

# KARAH Y. GREENE, MSW

Phone: (813) 316-5664

Email: [karahgreene@usf.edu](mailto:karahgreene@usf.edu)

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3077-1426>

## Education

PhD	University of South Florida, Social Work	<i>currently enrolled</i>
Graduate Certificate	University of South Florida, Clinical Aging Sciences	<i>currently enrolled</i>
MSW	University of South Florida, Social Work	Dec 2021
BSW	University of South Florida, Social Work	May 2020

## Research Experience

**Graduate Research Assistant    USF College of Nursing    Jan 2025 – present**  
**(Dr. DeAnne Turner)**

Projects:

1) Effective Implementation Strategies to Deliver PrEP in Kenya

Role: Research Assistant

The objective of this study is to determine how implementation strategies and site-level contextual factors affect uptake and continued use of PrEP in 12 counties with moderate to high HIV burden in Kenya with two aims: 1) Identify the implementation strategies and contextual factors affecting PrEP implementation within clinical and community-based organizations in Kenya; and 2) Determine the combination(s) of implementation strategies and contextual factors that produce the most effective delivery of PrEP to populations at greatest risk of HIV acquisition.

**Graduate Research Assistant    USF School of Social Work    Aug 2024 – present**  
**(Dr. Sondra Fogel)**

Projects:

1) Title: Willingness to Pay: Reentry Project

Role: Research Assistant

The goal of this project is to assess the public's willingness to pay for reentry services for previously incarcerated individuals and to partner with Desoto Correctional Institution to accredit their programming and services for inmates.

2) Title: Disease Investigator Specialist Academy (DISTA)

Funder: State of Florida

Role: Graduate Assistant (PI: Somboonwit, C)

The overall objective of DISTA is to develop a sustainable public health workforce more specific to Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) and other public health workforce in communicable diseases and public health readiness by developing a new training curriculum for DIS. Direct assistance with

development of Health and Stigma, Active Listening Skills, Methods of Analyzing Descriptive Records, and Correctional Health modules.

3) Title: Women's Empowerment in Ghana

Role: Research Assistant

The goal of this project is to analyze qualitative data from four focus groups conducted with women in Ghana regarding gender roles. Data were analyzed utilizing Hamilton's Rapid Qualitative Analysis.

**Deputy Director  
(Dr. Jerome Galea)**

**USF School of Social Work  
ACCESS Lab**

**Sep 2022 – Feb 2024**

Projects:

3) Title: Collaborative Care for USF Pediatric Outpatient Care

Funder: USF Department of Pediatrics

Role: Consultant (PIs: Galea, JT and Emmanuel, P)

The goal of this project is for the School of Social Work and the Pediatric Department to work together to create the infrastructure and processes that will foster the integration of social work in pediatric primary care clinics.

4) Title: Disease Investigator Specialist Academy (DISTA)

Funder: State of Florida

Role: Graduate Assistant (PI: Somboonwit, C)

The overall objective of DISTA is to develop a sustainable public health workforce more specific to Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) and other public health workforce in communicable diseases and public health readiness by developing a new training curriculum for DIS. Direct assistance with development of Basic Interviewing Skills, Motivational Interviewing, Contact Tracing, and Contact Counseling materials.

5) Title: From ambivalence to action—using a conversational agent or “chatbot” to support smoking cessation: a proof-of-concept study

Funder: University of South Florida, New Investigator Research Grant

Role: Study Coordinator (PI: Galea, JT)

This project will develop and pilot test preliminary feasibility and acceptability of a smoking cessation support chatbot.

