Jessica Bizub

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

August 2017 – Present
Center for Urban Population Health, Milwaukee, WI
Associate Researcher

- Lead and support applied research and evaluation projects for diverse Milwaukee area nonprofit and governmental agencies. Specific activities include:
    - Designing and implementing research and evaluation plans.
    - Using statistical packages to analyze data (e.g., SPSS).
    - Collecting and analyzing qualitative data (e.g., interviews, focus groups).
    - Reporting on evaluation and research findings to partners and funders.

August 2016 – August 2017
Milwaukee Public Schools, Milwaukee, WI
Research Analyst

- Support school district leaders with timely data to inform decision-making.
- Lead and conduct evaluations for school district stakeholders.
- Use Qualtrics Vocalize data dashboard to communicate real-time research and evaluation results.

July 2016 – August 2016
Center for Urban Population Health, Milwaukee, WI
Researcher

- Lead and support applied research and evaluation projects for diverse Milwaukee area nonprofit and governmental agencies.

November 2009 – June 2016
UW-Milwaukee Center for Urban Initiatives and Research, Milwaukee, WI
Researcher

- Conduct applied research and evaluation projects for nonprofit and governmental agencies. Specific activities included:
    - Designing and implementing research and evaluation plans.
    - Using statistical packages to analyze data (e.g., SPSS).
    - Collecting and analyzing qualitative data (e.g., interviews, focus groups).
    - Reporting on evaluation and research findings to partners and funders.

September 2009 – November 2009
Volunteer Center of Ozaukee County, Grafton, WI
Program Coordinator

- Coordinated volunteer programs and managed databases with Microsoft Access.

July 2007 – August 2009
Alliance for Strong Families and Communities (formerly Alliance for Children and Families), Milwaukee, WI
Project Coordinator

- Coordinated activities for a national grant, including professional development opportunities, RFP processes, communication, and technical assistance.

November 2005 – July 2007
E jj Olson & Associates, Milwaukee, WI
Research Associate

- Supported applied research projects, including program evaluations, needs assessments, strategic planning processes, and market analyses.

EDUCATION

September 2001 – May 2005
Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI

- BA, Political Science and English Literature (double major)
- Focus on behavioral health statistics

Fall 2011
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI

- Graduate level behavioral health statistics

ACADEMIC AWARDS

- Phi Beta Kappa, 2005
- Alpha Sigma Nu (Jesuit Honor Society), 2005
- Sigma Tau Delta (English Honor Society), 2005
- Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honor Society), 2005
- Finalist, Outstanding Graduating Senior in Political Science, 2005

CERTIFICATIONS/CREDENTIALS

- Qualtrics Research Core Expert Certification, Qualtrics (2017)
- Youth Quality Program Assessment Endorsed External Assessor (2015)
- Concept Mapping Certified Facilitator, Concept Systems (2015)

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

- American Evaluation Association Conference (2013, 2014, and 2015)
- Introductory and Intermediate Developmental Evaluation (2015)
- Principles-Based Evaluation (2015)
- Data Visualization (2013)
- Applied Multi-Level Modeling (2010)
- CITI Human Subjects Research, IRB-Social and Behavioral (Current)

PEER-REVIWED PUBLICATIONS

Hackett, K. A., Ziegler, M. C., Olson, J. A., **Bizub, J**., Stolley, M., Szabo, A., & Beyer, K. M. (2020). Nature Mentors: a program to encourage outdoor activity and nature engagement among urban youth and families. *Journal of Adventure Education and Outdoor Learning*, 1-18.

Beyer KMM, Heller B, **Bizub J**, Kistner A, Szabo A, Shawgo E, and Zetts C. (2015). "More Than a Pretty Place: assessing the impact of environmental education on children's knowledge and attitudes about outdoor play in nature." *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 12(2), 2054-2070.

Kroencke, R. D., Hoormann, K. A., Heller, E. F., **Bizub, J**. M., Zetts, C. J., & Beyer, K. M. (2015). "Knowledge of neighborhood nature is associated with strong sense of place among Milwaukee youth." *Children, Youth and Environments*, 25(3), 129-144.

