

LESLEY-MARIE BUER, PhD, MPH
Curriculum Vitae

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2022-current Co-Founder, Hellbender Harm Reduction, Knoxville
- 2022-current Technical Assistance Provider, National Harm Reduction Technical Assistance Center, Division of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, University of Washington Medicine
- 2018-2022 Research Director, Choice Health Network/Positively Living, Knoxville
- 2017-2018 Healthy Development Coordinator, Tennessee Department of Health, East Region
- 2016-2017 Teaching Assistant, Appalachian Studies, University of Kentucky
- 2010 Affiliate Faculty Member, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Metropolitan State College of Denver
- 2010 Part-Time Instructor, Department of Social Sciences, Aims Community College
- 2009-2010 Instructor, Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado Denver
- 2005-2006 AmeriCorps Title X Outreach Worker, Denver, CO

EDUCATION

- 2021-current MFA, Writing, Spalding University
- 2018 PhD, Anthropology, University of Kentucky
- 2013 Gender and women's studies graduate certificate, University of Kentucky
- 2009 MPH, Community and Behavioral Health, Colorado School of Public Health
- 2008 MA, Anthropology, University of Colorado Denver
- 2005 BS, Anthropology, College of Charleston

RESEARCH

- 2021-2022 Co-investigator, Appalachian Program for PrEP Linkage, Tennessee Center for AIDS Research, Vanderbilt University
- 2013-2016 Principle Investigator for dissertation fieldwork, Department of Anthropology, University of Kentucky
- 2011-2014 Graduate Research Assistant, Center on Drug and Alcohol Research, University of Kentucky
- 2008-2009 Research Internship for MPH thesis, Children's Health Outcomes Program, University of Colorado Denver
- 2007-2008 Principle Investigator for MA thesis, Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado Denver
- 2007-2010 Professional Research Assistant, Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences, University of Colorado Denver

NONFICTION PUBLICATIONS

Book

- 2020 Buer, Lesly-Marie
Rx Appalachia: Stories of Treatment and Survival in Rural Kentucky. Chicago, IL:
Haymarket Books.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2021 Buer, Lesly-Marie, Bayla Ostrach, and Genoa Clark
“There are No ‘Addicted’ Babies in Appalachia: Mindfully Approaching Regional
Substance Use.” *Journal of Appalachian Studies* 27(1): 89-105.
- 2021 Clapp, Lindy, Samuel Conner, David Fonseca, Carrie Jones, Meghan Williams, and
Lesly-Marie Buer
“Appreciating Contributions More Than Celebrating Resilience: Reflections on the
Disclosure of Substance Use in Appalachia.” *International Journal of Drug Policy* 98.
- 2020 Ostrach, Bayla, Lesly-Marie Buer, Sam Armbruster, Hillary Brown, Gariann Yochym,
and Nickolas Zaller
“COVID-19 and Rural Harm Reduction Challenges in the U.S. Southern Mountains.”
The Journal of Rural Health 37(1): 252-255.
- 2016 Buer, Lesly-Marie, Carl G. Leukefeld, and Jennifer R. Havens
“‘I’m Stuck’: Women’s Navigations of Prescription Drug Misuse in Central Appalachia.”
North American Dialogue 19(2): 70-84.
- 2014 Buer, Lesly-Marie, Jennifer R. Havens, and Carl G. Leukefeld
“Does the New Formulation of OxyContin Deter Misuse? A Qualitative
Analysis.” *Substance Use and Misuse* 49(6): 770-774.
- 2013 Buer, Lesly-Marie
“Substance Abuse Treatment: Maintaining the Status Quo?” *Anthropologies* 17.
- 2012 Clevenger, Lesly-Marie, Susan Dreisbach, Jean N. Scandlyn, and John Brett
“Access to Catch-Up HPV Vaccination among Latina University Students.” *Human
Organization* 71(1): 44-53.
- 2011 Clevenger, Lesly-Marie, Jennifer Pyrzanowski, C. Robinette Curtis, Sheana Bull, Lori A.
Crane, Jennifer C. Barrow, Allison Kempe, and Matthew F. Daley
“Parents’ Acceptance of Adolescent Immunizations Outside of the Traditional Medical
Home.” *Journal of Adolescent Health* 49(2): 133-140.

