

# SIMONE J. SKEEN, MA

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April 4, 2024

## EDUCATION

### *Degrees*

Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences [in progress]

School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine (SPHTM), Tulane University | May 2021–present

MA, Forensic Mental Health Counseling

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York (CUNY) | December 2017

*License-eligible mental health counselor, New York State (NYS)*

BA, English: major; Geography and Urban Studies: minor

College of Liberal Arts, Temple University | December 2004

### *Certifications, Supplemental Training*

Early Career Researcher Mentoring Program: alt-ac/industry, Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM) | April 2024–February 2025

Human-Centered Design for Public Health Intervention Development: YLabs, [episummer@columbia.edu](mailto:episummer@columbia.edu):

Epidemiology and Population Health Summer Institute, Columbia University | June 2020

H RTP: Health Research Training Program, Bureau of Public Health Training, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) | November 2016–May 2017

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS

### *Current Funding*

**Tulane ARMHR: Advancing Representation in Minority Health Research | National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Training Program: T37MD001424 (August 2023)**

“Modeling latent multivalent youth suicidality in a repressive U.S. political context: a triangulated language modeling–policy impact study.” Office of Global Health, SPHTM, Tulane University. Role: Trainee/PI.

### **Summer Graduate Award (June 2023)**

“Critical Suicidology–informed featurization in natural language modeling of passive suicidality: a methodological proof of concept.” Connolly Alexander Institute for Data Science (CAIDS), Tulane University. Role: PI

### **Changemaker Catalyst Award (December 2022)**

“Psy\*FR: Tracing the intra-Psychic sequelae of pervasive Facial Recognition–equipped police surveillance among Black, queer, transgender, and nonbinary New Orleanians.” The Phyllis M. Taylor Center for Social Innovation and Design Thinking. Role: PI

### **Dean’s Research Council Scholarship | Garvin Shands Saunders Foundation Scholarship | February 2021**

School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Tulane University

### *Completed Funding*

#### **Junior Staff Development Award | May 2020**

PRIDE Health Research Consortium, Hunter College, CUNY

#### **Merit Scholarship | October 2017**

Department of Psychology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY

#### **Professional Development Award | May 2017**

Department of Psychology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### *Academic*

Department of Economics, School of Liberal Arts, Tulane University

- Graduate Research Assistant, Gender Identity, Race, and Ethnicity Discrimination in Access to Mental Health Care: A Multi-Wave Audit Field Experiment | August 2023–present

Center of Excellence in Community-Engaged Artificial Intelligence, Tulane University

- Graduate Research Associate | January 2023–present

Highly Vulnerable Children Research Center: South Africa, Tulane University

- Research Aide, *Let's Talk: Digital* | September 2022–present

Center for Translational Behavioral Science (CTBScience), Florida State University

- Consultant, *iREP: A Digital Community Needs Assessment to Represent, Engage, and emPower SGM Young People in Florida* | June 2020–February 2021

iTech: University of North Carolina/Emory University Center for Innovative Technology | Department of Psychology, Hunter College, CUNY

- Research Associate, Adolescent Medicine Trials Network for HIV/AIDS Interventions (ATN) 160: *TechStep* | April 2022–December 2022
- Project Manager/Motivational Interviewing + Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (MI+CBT) Interventionist, ATN 160: *TechStep* | March 2019–January 2021

### *Government*

Office of the Executive Deputy Commissioner, Division of Mental Hygiene, NYC DOHMH

- Consultant, NYC Council Local Law 2017/117: In Relation to Requiring the Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene to Submit a Plan for Serving the Behavioral Health Needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Persons, Int 1225-2016, Ver A (2017) | December 2017–June 2018

Bureau of Children, Youth and Families, Division of Mental Hygiene, NYC DOHMH

- Research and Evaluation Intern | November 2016–December 2017

### *Industry*

Waverider

- Consultant, Clinical Sciences | October 2020–January 2023

Informa Healthcare | Informa Business Intelligence

- Senior Project Editor | May 2013–February 2015

Wiley | John Wiley & Sons Singapore | Bloomberg Asia

- Senior Project Editor I | October 2011–May 2013

Taylor & Francis | Routledge | Informa Healthcare

- Journals Production Editor | November 2006–October 2011

### *Clinical*

Gender Identity Project, Behavioral Health Division, The Center: The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center

- Clinical Extern | June 2017–December 2017

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles*

**Skeen SJ**, Pooler-Burgess M, Shaw Green SK, Jackson JJ, Lim AC, Purcell J, Naar S. Open, receptive, healthcare encounters catalyze psychological empowerment to drive HIV testing among SGM young people in Florida. Manuscript in review.

