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**Kalea Benner, PhD, MSW, LCSW**  
**College of Social Work**  
**University of Kentucky**  
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### **Education**

- 2009 **PhD** in Social Work, University of Missouri  
Dissertation: *Legalized orphans: parental relinquishment to child welfare*  
Chair: Michael Kelly, PhD
- 1992 **MSW**, University of Missouri
- 1991 **BSW**, University of Missouri

### **Licensure**

LCSW 1994 – Current (Missouri license #SW 005957)

### **Academic Appointments, University of Kentucky**

2015 – present, Director of Undergraduate Studies, College of Social Work  
Assistant Professor, College of Social Work

### **Academic Appointments, University of Missouri, 2001 - 2015**

2008 – 2015 Director of Undergraduate Studies, School of Social Work  
2010 – 2012 Associate Director, School of Social Work  
2001 - 2015 Assistant Teaching Professor, School of Social Work

### **External Funding**

#### **2015- 2018 -- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**

Project Title: A Multidisciplinary Program to Train Health Professionals in the Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment Model (Grant # TI-025976).

**Principal Investigator: Kalea Benner.** Total Award: \$942,150.

#### **2017-2018 – Eastern Kentucky University Training Consortium**

Project Title: Training Resource Center - Public Child Welfare Certification Program

**Principal Investigator: Kalea Benner.** Total Award: \$25,350.

#### **2016 - Foundation for Initiatives in Development and Education for All (IDEA)**

Project Title: Conceptualizing Support Systems for Foster Youth and Alumni.

Principal Investigator: Jay Miller. **Co-investigator: Kalea Benner.**

#### **2010-2015--Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**

Project Title: Training Residents Across Disciplines in SBIRT Services: Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment Medical Residency Program (Grant # TI020288).

Principal Investigator: Daniel Vinson, MD; Co-PI: Bruce Horwitz, PhD.

### **External Funding under Review**

**2017** – Behavioral & Integrative Treatment Development Program (R34), National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Project Title: A Pilot, Feasibility Study of a Giving/Volunteering Intervention in Chronic Pain.

Principal Investigator: Elizabeth Salt. **Co-investigator: Kalea Benner.**

#### **External Funding Proposal (not funded)**

**2017** – Monticello Foundation

Project Title: Building Social Work Partnerships with Agencies in Eastern Kentucky

Principal Investigator: Kalea Benner

#### **Internal Funding**

**2018** – University of Kentucky's Inclusive Excellence Award

Project Title: Transformational Tuesdays: A Month of Social Justice Co-curricular Programming

Co-Investigator: Kalea Benner. Total Award: \$10,000.

**2017** – University of Kentucky's Inclusive Excellence Award

Project Title: Social Justice Week: Celebrating Unsung Heroes

Principal Investigator: Kalea Benner. Total Award: \$15,000.

**2016- 2019—University of Kentucky, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Excellence**

**Retention Initiative.** Project Title: Faculty Mentoring Program.

Principal Investigator: Kalea Benner. Total Award: \$14,063.

#### **Refereed Publications** (\*denotes work with student)

Ballard, J. R., **Benner, K.** & Elder, W. G. (2018). Role of family medicine physicians in substance use disorder assessment. *Kentucky Academy of Family Physicians Journal*, 89 (3), 18-21.

Callahan, A. M., & **Benner, K.** (2018). Building spiritual competence: A qualitative study of an online spirituality course. *Journal of Religion & Spirituality in Social Work*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15426432.2018.1445574>

Miller, J., Sauer, C., Bowman, K., Thrasher, S., **Benner, K.**, Segress, M., & Niu, C. (2018). Conceptualizing adoptive parent support groups: A mixed-method process. *Adoption Quarterly*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10926755.2017.1387210>.

Curl, A. L., & **Benner, K.** (2017). The influence of employment on college students' academic experiences. *Journal on Excellence in College Teaching*, 28(3), 183-200.

Curl, A. & **Benner, K.** (2017). Volunteering Enhances the Social Work Student Experience. *Field Educator Journal*. 17 (2).

