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| Mariah Cowell Mercier, MSW  Ph.D. Candidate | mariah.cowell@utah.edu |

**Research Interests:** Diversion from the criminal legal system, hyper incarceration, law enforcement use of force, community-based interventions to violence, macro social work education and anti-oppressive social work practice

**Summary of Qualifications**

Interview guide, scale, and survey development • Proficient in STATA, MPlus and SPSS for quantitative and NVivo and Dedoose for qualitative analysis • Proficient in REDCap and Qualtrics for survey administration and dashboard creation • Proficient in Covidence for Systematic Reviews • Trained Evidence-Based Correctional Program Checklist Assessor

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

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| Ph.D. | 2025 (anticipated) | College of Social Work, University of Utah |
| MSW | 2019 | School of Social Work, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  Concentration: *Community Management and Policy Practice* |
| BSW | 2017 | School of Social Work, University of North Carolina, Charlotte |

**REFERREED PUBLICATIONS**

1. Van Deinse, T., **Cowell Mercier, M.,** Waters, A.K., Disbennett, M., Cuddeback, G., Velázquez, Y., Murray Lichtman, A., & Taxman, F. (2023). Strategies for supervising people with mental illnesses on probation caseloads: results from a nationwide study. *Health & Justice, 11*(1), 1-16. https://doi.org/10.1186/s40352-023-00241-w
2. Cuddeback, G. S., Van Deinse, T. B., DiRosa, E., Murray-Lichtman, A., Givens, A., & **Cowell Mercier, M.**  (2023). Implementing evidence-based supported employment within specialty mental health probation: A hybrid type I implementation-effectiveness trial protocol. *Contemporary Clinical Trials*, 107342. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cct.2023.107342
3. Baffour, T., **Cowell Mercier, M.,** Rutledge, L., Mowdood, A., & McFarland, M. A. (2023). A scoping review protocol of anti-racism programs and practices in higher education: Implications for developing interventions to advance equity. *International Journal of Educational Research Open.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cct.2023.107342
4. Waters, A., **Cowell Mercier, M.,** Disbennet, M., Ziaii, S., Cuddeback, G., Velázquez, T., Clark-Moorman, K., & Van Deinse, T. People with Serious Mental Illnesses on Probation: Multi-level Challenges to Diversion. *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice.* <https://doi.org/10.1177/10439862231189418>
5. Salisbury, E., Belslie, L., **Cowell Mercier, M.,** & Prince, K. A Randomized Controlled Trial of Community Health Specialists Within Gender-Responsive Probation Supervision. *Feminist Criminology.* <https://doi.org/10.1177/15570851231194662>
6. Belslie, L., Salisbury, E., & **Cowell Mercier, M.** Gender-Responsive Community Supervision During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Learning from Justice-Involved Women and their Supervising Officers. *Victims & Offenders*, 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15564886.2023.2212254>
7. Zielinski, M. J., **Cowell, M.,** Bull, C. E., Veluvolu, M., Behne, M. F., Nowotny, K., & Brinkley-Rubinstein, L. (2022). Policy and public communication patterns among U.S. state prisons during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic. *Health & Justice, 10*, 27. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40352-022-00187-5>

# Givens, A., Murray-Lichtman, A., Van Deinse, T. B., Dallenbach, M., **Cowell Mercier, M.,** Lowder, E. M., & Cuddeback, G. S. (2022). Individuals with mental illnesses on probation: The Intersection of trauma, race, and gender. *Feminist Criminology, 17*(4) 494–513. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15570851221112926>

# Cuddeback, G., Van Deinse, T., Givens, A., Murray Lichtman, A., **Cowell, M.,** & DiRosa, E. (2022). Individuals with mental illnesses in the criminal legal system: Complex issues and best practices. *Fed. Probation, 86,* 18.

# Van Deinse, T., Givens, A., Frey, J., **Cowell, M**., & Cuddeback, G. (2022). Size and attributes of probation officers’ service provider networks: Connecting individuals with mental illnesses to community-based supports. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*. 61(5), 245-262. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10509674.2022.2082623>

1. VanDeinse, T., Givens, A., **Cowell, M.,** Ghezzi, M., Murray Lichtman, A., & Cuddeback, G. (2022). A randomized trial of specialty mental health probation: Measuring implementation and effectiveness outcomes.*Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research. 49, 415–428.* <https://doi.org/0.1007/s10488-021-01172-0>
2. Hamblett, A. Lemasters, K., **Cowell, M**., Maner, M., & Brinkley-Rubinstein, L. (2021). [To better address COVID-19 among incarcerated people, more collaboration is needed between state departments of health and departments of corrections](https://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=view_citation&hl=en&user=v7BShoEAAAAJ&sortby=pubdate&citation_for_view=v7BShoEAAAAJ:Se3iqnhoufwC)*. Health Affairs Forefront.* <https://www.healthaffairs.org/do/10.1377/forefront.20220127.35520>

