

MELISSA SLONE

University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health
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EMPLOYMENT

Nov. 1, 2018 Research Inter-Disciplinary Director, UK Center of Excellence in Rural Health, Hazard, KY
2018-Present Instructor, UK College of Social Work
2011- 2018 Clinical Faculty/Southeast KY College of Social Work Program Coordinator UK Center of Excellence in Rural Health, Hazard, KY
2013- 2018 Consultant for project, Appalachian Community Cancer Network, Lexington, KY
2011- 2016 Adjunct Faculty, Hazard Community and Technical College, Hazard, KY
2010- 2013 Kentucky Project Manager, Appalachian Community Cancer Network, Lexington, KY
2009- 2010 Clinical Faculty/Credit for Learning Training, College of Social Work, Lexington, KY
2009- 2009 Adjunct Professor, University of Kentucky College of Social Work, Lexington, KY
2009- 2009 Bereavement Counselor, Hospice of the Bluegrass, Hazard, KY
2004- 2009 Director of Programs, Buckhorn Children & Family Services (PCWA), Hazard, KY
1996- 2004 Area Manager, Presbyterian Child Welfare Agency (PCWA), Hazard, KY
1994-1996 Case Manager, Presbyterian Child Welfare Agency (PCWA), Buckhorn, KY
1991-1994 Youth Worker/Juvenile Counselor Senior, Morehead Treatment Center, Morehead, KY

EDUCATION

May 2022 University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY *Doctorate of Social Work*
Administrative Leadership
March 2013 George Washington University, Moderator Training
May 2008 University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, *Master of Social Work*
Project AGE: Certificate in Gerontology
May 1991 Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY; *Corrections and Juvenile Services*

LICENSURES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Kentucky Board of Social Work, Certified Social Worker- 5463

HONORS AND AWARDS:

2023 National Association of Social Workers (NASW)- Social Justice Star Award
2010 National Association of Social Workers (NASW) - Kentucky Chapter President's Award
2008 University of Kentucky College of Social Work Outstanding MSW Student

CURRENT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

2022- Present Vice-Chair Executive Committee, Kentucky Social Welfare Foundation
2022-Present Kentucky Rural Health Association Board of Directors
2022-Present Leadership Committee, Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky Council
2021-Present Kentucky Social Welfare Foundation Board Member
2018- Present UK Clinical Leadership & Management Advisory Board Member
2018- Present Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Internal Review Board Member
2017- Present Founding Member and Chair of the Kentucky River Health Consortium
2016- Present Member, Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky Council

PAST

2021-2022 ARH Community Needs Assessment Steering Committee (Completed)
2018- 2020 KRADD Health Impact Assessment, Workgroup Member, Liaison with the rural health community. Project completed.
2017- 2022 Co-chair, Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS), Community Champions Cabinet
2017- 2018 Executive Committee, Buckhorn Children and Family Services Board of Directors
2015- 2019 Member, Perry County Early Childhood Community Advisory Board
2014-2017 Member, Human Services Program Advisory Committee for HCTC
2011- 2014 Vice President, National Association of Social Work, Kentucky Chapter Executive Committee (also Membership Committee Chair, and Ethics Committee member)
2010-2011 Secretary, National Association of Social Work, Kentucky Chapter Executive Committee
2008- 2013 Member, Breathe Easy: Perry County Partnership Committee
2009-2010 Member, Appalachian Community Cancer Network (ACCN) Community Advisory Council
2009-2010 Member, Big Sandy Community Advisory Board
2009-2010 Chair, National Association of Social Work, Kentucky Chapter Eastern Kentucky Branch

ASSOCIATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Rural Health Association
Kentucky Rural Health Association
Kentucky Public Health Association
Kentucky Association of Community Health Workers

