

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION BUREAU

KENT STATE
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Fall 2018 Newsletter

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Team Kent Initiative

The Research and Evaluation Bureau is partnering with other EHHS and Kent City School District stakeholders on the Team Kent initiative. Team Kent encompasses seven focus areas – 1) data analysis; 2) technology literacy and integration; 3) well-being and counseling; 4) mentorship, visitation, and post-secondary prep; 5) diversity and connections; 6) special education; and 7) inquiry/STEM/problem-based learning.

“Our collaboratively-developed partnership provides a holistic approach to community engagement. We work to ensure that students, teachers, and staff across both institutions are part of a socially, emotionally, and cognitively safe place to learn, grow, and engage as individuals.”

Team Kent purpose statement

The Bureau, represented by Pam Ferguson, is part of the data analysis team. Other data analysis team members include Steve Mitchell, EHHS's Associate Dean for Administrative Affairs and Graduate Education and Linda Paulus, Kent City School's Director of Data Analysis. The data analysis team is currently collaborating on two projects. The first includes an Independent Research opportunity for EHHS graduate students focused on school district database development and data entry. A second project will utilize school district data to determine the impact of a district initiative emphasizing language development for K-12 students, with a focus on comparing economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged student findings.

The New York Life Foundation National Bereavement Study

Funded by the New York Life Foundation since 2013, the National Bereavement Camp Study team includes Rhonda Richardson, PhD, retired EHHS faculty, Sue Maxymiv, EHHS adjunct faculty, and Pam Ferguson, Research and Evaluation Bureau. Utilizing mixed method data from hundreds of campers ages 6 -18, their guardians, adult camper alumni, and camp providers, the study identified the critical role of the positive youth development (PYD)/resiliency framework in developing a complete understanding and response to children's grief, in contrast to the deficit model that often frames similar research and service provision. Additionally, the study demonstrated the importance of providing bereavement-focused support services and camp activities as a means of contributing to child and adolescent PYD and grief processing. The findings also emphasized the role of bereavement camps in providing optimal settings for recognizing, supporting, and developing the strengths of bereaved children and their families. The study has resulted in numerous conference presentations and publications, and it will be highlighted during the Foundation's upcoming media campaign.

Other Highlights

The Bureau is currently soliciting transcription and data entry work. Should you need any of these services please contact Leonna Campbell at lcampb16@kent.edu. Also, find out more about services that we offer EHHS graduate students, faculty members, and external clients on page 3.



Moving Projects Forward

STAFF PROMOTION AND NEW HIRES



Anthony Shreffler, M.Ed. - Director, College Client Services

We are excited to announce Mr. Shreffler's new role as our Director of College Client Services. Mr. Shreffler will be replacing Dr. Shama-Davis who retired in 2017. Prior to his promotion, Mr. Shreffler worked as an evaluator at the Bureau since November 2015. He also previously worked for Youth Opportunities Unlimited in Cleveland as the data and evaluation specialist. In his new role, Mr. Shreffler will direct, manage, and oversee the Bureau's services to the College of EHHS, including college-based projects and faculty and graduate student research projects. He will also direct and manage evaluation designs for internal and external projects, and serve as lead evaluator to projects undertaken by the Bureau.



Leonna Campbell, M.Ed, CDCA - Graduate Assistant | Elizabeth City, North Carolina

Ms. Campbell is an alumna of Kent State University with a bachelor's degree in Psychology. She joined the Bureau this past summer as a transcriptionist but was soon elevated to a graduate assistant. In her new role, Ms. Campbell is responsible for all the data lab operations. Specifically, she oversees data lab student staff, and coordinates transcription projects for clients. Her research areas of interest are students born to chemical dependent parents and teachers' readiness to work with this student population. Ms. Campbell is currently pursuing an Education Specialist degree in School Psychology, and is expected to graduate in August 2020.



Jordan Pastor - Graduate Assistant | Mantua, Ohio

Ms. Pastor joined the Bureau this fall as a graduate research assistant. She is an alumna of the University of Mount Union, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Statistics with minors in Japanese and Gender Studies. She is proficient with SPSS and SAS statistical software packages. As a graduate assistant, she will be involved directly with research and evaluation projects of the Bureau. Her research interests are centered around student affairs and extracurriculars in higher education. Ms. Pastor is currently pursuing a Master of Education in Evaluation and Measurement, and is expected to graduate in May 2020.

New Data Lab Personnel

Emma Layshock

Class Standing: Senior

Major: Advertising

Natalie Ettinger

Class Standing: Junior

Major: Integrated Language Arts

OUR SERVICES



College Services

Consultation Services

- Research design
- Statistical design
- Survey development (online and paper)
- Database development
- Quantitative data analysis
- Development of evaluation designs for grant proposals

Data Lab Services

- Transcriptions
- Quantitative and qualitative data entry
- Paper-and-pencil survey design and lay-out

Clientele

- Doctoral students in dissertation level
- Masters students in thesis level
- EHHS faculty doing non-funded research



External Services

Comprehensive Evaluation

- Surveys
- Interviews
- Focus groups
- Site Observations
- Analysis of primary and secondary data
- Analysis of achievement/assessment data
- Development of evaluation designs for grant proposals

Additional Services

- Transcriptions (\$10/hour)
- Data entry (\$10/hour)
- Complete research assistance
- Survey development/data collection

Clientele

- School systems
- Universities and colleges
- Health and human service organizations

SERVICES FAQs

Q. How many hours of college-supported Bureau services am I entitled to as a graduate student?

A. EHHS graduate students are entitled to a total of 40 hours of consultation service, and an additional 40 hours of data lab service. These hours may not be interchanged. A nominal fee is charged if one goes beyond these hours.