Book Chapters

- 2022 Buer, Lesly-Marie, Bayla Ostrach, Sam Armbruster, and Erin Major
“Mapping Silenced Spaces during Increased Overdose and COVID-19: Opportunities for

Danger and Harm Reduction in Southern Appalachia.” In *COVID-19 and a World of Ad Hoc Geographies*. Edited by Stanley D. Brunn and Donna Gilbreath. New York, NY: Springer Publishing.

- 2015 Buer, Lesly-Marie
“Is there a Prescription Drug ‘Epidemic’ in Appalachian Kentucky?: Media Representations and Implications for Women who Misuse Prescription Drugs.” In *Recovery, Renewal, Reclaiming: Anthropological Research toward Healing*. Edited by Lindsey King, 85-116. Knoxville, TN: Newfound Press.

Creative Nonfiction

- 2019 Buer, Lesly-Marie
“Overdosing in Appalachia.” *Boston Review* Forum 9 (44.1): 90-99.

White Papers

- 2023 Buer, Lesly-Marie with the University of Washington Supporting Harm Reduction Programs (SHaRP) Team
“Estimating Individual Syringe Coverage at Syringe Services Programs.”
<https://www.sharpta.uw.edu/syringe-services-program-monitoring-and-evaluation-resources/syringe-coverage/>
- 2023 Buer, Lesly-Marie with the University of Washington Supporting Harm Reduction Programs (SHaRP) Team
“Good Practices and Ethical Data Collection at Harm Reduction Programs: A Brief Summary.”
<https://sites.uw.edu/sharpta/good-practices-and-ethical-data-collection-at-harm-reduction-programs-a-brief-summary/>

Reviews

- 2020 Buer, Lesly-Marie
“Review: Timely Release of an Updated Classic Study on Black Lung.” *100 Days in Appalachia* November 12:
<https://www.100daysinappalachia.com/2020/11/review-timely-release-of-an-updated-classic-study-on-black-lung/>.
- 2014 Buer, Lesly-Marie
“Film Review: *Oxyana*.” *Journal of Appalachian Studies* 20(1): 89-91.

FICTION PUBLICATIONS

Reviews

- 2023 Buer, Lesly-Marie
“Approachable Discomfort: A Review of the Short Story Collection *In the Between*.” *Good River Review* June:
<https://www.goodriverreview.com/post/approachable-discomfort-a-review-of-the-short-story-collection-in-the-between>.

