

**CURRICULUM VITAE**  
**AMELIA C. ROBERTS, PhD, LCSW**

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**AREAS OF INTEREST**

- Designing, Implementing, and Evaluating Gender Specific Treatment Programs for Substance Abusing Women and Girls.
- Modeling, Training, and Coaching of Evidence Based Interventions for Community Practitioners.
- Social Work and Spirituality.
- Cultural Diversity and Substance Abuse.

**EDUCATION**

1997 PhD, Social Work, University of Southern California  
1978 MSW, Social Work, University of Pennsylvania  
1974 BA/BSW, Social Work, Philadelphia College of Bible

**PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

1997-present Assistant Professor in the Health and Mental Health direct field of practice at the School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

1998-2001 Interim Chair of Mental Health Concentration, School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

1992-1997 Research Associate, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California.

1992-1997 Consultant & Trainer, Shields for Families, Los Angeles, California. Gender specific, female-focused, treatment agency for substance abusing women.

1988-1997 - Consultant, Psychotherapist, and Trainer for Mendes Consultation Services, Los Angeles, California.

1995-1997 Consultant and Trainer at Hollygrove Residential Treatment Center, Los Angeles, California.

1994-1997 Trainer for UCLA Child Welfare Consortium, Los Angeles, California.

July 1994 Ethnographic Interviewer for Dr. Edith Freeman of Kansas University, Empowerment: What is it? Defined by African American female drug abusers.

Fall 1993 Adjunct Professor of Clinical Practice in Mental Health Settings at University of Southern California.

Spring 1993 Adjunct Professor of Diagnosis and Psychopathology at University of Southern California.

August 1993 Ethnographic Interviewer, Mendes Consultation Services, Los Angeles, California Impressions of Cultural Sensitivity at Department of Water & Power.

May 1993 Ethnographic Interviewer, Mendes Consultation Services, Los Angeles, California Impressions of Cultural Sensitivity at American Heart Association of Greater Los Angeles.

- March 1993 Ethnographic Interviewer, Mendes Consultation Services, Los Angeles, California  
Impressions of Cultural Sensitivity at Asian American Drug Abuse Prevention of Los Angeles.
- 1988-1993 LCSW at Inglewood Dialysis Services, Los Angeles, California.
- 1986-1988 Program Director, Children's Home Society of California, Los Angeles, California, of four programs serving adoptive families and birth moms, foster care, special needs adoptions, and adoption reunification services.
- 1983-1986 Psychotherapist, California Christian Counseling Center, Pasadena, California.
- 1978-1986 Director of Clinical Services, Hollygrove Residential Treatment Center, Los Angeles, California.
- 1976-1978 Social Worker, Salvation Army Family Services, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

## **CURRENT AND RECENT RESEARCH**

### **Behavioral Healthcare Resource Project (2000-present)**

As Co-Principal Investigator for the Behavioral Healthcare Resource Project, we provide a leadership role in training and consultation in the most current evidence-based practice methodologies and cutting-edge techniques for policy makers and practitioners engaged in serving the state's citizens with serious mental illness or substance abuse problems. The project is funded by North Carolina Division of Mental Health, Development Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services.

### **HEART Program (2000-present)**

Co-Principal Investigator of the HEART (Holistic Enrichment for At-Risk Teens) Residential Substance Abuse Treatment program. The UNC team provides assessments of psychosocial needs of girls. The HEART program, employs a holistic, gender-specific intervention for incarcerated substance abusing teens with co-morbid difficulties. The program is currently being implemented and evaluated at a Youth Development Center in North Carolina. The project is funded by North Carolina Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

### **BEST Program (2002-2004)**

As Principal Investigator, provided clinical intervention, clinical support, and consultation to the administration and program staff of the BEST (Blended Education Service and Treatment) Program for incarcerated teen girls in a Youth Development Center in North Carolina. Provided clinical intervention and training for program staff, paraprofessionals, and educators of a residential substance abuse treatment program for female adolescents. The BEST program was funded by North Carolina Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

### **Women-focused HIV Prevention with African Americans (1999-2001)**

Minority Investigator of National Institute of Drug Abuse project entitled *Women-focused HIV Prevention with African-American Females Addicted to Crack Cocaine*. These women were out of treatment. Aggressive outreach was conducted to find women dependent on crack cocaine on the streets of Durham and Raleigh, North Carolina. This project was conducted in conjunction with Senior Researcher Dr. Wendee Wechsberg at RTI International of Durham, North Carolina.