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Slone, M.; Carman, A.; & Feltner, F.; (2022). Developing a Public Health Improvement Consortium in Appalachian Kentucky: Harnessing the Power of the Local Collective. *Journal of Healthcare for the Poor and Underserved*, 1114-1112. doi: 10.1353/hpu.2022.0085
- Giger, J. T., Barnhart, S., Feltner, F., Slone, M., Lawler, M. J., Windsor, L., & Windsor, A. (2021). Validating the eHealth literacy scale in rural adolescents. *The Journal of Rural Health*, 37(3), 504-516. doi:10.1111/jrh.12509
- Douthitt, K., Taylor, W., Piercy, J., Fletcher-Jones, C., Hughes, J., Slone, M. Feltner, F. and Atkins, R. *SUN-LB116 Improved Family Medicine Resident Diabetes Care Through Participation in a Diabetes Clinic*. Journal of the Endocrine Society, Volume 4, Issue Supplement_1, April-May 2020, SUN-LB116, <https://doi.org/10.1210/jendso/bvaa046.2289>
- Miller, J., Benner, K., Pope, N., Dumas, T., Damron, L., Segress, M., Slone, M., Thrasher, S. & Niu, C. (2017) *Conceptualizing effective foster parent mentor programs: A participatory planning process*. Children and Youth Services Review, Elsevier, vol. 73(C), pages 411-418.
- Feltner, F., Thompson, S. P., Baker, W. M., Slone, M. (2016). Community health workers improving diabetes outcomes in a rural Appalachian population. *Social Work in Health Care*, 56(2):1-9. doi:10.1080/00981389.2016.1263269

OTHER ARTICLES

- Howard, S.P., Slone, M., Huff, A., & Feltner, F. (2022). *Speech Language Pathology and Audiology Workforce in Kentucky*. University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health Workforce Report.
- Slone, M. (2022). *Bolstering Leadership Engagement to Community Coalitions in Rural Appalachia*. University of Kentucky College of Social Work Capstone Project. UKnowledge. https://uknowledge.uky.edu/csw_grad_reports/3/
- Meit, M., Heffernan, M., Cherney, M., Gelfand, K., Klaiman, T., Feltner, F., & Slone, M. (2021). *Understanding declining rates of drug overdose mortality in Eastern Kentucky*. NORC Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis / University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health.
- University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health & East Tennessee State University. (2021). *COVID-19 stakeholder experiences in the Commonwealth of Kentucky*.
- Thompson, S. P., Slone, M., & Feltner, F. (2021). 2020 Kentucky dental workforce update. *University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health Workforce Report*.
- Thompson, S. P., Feltner, F. J., & Slone, M. A. (2020). 2019 Kentucky nursing workforce report infographic. *University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health Workforce Report*.

- Thompson, S. P., Feltner, F. J., & Slone, M. (2019). 2018 Kentucky dental Workforce Report update. *University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health Workforce Report.*
- Thompson, S. P., Feltner, F. J., & Slone, M. A. (2018). 2018 Kentucky Nursing Workforce Report Infographic. *University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health Workforce Report.*
- Feltner, F., Thompson, S., & Slone, M. (2018). The need for certified diabetes educators and community health workers in community-based diabetes self-management education for high risk groups. *University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health Workforce Report.*
- Butina, M., Feltner, F. J., & Slone, M. (2018). Medical laboratory science workforce shortage. *University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health Workforce Report.*
- Williamson, J., Hays, D., Slone, M., & Feltner, F. J. (2018). UK CERH social work programs: History & employment outlook. *University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health Workforce Report.*
- Slone, M., Feltner, F. J., & Thompson, S. (2017). Identifying family resource and youth services employees' preparedness for job responsibilities and service offerings in Kentucky. *University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health Workforce Report.*

ARTICLE REVIEWS

- April 2022 Article review for the *Journal of Healthcare for the Poor and Underserved*
March 2020 Article review for *Journal of Appalachian Health*

RESEARCH AND GRANT

CURRENT RESEARCH

- 2023 – 2024 *Sleeping well in a changing climate: The effects of rising temperature and extreme weather events on sleep and other aspects of health in rural Appalachia.* Badour, C. L. (MPI) and Moloney, M. (MPI) (Co-Investigator). National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities (Administrative Supplement R01MD016236-03S1)
- 9/15/22 – 9/14/25 *Community Health Worker Training Program* (Co- Investigator). Health Resources and Services Administration.
- 6/1/21 – 05/31/23 *Community-Based Workforce to Increase COVID-19 Vaccinations in Underserved Communities*, (Co-Investigator). Health Resources and Services Administration.
- 10/1/20 – 10/31/24 *Online Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Depressive Symptoms in Rural Patients with Coronary Heart Disease*, (Co-Investigator). Patient-Centered Outcomes

Research Institute. (PI: Debra Moser, University of Kentucky, College of Nursing)

12/19/19 – 08/13/23 *Appalachia Community Cancer Network II: Faith-Based Initiative to Promote Health in Appalachia*, PI: Mark Dignan, College of Medicine. (CoI) NIH

7/1/05 – 12/06/22 *Kentucky Homeplace*, (Social Work; added 8/2017). State of Kentucky, Legislative Mandate.