**Research Assistant  
(Dr. DeAnne Turner)**

**USF College of Nursing**

**Aug 2022 – Aug 2023**

Projects:

1) Evaluating the transition to telehealth services: Exploring the needs and experiences of LGBTQ+ clients engaged in community care at an HIV care agency in New Haven, CT

2) Using Web-based Peer Support to Increase HIV Testing Among Men who have Sex with Men in Kenya

**Research Assistant  
(Dr. Jerome Galea)**

**USF School of Social Work**

**Oct 2020 – Aug 2022**

Projects:

1) Title: A Solution to Halt Further Isolation of People Aging with HIV During the COVID-19 pandemic

Funder: Merck Pharmaceuticals

Role: Tampa Site Study Coordinator (PI: Brown, B)

The overall objective of this research is to develop a “virtual village” for use by older people living with HIV (PLWH) so that they can remain socially connected during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

2) Title: Evaluating the impact of incentives on clinical trial participation

Funder: Merck Pharmaceuticals

Role: Study Coordinator (PI: Brown, B)

The objective of this research is to investigate the impact of incentives on clinical trial participation and characterize perspectives from IRB members, investigators, and research participants.

### **Academic Publications**

Nguyen, A.L., Polonijo, A.N., Galea, J.T., Yoo-Jeong, M., Taylor, J., Ruiz, E.L., **Greene, K.**, Lopez, J.L., Christensen, C., Brown, B. (2024). A community-academic partnered approach to designing a Virtual Village to address the needs of older adults living with HIV. *AIDS Care*, 36(11), 1626–1634. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09540121.2024.2383869>

Yoo-Jeong, M., Ruiz, E., Galea, J. T., Polonijo, A. N., Lopez, J., **Greene, K. Y.**, Christensen, C., Taylor, J., Brown, B., & Nguyen, A. L. (2024). Commentary: Social connections as a catalyst for improved mental health and health behavior among long-term survivors of HIV. *Health Behavior and Policy Review*, 11(1). <https://doi.org/10.14485/HBPR.11.1.5>

Galea, J. T., Vasquez, D. H., Rupani, N., Gordon, M. B., Tapia, M., **Greene, K. Y.**, Kolevic, L., Franke, M. F., & Contreras, C. (2024). Development and pilot-testing of an optimized conversational agent or "chatbot" for peruvian adolescents living with HIV to facilitate mental health screening, education, self-help, and linkage to care: Protocol for a mixed methods, community-engaged study. *JMIR research protocols*, 13, e55559. <https://doi.org/10.2196/55559>

Polonijo, A. N., Nguyen, A. L., **Greene, K. Y.**, Lopez, J. K., Yoo-Jeong, M., Ruiz, E. L., Christensen, C., Galea, J. T., & Brown, B. (2024). Brief virtual intervention associated with increased social engagement and decreased negative affect among people aging with HIV. *AIDS Care* 36(8), 1102–1110. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09540121.2024.2329644>

Kosyluk, K., Baeder, T., **Greene, K. Y.**, Tran, J. T., Bolton, C., Loecher, N., DiEva, D., & Galea, J. (2024). Mental distress, label avoidance, and use of a mental health chatbot: Results from a U.S. survey. *JMIR Formative Research* , 8, e45959. <https://doi.org/10.2196/45959>

Simmons, C., Fisher, A., McNeish, R., **Greene, K. Y.**, Thompson, M., & Galea, J. T. (2023). Enhancing competency-based social work practice skills through service learning and interprofessional education in a student-run free health care clinic: Enhancing