# LeMasters, K., **Cowell, M.,** Maner, M., Peterson, M., & Brinkley-Rubinstein, L. (2021). COVID-19 And HIV: Overlapping pandemics for criminal justice-involved individuals. *Health Affairs Blog.* <https://www.healthaffairs.org/do/10.1377/forefront.20210818.753807>

## Maner, M., LeMasters, K., Lao, J., **Cowell, M.,** Nowotny, K., Cloud, D., & Brinkley-Rubinstein, L. (2021). COVID-19 in corrections: Quarantine of incarcerated people. *PLOS ONE.* 16(10). <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0257842>

1. LeMasters, K., Oser, C., **Cowell, M.,** Mollan, K., Nowotny, K., & Brinkley-Rubinstein, L. (2021). Longitudinal Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Acceptability, Initiation, and Adherence Among Criminal Justice-Involved. Adults in the United States: The Southern PrEP Cohort Study (SPECS) Protocol. 11(7). *BMJ Open*. 11:e047340. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2020-047340>
2. **Cowell, M.,** Corsi, C., Johnson, T., & Brinkley-Rubinstein, L. (2020). [The factors that motivate law enforcement's use of force: A systematic review](https://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=view_citation&hl=en&user=v7BShoEAAAAJ&sortby=pubdate&citation_for_view=v7BShoEAAAAJ:W7OEmFMy1HYC). *American Journal of Community Psychology. 67(1-2), 142-151.* <https://doi.org/10.1002/ajcp.12460>
3. Goode, R.W., **Cowell, M.**, McMillian, D., Van Deinse, T., & Cooper-Lewter, C. (2019). Preparing social workers to confront social injustice and oppression: Evaluating social work education. *Social Work. 66(1*). 39–48. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sw/swaa018>
4. Goode, R.W., **Cowell, M.**, Mazzeo, S.E., Cooper-Lewter, C., Forte, A., Olayia, O.I., & Bulik, C.M. (2019). Binge eating and binge-eating disorder in Black women: A systematic review. *International Journal of Eating Disorders.* 53(4), 491-507.<https://doi.org/10.1002/eat.23217>
5. Goode, R.W., Terry, M.A., Kalarchian, M.A., Gary-Webb, T.L., Craighead, L., Conroy, M., Bennett, E., **Cowell, M.,** & Burke, L.E. (2018). Perceptions and experiences of appetite awareness treatment among African American women who binge eat. *Eating and Weight Disorders. 25, 275–281.* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40519-018-0577-z>

**BOOK CHAPTERS**

1. Hamblett A., **Cowell, M.,** LeMasters K., & Brinkley-Rubinstein L. (2022) Best Practices to Assuage COVID-19 Risk in Jails and Prisons. In: Greifinger R.B. (Eds.), *Public Health Behind Bars*. Springer. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-0716-1807-3_9>

**MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS**

1. **Cowell Mercier, M.,** VanDeinse, T., Givens, A., Murray Lichtman, A., & Cuddeback, G. (2023). Service needs of adults with serious mental illnesses and elevated trauma. *Manuscript in preparation.*
2. Belslie, L., **Cowell Mercier, M. &** Salisbury, E. (2023). The Role of Community Health Workers in Gender-Responsive Community Supervision. *Manuscript in preparation.*
3. **Cowell Mercier, M.** (2023).Moderation of school resource officer training and disciplinary incidents. *Manuscript in preparation.*
4. Cuddeback, G., Givens, A., Van Denise, T., **Cowell Mercier, M.,** Murray Lichtman, A., DiRosa, E. (2023). Employment and individuals with mental illnesses who are involved with the justice system: A survey of IPS-SE teams across the state. Manuscript in preparation. *Manuscript in preparation.*

