

Joshua Kirven, MSW, PhD
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Academic Experience:

Graduate Faculty University of North Carolina at Charlotte Charlotte, NC	2023-Current
Associate Professor Winthrop University Rock Hill, SC	2018-2023
Part-Time Instructor North Carolina A&T State University Greensboro, NC	2018-2022
Adjunct Professor University of North Carolina Greensboro Greensboro, NC	2020-2022
Associate Professor North Carolina A&T State University Greensboro, NC	2016-2018
Assistant Professor Cleveland State University Cleveland, OH	2013-2016
Assistant Professor University of Central Florida Orlando, FL	1999-2004, 2012-2013

Professional Experience:

Senior Research Fellow
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA)
Chicago, Illinois
2023-2024

Licensed Social Worker/Therapist
Humanistic Counseling Center

Cleveland, Ohio
2014-2016
(Actively Licensed-OH, MN)

Disposition Coordinator/
Mental Health Specialist Supervisor
Ninth Judicial Circuit Public Defender
Orlando, Florida
2006-2007

Education:

Doctor of Philosophy 1998
College of Social Work
The Ohio State University
Columbus, OH

Master of Social Work 1994
College of Social Work
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC

Bachelor of Science 1989
School of Business
Hampton University
Hampton, VA

Teaching Experience:

Ability and experience teaching in Social Work, Public Health, Public Safety, and Human Services on MSW, DSW/PhD, and Continuing Education levels. Instructional and training modalities include in-person, hybrid, and online, in clinical, micro, mezzo, community, and macro systems, with a specialization in trauma-informed care, mitigation, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Guest Lecture: *“Ethics and rehabilitation in the criminal justice system: Does it exist?”*, CJ 3024: Ethics in Criminal Justice, **University of Cincinnati, School of Criminal Justice**, Cincinnati, OH. January 25, 2023 (In-Person).

Guest Lecture: *“Being intentional about treating mental health as we move forward”*, SOCW 554: Mental Health Policy, **University of Illinois Chicago, Jane Addams College of Social Work**, Chicago, IL. September 1 & 15, 2022 (Virtual).

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATION/TRAINING EXPERIENCE:

Subject Matter Expert and Strategist of community coalition building, strategic communications, and public safety solutions. Educate, engage, and empower law enforcement, public officials, stakeholders, service providers, and citizens in understanding and applying the five pathways of deflection as an alternative to justice system entry for individuals who have substance use, mental health, or co-occurring disorders.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Focus Areas:

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) multidisciplinary training, mitigation resolution, reentry resource planning, wraparound services, public safety solutions intersecting policy, law and practice, forensic evaluation, mitigation, behavioral health justice, and access to treatment, mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, fatherhood engagement, community outreach and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Research Expertise:

Extensive track record of conducting literature reviews, administering surveys and pre/post-test feedback loops, developing logic models and feasibility studies, leading interdisciplinary collaborative research teams, creating research reports and policy briefs, publishing in peer-reviewed journals and publications, and delivering professional presentations. Serves as an active contributor and advocate to the larger deflection community in the areas of research, engagement, programming, and pre-arrest initiatives. Ability to research and disseminate current developments and trends in criminal justice, public health, and social work research into translational science, evidence-based practices, and policy recommendations. Application of quantitative and qualitative research methods focused on justice-involved individuals, marginalized groups, substance use disorders, community engagement, stakeholder networks, and implementation science.

Principal Investigator

2021

Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Innovations Suite Research Practitioner Fellow
This community initiative grant focused on community engagement and understanding the coping strategies of urban youth towards violence. Efforts were established toward the goal of bridging community-police relations, and the Community Academics Project

(CAP) was created. This collaborative outreach project focused on assisting, supporting, and providing a safe haven and life skill workshop for middle-school-age youth.

Collaborative community partners consisted of barber shops as host locations, parents, youth, male mentors (community fathers), local businesses and restaurants, schools, and law enforcement.

Funding by: Michigan State University

Award: Funded

Principal Investigator

2019

CSWE Social Workers on the Frontlines of the Opioid Epidemic Training Initiative

This program was designed to enhance the professional social work response to the current opioid epidemic in communities across the nation. The program's activities included preparing social work students to address opioid and other substance abuse disorders through coursework and student field placement internships.

