

Claire R. McNellan, M.P.H.

School of Social Work
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
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EDUCATION

Expected 2024	Ph.D. Candidate , University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Social Work Dissertation: Using Unsupervised Machine Learning to Advance Understanding of Child Maltreatment Report Dispositions Committee: Emily Putnam-Hornstein (chair), Ramona Denby-Brinson, Rebecca Rebbe, Todd Jenson, Shabbar Ranapurwala
2017	M.P.H. , University of Washington Health Metrics and Evaluation
2014	B.A. , Colorado College Neuroscience (<i>with distinction</i>), Minor: Bioethics

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2020-	Doctoral Research Assistant Children's Data Network University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Los Angeles, CA & Chapel Hill, NC
2020	Research Scientist Global Center for Integrated Health of Women, Adolescents, & Children Department of Global Health University of Washington School of Medicine Seattle, WA
2018-2019	Associate Director of Data Analysis & Governance National Court Appointed Special Advocates/Guardians ad Litem Association for Children Seattle, WA
2017-2018	Data Governance & Evaluation Specialist National Court Appointed Special Advocates/Guardians ad Litem Association for Children Seattle, WA
2016	Visiting Research Fellow Public Health Foundation of India Gurgaon, India

- 2014-2017 **Post-Bachelor Fellow**
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation
Seattle, WA
- 2014 **Measurement & Evaluation Grassroots Onsite Intern**
Western Organization for People Living with HIV/AIDS & GlobeMed
Mumias, Kenya & Colorado Springs, CO
- 2011-2012 **International Service Program Intern**
Melghat Maitri
Chilati, India & Colorado Springs, CO

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Child- & family-serving health & welfare systems; state responses to child maltreatment; child welfare policy; maternal & child health disparities; decision-making; administrative data; public health surveillance.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

20. Fullman, N., et al. [including **McNellan, C.R.**] (2023) Assessing the impact of community-based interventions on hypertension and diabetes management in three Minnesota communities: Findings from the prospective evaluation of US HealthRise programs. *PLoS ONE*, 18(2). <https://doi-org.libproxy.lib.unc.edu/10.1371/journal.pone.0279230>
19. **McNellan, C. R.**, Gibbs, D. J., Knobel, A. S., & Putnam-Hornstein, E. (2022) The evidence base for risk assessment tools used in U.S. child protection investigations: A systematic scoping review. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 134. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2022.105887>
18. Foust, R., et al. [including **McNellan, C. R.**] (2022) The Children's Data Network: Harnessing the scientific potential of linked, administrative data to inform children's programs and policies. *International Journal of Population Data Science*, 6(3). <https://doi.org/10.23889/ijpds.v6i3.1702>
17. Flor, L. S., et al. [including **McNellan, C. R.**] (2020) Community-based interventions for detection and management of diabetes and hypertension in underserved communities: A mixed-methods evaluation in Brazil, India, South Africa and the USA. *BMJ Global Health*, 5(6). <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2019-001959>
16. **McNellan, C. R.**, Dansereau, E., Wallace, M. C., et al. (2019) Antenatal care as a means to increase participation in the continuum of maternal and child healthcare: An analysis of the poorest regions of four Mesoamerican countries. *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*, 19(1). <https://doi.org.10.1186/s12884-019-2207-9>

15. Duber, H. C., **McNellan, C. R.**, Wollum, A., et al. (2018) Public knowledge of cardiovascular disease and response to acute cardiac events in three cities in China and India. *Heart*, 104(1). <https://doi.org/10.1136/heartjnl-2017-311388>
14. Mokdad, A. H., et al. [including **McNellan, C.R.**] (2018) Supply-side interventions to improve health: Findings from the Salud Mesoamerica Initiative. *Plos One*, 13(4). <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0195292>
13. Wollum, A., Gabert, R., **McNellan, C. R.**, et al. (2018) Identifying gaps in the continuum of care for cardiovascular disease and diabetes in two communities in South Africa: Baseline findings from the HealthRise project. *Plos One*, 13(3). <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0192603>
12. El Bcheraoui, C., Zuniga-Brenes, P., Rios-Zertuche, D., Palmisano, E. B., **McNellan, C. R.**, et al. (2018) Health systems strategies to increase HIV screening among pregnant women in Mesoamerica. *Population Health Metrics*, 16(5). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12963-018-0162-8>
11. Vos, T., et al. [including **McNellan, C. R.**] (2017) Global, regional, and national incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 328 diseases and injuries for 195 countries, 1990–2016: A systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016. *The Lancet*, 390, 1211-1259. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(17\)32154-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)32154-2)
10. Gabert, R., Ng, M., Sogarwal, R., Bryant, M., Deepu, R. V., **McNellan, C. R.**, et al. (2017) Identifying gaps in the continuum of care for hypertension and diabetes in two Indian communities. *BMC Health Services Research*, 17(846). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-017-2796-9>
9. Hernandez, B., et al. [including **McNellan, C. R.**] (2017) Barriers and facilitators for institutional delivery among poor Mesoamerican women: a cross-sectional study. *Health Policy and Planning*, 32(6), 769-780. <https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czx010>
7. Barber, R. M., et al. [including **McNellan, C. R.**] (2017) Healthcare access and quality index based on mortality from causes amenable to personal health care in 195 countries and territories, 1990-2015: A novel analysis from the global burden of disease study 2015. *The Lancet*, 390, 231-266. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(17\)30818-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)30818-8)
6. Lim, S. S., et al. [including **McNellan, C. R.**] (2016) Measuring the health-related Sustainable Development Goals in 188 countries: A baseline analysis from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2015. *The Lancet*, 388, 1813-1850. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(16\)31467-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(16)31467-2)
5. Kulikoff, X. R., et al. [including **McNellan, C. R.**] (2016) Health metrics priorities in the SDG era and beyond: a perspective from young researchers. *The Lancet*, 388: 2353-2354. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(16\)32134-1](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(16)32134-1)

