**SAKARA WAGES, MSW**

Curriculum Vitae

Doctoral Student, School of Social Work

University of Wisconsin-Madison

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**Education**

**Ph.D**. University of Wisconsin-Madison In Progress  
 Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare

Advisor: Dr. Marah Curtis

**M.S.W.** University of Wisconsin-Madison May 2020 Master of Social Work

Specialization in Child, Youth, & Family Welfare

**B.S**. University of Wisconsin-Platteville May 2017

Bachelor of Science in Psychology with High Honors

**Awards and Honors**

Sheldon D. Rose Memorial Scholarship March 2019

Dorothy M. Pearson Fellowship April 2018

Advanced Opportunity Fellowship September 2017

Lois P. Shimpa Memorial Scholarship June 2017

2017 UWP Commencement Speaker May 2017

University of Wisconsin-Platteville Dean’s List May 2017

Psi Chi Travel Award April 2017

University of Wisconsin-Platteville Chancellor’s List December 2016

Psychology Independent Study Award September 2015-May 2016

Rosemary McNally Award January 2015

College of Liberal Arts and Education Scholarship January 2015

**Teaching Experience**

Lecturer Fall 2020-Present

Intro to College Life: Subversive Study Skills

University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Platteville, WI

Responsible for two sections.

Lecturer Fall 2020-Present

CJ4540: Social Work with Individuals, Groups, and Institutions

University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Platteville, WI

Teaching Assistant Fall 2020-Present

SW205: Introduction to Social Work

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Responsible for two sections.

Peer Assisted Learning Leader Fall 2015-Spring 2017

University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Platteville, WI

Created lesson plans for weekly discussion sessions to support the following courses:

* POLISCI 1130: Introduction to Political Science (Fall 2015, Fall 2016)
* PSYCH 1130:Introduction to Experimental Psychology (Spring 2016)
* POLISCI 2360: International Relations (Spring 2016, Spring 2017)

**WORKSHOPS & PRESENTATIONS**

**Wages, S.** (2020, March). *Let’s Map it Out 2.0*: *Leveraging Levers.* Workshop conducted to follow up to 2019 Social Workers Confronting Racial Injustice Conference in Madison, WI.

Berger, L., Slack, K., Lee, H., **Wages, S.** (2020, January). *Child Maltreatment and Parental Well-Being Outcomes in an Experimental Economic Support Intervention (CPS).* Presented at the 2020 Society for Social Work and Research Conference in Washington, DC.

**Wages, S**., Washburn, C., Kopp, K., & Hill, J. (2017, April). *Religiosity, parental relationship qualities, and depressive symptoms during Emerging Adulthood.* Poster presented at the 2017 Midwestern Psychological Association Conference in Chicago, IL.

**Wages, S.**, Hamer, S. (2017, April). *You be the Judge: The effects of race, mental illness diagnosis on juror judgment.* Poster presented at the 2017 Tristate Psychology Conference in Platteville, WI.

**Publications**

Boyd, R., **Wages, S.,** Slack, K. (In progress). Strategies for Assessing Family Strengths in

Efforts to Predict Future CPS Involvement: A Focus on the Strengths of Black Families.

**Wages, S.,** Slack, K., Berger, L. (In progress). You Bring me Joy: A Qualitative Analysis of Parenting Experiences of CPS Deflected Families.

Lee, H. Berger, L., Slack, K., **Wages, S.** (In progress). Chronic Neglect: A Distinct Form of Neglect or Differences in Family Surveillance?

Berger, L., Slack, K., Lee, H., **Wages, S.** (In progress). Child Maltreatment and Parental Well-Being Outcomes in an Experimental Economic Support Intervention

**Government Reports**

Slack, K.S., **Wages, S.,** Reilly, A. Abbot, M., Berger, L., (2020). Flash Survey on Child Welfare Work Satisfaction in the State of Wisconsin. Memorandum prepared for the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families.

Lee, H., **Wages, S**., Slack, K.S., Pac, J., Berger, L., (2020). YASI Readiness Survey of Youth Justice Workers: Preliminary Evaluation of Cohorts 1 and 2. Memorandum prepared for the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families.

**Wages, S**., Slack, K.S., Walther, A., Pac, J., Berger, L. (2019). Best Practices in Recruiting and Retaining a Diverse Human Services Workforce. Memorandum prepared for the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families.

Berger, L.M., Slack, K.S., **Wages, S**., Abbott, M. (2019). Continuum of care in out-of-home placement. Memorandum prepared for the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families.

**Professional Experience**

Program & Operations Assistant May 2020-Present

Progress Center for Black Women, Madison, WI

Assist clients with diverse personal and professional needs. Manage projects and campaigns. Design intake assessments. Collect, track, and analyze data. Create and disseminate design collateral and data briefs.

Family Group Conferencing Intern Spring 2019

Dane County Human Service*,* Madison, WI

Accepted referrals and coordinate staffings with the social work team. Trained to facilitate family meetings that provide a forum for families to make decisions about the welfare of their children. Trained to negotiate and manage family conflict, to liaise and mediate between individuals, and to partner with families and agencies.

Independent Living Intern Fall 2018

Dane County Human Services*,* Madison, WI

Served the needs of youth aging from foster care. Supported young adults pursuing work, education, and life skills. Assessed, counseled, and referred residents to resources and support services as appropriate. Attended interdisciplinary team meetings and individualized education plan meetings.

Patient Access Representative Summer 2017

Southwest Health*,* Platteville, WI

Trained to assess and respond to emergencies. Attended weekly meetings to ensure data security and HIPAA compliance. Received intensive training on Medicare/Medicaid policies and EPIC software. Gained proficiency in insurance claims management. Offered comfort and support to families during emergencies.

Student Support Services Tutor Fall 2016

Student Support Services, University of Wisconsin-Platteville*,* Platteville, WI

Provided academic support to diverse populations, including first-generation college students. Provided one-on-one academic support in Statistics, Political Science, and Psychology. Initiated a campaign to research, measure, and raise professor awareness of program services.

DRIVEN Program Assistant Fall 2016

Office of Multicultural Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Platteville,Platteville, WI

Supported a retention program for historically underserved populations. Planned and managed student events. Assisted with the design and facilitation of academic workshops and training programs to address concerns and foster academic success.

Treatment Coordinator Intern Summer 2016

Grant County Courthouse,Lancaster, WI

Provided support for a caseload of 25-40 participants in both DUI Court and Drug Court. Participated in weekly interdisciplinary team meetings consisting of members of the court and mental health professionals. Attended court sessions and assisted with the coordination of weekly treatment court. Compiled and analyzed data to help with grant writing.

Academic Advising Intern Summer 2016

Psychology Department, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Platteville, WI

Reviewed placement test scores, AP credits, and transfer courses to assist incoming freshmen and potential psychology majors in registering during new student registration. Assisted students with selecting courses that aligned with their possible career paths. Ensured that students met general education course requirements.

**Research Experience**

Graduate Research Assistant June 2018-September 2020

Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Supervised by Dr. Kristen Slack and Dr. Lawerence Berger

Undergraduate Research Assistant September 2015-May 2016

Psychology Department, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Platteville, WI

Supervised by Dr. Julie Hill

**Service to the Profession and University**

MSW Admissions Committee, University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Social Work

Faculty Search and Screen Committee - Student Representative, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Psychology Department

**Professional Affiliations**

Society for Social Work Research

National Association of Black Social Workers

Psi Chi: International Honor Society

Institute for Research on Poverty