



# Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention

**Annual Report**

**July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023**

## **Alberti Center Leadership**

**Jean M. Alberti, PhD**, Benefactor

**Amanda B. Nickerson, PhD**, Director

**Stephanie S. Fredrick, PhD**, Associate Director

**Brie Kishel**, Program & Operations Manager

**Kathleen P. Allen, PhD**, Training & Evaluations Specialist

**Toni J. Torchia, PhD**, Community Programming Consultant

**Gina Bellavia, PhD**, Project Director (NAB IT!)

## **Student Team**

**Swapna Balkundi**, GA/Schomburg Fellow

**Amanda Breese**, Schomburg Fellow

**Julianna Casella**, Presidential Fellow

**Jamie Cooper**, Research Assistant

**Erin Dougherty**, Research Assistant

**Hannah Grossman**, Graduate Assistant

**Dylan Harrison**, Research Assistant

**Kay Huang**, Research Assistant

**Sae Fukuda**, Research Assistant

**Jay'ana King**, Graduate Assistant, Schomburg Fellow

**Katherine Margiotta**, Graduate Assistant, NASP PREPaRE

**Abbey McClemont**, Graduate Assistant

**Kennedy McGriff**, Research Assistant

**Shelby Ostolski**, Research Assistant

**Kali Schuler**, Research Assistant

**Lucia Sun**, Research Assistant

**Erica Wong**, Research Assistant

## **Table of Contents**

[Mission, History of the Center, and Statement of Contributions & Impact](#)

[Journal Special Issues and Peer Reviewed Articles](#)

[Book Publication](#)

Funded Research

Professional Service

[Community Service - Select Honors and Awards](#)

[Engaging Interprofessional Collaborations and Events](#)

[Advisory Council & Faculty Affiliates](#)

2022-2023 Colloquium Series

[2022 Annual Conference](#)

Collaborative Events

Media Coverage & Press Releases

Social Media Efforts/Center Reach

Pedagogy of Inquiry, Engagement, and Impact

[New York State Education Department – Dignity for All Students Act \(DASA\)](#)

## **Alberti Center Mission**

*The mission of the Alberti Center is to reduce bullying abuse in schools and in the community by contributing knowledge and providing evidence-based tools to effectively change the language, attitudes, and behaviors of educators, parents, students, and society. The center will be a national resource on the prevention of bullying and other antisocial behaviors among school children, as well as provide research and information that address these behaviors.*

## **History of the Center**

*A generous gift from Graduate School of Education alumna, Jean M. Alberti (PhD '70, Educational Psychology) established the Dr. Jean M. Alberti Center for the Prevention of Bullying Abuse and School Violence (Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention) at the University at Buffalo. The center was introduced to the public on April 27, 2010, through its symposium, "Prevention of Bullying Abuse and School Violence," and was officially launched in July of 2011 when Amanda Nickerson, PhD, became the inaugural director.*

## **Statement of Contributions and Impact**

*This annual report highlights the accomplishments our team has had this past year! Throughout the report we highlight the work of our team members and partnerships that help to fulfill the mission and vision of the Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention, the Graduate School of Education (GSE), and the University at Buffalo. We appreciate all of the hard work of our team members and community partners, as their work is vital to fulfilling our mission.*

*Faculty members affiliated with the Alberti Center have been hard at work disseminating research through publications in high impact peer refereed journals, presenting at regional, national, and international conferences, and actively pursuing and securing funding for research and related projects. We have also had an incredibly busy year providing presentations, trainings, and workshops in and outside of New York State disseminating research to schools, practitioners, and communities. This report also highlights the recipient of the 2022 Alberti Center Early Career Award, who is an exceptional early career scholar in the field of bullying and youth violence prevention. Our advisory council members, consisting of internationally renowned scholars and pillars of the Western New York Community, are also highlighted in this report. Finally, as a New York State Education Department approved provider we continue to offer the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) training to hundreds of people who are preparing for certification to work in schools each year.*

*The Alberti Center actively supports the GSE's pedagogy of inquiry, engagement, and impact, which benefits both UB students and practitioners. We are incredibly grateful for our team members and generous partners as we work together in our efforts to prevent and reduce bullying and youth violence.*

## Peer Refereed Journal Articles

**Balkundi, S., & Fredrick, S. S.**, (2023). Students' perceptions of COVID-19 stress and internalizing problems: Is social support a buffer? *Contemporary School Psychology*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40688-023-00457-5>.