Gasik RE, Madkour AS, **Skeen SJ**, Clum GA, Francis T, Felker-Kantor E, Wallace M, Ferguson T, Welsh DA, Molina PE, Theall KP. Childhood adversity, life course alcohol use patterns, and health status among people living with HIV. Manuscript in review.

Naar S, Mills J, **Skeen SJ**, Lim AC, Green SKS, George A, Pickett SM. Social determinants of mental health in sexual and gender minority youth across Florida one year after COVID-19 shutdown. Manuscript in review.

**Skeen SJ**, Cain D, Mehta K, Rusow J, Horvath KJ, Reback CJ. The intersectional social patterning of early-COVID-era digital intimacies among transgender and gender-diverse young adults: Effects on peri-pandemic sexual decision-making. *Cult Health Sex*. Published online January 24, 2024. doi: 10.1080/13691058.2024.2302054

**Skeen SJ**, Tokarz S, Gasik RE, Solano CM, Smith EA, Sagoe MB, Hudson LV, Steele K, Theall KP, Clum GA. A trauma-informed, geospatially aware, just-in-time-adaptive mHealth intervention to support effective coping skills among people living with HIV in New Orleans: Development and protocol for a pilot randomized controlled trial. *JMIR Res Protoc*. 2023;12:e47151. doi: 10.2196/47151 [protocol].

**Skeen SJ**, Jones SS, Cruse CM, Horvath KJ. Integrating natural language processing and interpretive thematic analyses to gain human-centered design insights in HIV mobile health: Proof-of-concept analysis. *JMIR Hum Factors*. 2022;9(3):e37350. doi: 10.2196/37350

**Skeen SJ**, Cain D. mHealth for transgender and gender-expansive youth: An update on COVID, venture capital, and the cultural in/congruence of revenue-driven sustainability models. *mHealth*. 2022;8:28. doi: 10.21037/mhealth-22-10 [letter].

- 6<sup>th</sup> most read *mHealth* article, 2022
- Included reading: LGBTQ Health and Inequities (HBEHED605), School of Public Health, University of Michigan

**Skeen SJ**, Shaw Green KS, Knopf AS. Synthesizing adaptive digital bioethics to guide the use of interactive communications technologies in adolescent behavioral medicine: A systematic configurative review. *Pediatr Clin N Am: Special Issue on Progress in Behavioral Health Interventions for Children and Adolescents*. 2022;69(4):739-758. doi: 10.1016/j.pcl.2022.04.006 [systematic review].

Starks TJ, **Skeen SJ**, Jones S, Millar BM, Gurung S, Ferraris C, Ventuneac A, Parsons JT, Sparks MA. The importance of domain-specific self-efficacy assessment for substance use and HIV care continuum outcomes among adults in an urban HIV clinic network. *AIDS Care*. 2022;34(5):670-678. doi: 10.1080/09540121.2021.1904501

Starks TJ, **Skeen SJ**, Jones S, Gurung S, Millar BM, Ferraris C, Ventuneac A, Parsons JT, Sparks MA. Effectiveness of a combined motivational interviewing and cognitive behavioral intervention to reduce substance use and improve HIV-related immune functioning. *AIDS Behav*. 2021;26(4):1138-1152. doi: 10.1007/s10461-021-03467-7

**Skeen SJ**, Starks TJ, Jimenez R, Rendina HJ, Cain D. Heterosexual cisgender men partnered with transgender women exhibit higher HIV/STI behavioral sexual risk than their gay, bisexual, and queer counterparts: Findings from a U.S.-based convenience sample recruited online. *AIDS Behav*. 2021;25(10):3279-3291. doi: 10.1007/s10461-021-03314-9

**Skeen SJ**, Cain D, Gamarel KE, Hightow-Weidman L, Reback CJ. mHealth for transgender and gender-expansive youth: Harnessing gender-affirmative cross-disciplinary innovations to advance HIV prevention and care interventions. *mHealth: Special Series on Technology-Based HIV Prevention and Care Interventions for Youth*. 2021;7:37. doi: 10.21037/mhealth-20-60 [scoping review].

