals (Fa ’20, Fa ’21)

SOCW 520 Social Welfare Policy & Analysis (Fa ’20, Fa ‘21)

SOCW 502 Practice II: Social Work with Families and Groups (Spr ’21, Spr ’22)

SOCW 540 Research Methods in Social Work (Spr ’21)

SOCW 560 Trauma-Informed Practice (Fa ’21)

SOCW 571 Spirituality in Social Work (Su ’21, Spr ‘22)

SOCW 562 Clinical Issues in Addictions (Spr ’22)

Undergraduate courses:

SOCW 2350 Introduction to Social Work (Fa ’20, Fa ’21, Su ‘22)

SOCW 370 Social Welfare Policy (Spr ’21, Fa ’21, Su ‘22)

**Adjunct Faculty**

Fall 2019 –

Summer 2022 Baylor University, Garland School of Social Work, Waco, TX

Adjunct Professor, 2019 – 2022

Course(s) Taught:

Graduate courses (MSW) courses:

SWO 5221 Introduction to the Social Work Profession (Fa ‘19)

SWO 5282 Evaluation of Practice (Spr ‘20, Fa ‘20, Spr ’21, Spr ‘22)

SWO 5381 Research for Social Work Practice (Su ’20, Su ’21, Su ‘22)

SWO 5337 Advanced Clinical Practice: Theories and Models (Su ’21)

Fall 2017 - Fall 2020 Simmons University, School of Social Work, Boston, MA

Adjunct Professor, 2017 – 2020

Course(s) Taught:

Graduate courses (MSW) courses:

Perspectives on Severe Mental Illness (Fa’18)

# Publications

## Book Chapters

**Alexander, B.** (2020). Faith as a resource for healing from a school shooting (reprint). In Scales, T. L. & Kelly, M. (Eds.), *Christianity and Social Work: Readings on the Integration of Christian Faith and Social Work Practice* (6th ed.). New York: North American Christians in Social Work.

## Peer Reviewed Articles/Accepted Manuscripts

**Alexander, B**., Carter, S., Timbers, V., & Martinez, T. (In Press). Race and Education Equity among Research and Curriculum in Social Work Programs. *Journal of Social Work Education*.

**Alexander, B**. (2021). Instances of School Shootings are Down, Now What: A Review of Trauma Frameworks for Public School Use. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma,* https://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10926771.2021.2019159

**Alexander, B.** (2021). Public School Trauma Intervention for School Shootings: A National Survey of School Leaders. Mental Health and Disaster: Response, Recovery, and Preparedness for the Future [Special Issue]. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 18,* 7727. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18157727

**Alexander, B.** & Harris, H. (2020). Public school preparedness for school shootings: A phenomenological overview of school staff perspectives. *School Mental Health*. doi: 10.1007/s12310-020-09369-8

**Alexander, B.** (2020). God and Guns: Faith as a resource for healing from a school shooting. *Social Work and Christianity*, *47*, p.65-85.

**Alexander, B.** (August 2017). “Review of Rich in Years: Finding Peace and Purpose in a Long Life,” by Johann Christoph Arnold, *Journal of Religion, Spirituality and Aging, 29,* p. 318-319. doi: 10/1080/15528030.2017.1362368

## Manuscripts in Progress

**Alexander, B.** (In progress). Effectiveness of Trauma Interventions for School Shootings in the United States: A systematic review.

Garrison, B., **Alexander, B.** &Goodwin, B. (In progress). Diversity and Inclusion in Online PhD Programs.

## Conference Papers

(Peer-Reviewed)

**Alexander, B.** (2020, November). *Faith as a Resource for Healing from School Shootings*, National Association of Christian Social Workers (NACSW) Annual Conference, Washington DC.

(Abstract-Reviewed)

Garrison, B., Goodwin, B., & **Alexander, B.**(2019, October). *Student Perspectives of an Online Ph.D. Program: Challenges and Opportunities.* Invited panelist. Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO, October 2019.