4. Dansereau, E., **McNellan, C. R.**, Gagnier, M. C., et al. (2016) Coverage and timing of antenatal care among poor women in 6 Mesoamerican countries. *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*, 16(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12884-016-1018-5>
3. Colombara, D.V., et al. [including **McNellan, C. R.**] (2016) Institutional delivery and satisfaction among Indigenous and poor women in Guatemala, Mexico, and Panama. *PLOS ONE*, 11(4), e154388. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0154388>
2. Colombara, D. V., Hernandez, B., **McNellan, C. R.**, et al. (2016) Diarrhea prevalence, care, and risk factors among poor children under 5 years of age in Mesoamerica. *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*, 94(3), 544-552. <https://doi.org/10.4269/ajtmh.15-0750>
1. Colombara, D. V., Hernandez, B., Gagnier, M. C., Johannis, C., Desai, S. S., Haakenstad, A., **McNellan, C. R.**, et al. (2015) Breastfeeding practices among poor women in Mesoamerica. *Journal of Nutrition*, 145(8), 1958-1965. <https://doi.org/10.3945/jn.115.213736>

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

4. Sattler, K., **McNellan, C. R.**, Foust, R. Learning loss during the COVID-19 pandemic: Evidence from California.
3. **McNellan, C. R.**, Richards, R., Johnson, E., Ingalls, M., Tailer, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E. Child care as a tool to prevent child protection involvement: Findings from Douglas County, Colorado. (*Revise and resubmit*)
2. Gibbs, D. J., Lanier, P., **McNellan, C. R.**, Bryan, K., Identifying children at risk for maltreatment fatalities: Assessing the current landscape of birth match policies in the United States. Preprint available at SSRN: <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4484401> (*Revise and resubmit*)
1. Flor, L. S., et al. [including **McNellan, C.R.**] Endline assessment of community-based program on hypertension and diabetes management in Brazil. Preprint available at medRxiv: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.05.22.22275385>

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

6. **McNellan, C. R.**, Prindle, J., & Eastman, A. L., Putnam-Hornstein, E. Mortality in a California cohort of emerging adults exiting foster care.
5. **McNellan, C.R.**, Putnam-Hornstein, E. Using Bayesian methods to understand mortality risk among foster care youth in transition.

4. Ahn, E., **McNellan, C.R.**, Prindle, J., Foust, R., Putnam-Hornstein, E. Kindergarten matriculation patterns among public school children in California: A pre- and post-COVID comparison.
3. Prindle, J., **McNellan, C.R.**, Ahn, E., Foust, R., Putnam-Hornstein, E. Beating the odds: Characterizing resilient students using linked administrative data.
2. **McNellan, C. R.**, Palmer, L., Font, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., & McCroskey, J. Using a predictive risk model to assess disparities in service referrals following a child protection investigation.
1. Gibbs, D. J., **McNellan, C. R.**, Dawes, H., & Forte, A. Outcomes associated with child participation in United States dependency court proceedings: A systematic review.