Q. Do my tapes/files need to be in a particular format in order to be transcribed?

A. Yes, acceptable file formats include .mp3, .wma, and .mp4. The Bureau does not transcribe video tapes. However, the IRC can convert files to acceptable formats, a responsibility that falls to the client.

Q. How long does it take to transcribe my tape/file?

A. It typically takes between six to eight hours of transcription labor to transcribe one hour of audio. Therefore, to accommodate all requests, the Bureau works on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.kent.edu/ehhs/offices/reb> or contact one of our staff.

STAFF DIRECTORY

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Graduate Assistants

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Director, College Client Services

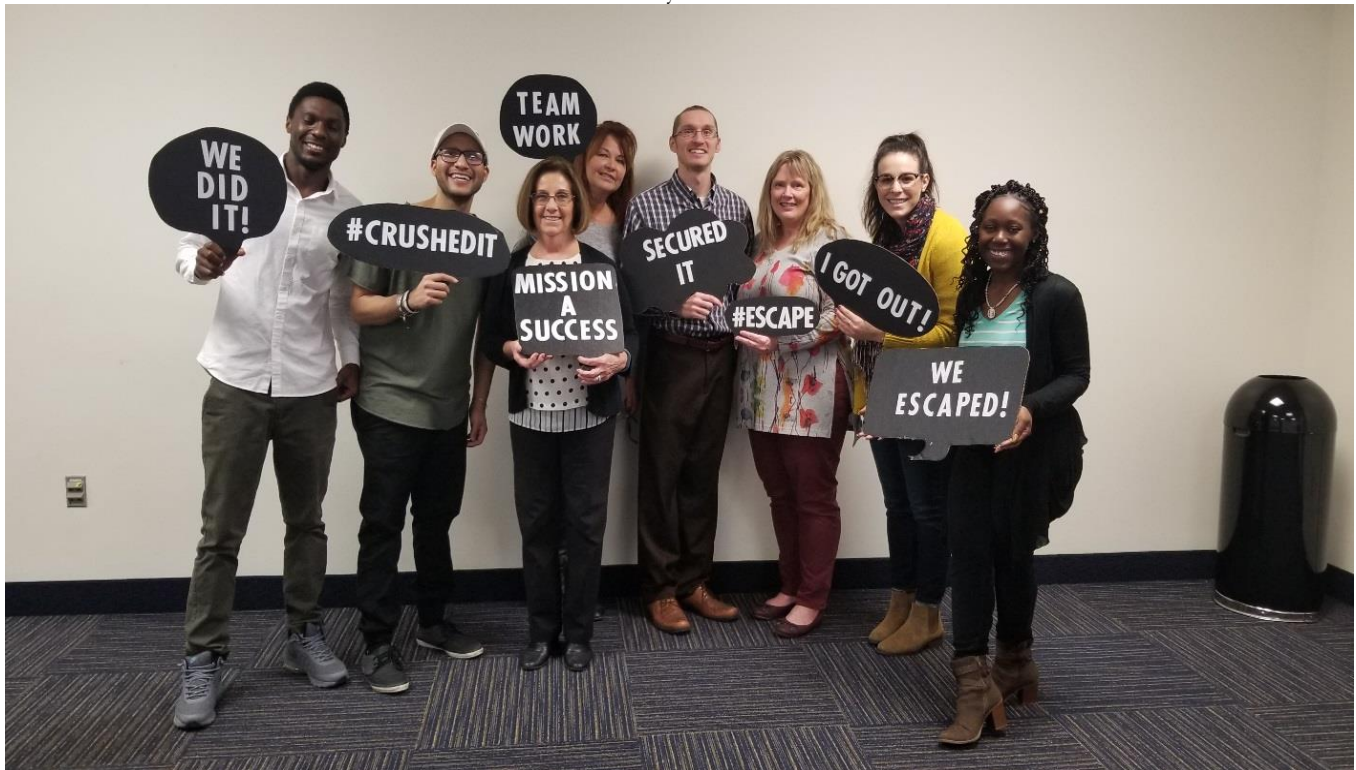
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Data Lab Staff

Emily McVeigh
Katerina Gegick
Natalie Ettinger
Emma Layschok

Thank You!

REB and EHHS Grants Administration staff successfully 'escaped' the Cyber Security Awareness Escape Room during KSU's October Cyber Security Month.



From left: Fred Nyangaresi, Vikas Sohal, Debbie Roeder, Pam Ferguson, Anthony Shreffler, Michelle Hoversten, Rachel Haupt, and Leonna Campbell.