Miller, J., **Benner, K.**, \*Kheibari, A., & Washington, E. (2017). Conceptualizing on-campus support programs for collegiate foster youth and alumni: A plan for action. *Child and Youth Services Review*. 83, 57-67. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2017.10.028>

- Miller, J., **Benner, K.**, Pope, N., Dumas, T., Damron, J., Segress, M., \*Thrasher, S., & Niu, C. (2017). Planning a foster parent mentor program: Does gender matter? *Evaluation and Program Planning: The International Journal*, 64, 78-84. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.evalprogplan.2017.05.009>
- Miller, J., **Benner, K.**, Pope, N., Dumas, T., Damron, J., Segress, M., Slone, M., \*Thrasher, S., & Niu, C. (2017). Conceptualizing effective foster parent mentor programs: A participatory planning process. *Child and Family Services Review*.
- Callahan, A., **Benner, K.**, & \*Helton, L. (2016). Creating spiritual competence through culturally responsive teaching. *Faculty Focus: Diversity and Special Inclusion Report*.
- Osborne, V.A., **Benner, K.**, Sprague, D.J., & \*Cleveland, I. (2016). Simulating real life: enhancing alcohol screening and brief intervention education for social work students. *Journal of Social Work Education*, 52(3).
- Fitch, D., **Benner, K.**, Cary, S. & Freelin, T. (2013). ePortfolios in social work curriculum: Demonstrating integrative and reflective learning. *The Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work*, 18.
- Markward, M., **Benner, K.**, & \*Freese, R. (2013). Perspectives of parents on making decisions about the care and treatment of a child with cancer: A review of literature. *Families, Systems, & Health*, 31(4), 406-413.
- Osborne, V.A., **Benner, K.**, Sprague, D., Vinson, D., & Horwitz, B. (2013). Lessons learned: Adapting the simulated patient medical model to social work education. *Substance Abuse*, 34(2):212-213.
- Osborne, V.A., **Benner, K.** (2012). Utilizing screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment in social work education: Teaching prospective social work practitioners to assess substance use. *American Journal of Public Health*, 102(7), e37-e38.
- Osborne, V.A., **Benner, K.**, Snively, C., Vinson, D., & Horwitz, B. (2012). Teaching screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment to social work students. *Addiction Science & Clinical Practice* 2012 7(Suppl 1): A64
- Refereed, In-press, Publications** (\*denotes work with student)
- Benner, K.** & Curl, A. (in press). Exhausted, stressed and disengaged: Does employment create burnout for social work students? *Journal of Social Work Education*.
- Miller, J., Niu, C., Sauer, C., Bowman, K., Segress, M., & **Benner, K.** (in press). Foster parents' knowledge of child trauma: An exploratory study. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment, and Trauma*.

**Refereed, In-review Publications** (\*denotes work with student)

Miller, J. J., **Benner, K.**, Pope, N., Niu, C., Fletcher, J., Sauer, C., Bowman, K., Segress, M., & \*Thrasher, S. (in review). Examining knowledge, awareness, and attitudes of adoptive parents about child trauma: An exploratory study. *Families in Society: Adoption Competency and Trauma-Informed Practices with Adoptive Families*, manuscript submitted for publication.

**Manuscripts in Preparation**

**Benner, K.**, Miller, J.J., Pope, N., Dumas, T., & Damron, L. (in progress). *Foster parent mentoring program, 2011-2016: Lessons learned*. Manuscript in preparation.

**Benner, K.**, Miller, J.J., & \*Kheibari, A. (in progress). *Failing our foster youth: how colleges must improve to change foster youth outcomes*. *Research in Higher Education*, manuscript in preparation.

\*Bowman, A., & **Benner, K.** (in progress). *Examining multiple disciplinary treatment with social workers and music therapists*.

\*Larkin, S., & **Benner, K.** (in progress). *Putting our best foot forward? A systematic review of introduction to social work texts*.

**Peer Reviewed International and National Presentations** (\*denotes work with student)

**Benner, K.**, Curl, A., Miller, J. J., & \*Aurand, S. (2018). *The adviser's role in creating community for academically vulnerable students*. To be presented at the Social Work, Education and Social Development biennial conference, Dublin, Ireland.

**Benner, K.**, Loeffler, D. & \*Buchanan, S. (2018). *Increasing social justice understanding, awareness and engagement*. To be presented at the Social Inclusion and Social Justice Conference, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania.

**Benner, K.**, Loeffler, D. & \*Coursey, C. (2018). *Increasing social justice understanding, awareness and engagement in undergraduate social work curriculum*. To be presented at the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Atlanta, Georgia.

Loeffler, D., **Benner, K.**, Loeffler, D. & \*Pachner, T. (2018). *What does intersectionality mean to students: Lessons from undergraduates and implications for teaching*. To be presented at the Social Inclusion and Social Justice Conference, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania.

