

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the key personnel in the order listed for Form Page 2.  
Follow sample format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FOUR PAGES.**

NAME Murry, Velma McBride	POSITION TITLE Professor/Betts Chair, Education and Human Development		
eRA COMMONS USER NAME vmurry			
EDUCATION/TRAINING <i>(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, and include postdoctoral training.)</i>			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE <i>(if applicable)</i>	YEAR(s)	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Tennessee	BS	1974	Child and Family Development
University of Missouri-Columbia	MS	1985	Human Development and Family Studies
University of Missouri-Columbia	PhD	1988	Human Development and Family Studies

### A. Personal Statement

I have conducted research on African-American parents and youth for over 15 years and identified proximal, malleable protective factors that deter youth risk engagement. Findings from these empirical studies informed the development of a curriculum, the Strong African American Families Program, designed to enhance parenting and family processes as well as youths' intrapersonal protective processes to, in turn, encourage youth to delay age at sexual onset and the initiation and escalation of alcohol and drug use. Alcohol and drug use are important contributors to the diseases, including HIV, that afflict this community. I recently completed a National Institute of Mental Health-funded Program, entitled, Pathways to African Americans' Success (PAAS) program that was implemented parents/caregivers and their middle-school-age children, residing in Tennessee. PAAS, a computer-interactive version of the SAAF program, is a randomized control trial that tested the efficacy of modality of program delivery in the prevention of HIV-related risky behavior vulnerability among African-American youth residing in five Tennessee counties. The current application builds on the efficacy of this computer-interactive program to examine the effects of PAAS on decision-making/reward-processing neural circuits and whether changes in these circuits mediate the intervention effects in reducing HIV-related risky behaviors in African-American youth.

I bring to this application a perspective on adversity that includes race, ethnicity and poverty, as well as a strong background in the role that parenting plays in addressing the needs of youth, extensive experience in designing and implementing randomized control trials, including expertise in the design, development and implementation of successful recruitment and retention methodologies targeting difficult-to-reach populations.

### B. Positions and Honors

#### Positions and Employment

##### Academic Positions

1987-1992	Assistant Professor, School of Family Studies, University of Connecticut, Storrs
1992-1995	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Child and Family Development, University of Georgia, Athens
1995-2002	Associate Professor, Dept. of Child and Family Development, University of Georgia, Athens
1998-1995	Fellow, Institute for Behavioral Research, University of Georgia, Athens
1995-2008	Co-director, Center for Family Research, Institute for Behavioral Research, University of Georgia, Athens
2002-2008	Professor, Dept. of Child and Family Development, University of Georgia, Athens
2002-2008	Adjunct Professor, Dept. of Psychology, University of Georgia, Athens
2008-present	Professor, Dept. Human and Organizational Development, Betts Chair Education and Human Development, Vanderbilt Peabody College, Nashville, TN
2010-present	Associate Director, Community Engagement Resource Core, Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, Nashville, TN

## **Non-academic Positions**

1997-2008	Commissioner for the State of Georgia Children's Trust Fund
2004-2008	National Institute of Mental Health Advisory Board, National Association of Rural Mental Health
2004-2009	National Advisory Board Member, African American Mental Health Research Scientist Consortium International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development National Council on Family Relations Society for Research on Adolescence Society for Research on Child Development

## **Honors**

2005	Creative Research Medal, University of Georgia
2003, 2005	Reuben Hill's Outstanding Research Award, National Council on Family Relations
2008	Charles C. Shepard Science Award, Prevention and Control category, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
2009	Recipient of the Carolyn Attneave Award for Diversity, Society for Family Psychology, Division 43 of the American Psychological Association
2009	Board of Directors of the Children, Youth, and Families (BCYF), of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine
2013	Society for Research in Child Development, 2013 Distinguish Contributions and Contextual Factors in Child Development Award, 2013
2012	Reappointed: Institute of Medicine, National Academies, Board of Children Youth and Families, 2012-2016.
2012	Appointed: USAID Evidence Review Team Member, Evidence Summit on Enhancing Child Survival and Development in Lower-and Middle-Income Countries by Achieving Population Level Behavior Change, 2012
2013	Appointed: Institute of Medicine of the National Academies Consensus Study Committee on Improving the Health, Safety, and Well-Being of Young Adults, 2013-2015.
2013	The Elizabeth Beckman Trust Award, mentoring young scholars in prevention research
2014	Society for Prevention Research, Distinguish Contributions to Community Culture, Prevention Science Award
2014	American Psychological Association Presidential Citation Award for distinguished research contributions and leadership advocacy for children, youth, and HIV affected groups,
2015	Appointed: Institute of Medicine of the National Academies Consensus Study Committee on Improving the Health, Safety, and Well-Being of Young Adults

## **C. Selected Peer-reviewed Publications**

1. Murry VM, Brody GH, McNair L, Luo Z, Gibbons FX, Gerrard M, et al. (2005). Parental involvement promotes rural African American youths' self-pride and sexual self-concepts. *Journal of Marriage and Family* 67:627-642.
2. Brody GH, Murry VM, Chen Y-F, Kogan SM, Brown AC (2006). Effects of family risk factors on dosage and efficacy of a family-centered preventive intervention for rural African Americans. *Prevention Science* 7(3):281-291. [PMID: 16718542](#).
3. Brody GH, Murry VM, Gerrard M, Gibbons FX, McNair L, Brown AC, et al. (2006). The Strong African American Families Program: Prevention of youths' high-risk behaviors and a test of a model of change. *Journal of Family Psychology* 20(1):1-11. [PMID: 16569084](#).
4. Brody GH, Murry VM, Kogan SM, Gerrard M, Gibbons FX, Molgaard V, et al. (2006). The Strong African American Families Program: A cluster-randomized prevention trial of long-term effects and a mediational model. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology* 74(2):356-366. [PMID: 16649880](#).
5. Murry VM, Berkel C, Brody GH, Gibbons M [sic], Gibbons FX (2007). The Strong African American Families Program: Longitudinal pathways to sexual risk reduction. *Journal of Adolescent Health* 41(4):333-342. [PMID: 17875458](#).
6. Wills TA, Murry VM, Brody GH, Gibbons FX, Gerrard M, Walker C, et al. (2007). Ethnic pride and self-control related to protective and risk factors: Test of the theoretical model for the Strong African American Families