Funding by: CSWE

Award: Not funded

Community Research-Practitioner (Co-Principal Investigator)

2014 – 2017

City of Cleveland, OH, Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) Grant

Partnership for a Safer Cleveland/STANCE

Authored community implementation plan. Project built community capacity by sponsoring over 30 planning meetings in addressing community violence, promote safety, open dialogue with police and community efficacy. Scope of work included identifying community-based, research driven, place-based strategies that are best suited for the micro target area. Strategies were adopted based on input from the community, the local resources available in determining underlying causes of crime, and other factors.

Developed and implemented community engagement, education, and empowerment model with police, youth and community residents.

Funded by: BJA/BCJI

Award: Funded

KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT

Peer-Review Publications/Chapters:

Dziegielewski, S.F. & **Kirven, J.** (In press). Sexual Dysfunctions. In S.F. Dziegielewski (Ed.), DSM-5™ in Action (4rd Ed.), New York: Oxford University Press.

Shaw, S., Slovak, K., & **Kirven, J.** (2024). Social Workers and Black Barbers: A Collaboration to Address Mental Health Stigma. *Social Work in Public Health*, 39(7), 650–665. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19371918.2024.2376103>

Manchak, S. M., **Kirven, J.**, Strange, C. C., Firesheets, K. and Ross, J. (2024). Current Trends and Future Directions in the Evidence Base of Deflection. *The Journal of Community Justice*, 33(3).

Kirven, J. & Dziegielewski, S. F. (2023). An examination of the U.S. Response to Terrorism and Acute Trauma: Handling the threat and aftermath through crisis intervention and trauma response care. In K. Yeager (Ed.), Albert R. Roberts *Crisis Intervention Handbook* (5th Ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.

Schiele, J., **Kirven, J.**, Joe, S., & Teasley, M. (2023). Intergenerational Contributions of Black Male Social Work Educators to Combating Racism. *Social Work, White Supremacy, and Racial Justice: Reckoning with Our History, Interrogating our Present, Re-Imagining our Future*. Oxford University Press.

Kirven, J., & Jacinto, G. (2021). Community Healing and Reconciliation: A Reassessment. In *Encyclopedia of Social Work*: Oxford Press.

Shears, J., Kim, S., **Kirven, J.**, & Coakley, T. (2020). Fathers' Reflections of their Fathers: The Use of Text Mining to Find Meaning in Narratives. *Handbook of Fathers and Child Development: Prenatal to Preschool*, 65-88.

Kirven, J. (2020). Racial Profiling and Policing Black Communities. In *Encyclopedia of Social Work*.

Sellers, W. E., & **Kirven, J.** (2019). Exploring Cultural Humility and Online Programs: Mid-Career Academics and Changing Times. *Reflections: Narratives of Professional Helping*, 25(1), 49-56.

Edwards, A., & **Kirven, J.** (2019). Adolescents Values Clarification and Development: A Model for Group Counseling. *Child & Youth Services*, 40(1), 4-22.

Hill, A. J., & **Kirven, J.** (2018). Project Resilience: A community-based Resilience Initiative to engage rural adolescents toward healthy functioning. *Journal of Critical Thought and Praxis*, 7(2), 4.

Kirven, J., & Jacinto, G. (2017). Community Healing and Reconciliation. In *Encyclopedia of Social Work*: Oxford Press.

Shears, J., **Kirven, J.** & Cook, S. (2017). Examining fatherhood in the black community. In D. Ruiz (Ed.), *Contemporary African American families*. New York: Routledge.

Kirven, J. (2015). Fathers screaming SOS to the deaf ears of a hostile system: Narrative reflections from detached dads. In S. Lawrence, J. Watson and B. Anderson (Eds.), *African American Father: A survey of recent scholarly research* (Chapter 4). New York: Edwin Mellen Press

Shears, J., **Kirven, J.**, & Grimsley, K. (2015). What fathers need and what is available? A needs assessment of fathering programs. In S. Lawrence, J. Watson and B. Anderson (Eds.), *African American Father: A survey of recent scholarly research* (Chapter 5). New York: Edwin Mellen Press

Kirven, J., & Williams, M. (2015). Taking care of daddy's princess: An inside look into the unique relationship and dynamics of a father and daughter. In S. Lawrence, J. Watson and B. Anderson (Eds.), *African American Father: A survey of recent scholarly research* (Chapter 6). New York: Edwin Mellen Press

Kirven, J., Ross, T. C., Coakley, T., Cook, S., & Grimsley, K. (2015). A Message to Dad! The Value of a Father: A Qualitative Analysis of Children's Essays about their Father's Contributions. *Wheelock International Journal of Children, Families, and Social Change*, 1(1), 1-22.

