Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research 2018 Faculty Research Fellows.

Dr. Namok Choi (ELEOD), Dr. Joseph Petrosko (CEHD) and Dr. Hee Hyul Moon from the Kent School of Social Work for the project “Improving the Educational Outcomes of Homeless Youth in Jefferson County, Kentucky.” In partnership with the Jefferson County Public School district, the team will assess the school mobility of homeless students in efforts to inform strategies to support academic achievement in homeless families.

Dr. Michele Foster (ECEE), Dr. Amon Perry from the Kent School of Social Work and Dr. Ahmad Washington (ECPY) for the project “Building on the Cultural Assets of Mill Creek Elementary School” In partnership with Mill Creek Elementary School within the Jefferson County Public School district, the team will conduct intervention research to assess how educators, students, and parents of the school think about and engage in educational pedagogies and practices to improve student engagement.

Dr. Michele Foster (ECEE), Dr. Maurice Gattis from the Kent School of Social Work, Dr. Bruce Kemelgor from the College of Business, Dr. Lisa Markowitz from Anthropology and Dr. Justin Mog from the Office of the Provost in partnership with the Louisville Association for Community Economics, the team will conduct employment lay research and a location feasibility study, explore case studies of similar cooperatives, and engage community residents in the development of a community-owned grocery store in one of Louisville’s downtown neighborhoods.

Dr. Meera Alagaraja (ELEOD) and Dr. Lisa Hooper (ECPY) for the project, “Elucidating the Stories of Well-being in the West Louisville Community: A Phenomenological Study.” In partnership with the Park DuValle Community Health Center, the team will interview and document how West Louisville residents define and experience well-being. The results will aid the clinic in the assessment of wellbeing and coping strategies among its patients.

Dr. Mary Brydon-Miller (ELEOD) along with team members in Biology and English for their project, “Middle-School Citizen Science Investigation of Global Climate Change: Developing Local Environmental Justice School Partnerships.” In collaboration with Marion C. Moore Traditional Middle School (JCPS) and Four Winds Nature Institute, this project will develop local partnerships, research capacity, and pedagogy to enable teachers and students to participate in an international collaborative study of global climate change.

Dr. Shelly Thomas (MISE), Dr. Penny Howell (MISE), and Dr. Shantel Crosby from the Kent School for their project, “Transforming Learning Communities: A Multi-Year Project Supporting Teachers of Adolescents.” In partnership with Westport Middle School, Seneca High School, and the Kentucky Department of Education, this project will explore trauma informed classroom management stances and perspectives with a group of preservice teachers and follow their enactment of these into their first year of teaching.

Dr. Kathryn Whitmore (ECEE), Dr. Ahmad Washington (ECPY), and Dr. Faye Jones from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion for their project, “Black Men as Agents of Change in Children’s Literacy Success.” In partnership with Servonta, this project seeks to understand what happens when a library of culturally relevant children’s literature is added to a pediatric clinic waiting room, accompanied by interactive read aloud provided by Black men volunteers from the community.