- competency-based social work practice. *Advances in Social Work*.  
<https://doi.org/10.18060/26621>
- Lopez, J. L., Polonijo, A. N., Nguyen, A. L., **Greene, K. Y.**, Galea, J. T., Yoo-Jeong, M., Taylor, J., & Brown, B. J. (2023). Lessons learned in co-creating a Virtual Village for people ageing with HIV. *Journal of the International AIDS Society*, 26(5), e26084.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/jia2.26084>
- Sanabria, G., **Greene, K. Y.**, Tran, J. T., Gilyard, S., DiGiovanni, L., Emmanuel, P. J., Sanders, L. J., Kosyluk, K., & Galea, J. T. (2023). "A great way to start the conversation": Evidence for the use of an adolescent mental health chatbot navigator for youth at risk of HIV and other STIs. *Journal of Technology in Behavioral Science*, 1–10.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s41347-023-00315-4>
- Nair, U. S., **Greene, K.**, Marhefka, S., Kosyluk, K., & Galea, J. T. (2023). Development of a conversational agent for individuals ambivalent about quitting smoking: Protocol for a proof-of-concept study. *JMIR Research Protocols*, 12, e44041.  
<https://doi.org/10.2196/44041>
- Galea, J. T., Sanabria, G., **Greene, K. Y.**, Thompson, M., Doering, T., Fuchs, D., Grey, A., Saucedo, A., Rosler, M., & Simmons, C. (2023). MSW students' perspectives on learning and delivering a protocolized, low-intensity transdiagnostic psychological intervention: Implications for experiential learning. *Community Mental Health Journal*, 59(4), 812–817. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10597-022-01053-2>
- Ryapolova, N., Galea, J.T. & **Greene, K.Y.** (2023). Perceptions towards integrated care through the narrative of practicing social workers and psychologists in PHC: a cross-case analysis. *Journal of Integrated Care*, 31(1), 75-85. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JICA-08-2022-0042>
- Greene, K. Y.**, & Brown, B. (2023). Letter to the editor: considerations for ethical incentives in research. *Medicine, Health Care, and Philosophy*, 26(1), 153–154.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11019-022-10116-w>
- Polonijo, A. N., Dubé, K., Galea, J. T., **Greene, K. Y.**, Taylor, J., Christensen, C., & Brown, B. (2022). Attitudes toward payment for research participation: Results from a U.S. survey of people living with HIV. *AIDS and Behavior*, 26(10), 3267–3278.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10461-022-03660-2>
- Ruiz, E. L., **Greene, K. Y.**, Galea, J. T., & Brown, B. (2022). From surviving to thriving: the current status of the behavioral, social, and psychological issues of aging with HIV. *Current Opinion in HIV and AIDS*, 17(2), 55–64.  
<https://doi.org/10.1097/COH.0000000000000725>

Galea, J. T., **Greene, K. Y.**, Nguyen, B., Polonijo, A. N., Dubé, K., Taylor, J., Christensen, C., Zhang, Z., & Brown, B. (2021). Evaluating the impact of incentives on clinical trial participation: Protocol for a mixed methods, community-engaged study. *JMIR Research Protocols*, 10(11), e33608. <https://doi.org/10.2196/33608>

## **Funding**

**Student PI: Greene, K. Y.** (Awarded Feb 2025). Institute on Black Life. Graduate student research award for study activities. Amount: \$600.00

Mentor: Dr. Stephanie Marhefka in USF Mental Health Law and Policy

A mixed-methods study to characterize the lived experiences of older Black people living with HIV

## **Presentations**

**Greene, K. Y.**, & Fogel, S. J. (2025, May). *Linkage to HIV Care After Incarceration: Barriers and Solutions*. Poster presentation at National Organization of Forensic Social Work Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

**Greene, K. Y.** (2025, March). *Reentry Support: Helping Individuals Connect to HIV Care After Incarceration*. Poster presentation at University of South Florida Graduate Student Research Symposium, Tampa, FL. Presenter.

Holland, B., Grosholtz, J., Moore, M., **Greene, K.**, Fogel, S., Soliman, D., & Cochran, J. (2025, March). *Political Orientation and Public Support for In-Prison and Reentry Programs: Key Mediating Factors*. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) Annual Conference, Denver, CO.

Walsh, E., McCracken, J., Cash, C. J., Rice, A., **Greene, K.**, Holbrook, E., Prather, K., Rahman, M., & Vamos, C. (2025, February). *Tampa Bay Youth Reproductive Wellbeing Needs Assessment*. Poster presentation at University of South Florida Health Research Day Annual Conference, Tampa, FL.