WHITE PAPERS & REPORTS

3. Putnam-Hornstein, E., Vaithianathan, R., McCroskey, J., Webster, D. [Data & Implementation Support: **McNellan, C.R.**] (2022) Los Angeles County Risk Stratification Model: Methodology and Implementation Report (Model Version 1.0). Children's Data Network. <https://dcfs.lacounty.gov/resources/reports/>
2. National Court Appointed Special Advocates/Guardians ad Litem Association For Children. [Impact estimates & outcomes: **McNellan, C.R.**] (2019) Change a Child's Story: 2019 Annual Report. <https://nationalcasagal.org/about-us/reports/national-casa-gal-association-for-children-2019-annual-report/>
1. National Court Appointed Special Advocates/Guardians ad Litem Association For Children. [Impact estimates & outcomes: **McNellan, C.R.**] (2018) Building a Better Future: 2018 Annual Report. <https://nationalcasagal.org/about-us/reports/national-casa-gal-association-for-children-2018-annual-report/>

GRANTS & RESEARCH SUPPORT

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 2022- | Research Assistant (PI: Emily Putnam-Hornstein, PhD)
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
<i>Risk Stratification Pilot: Data and Implementation</i>
Subaward (\$600,000) |
| 2021-2022 | Lead Investigator (Faculty PI: Emily Putnam-Hornstein, PhD)
Douglas County Department of Human Services
<i>A Retrospective Population-Based Study of Child Protective System Involvement</i>
Research Contract (\$40,000) |
| 2021-2023 | Principal Investigator (Faculty Co-I: Emily Putnam-Hornstein, PhD) |

Center for Innovation in Child Maltreatment Policy, Research, & Training at
Washington University in St. Louis
*Assessing the Utility of a Risk-Stratification Model to Increase Equitable Service
Connection*
Pilot Project Award (\$20,000)

2020-2022 **Research Assistant** (Site PI: Emily Putnam-Hornstein, PhD)
Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human
Development (NICHD) 1P50HD096719-01
Project Data SMART (Selection, Management, Analysis, Replication & Transfer)
Subaward (\$247,500)

2020 **Research Assistant** (PI: Patricia Pavlinac, PhD)
National Institutes of Health (NIH) R01-AI150978-01
*The Role of Enteric Pathogens and Antimicrobial Resistance in Driving Clinical and
Nutritional Deterioration, and Azithromycin's Potential Effect, Among Children
Discharged from Hospital in Kenya*
(\$782,247)

2014 **Principal Investigator**
Keller Family Venture Grant
*Studying the "Father of Modern Neuroscience," Santiago Ramón y Cajal, in-situ at
neuroscience research center, Instituto Cajal, and throughout Spain*
(\$3,000)

HONORS & FELLOWSHIPS

2023 **Comprehensive oral substantive examination passed with distinction**
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work

2022 **Fulbright student program semi-finalist**
U.S. Department of State

2022 **Comprehensive methods examination passed with distinction**
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work

2021-2022 **Injury and Violence Prevention Fellowship**
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Injury Prevention Research Center

2021 **Most outstanding student presentation**
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Injury Prevention Research Center
conference, "Intersectional Approaches to Injury and Violence Prevention in a
Post-COVID World"

2014-2017 **Post-Bachelor Fellowship**
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation

2014 **Distinction in the major of neuroscience**
The Colorado College

2014- **Psi Chi International Honors Society**

McNellan

Current as of: Nov., 2023

2011- Alpha Lambda Delta National Honors Society
2010-2014 Women's Educational Society Scholarship
 The Colorado College

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (* = presenting author)

2024

McNellan, C.R.* When is Maltreatment Confirmed? Using Unsupervised Machine Learning to Advance Understanding of Child Protective Services Decisions. Population Association of America (PAA) 2024 Annual Meeting. *Columbus, OH.* (Accepted)

2023

McNellan, C.R.*, Ahn, E.*, Noll, J.*, Miyamoto, S.* Symposium: Community-Based Services for the Prevention and Detection of Child Abuse and Neglect. The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (ISPCAN) 2023 International Congress. *Edinburgh, United Kingdom.*

McNellan, C.R., Putnam-Hornstein, E. (Poster) Using a Multi-State Markov Model to Estimate Mortality Risk Among Foster Youth During Transition. Population Association of America (PAA) 2023 Annual Meeting. *New Orleans, LA.*

McNellan, C.R.*, Gibbs, D., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Knobel, A. The Evidence for Risk Assessment Tools Used in Child Protection Investigations: A Scoping Review. Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference. *Phoenix, AZ.*

McNellan, C.R.*, Palmer, L., Putnam-Hornstein, E., McCroskey, J. Risk, Race, and Community-Based Service Referrals in Los Angeles County, California. Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference. *Phoenix, AZ.*

Putnam-Hornstein, E.*, Vaithianathan, R., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., McCroskey, J., Ahn, E., **McNellan, C.R.** Developing and Implementing a Predictive Risk Model to Support Child Protection Supervisors: Results from Los Angeles County Risk Stratification Pilot. Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference. *Phoenix, AZ.*

2022

McNellan, C.R.*, Eastman, A., Prindle, J., Putnam-Hornstein, E. Mortality During Transitions Out of Foster Care: Evidence from California. Population Association of America (PAA) 2022 Annual Meeting. *Atlanta, GA* (presented remotely due to COVID-19).