COMPLETED RESEARCH

1/1/20 – 7/31/21 *Case Study: Understanding Reasons behind Declining Rates of Opioid Overdose in Eastern Kentucky Counties*, (Co-Investigator). National Opinion Research Center

5/28/20- 5/27/20 *UK/O Effects of Family Sodium Watcher Program on Outcomes in Heart Failure Patient-Family Caregiver Dyads*. Misook Chung (PI), College of Nursing. (Study Personnel)

5/2020- 4/2021 *Coordinating and Assisting the Reuse of Assistive Technology in Rural Appalachian Communities: A service learning program*. Patrick Kitzman and Melissa Slone (Co-PIs) UK 2020 Sustainability Challenge Grant Program

6/1/19 – 9/15/20 *Rural Communities Opioid Response (Planning)*, PI: Frances Feltner and Melissa Slone, University of Kentucky, College of Medicine, Center of Excellence in Rural Health. (PI and Project Coordinator). Health Resources and Services Administration.

03/10/17- 01/16/19 *UKCERH/SE AHEC Health Career Enrichment Camp*, (Coordinator, added 9/17) (PI: Frances Feltner, University of Kentucky, College of Medicine, Center of Excellence in Rural Health)

11/3/17- 10/24/18 *Understanding a New Comprehensive Clinic Launch for Outpatient Uncontrolled Diabetics*, (Social Work Professor) PI: Key Douthitt, University of Kentucky, College of Medicine

2016- 2018 *Children's Worlds Survey* (Researcher). University of Kentucky, College of Social Work. (PI: Jarod Giger, University of Kentucky, College of Social Work.)

2010-8/31/17 *Appalachian Community Cancer Network*, (Instructor/Co-investigator) (PI: Mark Dignan, University of Kentucky, College of Medicine)

05/10/16- 04/21/18 *Identifying Family Resource and Youth Services Employees Preparedness for Job Responsibilities and Service Offerings in Kentucky*, (Co-Investigator) (PI: Frances

Feltner, University of Kentucky, College of Medicine, Center of Excellence in Rural Health)

07/01/13-06/30/14 *A Workforce Needs Assessment for BASW Prepared Social Workers in Eastern Kentucky*, (Co-Investigator) (PI: Frances Feltner, University of Kentucky, College of Medicine, Center of Excellence in Rural Health)

OTHER RESEARCH AND GRANT ACTIVITY

- 2022 Mentor for Kentucky River Community Care Hickory Hills, Restoring HOPE Project. Funded by UK CARES
- August 2020 Grant review for Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky, *2020 Census Projects Funding*
- August 2020 Grant review for UK Center for Appalachian Research in Environmental Sciences, *Community Grants*
- June 2019 Grant reviews for UK Center for Appalachian Research in Environmental Sciences, *Community Grants*
- 2018 Designed and implemented the *Healthy WAY* research initiative for rural high school students. Healthy WAY encourages student led teams to work collectively on an identified problem, by reviewing local data, trends, and research to develop a strategic plan of action with key stakeholders in their schools and communities.
- 2015 – Present *Appalachian Research Day*, (Co-chair). University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health. Community-based research begins at the local level, built upon the foundation of relationships with individuals, neighborhoods and groups who have common questions and concerns. Appalachian Research Day is an opportunity to join in the discussion and learn about findings from research studies that have occurred in eastern Kentucky.

PRESENTATIONS

- Carman, A., Slone, M., Hogg-Graham, R. (2023, Nov.) Kentucky Rural Health Association. *Identifying Actionable, County Specific Social Determinants of Health Data for Kentucky Counties*.
- Slone, M., Adams, J., Jackson, J., Frances, F. (2023, Nov). Kentucky Rural Health Association. *Appalachian Community Health Days: Going to the People*.
- Slone, M. (2023, Nov) Kentucky Rural Health Association. *Research Poster Moderator: Connecting Research to Policy*.
- Slone, M., Barnett, K., Nix, M. (2023, August). Kentucky Public Health Association Webinar. *ELEVATE CHWs- The Future is Up*.