**Breese, A. C., Nickerson, A. B., Lemke, M., Mohr, R., Heidelberg, K., Fredrick, S., & Allen K.** (2023). Examining implicit biases of pre-service educators within a professional development context. *Contemporary School Psychology*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40688-023-00456-6>.

Brushaber-Drockton, J., **Fredrick, S. S.**, Domoff, S., & Kanouse, S. (2022). Rural school administrators' perceptions on zero tolerance policies. *Translational Issues in Psychological Science*, 8, 164-176. <https://doi.org/10.1037/tps0000314>.

Clark-Saboda, J. L. & **Lemke, M.** (2023). Revisiting Acker's gendered organizational theory: Why women stay in the superintendency. *Frontier's (In Education)*, 8, 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.3389/educ.2023.1160225>

**Dudley, M. J., Nickerson, A. B., Seo, Y. S., & Livingston, J. A.** (2023). Mother-adolescent agreement concerning peer victimization: Predictors and relation to coping. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10826-023-02567-3>

**Eiden, R. D.**, Ettekal, I., Zhao, J., Kelm, M. R., **Nickerson, A. B., Ostrov, J. M.**, Schuetze, P., & Godleski, S. (2023). Prenatal substance exposure, early-life adversity, and parenting: Associations with adolescent stress response. *Developmental Psychobiology*, 65(2), e22365. <https://doi.org/10.1002/dev.22365>

**Fredrick, S. S.**, Coyle, S., & **King, J.** (2022). Middle and high school teachers' perceptions of cyberbullying and digital citizenship. *Psychology in the Schools*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pits.22844>.

**Fredrick, S. S., Nickerson, A., Sun, L., Rodgers, J. D., Thomeer, M. L., Lopata, C., & Todd, F.** (2022). Autism symptoms, social skills, and co-morbidity: Predictors of bullying perpetration. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-022-05612-0>.

Godleski, S., Schuetze, P., **Eiden, R. D., Nickerson, A. B., & Ostrov, J. M.** (2022). Developmental pathways from prenatal substance exposure to reactive aggression. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 83, 101474. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.appdev.2022.101474>

**Jenkins, L., Fredrick, S. S., & King, J.** (2023). Testing the bystander intervention in cyberbullying across students of color and white students. *International Journal of Bullying Prevention*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42380-023-00162-0>.

**Kim, S., Kim, T., & Nickerson, A.** (2023). The longitudinal impact of Second Step Child Protection Unit on Children: Gender as a Moderator. *Journal of Child Sexual Abuse*, 74-90. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10538712.2022.2154729>

**Kim, S., Nickerson, A., & Kim, T.** (2022). The role of Second Step Child Protection Unit online teacher training in explaining teacher and student outcomes: Multilevel SEM analysis. *Journal of Child & Adolescent Trauma*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40653-022-00476-z>

**Livingston, J. A., Wang, W., Nickerson, A. B., & Testa, M.** (2023). Sexual victimization in adolescence: Pathways of risk from peer sexual harassment via risky drinking and delinquency among US adolescents. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10508-023-02582-x>

**McClemont, A., Fredrick, S., Heidelberg, K.** (2023). Racial disparities in teacher ratings of ADHD symptoms and behavior: a systematic review. *School Psychology Review*.