- program. *Health Psychology* 26(1):50-59. [PMID: 17209697](#).
7. Brody GH, Kogan SM, Chen Y-F, Murry VM (2008). Long-term effects of the Strong African American families program on youths' conduct problems. *Journal of Adolescent Health* 43(5):474-481. [PMCID: PMC2592558](#).
  8. Murry VM, Berkel C, Brody GH, Miller SJ, Chen Y-F (2009). Linking parental socialization to interpersonal protective processes, academic self-presentation, and expectations among rural African American youth. *Journal of Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology* 15(1):1-10. [PMCID: PMC2643367](#).
  9. Brody GH, Beach SRH, Philibert RA, Chen Y-F, Lei M-K, Murry VM, Brown AC (2009). Parenting moderates a genetic vulnerability factor in longitudinal increases in youths' substance use. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology* 77(1):1-11. [PMCID: PMC2868377](#).
  10. Brody GH, Beach SRH, Philibert RA, Chen Y-F, & Murry VM (2009). Prevention effects moderate the association of 5-HTTLPR and youth risk behavior initiation: Gene x environment hypotheses tested via a randomized prevention design. *Child Development* 80(3):645-661. [PMID: 19489894](#).
  11. Murry VM, Berkel C, Gaylord-Harden N, Copeland-Linder N, Nation M (2011). Neighborhood poverty and adolescent development: a decade in review. *Journal of Research on Adolescence* 21:114-128.
  12. Murry VM, Berkel C, Chen I-F, Brody GH, Gibbons FX, Gerrard M (2011). Intervention induced changes on parenting practices, youth self-pride and sexual norms to reduce HIV-related behaviors among rural African American youths. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* 40(9):1147-1163. [PMID: 21373904](#).
  13. Berkel C, Murry VM, Roulston K (2012). Understanding the art and science of implementation in the SAAF efficacy trial. *Journal of Health Education* 113: 297-323.
  14. Murry VM, Myers SS, Simons RL, Simons LG, Gibbons FX (2013). A four-year longitudinal analysis of rural African American males' sexual risk and substance use: Contributions of family and community contextual processes. *Journal of Orthopsychiatry* 83 (2pt3): 299-309. (Invited- Special Issue).
  15. Murry VM, McNair LD., Myers SS, Chen F, Brody GH (2014). Intervention induced changes in perceptions of parenting and risk opportunities among rural African American youth. *Journal of Child and Family Studies* 23:422-436.

## D. Research Support

### Ongoing Research Support

R25 MH083635

Townsend/Murry (PI)

05/01/08 - 06/30/16

NIH/NIMH

Cyber Mentors: A Training Program for HIV/AIDS Researchers Working on Health Disparities

Cyber Mentors: A Training Program for HIV/AIDS Researchers Working on Health Disparities is an innovative research mentorship program designed to prepare researchers who have not yet received R01-level funding, and who are either from underrepresented groups and/or are interested in HIV/AIDS research with racial and ethnic groups that are overrepresented with HIV/AIDS, to develop successful independent careers in HIV/AIDS research.

Role: Co-PI

UL1 RR024975

Bernard (PI)

09/17/13 - 05/13/17

The Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (VICTR) UL1

The initiative and aims to address a multitude of challenges which are slowing the pace, efficiency, and success of clinical and translational research and which ultimately created immense lost opportunities to develop therapies for important human diseases.

Role: Associate Director: Community Engagement Resource Core

PCORI

Wilkins (PI)

02/28/14 - 05/31/17

Accelerated PCOR and Methodology Research

Improving Patient Engagement and Understanding Its Impact on Research through Community Boards.

This initiative is designed to identify factors that may hinder or encourage under-representative populations to engage in research and clinical trials. Dr. Murry reviews CRB requests and provides consultation to researchers requesting CRBs. She provides guidance regarding coaching researchers and input regarding the tools developed to assess the impact of stakeholder engagement.

Role: Investigator

PCORI DeBaun (PI) 01/01/15 - 12/31/17  
Tennessee Sickle Disease Network: Application of Community/Research Partnership Model  
The overarching goal of this proposal is to build the readiness capacity of individuals living with SCD throughout Tennessee (TN) for PCOR and to obtain a population based representation for PCOR based initiatives.  
Role: Co-PI

Completed Research Support

R01 MH063043 Murry (PI) 09/30/08 - 06/28/13  
NIH/NIMH  
Computer-Based HIV Prevention Program for Rural African American Youth  
The goal of the research was to examine the effectiveness of offering The Strong African American Families Program (SAAF), which was designed to be administered in a group format, in a CD-ROM format to families for whom attending group meetings may not be feasible.  
Role: Principal Investigator

R34 MH024967 Keenan (PI) 08/05/11 - 04/30/14  
NIH/NIMH  
Sub-award from the University of Chicago  
Innovative approach to preventing depression  
Dr. Murry provides guidance and oversight in the development of the preventive intervention aspect of this study.  
Role: Co-investigator and PI of the sub-award