Polonijo, A.N., Brown, B., Zhang, Z., Dubé, K., **Greene, K.Y.**, & Galea, J.T. (2023, December). *HIV Cure-related Study Vignettes Capture Stakeholder Perspectives on Ethical Payment Amounts*. Oral and poster presentation at the 2023 Public Responsibility in Medicine & Research (PRIM&R) Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

**Greene, K.Y.**, Polonijo, A.N., Dubé, K., Galea, J.T., & Brown, B. (2023, December). *Motivations to Participate in HIV Biomedical Research: Findings from Focus Groups with People Living with HIV in the United States*. Poster presentation at the 2023 Public Responsibility in Medicine & Research (PRIM&R) Annual Conference, Washington, DC. Presenter.

**Greene, K.Y.**, Polonijo, A.N., Brown, B., Dubé, K., Galea, J.T., & Zhang, Z. (2023, November). *Perceptions of ethical incentive amounts for HIV cure-related studies vary across stakeholder*

*groups*. Roundtable presentation at the American Public Health Association 2023 Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA. Presenter.

Meshram, P., **Greene, K.**, Kingsley, R., Layland, E., & Turner, D. (2023, November). *Client perceptions of barriers to care at a community-based service organization during the COVID-19 pandemic*. Poster presentation at the American Public Health Association 2023 Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

**Greene, K.Y.** (2023, May). Invited presentation, *findings for ethical incentives in HIV research study*, BEAT-HIV Delaney Collaboratory Social Sciences Meeting at University of California San Diego. Presenter.

Danquah, G.A., Girgenti, G.M., **Greene, K.Y.**, Galea, J., & Nair, U.S. (2023, March). *Predictors of Smoking Abstinence Self-Efficacy in a Sample of Individuals Ambivalent about Quitting Smoking*. Poster presentation at the 2023 Graduate Student Research Symposium at University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

**Greene, K.Y.**, Brown, B., Dubé, K., Polonijo, A.N., & Galea, J.T. (2022, December). *“It’s like you need the participants, but you’re not willing to invest in them”: Exploring stakeholders’ perceptions of incentives in the U.S. HIV research enterprise*. Oral presentation at the 2022 Public Responsibility in Medicine & Research (PRIM&R) Annual Conference. Presenter.

Lopez, J.L., **Greene, K.Y.**, Yoo-Jeong, M., Ruiz, E., Nguyen, A.L., Polonijo, A.N., Christensen, C., Taylor, J., Galea, J.T., & Brown, B. (2022, December). *A virtual platform to mitigate the effects of isolation among older people living with HIV: Lessons learned in usability with Discord*. Oral presentation at the UCLA CHIPTS HIV Next Generation Conference.

Yoo-Jeong, M., Nguyen, A.L., Brown, B., Ruiz, E., **Greene, K.Y.**, Polonijo, A.N., Lopez, J.L., Christensen, C., Taylor, J., & Galea, J.T. (2022, November). *Benefits and limitations of digital technologies for alleviating health and social challenges: perspectives from older adults living with HIV*. Oral presentation at the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC) 2022 Conference, Tampa, FL.

Nguyen, A.L., Galea, J.T., **Greene, K.Y.**, Ruiz, E., Polonijo, A.N., Yoo-Jeong, M., Lopez, J.L., Christensen, C., Taylor, J., & Brown, B. (2022, November). *Considerations for building a virtual village for older people living with HIV to strengthen social support networks*. Poster presented at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Aging and Public Health Section, Boston, MA.

Galea, J.T., **Greene, K.Y.**, Dubé, K., Taylor, J., Polonijo, A.N., Zhang, Z., & Brown, B. 2022, November). *The relative importance of payments on participation in HIV clinical research: A conjoint analysis experiment comparing research stakeholders*. Poster presented at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Aging and Public Health Section, Boston, MA.