**Nickerson, A. B., Fernandez, B., Cruz, M., & Stanford, S.** (2023). Implementation of an evaluation mindset in school crisis response. *Journal of Applied School Psychology*, 39(1), 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15377903.2021.1998279>

**Parks, T., Nickerson, A., Fredrick, S., & Sodano, S.** (2023). Transfer of PREPaRE school crisis training: Moderating effects of trainee characteristics. *Psychology in the Schools*, 60(1), 199-213. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pits.22772>

Schildkraut, J., Greene-Colozzi, E., **Nickerson, A. B.**, & Florczykowski, A. (2023). Can school lockdowns save lives? An assessment of drills and use in real-world events. *Journal of School Violence*, 22(2), 167-182. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15388220.2022.2162533>

Seay, D. M., Ivanova, M., **Nickerson, A. B.**, Godleski, S. A., Schuetze, P., & **Eiden R. D.** (2023). Family risk exposure profiles during early childhood: Developmental processes and adolescent well-being. *Adversity and Resilience Science*, 4, 151-170. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42844-023-00090-4>

Woods, I., **Heidelberg, K.**, Collins, T.A., Murphy, J., Graves, S. (2023). Introduction to the special issue on promoting the development of Black males: supporting social, behavioral, emotional, and academic success. *School Psychology Review*, 52(3), 243-249, <https://doi.org/10.1080/2372966X.2023.2194180>

## Book Publication

Schildkraut, J., & **Nickerson, A. B.** (2022). *Lockdown drills: Connecting research and best practices for school administrators, teachers, and parents*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

## Funded Research

**Nickerson, A. B.**, (PI). *Creating Upstanders: The Development of Norms and Bystander Intervention Training (NAB IT!) to Reduce Bullying and Sexual Harassment*; Federal; Institute for Educational Sciences; Awarded; (07/01/2019-12/31/2023).

**Nickerson, A. B.**, (PI). *PREPaRE Crisis Prevention and Intervention Training Curriculum program evaluation*. National Association of School Psychologists (\$176,904). 8/15/2011-5/31/2023.

**Ostrov, J. M.**, (PI). *Peer and Family Adversity, Neuroendocrine Regulation, and School Readiness across the Transition to Kindergarten*. NICHD (\$2,161,922). - 4/10/19-03/31/24.

## Professional Service

APA Division 16 Tom Oakland Mid-Career Scholarship Award Selection Committee (Amanda Nickerson, chair)

Aperture Education (Amanda Nickerson, content reviewer, rating scale of social and emotional competencies)

BAND Against Bullying (Amanda Nickerson, board member; Brie Kishel, board member)

Bullying Prevention Workgroup, Mental Health Association of New York State (Amanda Nickerson & Stephanie Fredrick, members)

Center for Disability Studies at UB (Brie Kishel, community advisory committee member)

Disability Education and Advocacy Network of WNY (Brie Kishel, executive board member)

Editorial Board Appointments: *Contemporary School Psychology* (Amanda Nickerson), *International Journal of Bullying Prevention* (Amanda Nickerson), *Journal of School Psychology* (Amanda Nickerson & Stephanie Fredrick, associate editor), *School Psychology* (Stephanie Fredrick & Amanda Nickerson), *School Psychology Review* (Amanda Nickerson), *NASP Communiqué* (Amanda Nickerson, contributing editor)

Erie County Law Enforcement Foundation (Brie Kishel, website & program consultant)

Florida Department of Education, School Mental Health Collaborative (Amanda Nickerson, expert consultant, resiliency measure)

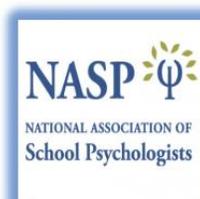
National Association of School Psychologists (Amanda Nickerson, co-chair, Position statement on school violence revision workgroup & coordinator for research, school safety and crisis response committee, and Stephanie Fredrick, member of research committee – August 2022 to present)

Regional Gun Violence Research Consortium, Rockefeller Institute of Government (Amanda Nickerson, member)

Spread the Word Inclusion WNY (Brie Kishel, planning committee, social media content manager)

Suicide Prevention Coalition of Erie County (Alberti Center, member; Amanda Nickerson; schools subcommittee member)

Universidad CES Bullying Prevention Center (Amanda Nickerson, advisory board member)



## Community Service - Select Honors and Awards

### Alberti Center Early Career Award (2022)



#### Recipient – Rachel Garthe, PhD

Assistant Professor, Undergraduate Research Program Coordinator  
*University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

This award recognizes Dr. Garthe as an individual who has made exemplary scholarly contributions to the field of bullying abuse prevention and conducted research that has the potential to influence practice and policy.