### **Network Therapy (1999-2000)**

As Principal Investigator, led a pilot study *Network Therapy* intervention for drug addicted women with a sober network person, conjoint with psycho-educational group sessions. Study

included the addition of a sober network person who partnered with the woman to reinforce treatment goals. This project was funded by a University of North Carolina Public Service Grant.

**Enhanced Employee Assistance Program (1998-2001)**

As Co-Principal Investigator of Enhanced Employee Assistance Program, developed and evaluated a program designed to assist substance abusing TANF recipients who were entering the workforce. The project was funded by the State of North Carolina Department of Mental Health, Developmental Disability, and Substance Abuse Services..

**Residential Perinatal Substance Abuse Program (1993-1997 )**

As Research Associate, assisted with Research/Evaluation of a Residential Perinatal Substance Abuse Program. Collected extensive quantitative data and some qualitative data. Job assignment included: Liaison with the community agency, data collection and analysis, report writing, and supervision of two research assistants and one work study student. Several scholarly manuscripts were produced.

**PUBLICATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS**

Kim, M .M., & **Roberts, A. C.** (2004). Exploring trauma among homeless men in treatment for substance abuse: A qualitative approach. *Journal of Social Work in the Addictions, 4*(2), 21-32.

Arnold, L. M., Kirk, R., **Roberts, A.**, Griffith, D., & Meadows, K. (2003). Treatment of incarcerated sexually-abused adolescent females: An outcome study. *Journal of Child Sexual Abuse, 12*(1), 123-139.

**Roberts, A.**, Nishimoto, R., & Kirk, R. (2003). Cocaine abusing women who report sexual abuse: Implications for treatment. *Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions, 3*(1), 5-24.

**Roberts, A.C.**, Wechsberg, W., Zule, W., & Burroughs, A. (2003). Contextual factors and other correlates of sexual risk of HIV among African-American crack-abusing women. *Addictive Behaviors, 28*, 523-536.

**Roberts, A.C.**, Galassi, J., McDonald, K., & Sachs, S. (2002). Reconceptualizing substance abuse treatment in Therapeutic Communities: Resiliency theory and the role of social work practitioners. *Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions, 2*(2), 53-68.

Scheyette, A., **Roberts, A. C.**, & Kirk, R. (2002). Social work practitioners and technology transfer. *Journal of Professional Development: The International Journal of Continuing Social Work Education, 4*(2), 42-53.

Nishimoto, R., & **Roberts, A. C.** (2001). Coercion and drug treatment for post-partum women. *American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, 27*(1), 161-181.

**Roberts, A. C.** (2001). Coping behaviors of cocaine dependent women. *Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions, 1*(4), 83-97.

Wechsberg, W.M., Zule, W., Perritt, R., **Roberts, A.**, Middlesteadt, R., & Burroughs, A. (2001). Women-focused HIV prevention for African American crack users. In L. S. Harris (Ed.), *Problems of drug dependence 2000: Proceedings of the 62 Annual Scientific Meeting* (pp. 33-34). (NIDA Research Monograph 181, 2000). The College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Inc. Bethesda, MD: US Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health.

**Roberts, A. C.**, Jackson, M. M., & Carlton-LaNey, I. B. (2000). Revisiting the need for feminism and Afrocentric theory when treating African-American female substance abusers. *Journal of Drug Issues*, 30(4), 901-917.

Wechsberg, W., Zule, W., **Roberts, A.C.**, Perritt, R., Middlesteadt, R., & Burroughs, A. (2000). Woman-focused HIV prevention for African-American crack abusers. *Journal of the XIII International AIDS Conference*, 151-156.

**Roberts, A.**, Smith-Worth, A., & Kirk, R. (1999). Enhanced Employee Assistance Program services for rural TANF recipients. In I. B. Carlton-LaNey, R. L. Edwards, & P. N. Reid (Eds.). *Preserving and strengthening small towns and rural communities* (pp. 159-171). Washington, DC: NASW Press.

**Roberts, A.** (1998). Dissertation. *Women dependent on cocaine: A model of life stressors, coping, social support, and addiction severity*. University of Michigan Dissertation Services: Bell & Howell Company.