Dziegielewski, S.F. & **Kirven, J.** (2015). An examination of the U.S. Response to Bioterrorism: Handling the threat and aftermath through crisis intervention. In K. Yeager (Ed.), Albert R. Roberts *Crisis Intervention Handbook* (4th Ed.), (Chapter 9, pp. 248-272). New York: Oxford University Press.

Mallett, C. A., & **Kirven, J.** (2015). Correction to: Comorbid adolescent difficulties: social work prevention of delinquency and serious youthful offending. *Journal of Evidence-Informed Social Work*, 12(6), 637. DOI: 10.1080/23761407.2015.1049917

Jacinto, G. A., Molina, O., & **Kirven, J.** (2015). Birth: A Write of Passage Process. *International Journal of Childbirth Education*, 30(1), 38-42.

Dziegielewski, S.F. & **Kirven, J.** (2014). Sexual Dysfunctions. In S.F. Dziegielewski (Ed.), *DSM-5™ in Action* (3rd Ed.), (Chapter 10, pp. 338-374). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley & Sons.

Kirven, J. (2014). Strategies for practice in helping fathers step up to the plate and stay engaged. *Journal of Family Strengths*, 14(1), 17.
Available at: <http://digitalcommons.library.tmc.edu/jfs/vol14/iss1/17>

Kirven, J. (2014). The reality and responsibility of pregnancy provides a new meaning to life for teenage fathers. *International Journal of Choice Theory and Reality Therapy*, 33(2), 23-30.

Kirven, J. (2014). Helping teen dads obtain and sustain paternal success. *International Journal of Childbirth Education*, 29(2), 85-88.

Kirven, J. (2014). Maintaining their future after teen pregnancy: Strategies for staying physically and mentally fit. *International Journal of Childbirth Education*, 29(1), 57-61.

Kirven, J., & Dziegielewska, S. F. (2013). Recognizing shaken baby syndrome. In S. F. Dziegielewska (Ed.), *The Changing Face of Health Care Social Work* (3rd Ed., pp. 404-416). New York, NY: Wiley Publishers.

Turnage, B. F., Jacinto, G. A., & **Kirven, J.** (2003). Reality therapy, domestic violence survivors, and self-forgiveness. *International Journal of Reality Therapy*, 22(2), 24-27.

Kirven, J. (2001). Minority adolescents in therapeutic foster care: Applying narrative interventions with an optimal worldview. *New Global Development*, 17(1/2), 37-44.

Kirven, J. (2000). Building on strengths of minority adolescents in foster care: A narrative-holistic approach. *Child and Youth Care Forum*, 29(4), 247-263.

Professional Presentations/Webinars:

Kirven, J., & Brown, J. (2021, October). Addressing Historical and Ending Contemporary Racial Inequities in Marginalized Communities. *The American Institute for the Advancement of Forensic Studies (AIAFS)*.

Brown, J., & **Kirven, J.** (2021, June). COVID-19 and racial disparities: Addressing the lingering effects so that everyone wins. *The American Institute for the Advancement of Forensic Studies (AIAFS)*. (Refereed)

Kirven, J. (2021, March). Bridging community-police relations through the CAP project. *BJA Innovations Suite Research Practitioner Fellows Conference, Michigan State University*. (Refereed)

Schiele, J., **Kirven, J.**, Joe, S., & Teasley, M. (2021, January). Intergenerational Contributions of Black Male SW Educators to Combating Racism. *The University of Houston Social Work, White Supremacy, and Racial Justice Symposium*. (Refereed)

Kirven, J., & Sellers, W., & Cagle, B. E. (2020, October). Combatting Injustice in Covid-19: Real Stories, Real Struggles, Real People. *Winthrop University Department of Social Work and National Association of Social Workers South Carolina Chapter*. [Virtual]

Kirven, J. (2020, February). Commerce Conscious Fathering: A new way of handling your business. *International Sustainability Ethics & Entrepreneurship (SEE) Conference. San Juan, PR.* (Refereed)