***Media Appearances/Interviews***

NBC NEWS. (2022, May) *The Principal Recovery Network helps schools recover after experiencing gun violence*. Invited interviewee. <https://twitter.com/hallieonnbc/status/1534305451298410497?s=21&t=EG_JBCwGs35hSHhZUF9d9Q>

# Invited Lectures and Presentations

**Guest Lectures**

**Alexander, B.** (2021, September). *Qualitative Research*, Invited speaker in Dr. Laine Scales’ PhD level Qualitative Research course at Baylor University’s Garland School of Social Work.

**Alexander, B.** (2021, February). *Kelly Brown’s Stand your Ground*. Invited speaker in Dr. Laine Scales’ PhD level Christianity, Ethics and Social Work course at Baylor University’s Garland School of Social Work.

**Alexander, B.** (2019, October). *Introduction to Ethics in Social Work*. Invited speaker in Dr. Helen Harris’ PhD level Teaching Practicum course at Baylor University’s Garland School of Social Work.

**Alexander, B.** (2019, November). *Introduction to Program Evaluation*. Invited speaker in Dr. Rob Rogers’ PhD level Program Evaluation course at Baylor University’s Garland School of Social Work.

**Alexander, B.** (2019, July). *Social Work Theories, Perspectives and Frameworks*. Invited speaker in Dr. Helen Harris’ PhD level Higher Educational Teaching and Learning in Social Work course at Baylor University’s Garland School of Social Work.

**Alexander, B.** (2019, March). *Christian Ethics and Social Work Profession: Codes of Ethics and other statements*. Invited speaker in Dr. Laine Scales’ PhD level Christianity, Ethics and Social Work course at Baylor University’s Garland School of Social Work.

**Alexander, B.** (2018, June). *Theological and Ethical Approaches to Justice: Utilitarian Approach to Justice*. Invited speaker in Dr. Gaynor Yancey’s PhD level Social Policy and the Religious Sector course at Baylor University’s Garland School of Social Work.

**Alexander, B.** (2018, March). *On Practicing Confucianism: The Interplay of Tradition, Perception, Values and Faith in Social Work Practice*. Invited speaker in Dr. James Ellor’s PhD level Religious and Cultural Diversity course at Baylor University’s Garland School of Social Work.

**Presentations**

**Alexander, B** & Turner, J. (2022, February). *Shaping Our Future Toward Reconciliation: An Open Discussion of African American History and Student Insights on How to Move Toward Equality, Inclusion, and Reconciliation.* Texas A&M University – Texarkana. Texarkana, TX.

**Alexander, B.** & Liu, C. (2021, November). *Brown Bag Lunch Series: Self-Care*. Texas A&M University – Texarkana, Texarkana, TX.

Yells, K., **Alexander, B.**, & Turner, J. (2021, March). *MSW information session*. Texas A&M University – Texarkana, Master of Social Work Program, Information Session, Texarkana, TX.

Yells, K., **Alexander, B.**, & Turner, J. (2021, February). *MSW information session*. Texas A&M University – Texarkana, Master of Social Work Program, Information Session, Texarkana, TX.

**Alexander, B.** (2021, January). *Time management and graduate level study skills*. Texas A&M University – Texarkana, Master of Social Work Program, Spring Orientation Event, Texarkana, TX.

**Alexander, B.** (2021, June). *Managing child emotional well-being during COVID-19 pandemic,* Upstate Area Health Education Consortium (AHEC), Greenville, SC.

**Alexander, B.** (2021, April). *Mental Health and Stress Management for Young Adults.* Bridges to a Brighter Futureat Furman University. Greenville, SC.

**Alexander, B.** (2021, April). *School Shootings.* Faculty Showcase of Scholarship and Creative Workat Texas A&M University – Texarkana. Texarkana, TX.

**Alexander, B.** (2021, March). *Life After the Corps Industry Panel: Counseling & Social Work*, College Advising Corps Virtual Advising Assembly.

**Alexander, B.** (2019, November). *Public School Responses to School Shootings: A Community Approach,* Upstate Area Health Education Consortium (AHEC), Greenville, SC.

**Alexander, B.** (2019, November). *Depression in Children and Adolescents,* Upstate Area Health Education Consortium (AHEC), Greenville, SC.

**Alexander, B**. (2019, September). *Depression in Children and Adolescents.* Invited 2-hour keynote presentation.Michelin, Greenville, SC.

**Alexander, B.** (2016, September). *The Evolution of Stress in Teens,* Upstate Area Health Education Consortium (AHEC), Greenville, SC.