Ruiz, E.L., **Greene, K.Y.**, Lopez, J.L., Polonijo, A.N., Yoo-Jeong, M., Taylor, J., Christensen, C., Galea, J.T., Nguyen, A.L., & Brown, B. (2022, October). *Selecting a virtual platform to*

*attenuate social isolation among older people living with HIV: Lessons learned from community-engaged consultation.* Poster accepted for International Workshop on HIV & Aging, 2022, Virtual Workshop. Presenter.

Sanabria, G., **Greene, K.Y.**, Gilyard, S., Tran, J.T., Sanders, L., Emmanuel, P., Kosyluk, K., & Galea, J.T. (2022, October). *Usability evaluation of a mental health resource chatbot (Tabatha-YYC).* Poster presented at the United States Conference on HIV/AIDS (USCHA), San Juan, PR.

**Greene, K.Y.**, Galea, J.T., Nguyen, A.L., Ruiz, E., Polonijo, A.N., Yoo-Jeong, M., Taylor, J., Christensen, C., & Brown, B. (2022, August). *Community input to develop an online platform for older adults aging with HIV: preliminary results from potential users in three U.S. cities.* Poster presented at the 24<sup>th</sup> International AIDS Conference, Montreal, CA. Presenter.

Nguyen, A.L., Brown, B., **Greene, K.Y.**, Ruiz, E., Polonijo, A.N., Yoo-Jeong, M., Taylor, J., Christensen, C., & Galea, J.T. (2022, July). *Determining preferred attributes of a "virtual village" platform to halt isolation among people aging with HIV: a community-engaged project.* Oral presentation at the 24<sup>th</sup> International AIDS Conference, Montreal, CA.

**Greene, K.** (2022, March). *Developing a framework to ethically incentivize participants in biomedical HIV research.* Oral presentation for USF ACCESS Lab Journal Club. Presenter.

**Greene, K.Y.**, Yoo-Jeong, M., Ruiz, E., Nguyen, A.L., Polonijo, A.N., Christensen, C., Taylor, J., Galea, J.T., & Brown, B. (2022, January). *Developing an online platform to improve social connections for older adults aging with HIV: Lessons learned from multi-site discussion groups.* Oral presentation at the CHIPTS 2022 HIV Next Generation Conference. Presenter.

**Greene, K.Y.**, Brown, B., Polonijo, A.N., Taylor, J., Dubé, K., Galea, J.T., & Christensen, C. (2022, January). *The role of payment on people's decision to participate in HIV research: results from a national survey of people living with HIV.* Poster presented at the CHIPTS 2022 HIV Next Generation Conference.

**Greene, K.**, Nguyen, A.L., Polonijo, A.N., Yoo-Jeong, M., Ruiz, E., Christensen, C., Taylor, J., Galea, J.T., & Brown, B. (2021, September). *Co-designing a digital intervention to alleviate social isolation of people aging with HIV during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.* Poster presented at the International Workshop on HIV & Aging, 2021, Virtual Workshop. Presenter.

**Greene, K.**, & Ruiz, E. (2021, June). *Preparing for a virtual village to assist people aging with HIV during the COVID-19 pandemic.* HIV+Aging Research Project-Palm Springs Stakeholder Advisory Board Meeting. Presenter.

**Greene, K.Y.**, Ruiz, E., Nguyen, A., Yoo-Jeong, M., Christensen, C., Polonijo, A.N., Taylor, J., Brown, B., & Galea, J. (2021, May). *Preparing for a virtual village to assist people aging with HIV during the COVID-19 pandemic.* Oral presentation at Network for Social Behavioral Research in HIV and Aging, University of Southern California. Presenter.

**Greene, K.,** DiEva, D., Nguyen, A.L., Yoo-Jeong, M., Christensen, C., Polonijo, A.N., Taylor, J., Brown, B., & Galea, J.T. (2021, April). *A solution to halt further isolation of people aging with HIV during the COVID-19 pandemic*. Poster presented at the Florida Community, Provider, and Researcher (CPR) Conference. Presenter.