- Carman, A. & Slone, M (2023, April). Kentucky Public Health Association Educational Conference. *Strategic Planning in a World Changed by COVID-19: Increased Importance of Listening to the Community when Planning for the Future*. Presentation in Bowling Green, KY.
- Slone, M., Feltner, F., Baker, W. M., Douthitt, K., Lockard, A. S., Raleigh, A. (2023, April). *Kentucky River Flood Impact Assessment*. Poster Presentation at Kentucky Public Health Association, Bowling Green, KY.
- Feltner, F., Slone, M., Baker, W. M., Adams, J., Massey, B., Stiles, C. (2023, April). *Appalachian Community Health Days*. Poster Presentation at Kentucky Public Health Association, Bowling Green, KY.
- Badour, C. L., Moloney, M. E., Sauer-Zavala, S., Slone, M., Feltner, F., Hood, C. O., Schoenberg, N., Tipsword, J. M., Feather, A., Brooks, C., Quinkert, E., Loar, A., & Siegel, Z. (April 2023). *Engaging resilient Eastern Kentucky communities as partners in disaster recovery*. Poster presented at Appalachian Research Day, Paintsville, KY.
- Slone, M., Feltner, F., Baker, W. M., Douthitt, K., Lockard, A. S., Raleigh, A. (2023, April). *Kentucky River Flood Impact Assessment*. Poster Presentation at Appalachian Research Day, Paintsville, KY.
- Feltner, F., Slone, M., Baker, W. M., Adams, J., Massey, B., Stiles, C. (2023, April). *Appalachian Community Health Days*. Poster Presentation at Appalachian Research Day, Paintsville, KY.
- Feltner, F. & Slone, M. (2022, Dec). *Appalachian Community Health Days*. Presented at HRSA Office Hours, virtual presentation.
- Slone, M. (2022, Nov) Kentucky Rural Health Association. *Research Poster Moderator: Connecting Research to Policy*.
- Slone, M. (2022, Nov). Rural Health Webinar Series. *Appalachian Community Health Days*.
- Slone, M., Smith, C. & Smith, K. (2022, Oct). Kentucky Association of Community Health Workers. *Appalachian Community Health Days*.
- Slone, M. (2022, April). College of Social Work, Training Resource Center. *Bolstering Leadership Engagement to Community Coalitions in Rural Appalachia*.
- Kitzman, P., Jackson, J., Chelsa, L, Hudson, K, & Slone, M. (2022, March). APTA CSM. *Impact of Biases, Misconceptions, and Stereotypes on Healthcare and Community Engagement for Individuals with Disabilities*. (Blue Ribbon for Social Responsibility Winner)
- Slone, M. (2021, December). Kentucky Association of Community Health Workers Quarterly Meeting, Virtual. *Communication: More than just the words you say*.

- Kitzman, P., Hudson, K., & Slone, M. (2021, November). Kentucky Rural Health Association Annual Conference, Virtual. *Development of an intergenerational program to support the needs of individuals with disabilities: living in rural Appalachia Kentucky*
- Heffernan, M., Feltner, F., Slone, M. & Brown, M. (2021, November). Kentucky Rural Health Association Annual Conference, Virtual. *Lessons Learned from Previous Reductions in Overdose Mortality Rates to Apply in the Context of COVID-19.*
- Slone, M. (2021, November). Kentucky Rural Health Association Annual Conference, Virtual. *Research Poster Moderator: Connecting Research to Policy.*
- Slone, M. & Feltner, F. (2021, October). *Social determinants of health.* Presentation to University of Kentucky Communication Sciences and Disorders graduate students, Virtual.
- Kitzman, P., Jackson, J., Chelsa, L., Hudson, K., & Slone, M. (2021, October). APTA-KY, Virtual. *Impact of Biases, Misconceptions, and Stereotypes on Healthcare and Community Engagement for Individuals with Disabilities.*
- Slone, M. (2021, January 14). Virtual Provider Education Summit: “Hope Continues”, Virtual. *Session Moderator: Equipping the Faith Community with Evidence-based Tools to Address Community-based Issues* (Monty Burks)
- Meit, M., Feltner, F., Slone, M. & Brown, M. (2020, November). Kentucky Rural Health Association Annual Conference, Virtual. *Case Study: Understanding Reasons behind Declining Rates of Opioid Overdose in Eastern Kentucky Counties.*
- Slone, M. (2020, November). Kentucky Rural Health Association Annual Conference, Virtual. *Research Poster Moderator: Connecting Research to Policy.*
- Slone, M. & Feltner, F. (2020, November). *Social determinants of health.* Presentation to University of Kentucky Communication Sciences and Disorders graduate students, Virtual.
- Slone, M. & Bowling, B. (2019, November). Kentucky Rural Health Association Annual Conference, Bowling Green, Kentucky. *Building Capacity for Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR): Successful Strategies from one rural area.*
- Slone, M. (2019, November). Kentucky Rural Health Association Annual Conference, Bowling Green, Kentucky. *Research Poster Moderator and Lunch presenter: Connecting Research to Policy.*
- Giger, J., Barnhart, S., Slone, M., Feltner, F., Newland, L., & Lawler, M. (2019, November). *Testing the validity of the eHealth Literacy Scale for school-based Appalachian youth.* Poster presentation at American Public Health Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Giger, J., Barnhart, S., Feltner, F., Slone, M., Lawler, M., & Windsor, L. (2019, October). Presentation at the WONCA World Rural Health Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico. *Predicting Subjective Well-Being in Appalachian Children: Lessons Learned from a School-Based Study.*