### Preprints

**Skeen SJ**, Contreras LM, Culotta AW. 'What destroys a person when that person appears to be destroying himself?' Intrapoliticizing discourses on r/SuicideWatch. <https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/pa93y>

### Briefs and Reports

**Skeen SJ**. *User-Centered Design of Novel mHealth Solutions for Bipolar Self-Management: Synthesis of Qualitative Insights with Illustrative Wireframes*. Waverider Studios; 2021.<sup>1</sup>

Yoon C, **Skeen S**, Shaff J, Fong M-C, Travers M, Davila M. *Mental Health Disparities among New York City LGBTQ Youth, 2017: NYC DOHMH Epi Data Brief 114*. New York, NY: Bureau of Children, Youth and Families, Bureau of Epidemiology Services, NYC DOHMH; 2019.

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1. Proprietary and confidential. A redacted version is available upon request.

Berger S, Duke A, Garbutt J, Gordon P, Jackson N, Peterman K, Rodriguez P, Shaff J, **Skeen S**, Turner A, Viglucci D. *NYC Youth Peer Advocacy: A Survey of Youth Peer Advocates In New York City 2017/2018*. New York, NY: Bureau of Children, Youth and Families, NYC DOHMH; NYS Office of Mental Health; 2019.

**Skeen S**. *A Roadmap of LGBTQ-Focused Behavioral Health Initiatives in New York City*. New York, NY: Office of the Executive Deputy Commissioner, NYC DOHMH; Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities, and Addictions, New York City Council; 2018 [corporate authorship].

### *In Preparation*<sup>2</sup>

Reback CJ, Cain D, Rusow JA, Benkeser D, Schader L, Gwiazdowski BA, **Skeen SJ**, Hicks M, Belzer M, Castillo M, Mayer K, Paul M, Hill-Rorie J, Johnson ND, McAvoy-Banerjee J, Hightow-Weidman L, Sullivan P, Lee S, Horvath KJ. Technology-based interventions, with a stepped care approach, for reducing sexual risk behaviors and increasing PrEP initiation among transgender and gender expansive youth and young adults: *TechStep*.

## PRESENTATIONS

### *Symposia*

**Skeen SJ**: Chair, Dulin A: Discussant. Embodying oppression: Urban stress as structural pathogenesis among people living with HIV in the Gulf South. SBM 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions. March 13-16, 2024; Philadelphia, PA.

### *Oral*

Smith EA, **Skeen SJ**, Theall KP, Ferguson TF, Molina PE, Clum GA. Stop-and-frisk frequency as a determinant of post-traumatic stress among PWH in gentrifying New Orleans. SBM 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions. March 13-16, 2024; Philadelphia, PA.

**Skeen SJ**, Smith EA, Ferguson TF, Molina PE, Welsh DA, Clum GA, Theall KP. Law enforcement-related stressors as detractors to CD4 count among PWH: Testing pathways of embodiment. SBM 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions. March 13-16, 2024; Philadelphia, PA.

Clum GA, Tokarz S, Binaifer Sagoe M, Gasik RE, **Skeen SJ**. “I walk out the door...my heart rate goes up instantly”: Phenomenologies of stress and resilience among violence-affected PWH. SBM 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions. March 13-16, 2024; Philadelphia, PA.

**Skeen SJ**, Gasik RE, Tokarz S, Solano CM, Sagoe MB, Steele K, Smith EA, Theall KP, Clum GA. Realizing human-centered just-in-time mHealth: A *Living in the Face of Trauma* adaptation for violence-affected people living with HIV in New Orleans. The 15<sup>th</sup> AIDSImpact Conference. June 12-15, 2023; Stockholm, Sweden.

Thurman T, Zani B, **Skeen SJ**, Clayton J, Sampson A. ‘The module made me think a better way’: Activating untapped potentials of digital eLearning for HIV prevention education in South Africa. The 15<sup>th</sup> AIDSImpact Conference. June 12-15, 2023; Stockholm, Sweden.

**Skeen SJ**, Cain D, Mehta K, Rusow J, Horvath KJ, Reback CJ. Interrupted digital intimacies among TGD youth in the early U.S. COVID-19 pandemic: Mixed-methods latent profile analyses. SBM 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions. April 26-29, 2023; Phoenix, AZ.

- Meritorious Abstract Award (March 2023), Program Committee, SBM
- Best Student Paper Abstract Award (February 2023), HIV & Sexual Health Special Interest Group, SBM

Jackson JJ, Lim AC, Prachthauser M, **Skeen SJ**. Bridging the gaps in youth sexual health in Florida: Progress and lessons learned since the launch of the FLASH Network. Adherence 2021: International Association of Providers of AIDS Care (IAPAC) 16<sup>th</sup> International Conference on HIV Treatment and Prevention Adherence. November 7-9, 2021; Orlando, FL.