**Alexander, B.**(2016, June). *Structured Relaxation Techniques for School Aged Children,* Upstate Area Health Education Consortium (AHEC), Greenville, SC.

**Alexander, B.** (2014, June). *Social Networking after Post-Secondary Education,* SC Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (SC LEND) Annual Year End Conference*,* Columbia, SC

# Advanced Professional Training

**Inclusive Teaching for Equitable Learning**

Association of College and University Educators, 2021

Description: Eight-week microcredential training in Inclusive Teaching for Equitable Learning

**Licensed Clinical Social Worker – Supervisor Training (LCSW-S)**

Mind Your Self Counseling, Coaching and Consulting, San Antonio, TX, 2021

Description: Multiday workshop for LCSW-S Supervision Training

**New Department Heads Training**

Texas A&M University Systems, 2021

Description: Multiday workshop for current and new department heads within the Texas A&M System

**Motivational Interviewing**

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, 2019

Description: Workshop presented by Alan Lyme, LISW, ICCS, ICADC, MAC

**SC Project BEST TF-CBT Training**

South Carolina Dept. of Mental Health and Medical University of South Carolina, 2017 - 2018

Description: One-year TF-CBT training program

**SC Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities**

Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), 2013 -2014

Description: One-year training program

# Professional Affiliations

Phi Alpha Honor Society Member

Golden Key International Honor Society (invitation only)

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

North American Association of Christians in Social Work (NACSW)

# Journal Editorial Boards & External Service To the Profession

2020 – present Reviewer: *School Mental Health Journal*

# Service To The University & Committee Work

**University of South Carolina**

2022 – present College of Social Work Undergraduate Program Committee, *Chair*

**Texas A&M University - Texarkana**

2021 – 2022 Search Committee for Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

2021 – 2022 The BIG Event Committee

2021 – 2022 CROWN & CROWNed Jewels, *Faculty Mentor*

2021 - 2022 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

2020 – 2022 TAMUT mentoring program (Mentor: Jialing Huang)

**Texas A&M University – Texarkana Social Work Programs**

2022 Search Committee for Director of Social Work Programs

2021 – 2022 Tenure Guidelines Committee

2021 – 2022 Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Social Work (BSW Program), *Chair*

2021 – 2022 Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Social Work (MSW Program), *Chair*

2021 – 2022 Social Work Student Association, *Faculty Advisor*

2021 – 2022 MSW Admissions Committee

2021 - 2022 CSWE Evaluation and Accreditation Committee

2020 – 2022 MSW Program Social Media Coordinator

2020 – 2022 MSW Student Academic and Career Advisor

2020 – 2021 Search Committee for Field Director

2020 – 2021 Search Committee for Assistant/Associate Professor of Social Work (MSW Program)

2020 – 2021 Search Committee for Assistant/Associate Professor of Social Work (MSW Program)

**Baylor University Diana R. Garland School of Social Work**

2020 - 2021 Race Equity Committee, Curriculum and Research Subcommittee, *Chair*

# Professional Certifications/Licensure

2022 – present Licensed Independent Social Worker (Supervisor) (LISW-CP)

License Number: 10773 Jurisdiction: South Carolina

2021 – present Licensed Clinical Social Work – Supervisor (LCSW-S)

License Number: 104081 Jurisdiction: Texas

2020 – present Certified Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapist

2016 - 2022Licensed Independent Social Worker (LISW-CP)

License Number: 10773 Jurisdiction: South Carolina

2014 - 2016 Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)

License Number: 10773 Jurisdiction: South Carolina

# Social Work Clinical Experience

2021-present AbleTo, *Therapist*

Provide initial assessments, CBT- and DBT- based psychotherapy sessions, and care coordination services for individual clients; Collaborate with community and health plan providers via clinical team meetings; Develop treatment plans, interventions, identify high risk concerns, and discharge plans for individual clients

2018-2020 Prisma Health System, *Clinical* *Social Worker*

Provided psycho-social assessments for newly diagnosed patients as related to their health and/or mental health problems; Facilitated comprehensive individual and family counseling as needed; Demonstrated working knowledge of community resources and mechanisms for the referral process