- Slone, M., Feltner, F. (2019, October). *Healthy WAY: Wellness in All Youth*. Poster presentation at WONCA World Rural Health Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Feltner, F., Slone, M., & Bowling, B. (2019, October). *Appalachian Research Day Come Sit on the Porch*. Poster presentation at WONCA World Rural Health Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Feltner, F., Slone, M., & Bowling, B. (2019, July). Presentation at the 44th Annual National Institute on Social Work and Human Services in Rural Areas National Rural Social Work Caucus, Paducah, KY. *Building capacity for community-based participatory research (CBPR): Successful strategies*.
- Feltner, F., Slone, M., & Bowling, B. (2019, July). Presentation at the 44th Annual National Institute on Social Work and Human Services in Rural Areas National Rural Social Work Caucus, Paducah, KY. *Healthalachia: Rural Appalachian youth creating solutions for our future*.
- Bowling, B., Slone, Melissa and Feltner, F. (2019, May). National Rural Health Association Conference, Atlanta, GA. Poster: *Healthalachia: Rural Appalachian Youth Creating Solutions*.
- Bowling, B., Slone, Melissa. (2019, May). National Rural Health Association Health Equity Conference, Atlanta, GA. *Healthalachia: Rural Appalachian Youth Creating Solutions*.
- Weeber, J., Slone, M., Douthitt, K., Atkins, R., Elder, W., Hughes, J., Fletcher-Jones, C., Piercy, J., Taylor, W., Marshall, K., Feltner, F., Sacks, D., & Thompson, S. (2019, April). *Resident education through participation in a diabetes clinic*. Poster presentation at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Annual Spring Conference, Toronto, Canada.
- Slone, M., Bowling, B., Back, K. and Donnan, R. (2019, March) Appalachian Studies Association 2019 Conference. Asheville, NC. *A Community Approach to the Wellbeing and Resilience of Appalachian Youth During an Opioid Crisis*.
- Feltner, F., Slone, Melissa, Bowling, B., and Shields, R. (2018, November). Kentucky Rural Health Association 20th annual Conference, Bowling Green, KY. *Healthalachia: Rural Appalachian Youth Creating Solutions for our Future*.
- Slone, M. (2018, November). Kentucky Rural Health Association 20th annual Conference, Bowling Green, KY. *Research Poster Moderator*.
- Giger, J., Feltner, F., Slone, M., and Shields, R. (2018, May). National Rural Health Association (NRHA): Health Equity Conference, New Orleans, LA. Presentation: *Children's Worlds Project: Child Well-being in Appalachia Kentucky*.
- Napier, L., Kronemeyer, D., Slone, M., Bowling, B., Riker, C., Akers, J., and Watts, K. (2013, April). CCTS Conference, Lexington, KY. Poster: *BEPCP: Media Campaign to Promote Smoke-Free Facilities*.

Kennedy, S., Conn, M.E., Fickle, D., Bencivenga, M., Klushman, B., Dwyer, S., Slone, M., and Lesko, S. (2012, July). NCI: Community Network Program Centers Program. Poster: *Understanding Cancer: Developing and Evaluating an Easy to Read Cancer Education Curriculum for the Appalachian Population.*

Slone, M. (2009, September) Leadership Exchange: *Best Practices in Action Partner Panel*

Slone, M. (2008) Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators (KASWE). Poster: *Factors Associated with Perceived Quality of Life among Rural and Urban Elders in Kentucky*

Slone, M. (2008) Kentucky Rural Health Annual Program Meeting. Poster: *Factors Associated with Perceived Quality of Life among Rural and Urban Elders in Kentucky*