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. Baffour, T., Whitaker, T., Handrop, J., **Cowell Mercier, M.,** & Diaz, G. (2023). A scoping review protocol of anti-racism interventions in higher education: Implications for equity, diversity & inclusion. State of Utah Black Affairs Summit. Salt Lake City, Utah.
2. **Cowell Mercier, M.,** & Sarver, C. (2022). Needs assessment of the victim advocate system: Perspectives from victims and service providers. American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA.
3. Waters, A., Ziaii, S., Disbennett, M., **Cowell Mercier, M.,** Clark-Moorman, K., Velazquez., T., & Van Deinse, T. (2022). Probation supervision for people with mental illnesses: Impacts of and adaptations to COVID-19. American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA.
4. Van Deinse, T., **Cowell, M.,** Foster, M., Velasquez, T., & Lowe, N. (2021). A Nationwide Comparison of Probation Approaches to Addressing Mental Illnesses. American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA.
5. Van Deinse, T., **Cowell, M.** Foster, M., Velasquez, T., Lowe, N. (2021). A Nationwide Comparison of Probation Approaches to Addressing Mental Illnesses. American Probation and Parole Association. 46th Annual Training Institute. Boston, MA.
6. Corsi, C., Brown, M., **Cowell, M.**, Morgan, S., & Brinkley- Rubinstein, L. (2021). Exploring Intersections of Social Support, Trauma, and Adult Well-Being Among Formerly Incarcerated Individuals - Results from the Southern Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis [PrEP] Cohort Study. Oral presentation in the Mental Health track at the 13th Annual Academic and Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health: Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health, Raleigh, NC.
7. **Cowell, M.,** Brinkley-Rubenstein, L., Brown, M., Corsi, C., & Morgan, S.(2021). Working with officers, leaders, communities, and social networks to increase enrollment in clinical research studies - lessons from the SPECS Study. Oral presentation in the Mental Health track at the 13th Annual Academic and Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health: Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health, Raleigh, NC.
8. **Cowell, M.,** Chen, H. & Brinkley-Rubenstein, L. (2021). Medication for Opioid Use Disorder in Criminal Legal System Settings: A North Carolina Example. Oral presentation in the Mental Health track at the 13th Annual Academic and Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health: Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health, Raleigh, NC.
9. **Cowell, M.,** Van Deinse, T.B., Burgin, S.E., Ghezzi, M., Johnson, T., Sanchez Lopez, Q., Givens, A., Sigmann, A., & Cuddeback, G.S. (2021). *The Service Needs of Adults with Serious Mental Illnesses and Elevated Trauma.* Oral presentation in the Mental Health track at the 13th Annual Academic and Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health: Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health, Raleigh, NC.
10. Van Deinse, T.B., Smith, E.J., **Cowell, M.,** Mucha, P. & Cuddeback, G.S. (2021, April). Prosocial Networks of Adults with Serious Mental Illnesses on Probation. Oral presentation in the Mental Health track at the 13th Annual Academic and Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health: Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health, Raleigh, NC.
11. **Cowell, M.,** Van Deinse, T. (2019). *The State of Macro Education: A Comparison of Curriculum across MSW Programs.* Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting. Orlando, FL.
12. Simmons, N., **Cowell, M.** Albritton, T. (2019). *Student and School Collaboration Toward Community Based Partnerships: A Latinx Teach-in.* Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting. Orlando, FL.
13. **Cowell, M.** (2019). *Macro Matters: Research as Social Work Practice.*TheUniversity of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.
14. **Cowell, M.** (2019). *Advocacy 101.* The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.
15. Gilliam, C., Kaz, L., **Cowell, M.,** &Christy, J. (2019). *Towards an Understanding of Critical Race Theory in Social Work.* The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Chapel Hill, NC.
16. Gray, M., **Cowell, M.** (2018). *Supporting Undergraduate Women in Computer Science:*   
    *Evaluation of the Duke Technology Scholars Program.* American Evaluation Association Annual Program Meeting: Speaking Truth to Power. Cleveland, OH. 2018.
17. Goode, R.W., **Cowell, M.** & Van Deinse, T. (2018). *Confronting Social Injustice and Oppression in the Age of Trump: Are our MSW Students Prepared?* Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting. Orlando, FL.
18. Goode, R.W.,  **Cowell, M.** *Confronting Social Injustice and Oppression in the Age of Trump: Are our MSW Students Prepared?* (2018). Invited to present at School of Social Work Faculty Retreat, Chapel Hill, NC.
19. **Cowell, M.** &Petzke, C. (2017). *Media Literacy Trainings Impact on Gendered Perspectives Among African American Youth.* Southeastern Women’s Studies Association, Atlanta, GA.
20. **Cowell, M.** &Petzke, C. (2016). *Media Literacy Trainings Impact on Gendered Perspectives Among African American Youth.* Charlotte Community Scholars Research Symposium, Charlotte, NC.