### Relevant Publications

**Garthe, R. C.**, Kim, S., Welsh, M., Wegmann, K., & Klingenberg, J. (2023). Cyber-victimization and mental health concerns among middle school students before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 52, 840-851.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10964-023-01737-2>

**Garthe, R. C.**, Rieger, A., Kim, S., & Velazquez, E. (2023). Youth exposure to gender-based violence. In B. Halpern-Fisher (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Child and Adolescent Health*. Elsevier.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-818872-9.00087-X>

**Garthe, R. C.**, Rieger, A., Goffnett, J., Kaur, A., Sarol, J. N., Blackburn, A. M., Kim, S., Hereth, J., & Kennedy, A. C. (2022). Grade-level differences of peer and dating victimization among transgender, gender expansive, female, and male adolescents. *Journal of LGBT Youth*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19361653.2022.2132443>

**Garthe, R. C.**, Blackburn, A., Kaur, A., Sarol, Jr., J. N., Goffnett, J., Rieger, A., Reinhart, C. & Smith, D. (2022). Suicidal ideation among transgender and gender expansive youth: Mechanisms of risk. *Transgender Health*, 7, 416-422.  
<https://doi.org/10.1089/trgh.2021.0055>

**Garthe, R. C.**, Kaur, A., Rieger, A., Blackburn, A., Kim, S., & Goffnett, J. (2021). Peer and dating violence victimization experiences among male, female, transgender, and gender expansive adolescents. *Pediatrics*, 147. Published online.  
<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2020-004317>

**Garthe, R. C.**, Sullivan, T. N., & Behrhorst, K. (2021). A latent class analysis of early adolescent peer and dating violence: Associations with symptoms of depression and anxiety. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 36, 2031-2049.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260518759654>

## **State publications being used to inform youth violence prevention programs and policies, as well as victim services/supports:**

**Garthe, R.C.**, Smith, D., & Freeman, S. (2021). Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Statewide Violence Prevention Plan 2020-2024: Review of Programs and Strategies, Needs Assessment of Violence in Illinois & Recommendations for Funding. *Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority*.

**Garthe, R. C.**, Hsieh, W., Guenther, M. E., Watkins, D., Kwon, C., & Welsh, M. (2023). 2022 Victim Needs Assessment. *Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority*.

## **Engaging: Interprofessional Collaborations/Events**

### **Advisory council**

**Annahita Ball, PhD**, Associate Professor, School of Social Work | University at Buffalo

**Wendy Craig, PhD**, Professor and Head of Psychology, Queen's University and Scientific Co-Director of PREVNet

**Lyndsay Jenkins, PhD, NCSP**, Associate Professor, Educational Psychology and Learning Systems | Florida State University

**Jennifer Livingston, PhD**, Associate Professor, School of Nursing | University at Buffalo

**Jamie Pernick**, Assistant Principal | Lancaster High School

**Rene Petties-Jones**, President | National Federation for Just Communities of WNY Inc.

**Paul Poteat, PhD**, Associate Professor, Counseling, Developmental, & Educational Psychology | Boston College (term ended November 2022)

**Daniela Wolfe, LMSW**, School Social Worker | Amherst Central School District

### **Faculty affiliates**

**Ariel Aloe, PhD**, Professor, Psychological and Quantitative Foundations | University of Iowa

**Julie Bowker, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology | University at Buffalo

**Catherine P. Cook-Cottone, PhD**, Professor, Counseling, School, & Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo

**Melissa Dudley, PhD**, Assistant Professor, School Psychology | Alfred University

**Rina D. Eiden, PhD**, Professor, Department of Psychology, Consortium for Combating Substance Abuse | Pennsylvania State University

**Thomas Feeley, PhD**, Professor, Department of Communication | University at Buffalo

**Kamontá Heidelberg, PhD, NCSP**, Assistant Professor, School Psychology | The Ohio State University

**Lyndsay Jenkins, PhD**, Associate Professor, Combined Counseling Psychology & School Psychology | Florida State University

**Sunha Kim, PhD**, Associate Professor, Counseling, School, and Educational Psychology & Learning and Instruction | University at Buffalo

**Melinda Lemke, PhD**, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Policy | University at Buffalo

**Jennifer Livingston, PhD**, Associate Professor, School of Nursing | University at Buffalo

**Jamie M. Ostrov, PhD**, Professor, Psychology | University at Buffalo

**Amy L. Reynolds, PhD**, Professor, Counseling, School, & Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo

**Darren Treadway, PhD**, Associate Professor, Sport Management | Niagara University

## 2022-2023 Colloquium Series

### September 2022 –



**Ann Farrell, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Child and Youth Studies | Brock University

*A Complex Understanding of Bullying Perpetration: The Role of Individual, Social, and Environmental Factors*

**46 attendees**

(8 in-person, 38 virtual)

### November 2022 –



**Presented by Growing LGBTQ+ Youth Services of WNY, Inc.**

(Sponsored by embraceWNY)

*Safe Space Training for Educators –*

**106 attendees**

(61 in-person, 45 virtual)

**February 2023 –**



**Jessica Quintero**, PhD candidate,  
University CES, Medellín, Colombia

*The Role of Bystanders in  
Cyberbullying Prevention: An  
Ecological Approach – 57 attendees*  
(12 in-person, 45 virtual)

**April 2023 (virtual) –**



**Wendy Craig, PhD**, Professor of  
Psychology, Scientific Co-Director of  
PREVNet and BRNet | Queen's  
University, Toronto, Canada

*Addressing Power in Bullying is About  
Gender and Income Inequality*  
**47 virtual attendees**

## **ALBERTI CENTER ANNUAL CONFERENCE (Hybrid)**

**Wednesday, October 12, 2022**



***Centering Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to Promote Positive School  
Culture and Student Well-Being***

**186 attendees** (145 in-person, 41 virtual)

**Keynote Presentation:**

*Psychological Well-being: Fostering Resilience Among Students of Color*

**Janine M. Jones, PhD**

Professor of School Psychology  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs  
*University of Washington*

**Afternoon Panel:**

*Perspectives on DEI in Schools and Community*



*Centering DEI in Williamsville*

Darren J. Brown-Hall, EdD, Superintendent of Schools | Williamsville Central School District



*Peaceful Schools*

Lura Lunkenheimer, EdD, President and CEO | Peaceful Schools



Chantele M. Thompson, MPA, MEd, Chief Diversity Officer | City of Buffalo



Tonja M. Williams, EdD, Superintendent | Buffalo City School District

**2022 Conference Sponsors:**

Presenting Sponsor – *embraceWNY*

Platinum Sponsor – *UB Graduate School of Education*

Gold Sponsor – *UB Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion*

Silver Sponsor – *National Federation for Just Communities of WNY, Inc.*

## Collaborative Events

### Spread the Word Inclusion 2023



The Alberti Center joined the Spread the Word Inclusion, Western New York (WNY) committee in 2014. What started as Spread the Word to End the Word, a US campaign to encourage people to pledge to stop using language that is offensive to people with disabilities, has broadened both its goals and its scope. Spread the Word Inclusion Day is annually recognized the first week of March, and this year it was held at the Tri-Main Building on Main Street in Buffalo on Wednesday, March 1. Over 10 community vendors were in attendance and attendees had the opportunity to listen to live musical performances and speakers as well as sign a pledge to help spread inclusion!