Beyer, K., **Bizub, J**., Szabo, A., Heller, B., Kistner, A., Shawgo, E., & Zetts, C. (2014). "Development and validation of the attitudes toward outdoor play scales for children." *Social Science & Medicine*, 30, 1e8.

Beyer KMM, Heller B, **Bizub J**, Kistner A, Shawgo E, Zetts C, and Szabo A. (2014). "More Than a Pretty Place: examining the influence of environmental education on children's outdoor play in nature." *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*, 2014 Global Summit on the Physical Activity of Children: Abstracts, 11 (Supp 1), S126-S198

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Milwaukee Public Schools First Nations College Access Evaluation 04/01/20 –Current
This multi-year, federally-funded evaluation project is designed to determine the impact of curricular, social, and academic supports to First Nations students on college enrollment.
Role: PI

Milwaukee Public Schools Quality Arts Instruction Evaluation 02/01/20 – Current
Aiming for Quality Arts and Achievement in Milwaukee Public Schools is a multi-

year federally funded project to improve the quality of fine arts instruction and integration of arts-based strategies in classroom settings to improve student academic achievement. The evaluation uses both quantitative and qualitative methods to document the implementation and impact of activities on students.
Role: Researcher

Milwaukee Christian Center YouthBuild Evaluation 09/01/18 – Current
This study measures the impact of an Americorps-funded initiative on youths' career readiness, attainment of 21st Century skills, and educational aspirations.
Role: Co-investigator

Riveredge Community Rivers Project Evaluation 07/01/18 – Current
The Community Rivers Project operates in multiple municipalities to improve the water quality of the Milwaukee River through engaging farmers, landowners, and residents. The evaluation uses a developmental approach to provide responsive data to measure impact and engagement.
Role: PI

Milwaukee Public Schools Project Prevent Evaluation 01/01/15 – Current
This multi-year, federally-funded evaluation project is designed to determine the impact of trauma-informed care and social and emotional learning programs on school staff and students.
Role: PI

Milwaukee Public Schools Project AWARE Evaluation 10/01/17 – 9/30/19
This multi-year, federally-funded evaluation project is designed to determine the impact of mental health services and supports on school staff and students.
Role: PI

Riveredge Testing the Waters Evaluation 07/01/18 – 11/30/19
This evaluation project is designed to determine the impact of a hands-on water quality testing program in high schools on students' water quality and scientific method knowledge and skills.
Role: PI

Community Advocates Brighter Futures Evaluation 01/01/16 – 12/31/17
The goal of this multi-year, state-funded evaluation project is to measure progress toward objectives related to positive youth development, including preventing violence, reducing the incidence of youth alcohol and other drug use and abuse, and encouraging self-sufficiency through high school graduation and vocational readiness.
Role: Researcher

Riveredge Scientist in Residence Evaluation 07/01/15 – 11/30/16
This evaluation project is designed to determine the impact of nature-based learning on school staffs, students, and communities.
Role: PI

COMPEL Evaluation Capacity Building 08/01/14 – 02/28/15
The goal of this evaluation project was to develop output and outcome monitoring instruments, processes, and procedures to be used internally by nonprofit organizational staff.
Role: PI

Community Building Milwaukee Evaluation 12/20/13 – 06/30/15
The goal of this evaluation is to determine the impact of citywide Community Building Workshops on participants' self-reported attitudes and behaviors, as well as the impact workshops have on complimentary subsequent programming.
Role: Co-Investigator

Milwaukee Public Schools Violence Prevention Initiative 10/01/13 – 08/30/15
This study evaluates a multi-program initiative designed to improve the safety and health of students in Milwaukee Public Schools in the Lindsay Heights neighborhood.
Role: PI

United Community Center Abriendo Puertas Evaluation 09/16/13 – 07/01/15
This evaluation project is designed to measure the impact of college support services to Hispanic/Latino students in terms of the educational aspirations, persistence, and outcomes.
Role: PI