**Roberts, A. C.**, & Nishimoto, R. (1996). Predicting treatment retention of women dependent on cocaine. *American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse*, 22(3), 313-333.

### **SELECTED NATIONAL PAPER, POSTER, AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS**

**Roberts, A.**, & Nishimoto, R. (February 2004). *Is it Type of Treatment, Treatment Completion or Both? An Outcome Study of African American Substance Abusing Women*. Poster presented at meeting of Society for Social Work Research.

**Roberts, A.**, Kirk, R., & Jackson, M. (June 2004) *Gender-Specific Treatment for Substance Abusing, Incarcerated, Teen Girls: A Model for Practice*. Oral paper presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Hawaii International Conference on Social Science, Oahu, Hawaii.

**Roberts, A.** (February 2001). *Network Therapy intervention for substance abusing women: A pilot study*. Paper presented at the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE) Minority Fellows meetings.

**Roberts, A.**, & Wechsberg, W. (October 2000). *Contextual factors and other correlates of sexual risk of HIV among African American crack abusing women*. Paper presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Harm Reduction conference in Miami, Florida.

**Roberts, A.**, Wechsberg, W., & Zule, W. (June 2000). *Alcohol use among out-of-treatment African American women*. Poster presentation at the College for Drug Dependence Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

**Roberts, A.** (March 1999). *Considerations for selecting a university: Words of wisdom for minority fellows*. Paper presented at CSWE, Minority Fellows meeting in Orlando, Florida.

**Roberts, A.** (November 1999). *Quantum Leap Strategies into Welfare Reform*. Oral presentation at Employee Assistance Program Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Roberts, A., & Smith-Worth, A.** (1998). *Rural collaborative model: Enhanced Employee Assistance Programs Services for the TANF populations (Linking arm-in-arm with welfare recipients transitioning into the work place)*. National Employee Assistance Programs Association. Paper presented at 23<sup>rd</sup> annual conference of the National Institute on Social Work and Human Services in Rural Areas.

## **SERVICE**

### COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Consultant and trainer, TROSA, Durham, NC, 1999-present  
Member for committee on Reaching Out to AIDS Persons through the African American Church, 1999-2004  
Member, Board of Directors, Hope Meadows: Families in Recovery, 1999-2003  
Consultant and trainer, SouthLight, Raleigh, NC, 1999-2003  
Member, Board of Directors, Horizons, Chapel Hill, NC 1999-2000  
Consultant and trainer, Network Intervention, Step-By-Step, Durham, NC, 1999-2000  
Speaker, DART Program (Gender specific programs in correctional facilities), Women's Correctional Facility, Raleigh, NC, 1998  
Speaker, STARR program, Durham Prison, Durham, NC, 1998

### SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

Chair, Junior Faculty Search Committee, 2005  
Member, Faculty Advisory Board for International Affairs, 2004-present  
Coordinator, Dual Degree Program: MSW & MDiv. with Duke University, 2002 - present  
Member, Institutional Review Board committee, 2002 - present  
Member, Personnel, Tenure, and Promotion Committee, 1999, 2001, 2002-present  
Member, Curriculum Committee, 1998 - present  
Member, Faculty Senate  
Member, Diversity Assessment committee, 2002-2004  
Member, Committee on Students, 2002-2004  
Member, Direct Practice Concentration Committee, 2002  
Member, Dean Search Committee, 2001-2002  
Coordinator, Health and Mental Health Direct Practice Committee, 2000-2001  
Member, Faculty Search Committee 1999-2001

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

National Association of Social Workers  
National Association of Black Social Workers  
North American Association of Christians in Social Work  
Council of Social Work Education  
Society for Social Work and Research

## **CERTIFICATION:**

California Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), April 1981 #LM8899  
North Carolina LCSW, July 2001 #C003995

## **HONORS**

2004            Awarded *Most Innovative Teacher* by MSW Students  
2000            Awarded *Excellent Teacher Award* based on student evaluations  
1999-2001     NIDA Minority Investigator Award, University of North Carolina  
1992-1995     CSWE – Minority Fellowship Award, University of Southern California  
1992            SAMHSA-CSAT, Minority Health Substance Abuse Fellowship, University of  
                     Southern California  
1978            National Institute of Mental Health Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania

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