Kirven, J. (2019, October). Where's my Daddy? Challenges, Issues, Realities & Solutions. *North Carolina Head Start Association Conference. Asheville, NC.* (Refereed)

Kirven, J. (2019, April). Where is my Daddy? Challenges, Issues & Solutions. *National Children of Incarcerated Parents Conference. Arizona State University (ASU) Center for Child Well-Being. Phoenix, AZ.* (Refereed)

Hill, A. J., & **Kirven, J.** (2019, March). Bend Don't Break: Empowering Teens to Make Healthy Responses to Trauma. *National Association of Social Workers - South Carolina Chapter Spring Symposium. National Association of Social Workers - South Carolina Chapter. Columbia, SC.* (Refereed)

Kirven, J. (March 2018). Collecting and Connecting the DOTs (Dads On Top). *National Healthy Start Fatherhood Health Summit, Washington, DC.* (Refereed)

Kirven, J. (April 2017). African American fathers and obesity: A systematic review and discussion. *PRIDE 2017 Annual Meeting, Bethesda, MD.* (Refereed)

Kirven, J. (July 2016). Moving the needle of trust through community engagement, education and empowerment. *Neighborhood Leadership Institute Empowerment Conference, Cleveland, OH.* (Refereed)

Kirven, J. & Lewis-Curlee, D. (April 2015). Closing the gap between community and police using a CE3 Model. *2015 NOBLE Region IV Law Enforcement Training Conference, Warrensville Heights, OH.* (Refereed)

Kirven, J. (February 2015). Urban youth walking under the gun with PTSD (Post-Trayvon Stress Disorder). *Annual At-Risk Youth National Forum, Myrtle Beach, SC.* (Refereed)

Kirven, J. (August 2014). In the spirit of Trayvon Martin: A community once divided on a journey of healing and reconciliation. *Society for the Study of Social Problems National Conference, San Francisco, CA.* (Refereed)

Kirven, J. (March 2014). Answering President Obama's call for young African American males. *Cuyahoga County Conference on Social Welfare, Cleveland, OH.* (Refereed)

Kirven, J. (February 2014). Mental health, law enforcement and community implications. *National Organization of Blacks in Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) CEO Symposium, Chicago, IL.* (Refereed)

Kirven, J. (March 2012). Strengthening the African American experience through clinical practice. *University of Central Florida/NASW-Central Florida Chapter, Kissimmee, FL.* (Refereed)

Electronic Education Media:

Kirven, J. (3/28/2022). **Michigan State University Smart Suite Community-Research Practice Series.** *Authentic community engagement and interventions to reduce violence.*
<https://www.gotostage.com/channel/f7fa8e622ac94895904334066855f31c>

Kirven, J. (10/6/14). **Contributor**—“Community steps in stopping urban youth violence” aired on Sound of Ideas, The Ohio Channel/NPR
<https://www.ohiochannel.org/video/sound-of-ideas-the-violence-prevention-ideas>

Training Designations/Fellowships/Certifications:

- Certified Forensic Mental Health Evaluator Trainee, National Board of Forensic Evaluators, 2025
- Research Associate Chair, The Police, Treatment and Community Collaborative (PTACC)
- Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network (JCOIN), Learning Experiences to Advance Practice (LEAP) Institute, Investigator Track, Fellow, 2021-
- Florida State University IJRD Intervention Institute Graduate, 2021-
- Global Partners for Fathers & Families, National Grant Writing Trainee, 2020-
- National Research Mentoring Network Member, 2018-
- NIH-National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) Obesity Health Disparities PRIDE Fellow, 2016
- Michigan State University Criminal Justice Smart Suite Researcher - Practitioner Fellow, 2016

- University of Michigan MCUAAAR Participant, 2014
- Fulbright Scholar, University of Central Florida-University of West Indies, 2003

Professional Service:

- Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Accreditation Site Monitor, 2018-Present
- Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)/ Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Community Practice Subject Matter Expert (SME)
- American Institute for the Advancement of Forensic Studies (AIAFS), Forensic Mental Health Columnist
- Policy, Treatment And Community Collaborative (PTACC) National Network, Advocate and Educator
- National Children of Incarcerated Parents Conference, Planning Committee
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Reviewer
- International Sustainability Ethics & Entrepreneurship (SEE) Society, Member
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, Community Member Advocate