2015-2018 Piedmont Center for Mental Health Services, *School-Based Therapist*

Provided an array of community mental health services in a school setting including assessment, crisis management, individual, group, and family; therapy; Coordinated therapeutic summer programs to offer innovative, comprehensive therapy services during summer months; Provided case management services to children and their families in coordination with other agencies; Consulted with school personnel on issues related to children and adolescents regarding mental health needs; Participated in school personnel and parent-teacher meetings to offer consultation, referrals and mental health services as needed

2014-2017 The Carolina Center for Behavioral Health, *Therapist*

Provided case management and psychotherapeutic services to adult and adolescent psychiatric patient populations; Served as a member of an interdisciplinary team supporting the organization’s treatment program and philosophy; Planned and facilitated group therapy sessions including psycho-educational classes, process groups, rehabilitative groups and social skills group sessions

2014-2015 The Bair Foundation, *Lead Clinical Staff*

Planned and Developed individualized treatment and service plans; Counseled children in resource, foster, and adoptive homes and independent living arrangements; Coordinated services to minimize fragmentation of care, reduce barriers and link children with appropriate services; Assessed periodically children’s need for psychological, nutritional, medical and educational services; Coordinated referrals by assisting foster families in arranging appropriate services and ensuring continuity of care for children in therapeutic foster care

2012-2014 The Carolina Center for Behavioral Health, *Mental Health Technician*

Provided direct patient care under the supervision of an RN to adolescent, adult and geriatric patients; Participated in implementing patients’ treatment plans by monitoring patients’ progress, communicating information regarding patients’ behavior to other members of treatment team and providing input during shift report; Participated in treatment planning by helping to identify patients’ problems, needs and strengths and suggesting modifications to treatment plan based on observations of patients’ behavior

2012-2013 Prisma Health, Dept. of Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics, *Graduate Intern*

Assisted in allocating appropriate resources (services and in-kind) to families of and children with developmental disabilities at Children’s Hospital Outpatient Center; Conducted psychosocial assessments and parent interviews to families in the NICU follow-up clinic at the Center for Developmental Services;Extended and updated a compilation of summer activities geared toward children with developmental disabilities for families to use at their discretion; Assisted in interpreting and translating applications and eligibility criteria for community resources and benefit programs

2012-2013 Prisma Health, Marshall I. Pickens Psychiatric Hospital, *Graduate Intern*

Conducted psychosocial assessments with various patient populations including adult, geriatric and adolescent;Planned and implemented adult psychiatric groups including psycho-educational groups, Dialectical Behavior Therapy skills groups and process groups;Conducted individual and family therapy sessions with adult psychiatric patients;Conducted discharge planning with adult psychiatric patients and provide referrals to appropriate agencies; Maintained accurate individual and group therapy notes and other documentation.

# Other Professional Development

**Curriculum Development/Re-development**

SWO 5282 Evaluation of Practice I

Analyzed and evaluated existing instructor-led content for migration to online learning format. Updated course assignments and syllabus in alignment with CSWE competencies.

SOCW 571 Spirituality in Social Work

Developed 16-week and 5-week abbreviated (summer) course content designed to prepare students for social work practice with persons of diverse religious, spiritual, and nonreligious perspectives.

SOCW 560 Trauma-Informed Practice

Developed a 16-week introductory course designed to provide students with a comprehensive exploration of the psychological trauma field, including the history and current theories in the field, the nature of trauma (sexual abuse, combat, and natural disasters), how trauma affects individuals and systems, grief reactions, and traumatic stress. Also included in this class, is the exploration of the professional’s response to trauma, vicarious traumatization, disenfranchised grief, crisis intervention, comorbid disorders and general treatment issues. Finally, students have the chance to review evidence-based practices in the trauma field.

**CSWE Accreditation**

Engaged in multistep accreditation process for MSW and BSW program at Texas A&M University - Texarkana. Responsible for developing accreditation standards that define competent preparation for social work practice and ensuring the social work programs meet those standards in the areas of diversity, student admissions, student organizations, and faculty recruitment. Participated in consultation to program on understanding, interpreting, and demonstrating compliance with the Educational Policy and Accredited Standards (EPAS), including mission and goals, formal curriculum, field education, the learning environment, and assessment of student learning outcomes and social work competencies.