



Lester R. Collins, Jr., PhD, MDiv, MSW

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work School of Social Work, University of Texas at Arlington	2018
Clinical Pastoral Education 4 Units Texas Health Huguley Hospital, Burleson, TX	2016 – 1 yr
Masters of Social Work School of Social Work, St. Ambrose University, Davenport, Iowa	2012
Masters of Divinity Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, Andrews University Berrien Springs, Michigan	2003
Bachelors of Science Counseling Psychology, Oakwood University, Huntsville, Alabama	1996
Psychology Pre-Med Studies, Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia	1991 - 1994

TEACHING INTERESTS

• Human Development • Introduction to Social Work • Social Policy • Mental Health • Substance Abuse • Stress, Crisis, & Coping • Poverty & Inequality • Social Work & Spirituality • Human Behavior & the Social Environment • Diversity, Oppression, & Social Justice

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Black/Minority Male Academic Success • Achievement Gap • Addictions • Mental Health & Spirituality • Learning & Memory • Intelligence • Student Success

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Associate **2014 – present**

(Dr. Alexa Smith-Osborne, P.I.)

African American Faith-Based Mental Health Education & Awareness

Center for Clinical Social Work, University of Texas at Arlington

Funding: Hogg Foundation for Mental Health

- Collaboration on qualitative and quantitative data collection, analysis, community partner engagement, and project evaluation.

Graduate Research Assistant **2012 – 2014**

(Dr. Courtney Cronley, P.I.)

Feasibility of a Centralized Intake Center for Homeless Families in Dallas County

Graduate School of Social Work, University of Texas at Arlington

Funding: Amon J. Carter Foundation through iCAP grant

- Collaboration on qualitative and quantitative data collection, analysis, community partner engagement, and dissemination of findings.

Contractor **2001 – 2002**

Minnesota Department of Human Services

Funding: \$35,000

- Coordinated statewide tobacco compliance checks per the federal Synar Amendment. Consulted on the implementation of future youth access efforts in Minnesota.

Senior Investigator **1997 – 2001**

Minnesota Department of Health

- Coordinated statewide tobacco compliance checks per the Synar Amendment. As a commissioned Food & Drug Administration officer coordinated tobacco retailer compliance enforcement program. Designed and maintained statewide tobacco retailer database. Implemented plan to reduce illegal tobacco sales to minors.

Graduate Research Assistant **2002 – 2003**

(Dr. Donna Habenicht)

Education & Counseling Department, Andrews University

Berrien Springs, Michigan

- Conducted literature reviews on moral character development in children.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Student Paper Award 3 rd Runner Up, Journal of Social Work & Christianity Co-authored paper submission	2016
Hogg Foundation for Mental Health African American Faith-Based Mental Health Education & Awareness Initiative	2014 – 2017
Member of team from the University of Texas Arlington's Center for Clinical Social Work awarded sub-contract from the Hogg Foundation in partnership with The Potter's House Counseling Center (T.D. Jake's Ministries) Dallas, TX (\$30,270)	
Hogg Foundation for Mental Health African American Faith-Based Mental Health Education & Awareness Initiative	2014 – 2017
Member of team from the University of Texas Arlington's Center for Clinical Social Work awarded sub-contract from the Hogg Foundation in partnership with City Temple Seventh-day Adventist church's Living Well Center, Dallas, TX (~\$30,000)	
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Grant U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (\$17,346)	2011 – 2012
St. Ambrose University School of Social Work Empowerment Scholarship (\$5,000)	2011 – 2012
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Grant U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (\$15,829)	2010 – 2011
Graduate Research/Teaching Fellowship, The University of Texas-Arlington	
• Awarded full tuition and \$12,000 in monthly installments	2012 – 2013
• Awarded full tuition and \$12,000 in monthly installments	2013 – 2014
• Awarded full tuition and \$12,000 in monthly installments	2014 – 2015
National Science Foundation Research Scholarship, Morehouse College	1993
• Awarded full tuition & \$300 monthly stipend	
Full ride Academic Scholarship, Morehouse College Awarded full tuition, room, and board	1991

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PUBLICATIONS

- Collins, L. R., Jr.**, Felderhoff, B. J., Kim, Y. K., Mengo, C., & Pillai, V. (2014). State-wise variation in teenage birth rates in the United States: Role of teenage birth prevention policies. *International Journal of Child and Adolescent Health*, 7(3).
- Collins, L. R., Jr.**, Felderhoff, B. J., Kim, Y. K., Mengo, C., & Pillai, V. (2016). Teen Birth Rates in the United States from an Ecological Perspective. In Merrick, J. & Greydanus, D. E. *Sexuality: Some International Aspects*. New York, NY: Nova Science Publishers, Inc.
- Collins, L. R., Jr.** (2017). Book Review: Christianity & social Work: Readings on the integration of Christian faith and social work practice (5th ed.). *Social Work*, 62(3).

WORK SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION

- Cronley, C. & **Collins, L. R., Jr.** (under revision). Restructuring services for mothers experiencing homelessness: Perspectives from mothers and other stakeholders on developing a centralized system of care. *Evaluation and Program Planning*.