**RESEARCH FUNDING**

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| *Funded*  *2023* | A Strengths-Based, Trauma-Informed Approach to Assessment &  Coaching for The Facilitating Behavior Change Implementation. National Institute of Corrections, Amount awarded:  $875,000. **Role:** **Co-Investigator** |
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| *Unfunded*  *2022* | Delivery of the facilitating behavior change training with readiness evaluation and coaching support. National Institute of Corrections, Amount requested: $111,518. **Role:** **Co-Investigator** |

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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| *Research Positions* |  |
| June 2022 - | **Graduate Research Assistant**  Principal Investigator: Tiffany Baffour, Ph.D.  University of Utah   * Conducted scoping review examining the current state of the literature on anti-racist policies, practices, and interventions within higher education. * Conducted training and supervision to team of interdisciplinary research assistants. |
| August 2021 -  March 2020 - August 2021 | **Graduate Research Assistant**  Principal Investigator: Emily Salisbury, Ph.D.  University of Utah - Utah Criminal Justice Research Center   * Provided technical assistance and training to individuals on the Women’s Risk Needs Assessment. * Provided technical assistance to Utah Division of Juvenile Justice Youth Services on implementation of best practices within community and secure care facilities.   **Study Coordinator**  Principal Investigator: Lauren Brinkley- Rubinstein, Ph.D.  University of North Carolina School of Social Medicine - Center for Health Equity Research  *Transitions Clinic Network: Post Incarceration Addiction Treatment, Healthcare, and Social Support:* National Institute on Drug Abuse funded RCT that focused on the effectiveness of the TCN intervention versus referral to standard primary care on opioid treatment cascade outcomes.   * Responsible for all regulatory activity for multi-site RCT. * Developed and oversaw recruitment, enrollment, and follow-up protocols for study. |
| March 2020 - August 2021 | **Study Coordinator**  Principal Investigator: Lauren Brinkley-Rubinstein, Ph.D.  University of North Carolina School of Social Medicine - Center for Health Equity Research  *Covid Prison Project: Policy Arm:* Public-facing database that provides recent data on the state of COVID-19 within the United States correctional facilities.   * Built management system for multimedia data collected from the Department of Corrections. * Developed data collection and auditing protocols. * Managed a team of 10 research assistants from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. |
| May 2019 -  March 2020 | **Lead Research Assistant**  Principal Investigator: Lauren Brinkley-Rubinstein, Ph.D.  University of North Carolina School of Social Medicine - Center for Health Equity Research  *Study of Personal Experiences with Accessing Care in the South:* NIMHD funded R01 cohort study relevant to pre-exposure prophylaxis among people on probation and parole.   * Conducted recruitment and retention for individuals recently released from jail and prison. * Led efforts for community engagement across Durham and Wake county. |
| May 2019- August 2021 | **Project Manager**  School of Social Work, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  Principal Investigator: Tonya Van Deinse, Ph.D.   * Implemented agile project management systems to coordinate 10 grants for a multi-disciplinary research team. * Coordinated community relationships with various stakeholders involved in research activities including NC Department of Public Safety, Durham Criminal Justice Resource Center, and Pew Charitable Trusts. * Managed survey development and protocol adherence for a nationwide survey to examine the probation department's specialty mental health approaches. |
| August 2018-May 2019 | **Visiting Research Fellow**  Duke Social Science Research Institute   * Partnered with community partners and Duke University schools and programs to conduct needs assessments, process and outcome evaluations, and strategic planning. |
| August 2017-May 2019 | **Graduate Research Assistant**  Principal Investigator: Rachel W. Goode, Ph.D.  The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Social Work  *The Feasibility of a Binge Eating Intervention in Black Women with Obesity:* Examine the feasibility of an 8-week cognitive-behavioral binge eating intervention known.   * Managed federally funded clinical studies, provided oversight for data collection and participant retention, completed complex institutional review board applications. |
| April 2016 - April 2017 | **Research Assistant**  Principal Investigator: Shanti Kulkarni, Ph.D.  The University of North Carolina at Charlotte, School of Social Work  *Shaping the Message: African American Youth and their Families Use Media to Promote Violence Free Dating Relationships*: NIH funded preliminary research to identify core intervention elements necessary to integrate evidence-supported prevention approaches—youth and family engagement and media literacy.   * Conducted literature reviews and authored conference abstracts. * Conducted focus groups and analyzed data on the critical consumption of media and violence against women. |
| *Professional Positions* |  |
| August 2019-May 2021  April 2017-September 2017 | **MSW Field Instructor**  School of Social Work, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill   * Assisted students in integrating theory, research, and practice into the field setting. * Developed and evaluated student learning agreements.   **Data Specialist**  Communities in Schools of North Carolina   * Built data collection and report capacity of local affiliates by providing training and assistance for a national management system. * Create reports on service evaluation and student enrolment, demographics, and enrollment for internal and external use. * Locate and link national, state, and local datasets for continued services and evaluative services. |
| August 2016-August 2017 | **Membership Coordinator**  National Association of Social Workers - North Carolina   * Wrote and edited content for the agency website, newsletters, and newswire. * Conducted research to inform work of organization advocacy, policy & legislation efforts. * Manage our membership databases, local program units, and practice area networks. |
| August 2017-May 2018  August 2016 - August 2017 | **Sexual Assault Advocacy Intern**  Durham Crisis Response Center   * Conducted a formative evaluation of the Durham Family Justice. * Provided hospital response, follow-up, information and referral, and court/legal system support.   **Policy and Advocacy Intern**  National Association of Social Workers - North Carolina   * Promoted core values held by the social work profession through advocacy, lobbying, policy development. * Created a voting information and registration tool for social workers and vulnerable populations. * Created the diversity action strategic plan and report for the NASW-NC board of directors that evaluated the demographics and representation of the state of our association. |