### Suicide Prevention Coalition of Erie County Training & Events



The Suicide Prevention Coalition of Erie County, established in 2012, is a group of community stakeholders including but not limited to mental health, substance abuse, prevention education, various school districts and county leaders like the Dept. of Mental Health, Dept of Health and the Erie County Medical Examiner's office. The primary goal is to work to build competent communities for Youth Suicide Prevention in New York State. The Alberti Center joined the coalition in 2017, and is an annual co-sponsor of Suicide Prevention Week activities at UB during the month of September, Suicide Prevention Month.

### 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Safe Schools Initiative Seminar



#### **Working Together for a Uniform Response to School Emergencies Wed., March 29, 2023 at Rockwell Hall, Buffalo State University**

The annual Safe Schools Initiative Seminar is a forum for educators, law enforcement, first responders and others with a stake in school safety to come together and learn about important topics to help serve and protect our children and our communities. Started in 2004, this initiative has always been a collaborative effort. Principal planning partners and sponsors include the Erie County Law Enforcement Foundation; Utica National Insurance Group; the U.S. Secret Service, Buffalo Field Office; the University at Buffalo (Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention and University Police); the U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of New York; Erie County District Attorney's Office; and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, New York Office. Many community partners support the initiative, including Charter Communications, Doyle Security Systems, SUNY Erie Community College, the FBI, New York State Leadership Group, and the New York State Police.

## Media Coverage & Press Releases

Links to all media publications can be found on our website at <https://ed.buffalo.edu/alberti/news>



## Social Media Efforts/Center Reach



981 Followers



1209 Followers



2838 Contacts



93 Members



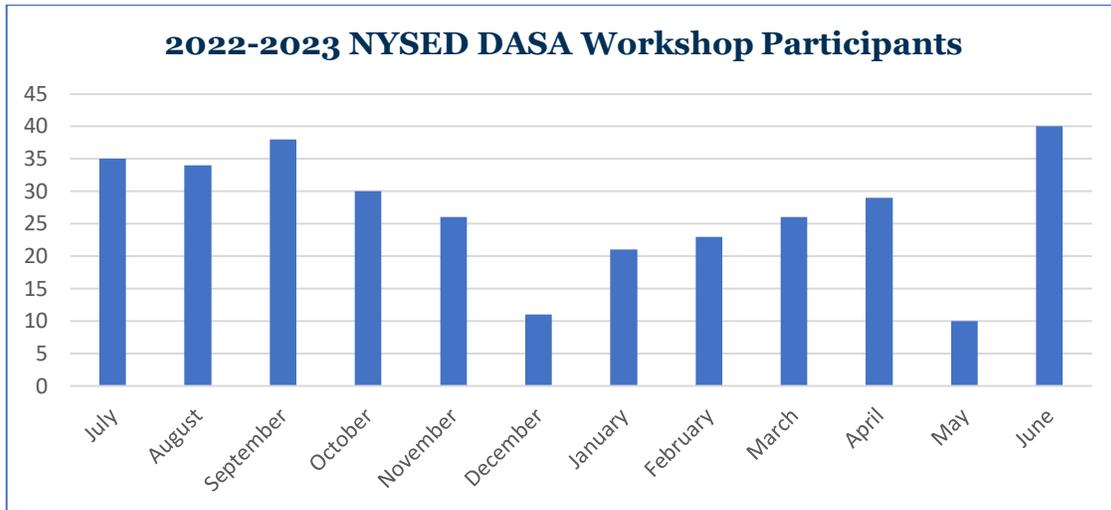
259 Followers



59 Subscribers

## Pedagogy of Inquiry, Engagement, and Impact

New York State Education Department - Dignity for All Students Act (DASA)  
Training for NYS Teacher Certification



### **DASA Participants from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023**

Total number of participants: **323**

The DASA Training Workshop transitioned to an online format in April 2020 with approval from the New York State Education Department, due to COVID-19. We will continue offering the entire workshop fully online until further notice.