**Greene, K.,** & Sundberg, S. (2021, February). *Caregiving issues and dementia*. USF Memory Disorder Clinic. Webinar presented to community caregivers, Tampa, FL. Presenter.

### **Teaching Experience**

Guest Lecturer “Social Movements”, Human Behavior and the Social Environment II	University of South Florida School of Social Work Face-to-face BSW program	April 11, 2025
Course Grader Cognitive Behavior Therapy SOW 6931	University of South Florida School of Social Work On-line MSW program, delivered over 15 weeks	Fall 2022

### **Professional Development for Teaching**

Class observations: 10 hours (BSW Human Behavior and Social Environment II, Multicultural America in a Global Society), Spring 2025

University of South Florida College Teaching Introduction  
18-hour online course, Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning, Spring 2025

### **Ad hoc Peer Reviewer**

*AIDS Care*  
Feb 2025-Present

*Cambridge Prisms: Global Mental Health*  
Nov 2024-Present

### **Conference Abstract Reviewer**

Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV/AIDS 2025 Conference  
February 2025

### **Service**

University of South Florida Office of Interprofessional Education and Practice Interprofessional Education Day Planning Workgroup  
Social Work Representative, Feb 2025-Present



Tampa/Hillsborough Reproductive Well-Being Learning Collaborative  
Health Equity Working Group (understand youth reproductive well-being needs)  
PhD Student Member, Nov 2024-Present

HANC (HIV/AIDS Network Coordination) NIH Subject Matter Research Consultants Working  
Group  
PhD Student Member, Sep 2024-Present

13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program  
Volunteer Child Advocate, Hillsborough County, Jul 2019-Sep 2021; Mar-Oct 2023

Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network (RAINN)  
Volunteer National Sexual Assault Hotline Specialist, Remote, Jan-Jul 2023

13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Dependency System  
Non-Relative Caregiver/Out-of-Home Placement, Hillsborough County, Jun 2021-Mar 2022

13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program  
Hospital SWAT Team Volunteer, Hillsborough County, Nov 2020-Aug 2021

ALS Association  
Visiting Volunteer, Tampa Chapter, Dec 2018-Apr 2020

### **Awards and Scholarships**

University of South Florida Graduate Student Success Fellowship, August 2023-July 2026  
Tuition waiver and \$12,000 stipend/year for 3 years

Public Responsibility in Medicine & Research (PRIM&R) Conference Travel Scholarship, Dec  
2023

Public Responsibility in Medicine & Research (PRIM&R) Outstanding Pillar Award, June 2022

### **Additional Education and Certifications**

Certificate in Evaluation, 16-hr course, March 2025  
University of South Florida

Inclusive Leadership Training, 1-day workshop, Feb 11, 2025  
Community Tampa Bay

Methods of Qualitative Coding, 2-day workshop, Jul 11-12, 2023  
Presented by Dr. Johnny Saldana

Cognitive Processing Therapy (trained), completed Jan 2023  
Medical University of South Carolina

Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (trained), completed Jan 2023  
Medical University of South Carolina

Registered Clinical Social Worker Intern (RCSWI)  
ISW18277; Issued: Jan 5, 2023

Grief Counseling Specialist Certification, active Dec 2021-Dec 2022  
Evergreen Certifications

### **Professional Organization Affiliations**

Sigma Xi, 2024-Present  
Student Member

American Public Health Association, 2023-Present  
Graduate Student Member

International AIDS Society, 2022-Present  
Member

National Center on Sexual Exploitation, 2023-2025  
Member, Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation (CESE)

American Psychological Association (APA), 2023-2025  
Graduate Student Member

National Association of Social Workers, 2020-2024  
Member, Tampa Bay, Florida Chapter

Alzheimer's Association, 2021-2024  
Member, Gulf Coast, FL Chapter

ALS Association, 2020-2023  
Member, Tampa Bay, FL Chapter