McNellan, C.R.*, Eastman, A., Prindle, J., Foust, R., Herd, T. Leveraging Linked, Administrative Data to Inform Policy and Practice for Adolescents who have Child Protective Services (CPS) Involvement. The International Society for the Prevention of

Child Abuse & Neglect (ISPCAN) 2022 International Congress. *Tallinn, Estonia* (withdrawn due to COVID-19).

McNellan, C.R.*, Prindle, J., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Palmer, L. Risk Assessment Tools to Support Child Welfare Practice. The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (ISPCAN) 2022 International Congress. *Tallinn, Estonia* (withdrawn due to COVID-19).

McNellan, C.R.*, Palmer, L., Putnam-Hornstein, E., McCroskey, J. Assessing the Utility of a Predictive Risk Model to Increase Service Connections in Los Angeles, California. The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (ISPCAN) 2022 International Congress. *Quebec City, Quebec* (withdrawn due to COVID-19).

Prindle, J.*, Foust, R., **McNellan, C.R.**, Putnam-Hornstein, E. Modeling Academic Achievement Among Maltreated Children: Implications for Policy. Annual Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Conference (APPAM). *Austin, TX*.

McNellan, C.R.*, Palmer, L., McCroskey, J., Putnam-Hornstein, E. Using a Predictive Risk Model to Assess Racial Disparities in Service Referrals Following a Child Protection Investigation. Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference. *Washington, DC*. (withdrawn due to COVID-19).

2021

Prindle, J., Eastman, A.L., **McNellan, C.R.**, Putnam-Hornstein, E. Cohort Study of Mortality Among Youth in Foster Care. Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference. *Virtual*. (withdrawn due to COVID-19).

Gibbs, D., **McNellan, C.R.** The Empirical Evidence for Child Participation in Dependency Court Proceedings: Results of a Systematic Review of the Literature. National Child Welfare Law Conference (NACC). *Denver, CO*. (withdrawn due to COVID-19).

2017

McNellan, C.R. (Poster) Uptake of Antenatal Care and its Relationship with Participation in Health Services and Behaviors: An Analysis of the Poorest Regions of Four Mesoamerican Countries. The Consortium of Universities for Global Health Annual Global Health Conference. *Washington, DC*.

TEACHING

2023 (Fall) *Professional Development Seminar*
(Teaching Assistant)
Doctoral seminar; my lectures cover best practices of data management.

2022 (Fall) *Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities*
McNellan

Current as of: Nov., 2023

(Mentored Second Instructor)

Graduate course covering: theoretical foundations of “macro” practice, including critical theories and systems theories; data interpretation and analysis; local, state, and national policy; intervention planning; community-based needs assessments.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer Reviewer

Child Maltreatment (2022)

Reproductive Health (2021, 2022)

BMJ Open (2020)

Member

Population Association of America

Society for Social Work and Research

American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children

International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2023- **Doctoral Candidate Representative**

2020-2021 **Doctoral Student Representative**

Doctoral Program Committee

University of North Carolina School of Social Work

2022- **Co-Chair**

2020-2022 **Member**

Child Maltreatment Research and Practice Network

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Injury Prevention Research Center

SELECTED TRAININGS

2022 *Interdisciplinary Research Institute: Challenges in Child Maltreatment Research*
The Kempe Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect

2020 *Data Matters: Intro. to Big Data and Machine Learning for Social Scientists*
University of North Carolina Odum Institute for Research in Social Science

2019 *Interdisciplinary Research Institute: Challenges & Opportunities in Child Maltreatment Research*
The Kempe Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect

2018 *Court Appointed Special Advocate Training*
National Court Appointed Special Advocates/Guardians ad Litem Association for
Children

RELATED RESEARCH SKILLS

Statistical Languages: *Highly adept:* R, Stata; *Limited proficiency:* SPSS, ATLAS.ti, MPlus
Survey and Data Management Programs: Qualtrics, Survey Monkey, RedCap, KeySurvey
Data Visualization: *Highly adept:* R Markdown; *Limited proficiency:* Tableau, Power BI
Editing & Proofreading: Professional editor & public health subject matter expert for *Cambridge Proofreading & Editing* (2019-2020); Writing tutor for *Ruth Barton Writing Center* (2011-2014)
Intervention Monitoring & Evaluation: HeartRescue Global (2015-2017); HealthRise (2015-2017); Salud Mesoamérica Initiative (2014-2017); Western Organization for People Living with HIV/AIDS in Mumias, Kenya (2013-2014)
Reference Management: Zotero, RefWorks, Mendeley