Fikslin R, Lovinger E, Rahman M, Kobrak PH, Ramirez VI, **Skeen S**, Ahn OA, Golub SA. Healthcare engagement among women who have sex with women in NYC: How intersectional identities shape barriers and facilitators to care. AWP: Association for Women in Psychology Annual Conference. February 28-March 3, 2019; Newport, RI.

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2. Complete drafts available if lead authored. Submission planned within one month.

## Poster

**Skeen SJ**, Contrera LM, Culotta AW. Lonely burden failure hate: developing a theoretically grounded discriminative language model of passive suicidality. Poster presented at: 2024 SAVIR: Society for the Advancement of Violence and Injury Research Annual Conference; April 15–17, 2024; Chapel Hill, NC [forthcoming].

Thurman T, Zani B, **Skeen SJ**, Clayton J, Sampson A. Activating the untapped potential of digital eLearning for HIV prevention education in South Africa. Poster presented at: 11<sup>th</sup> South African AIDS Conference. June 20–23, 2023; Durban, South Africa.

**Skeen SJ**, Tokarz S, Solano CM, Sagoe MB, Steele K, Smith E, Gasik R, Theall KP, Clum GA. User-centered development of an mHealth intervention to promote adaptive coping and outpatient retention among violence-affected people living with HIV in New Orleans. Poster presented at: Tulane Research, Innovation, and Creativity Summit. March 1–2, 2023; New Orleans LA.

**Skeen SJ**, Gasik RE, Tokarz S, Solano CM, Spriggs Madkour A, Theall KP, Clum GC. “I’m living proof He helps you”: A mixed-methods ecological momentary assessment examining spirituality and survivorship among PLWH in New Orleans, with implications for just-in-time adaptive mHealth intervention. Poster presented at: IAPAC Fast-Track Cities 2022. October 11–13, 2022; Sevilla, Spain.

Jackson JJ, Lim AC, Varona A, **Skeen SJ**. How youth-led cross-platform advocacy can address the structural inequities that drive adolescent HIV/STI disparities. Poster presented at: 2021 Spring ATN Meeting. May 28, 2021 [virtual].

Lim AC, Jackson JJ, Green SKS, **Skeen SJ**. Envisioning youth-led action for sexual health equity: Founding and development of a diverse sexual and gender minority youth organization. Poster presented at: 2021 Florida HIV CPR Conference: Connecting Community, Providers, & Researchers. April 29–30, 2021 [virtual].

- Top Program Description Abstract (April 2021), SHARC: Southern HIV and Alcohol Research Consortium, College of Public Health & Health Professions, University of Florida

Pooler-Burgess M, Naar S, Green SKS, George A, **Skeen SJ**. Ending the youth HIV epidemic in Florida through community-academic partnerships and data-driven implementation science: Introducing *Scale It Up! Florida*: a youth learning health community. Poster presented at: 2021 Florida HIV CPR Conference: Connecting Community, Providers, & Researchers. April 29–30, 2021 [virtual].

**Skeen SJ**, Jones S, Cruse C, Palazzolo A, Horvath KJ. Mining insights from user-generated content on *Thrive with Me*, an mHealth platform for men living with HIV: Demonstration of a novel machine learning–aided thematic analysis. Poster presented at: 2020 AMIA: American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium. November 14–18, 2020 [virtual].

Butame SA, Harper G, Jauregai J, **Skeen SJ**, Idalski Carcone A, Coyle K, Naar S. Evaluating implementation practices in the Adolescent Trials Network for HIV/AIDS Interventions (ATN) with the EPIS model: The role of policy within program implementation. Poster presented at: AIDS 2020: 23<sup>rd</sup> International AIDS Conference. July 6–10, 2020 [virtual].

Cain D, **Skeen SJ**, Jimenez R, Starks TJ, Rendina HJ. Sexual identity, relationship patterns, and HIV risk behaviors among cisgender men who partner with transgender women. Poster presented at: SBM 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions; April 1–4, 2020 [virtual].

**Skeen SJ**, Jones S, Cruse C, Palazzolo A, Horvath KJ. Disease coping and social adversities characterize user-generated content on *Thrive with Me*, an mHealth platform for men living with HIV: Implications of a novel machine learning–aided thematic analysis. Poster presented at: 32<sup>nd</sup> APS: Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention. May 21–24, 2020 [virtual].