**Benner, K.**, Miller, J., & \*Kheibari, A. (2017). *Identifying Collegiate Supports for Foster Youth and Alumni: A Plan for Action*. Presented at the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Callahan, A. & **Benner, K.** (2017). *Teaching students to be spiritually sensitive: Learning from*

*a spirituality course evaluation*. Presented at the Council on Social Work Education annual conference, Dallas, Texas.

Curl, A. & **Benner, K.** (2016). *Influence of employment for social work students*. Presented at the biennial Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development, Seoul, Korea.

**Benner, K.**, Miller, J., & \*Kheibari, A. (2016). *Conceptualizing support programs for collegiate foster youth: A plan for academic administrators*. Presented at the Council on Social Work Education's Annual Program Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

Callahan, A. & **Benner, K.** (2016). *Facilitating spiritual competence: A qualitative study of undergraduates*. Presented at the annual convention of the North American Association of Christians in Social Work, Cincinnati, OH.

**Benner, K.** & Curl, A. (2016). *Influence of employment on academic success for social work students*. Presented at the annual conference of the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Dallas, TX.

**Benner, K.** & Osborne, V. (2015). *Utilizing simulated clients for substance use assessment in social work education*. Presented at the annual conference of the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Kansas City, MO.

Osborne, V., **Benner, K.**, Horwitz, B. & Vinson, D. (2012). *Lessons learned: Adapting the simulated patient medical model to social work curriculum*. Presented at the Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse, Bethesda, MD.

Osborne, V., **Benner, K.**, Snively, C., Horwitz, B. & Vinson, D. (2011). *Identifying substance misuse in practice: Teaching screening, brief intervention, referral and treatment to social work students*. Presented at the Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse, Arlington, VA.

Osborne, V., **Benner, K.**, Snively, C., Horwitz, B. & Vinson, D. (2011). *Teaching screening, brief intervention, referral and treatment to social work students*. Presented at the International Network on Brief Interventions for Alcohol Problems, Boston, MA.

**Benner, K.**, Kelly, M., & Sundet, P. (2006). *Use of data driven decision making in child welfare*. Presented at Fostering Court Improvement, Atlanta, GA.

### **Regional Presentations:**

**Benner, K.** (2017). *Fundamentals of screening, brief intervention, referral and treatment (SBIRT) for substance misuse*. Presented at the Trauma and Substance Misuse: Responding within Integrated Behavior Health and Military Behavioral Health Settings Conference, Lexington, Kentucky.

**Benner, K.** (2017). *Substance misuse screening with trauma survivors*. Presented at the Ending

Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Conference, Lexington, Kentucky.

**Benner, K. & Brown, C. (2017).** *Theoretical foundations of SBIRT: Utilizing motivational interviewing for assessing and intervening with substance misuse.* Presented at the Trauma and Substance Misuse: Responding within Integrated Behavior Health and Military Behavioral Health Settings Conference, Lexington, Kentucky.

**Benner, K. (2017).** *Screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment for family members of residents.* Presented to staff at Chrysalis House, Lexington, Kentucky.

**Benner, K. (2017).** *Screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment.* Presented to staff at Eastern State Hospital, Lexington, Kentucky.

**Benner, K. (2016).** *Application of screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT).* Presented at the Integrated Behavioral Health Conference: Strategies for Addressing Substance Misuse in Integrated Behavior Health, Lexington, Kentucky.

### **Honors and Awards**

- Sarah Bennett Holmes nominee, 2017
- Ken Freedman Outstanding Advising Award Nominee, 2017 and 2018
- Chairs Academy, University of Kentucky, 2015-16

### **Service**

#### College of Social Work

- Retention Committee, Chair, 2015- present
- Administrative Committee, 2015- present
- Academic Affairs Committee, 2015- present
- Recruitment Committee, 2015- present
- Scholarship Committee, 2015-present
- Curriculum Committee, ex-officio, 2015- present
- Admissions Committee, ex-officio, 2015- present

#### University of Kentucky

- Wildcat Foundations Steering Committee Member, 2017 – present
  - Campus wide review, planning and implementation of first year experience to aid in increasing retention
- University Assessment Council, CoSW representative, 2016 – present
- Interprofessional Education Committee, CoSW representative, 2015- present

#### Service to the Profession

- SBIRT Review Group, Kognito
- SBIRT Collaborative, NORC
- Research Committee, Baccalaureate Program Directors, 2014 – present
- Technology and Distance Education Committee, Baccalaureate Program Directors, 2014-present