PRESENTATIONS AT NATIONAL CONFERENCES

- Crain, C. & **Collins, L. R., Jr.** (April, 2017). Maintaining a Dynamic Housing Priority List Within Your Coordinated Access/Assessment System. National Human Services Data Consortium 2017 Spring Conference: Salt Lake City, UT.
- Collins, L. R., Jr.**, Burse, J., Barnett, T. M., & Smith-Osborne, A. (January, 2017). Expanding Collaborative Mental Health Practice: A Response from Faith-Based Leaders. Oral paper accepted for 2017 Society for Social Work & Research (SSWR) Annual Conference: New Orleans, LA.
- Cronley, C. & **Collins, L. R., Jr.** Assessing the Feasibility of Designing Centralized Services for Mothers Experiencing Homelessness at the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE): Denver, CO (2015).
- Collins, L. R., Jr.**, Burse, J., Barnett, T. M., & Smith-Osborne, A. (January, 2016). Engaging Faith-Based Communities in Mental Health Services: A Community Based Participatory Action Research. Poster presented at the 2016 Society for Social Work & Research (SSWR) Annual Conference: Washington, DC.

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

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| Ordained Minister | 2009 – Present |
| 4.0 Units, Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) | 2016 |

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Continuum of Care Performance Analyst

2016 – Present

Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance, Dallas, TX

- Statistical data analysis and program performance evaluation to assist the Continuum of Care in transforming into a data driven performance based homeless response system in order to meet and exceed HUD CoC System performance data reporting requirements.

Chaplain Resident

2015 – 2016

Texas Health Huguley Hospital, Burleson, TX

- Clinical practice including spirituality assessments, behavioral health spirituality groups, facilitation of Grief Recovery Support groups for the public, provided spiritual care and support to staff, patients and their families in the hospital and hospice house. Earned 4 units (1600 hours) of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE).

Intensive Case Manager (Qualified Mental Health Professional)

2014 – 2015

MHMR of Tarrant County, Fort Worth, TX

- Clinical, rapid rehousing, mobile outreach services for chronically homeless individuals with mental health and/or a substance abuse diagnosis. Intensive case manager of a caseload of over 15 individuals maintaining or seeking housing and supporting their progress towards self-sufficiency.

Substance Abuse Counselor

2011 – 2012

Robert Young Center/Riverside Rock Island, Illinois

- Didactic/therapeutic inpatient/outpatient group facilitation, treatment plans, DSM/ASAM assessments, bio-psycho-social assessments, continuing care reviews, staffing reviews, & discharge/transfer planning.

Senior Pastor

2004 – 2011

Central States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Kansas City, KS (St. Louis, MO & Davenport, IA)

- 10 State Conference executive committee, board of education, youth ministry, pastoral counseling, multidisciplinary community engagement, resource allocation.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty, University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work (2013-present)

SOCW: 5301 - Human Behavior in the Social Environment I (Online)	Spring	2018
SOCW: 5301 - Human Behavior in the Social Environment I (Online)	Fall	2017
SOCW: 5367 - Treating Parent/Child Relationships (Online)	Summer	2017
SOCW: 5281 - Field Liaison	Summer	2017
SOCW: 6312 - Group Dynamics I (Online)	Spring	2018
SOCW: 6851 - Field Liaison	Spring	2017
SOCW: 3317 - Human Behavior and Diverse Populations (Online)	Fall	2016
SOCW: 6342 - Human Behavior in the Macro Social Environment	Fall	2015

SOCW: 5301 - Human Behavior in the Social Environment I (Online)	Fall	2015
SOCW: 3302 - Human Behavior in the Social Environment II	Spring	2015
SOCW: 5301 - Human Behavior in the Social Environment I (Online)	Spring	2015
SOCW: 6303 - Poverty, Inequality, & Social Policy (Online)	Fall	2014
SOCW: 6342 - Human Behavior in the Macro Social Environment	Fall	2014
SOCW: 6303 - Poverty, Inequality, & Social Policy	Summer	2014
SOCW: 6320 - Personal Relationships	Summer	2014
SOCW: 6342 - Human Behavior in the Macro Social Environment	Spring	2014
SOCW: 6851, 6452, 6451, 5551, 4452, 4451 - Field Liaison	Fall	2013
SOCW: 6452, 6451, 4452, 4451 - Field Liaison	Summer	2013

Field Liaison, University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work

- Visited with students and/ or field supervisors to address student needs within the field setting.
- Coordinated educational opportunities with field instructors at social work practice settings. • Provided support, problem-solving, and facilitated learning activities to the both the field instructors and students to enhance field educational experience. • Completed initial, mid-term, and final grading of students' assignments.

SERVICE

Youth Community Organizer, Community Caring Conference Rock Island, IL	2011 – 2012
MSW Intern, Center for Alcohol & Drug Services, Davenport, IA	2010 – 2011

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/ AFFILIATIONS

Minority Male Community College Collaborative (M2C3)	2015 – present
Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)	2015 – present
Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)	2015 – present
The Black Doctoral Network, Inc.	2014 – present