Yoon C, Lim S, **Skeen S**, van der Mei E, Olson D, Davila M. Monitoring suicide and self-harm-related emergency department visits among children, adolescents, and teenagers in New York City. Poster presented at: APHA: American Public Health Association 2017 Annual Meeting. November 4–8, 2017; Atlanta, GA.

van der Mei E, **Skeen S**, Olson D, Lim S, Yoon C, Kull M, Davila M. A qualitative investigation of mental health–related emergency department visits among NYC youth. Poster presented at: 4<sup>th</sup> NYCEF: New York City Epidemiology Forum. February 17, 2017; New York, NY.



### *Invited Talks*

“It’s our time! Women in psychology discussion panel” | **March 2019**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY; New York, NY.

“Caring for the LGBTQ+ community: Optimizing health and social service outcomes” | **October 2018**

Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center | New Settlement Community Center; New York, NY.

### *Workshops, Seminars*

“Usenet to Euphoria™: Thirty years of radical digital intimacy and collective bodily autonomy in trans health tech” | **March 2023**

Department of Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences, SPHTM, Tulane University; New Orleans, LA.

“Qualitative interviewing for public health” | **June 2020**

Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia | University of Miami | W’SUP: Wayne State University Prevention Team [virtual]

“Within-group mental health disparities among SGM teenagers in New York City: Evolving contexts, implications, and lessons learned from the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey” | **November 2019**

PRIDE Health Research Consortium, Hunter College, CUNY; New York, NY.

“Surviving a syndemic: Honoring the lifeworlds of TGNC collaborators in HIV biobehavioral trials” | **September 2019**

Harlem Prevention Center, ICAP at Columbia University; New York, NY.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### *Graduate Instructor*

Capstone Internship Seminar: Leadership and Ethics in Public Health (SPHU 4560) | **January 2023–May 2023**

SPHTM, Tulane University; New Orleans, LA

### *Invited Guest Lecturer*

“(Re)politicizing suicide risk and prevention: Cross-sectoral, anti-carceral perspectives.”

Violence as a Public Health Problem (SBPS 6500) | **April 2024, March 2024, July 2023, March 2023**

“Biopsychosociotechnical: Information-age TGD identity formation, collective bodily autonomy, and the politics of backlash.” Sexual Health – A Public Health Perspective (SBPS 6360) | **October 2023**

“From what is known to what is done: The science of innovation, implementation, and sustainment.” Social and Behavioral Aspects of Health (SBPS 6030) | **April 2023**

### *Teaching Assistant*

Design Strategies in Public Health Programs (SPHL 6080) | **June 2022–July 2022**

Social and Behavioral Aspects of Health (SBPS 6030) | **January 2022–May 2022**

SPHTM, Tulane University; New Orleans, LA

Social and Forensic Experimental Psychology (PSY 421) | **January 2017–June 2017**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY; New York, NY

## MENTORING EXPERIENCE

### *Scientific Mentor*

Momi Binaifer Sagoe, MPH candidate: Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences, SPHTM, Tulane University; culminating experience: “HIV-related daily stress and coping mechanisms among people living with HIV in New Orleans: A qualitative study” | **February 2022–July 2022**

### *Professional Mentor*

AvaGrace Palazzalo, BA student: Psychology, Fordham University; intern: PRIDE Health Research Consortium, Hunter College, CUNY | **September 2019–December 2020**

Maylene Navarra, MPH student: Stony Brook Medicine, State University of New York; intern: PRIDE Health Research Consortium, Hunter College, CUNY | **May 2019–September 2019**

## SERVICE

**Reviewer** | September 2020–present

*AIDS and Behavior; Culture, Health & Sexuality; mHealth; Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR); JMIR Human Factors; International Journal of Qualitative Methods*

**Student Chair: HIV and Sexual Health Special Interest Group** | April 2023–March 2024

Society of Behavioral Medicine

**Founder, Chair: Ethics Advisory Board** | May 2021–January 2023

Waverider

**Facilitator, Minority Interest Group** | January 2020–September 2020

PRIDE Health Research Consortium, Hunter College, CUNY

**Co-Chair: Bioethics Working Group** | November 2019–January 2021

Adolescent Medicine Trials Network for HIV/AIDS Interventions

**Research Assistant** | June 2018–March 2019

Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention, Control, and Treatment, Division of Disease Control, NYC DOHMH | Hunter College, CUNY

**Key Internal Informant, National HIV Behavioral Surveillance: Transgender Women** | May 2018

Division of Disease Control, NYC DOHMH

**Co-Chair: Mental Hygiene Community Services Board LGBTQ Subcommittee** | December 2017–June 2018

Division of Mental Hygiene, NYC DOHMH

**Divisional Representative, SO/GI Data Harmonization Working Group** | December 2017–June 2018

Division of Mental Hygiene, NYC DOHMH