**TEACHING**

**Mentored Teaching**

2023 **University of Utah College of Social Work MSW Program**

**Teaching Assistant:** Social Policy and Programs: Advocacy and Social Justice

2018  **Duke University, Social Science Research Institute**

**Teaching Assistant:** Bass Connections Interdisciplinary Research Team

**INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

*Guest Lecture, Fall 2022,* University of Utah - SW2500 Social Work in Criminal Justice

* Guest lectured on Reentry and Smart Decarceration in the criminal legal setting

*Guest Lecture, Fall 2022,* University of Utah - SW7111 Quantitative Research

* Guest lectured on utilizing reference management software in social work scholarly research and team collaborations

*Guest Lecture, Spring 2021,* UNC School of Social Work, Chapel Hill, NC - SOWO770

* Guest lectured on the role of CQI in project management as an essential tool in community social work practice.

*Guest Lecture, Fall 2020,* UNC School of Social Work, Chapel Hill, NC – SOWO 875

* Guest lectured on the role of adaptive project management as an essential tool in community social work practice.

*Guest Lecturer, Fall 2018*, Duke University, Social Science Research Institute, Durham, NC

* Presented on effective data visualization strategies in evaluation.
* Led discussion and activity on best practices when translating research in non-academic settings.

**AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS**

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| 2022- 2023 | University of Utah Challenge Scholarship |
| 2021 | Robin Arnold-Williams Public Policy Endowed Scholarship - University of Utah |
| 2021 | William McPhee Scholarship – University of Utah |
| 2019 | Presidents Award, National Association of Social Worker’s - North Carolina Chapter |
| 2018 | Jane Curtis Parker Scholarship Award - University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill |
| 2017 | BSW Student of the Year - University of North Carolina at Charlotte |
| 2017 | Southeastern Women’s Association Student Travel Grant |

**PEER REVIEWER**

Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice

Journal of Community Practice

Journal of Healthcare for the Poor and Underserved

**SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY, PROFESSION, AND COMMUNITY**

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| 2023 - | Safety and Success Initiative, Midvale and Magna, Utah - Coalition Member |
| 2023 - | Public Safety Advisory Committee, University of Utah – Graduate Student Representative |
| 2022 -  2021 - 2023  2019-2020  2018 - 2019  2018 - 2020  2018-2019  2018  2017 | Promote Smart Decarceration, Social Work Grand Challenges - PhD Student Group Member  PhD Committee, College of Social Work University of Utah - Student Representative  Evaluation Working Group, Interact Family Justice Center, Raleigh, NC  Evaluation Team Member  Macro Caucus, UNC School of Social Work  Macro Caucus Chair  Community Management and Policy Practice Curriculum Committee, UNC School of Social Work - Student Representative  Social Justice Action Committee, UNC School of Social Work - Student Representative  UNC School of Social Work Mentor, UNC School of Social Work  North Carolina – National Association of Social Workers. – Student Liaison |

**SELECTED PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

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| 2023  2020  2019  2018  2018 | Evidence Based Correctional Program Checklist University of Cincinnati Correctional Institute  Introduction to STATA 15  Introduction to R  Using NVivo 12 for Qualitative Analysis of Text  REDCap Forms and Functions, |