Urban Ecology Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program 01/01/12 - 06/30/14
The goal of this study is to assess the impact of a new urban park on children's behavioral and emotional health, as well as neighborhood attachment.
Role: Co-Investigator

Skylight Musical Theater Student Program Evaluation 11/26/12 – 04/30/13
The goal of this project was to assess the impact of arts programming the educational, emotional, and social outcomes of students. The impact on teachers' practices was also measured.
Role: PI

Reality Check Coalition Evaluation 09/30/12 – 09/29/14
This study assesses the impact of substance abuse prevention interventions on ATOD use and attitudes among youth.
Role: PI

Milwaukee Public Schools Arts and Humanities 09/17/12 – 09/30/2014
Developed outcome assessment instruments for diverse afterschool arts and humanities programming. The goal of this study was to measure the impact of arts and humanities programs.
Role: Co-Investigator

Student Success Study 09/15/12 – 11/30/12
This project used focus groups including faculty and staff involved or with important perspectives on undergraduate student success at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Qualitative data were analyzed using a grounded theory approach.
Role: PI

Story Bridge Evaluation 08/01/12 – 08/31/13
The goal of this study was to measure the impact of a reading and theater intervention on students' reading fluency and classroom behavior.
Role: PI

Educational Needs Assessment 07/23/12 – 11/30/13
The goal of this project was to assess the educational and vocational needs of a Wisconsin community.
Role: Researcher

Life Impact Evaluation 12/15/11 – 12/30/13
This study evaluated the educational and employment outcomes of a group of undergraduate parents receiving intensive academic, family, transportation, and career mentoring and support.
Role: Co-Investigator

Head Start Needs Assessment 10/25/11 – 05/30/12
This study assessed the educational, public transportation, food, health care, and child care assets in designated areas using secondary data and GIS mapping.
Role: Co-Investigator

Prisoner Re-Entry Assessment 11/15/10 – 12/15/11
The goal of this study was to develop a pre-post scale to determine the impact of programming on prisoners. A database was developed to track progress through programs, pre-post test scores, and recidivism.
Role: Co-Investigator

Environmental Education Evaluation 10/01/10 – 06/30/12
This study measured the science knowledge gains in students engaged in interactive science programming in natural settings at the Urban Ecology Center in Milwaukee.
Role: PI

Milwaukee Public Schools Wellness Center Evaluation 09/25/10 – 07/31/13
This evaluation measured the change in healthy activity and eating in children participating in afterschool wellness programs using pre/post self-report scales.
Role: PI

Milwaukee Area Workforce Funding Alliance Evaluation 01/01/10 - 06/30/13
This study assessed the strength of a workforce funding coalition composed of public and private entities. The impact of activities on employers and funders was also investigated.
Role: Researcher

Learning Teams Evaluation 09/30/09 – 06/15/11
This study involved observations and document review to assess the level of fidelity of public school staff committees to the learning team model. The level of fidelity was correlated with student outcomes to determine the impact of the intervention on student success.
Role: Co-Investigator

Parental Involvement in Education Evaluation 09/30/09 – 07/30/11
This study measured the impact of parent involvement programs on student educational outcomes in Milwaukee Public Schools.
Role: Researcher

Safe Schools/Healthy Students Evaluation 09/01/09 – 09/30/12
This study evaluated a multi-program initiative designed to improve the safety and health of students in Milwaukee Public Schools.
Role: Researcher

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- Director, Milwaukee Shambhala Meditation Center, 2018-2019
- Governing Council Member, Milwaukee Shambhala Meditation Center, 2014 – 2019
- Member, Impact Committee, Urban Ecology Center, 2017 – Present
- President, Enerqi Center for Acupuncture and Traditional Medicine, 2016 – 2018
- Member, Milwaukee Succeeds Community and Social Support Network, 2014 – 2016
- Member, Education Committee, Milwaukee Film, 2012 – 2014
- Program Coordinator, Milwaukee Shambhala Meditation Center, 2012 – 2014
- President, Arcos Milwaukee, 2011 – 2014
- Board Member, Volunteer Center of Ozaukee County, 2007 – 2011