CONFERENCE AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 Buer, Lesly-Marie, Roberto Abadie, Shameka Parrish-Wright, David Showalter
October 18-21. “Small Town, Big Drug War: Rural Policing and Surveillance, Resistance, and Resilience.” Panel speaker at the Drug Policy Alliance Reform Conference, Gila River Indian Community, Arizona.
- 2023 Buer, Lesly-Marie
August 26. “Barriers to Mental Health and Substance Misuse Treatment in Rural Tennessee.” Panel speaker at the Tennessee Health Care Campaign Annual Advocacy Conference, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- 2023 Buer, Lesly-Marie, Kat Humphries, Sharday Lewis, Colin Miller
March 23-24. “Community-Led Research Projects and Priorities.” Plenary at the Southern Regional Syringe Services Programs and Drug User Health Institute, Lexington, Kentucky.
- 2023 Buer, Lesly-Marie
March 20-21. “Harm Reduction in Rural Tennessee.” Presentation at the Mentoring the Next Generation, Southern Style conference, Nashville, Tennessee.
- 2023 Buer, Lesly-Marie, Crystal Good, Robert Gipe, Carter Sickels
March 16-19. “Author’s Plenary: Writing Health and Social Justice.” Plenary at the 46th Annual Appalachian Studies Association Conference, Athens, Ohio.
- 2022 Ostrach, Bayla, Lesly-Marie Buer, Ainsley Bryce, R. Getty, Sam Armbruster, and L. Wilson
October 19. “Diverse Approaches at Southern and Appalachian U.S. Syringe Services Programs to Provide Safer Consumption, Overdose Reversal Supplies, and HCV/HIV Testing.” Poster at the 2022 International Network on Health and Hepatitis in Substance Users Conference, Glasgow, Scotland.
- 2022 Buer, Lesly-Marie and Bayla Ostrach
October 13. “Leveraging Informal Qualitative Data Collection, Compilation, and Use at Syringe Service Programs.” Panel at the 2022 National Harm Reduction Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2022 Buer, Lesly-Marie, Alison Greene, and Charman Gabbard
October 13. “Implementing Rural Harm Reduction Services in Conservative States.” Panel at the 2022 National Harm Reduction Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2022 Buer, Lesly-Marie
April 29. “Stigma and being Worked to the Bone: Navigating Discrimination and Socioeconomic Inequalities in Appalachia.” Plenary speaker at Healthcare in Appalachia: Practical Approaches to Addressing the Unique Needs of Our Region, University of Tennessee.

- 2021 Buer, Lesly-Marie
November 12. “The Policy Environment and HCV Elimination among PWUD in Appalachia.” Plenary at the Eliminating Viral Hepatitis C among People Who Use Drugs in Appalachia Summit, National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable, Community Liver Alliance.
- 2021 Buer, Lesly-Marie
October 22. “Using a Health Equity Lens to Look at Substance Use Disorder.” Keynote at the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program East Tennessee Consortium’s Policy Forum.
- 2021 Buer, Lesly-Marie, Jennifer Akerman, Maggie House, Bayla Ostrach, and Emilee Wilson.
March 11-14. “Health Systems in Appalachia: A Dialogue Investigating Personal and Public Health with the Systems that Control Them.” Panel at the 44th annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Association.
- 2020 Buer, Lesly-Marie
March 3-6. “Structural Inequities and Harm Reduction in Appalachia.” Presentation at the Rural Communities Opioid Response 2020 Reverse Site Visit, Washington, DC.
- 2020 Armbruster, Sam and Lesly-Marie Buer
March 3-6. “Tennessee’s Central Appalachian Opioid Response.” Poster at the Rural Communities Opioid Response 2020 Reverse Site Visit, Washington, DC.
- 2019 Buer, Lesly-Marie
December 5. “Harm Reduction and Intersecting Movements.” Plenary at the Twenty First Conference for Ending Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, Lexington, Kentucky.
- 2019 Buer, Lesly-Marie
November 6-9. “Getting Real about Structural Issues: How Can We Best Address Social Determinants?” Panel presentation at the 2019 International Drug Policy Reform Conference, St. Louis, Missouri.
- 2019 Buer, Lesly-Marie
November 2-6. “Reproductive Justice, Harm Reduction, Prison Reform: What is the Place for LARC?” Presentation at the 2019 American Public Health Association’s Annual Meeting and Expo, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2019 Buer, Lesly-Marie
November 2-6. “Mobile SSP Development in Urban Appalachia.” Poster at the 2019 American Public Health Association’s Annual Meeting and Expo, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2019 Clark, Genoa, Lindy Clapp, Ashley Myrick, Greg Stafford, and Lesly-Marie Buer
September 11-13. “Healthcare for Our Friends: Integrating Screening and Confirmatory Testing at a Syringe Services Program.” Poster at the 76th annual meeting of the Tennessee Public Health Association, Franklin, Tennessee.

- 2019 Buer, Lesly-Marie
March 14-17. "Save the White Children: Understandings of Place, Ethnicity, and Gender in Central Appalachian Substance Use Treatment Programs." Presentation at the 42nd annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Association, Asheville, North Carolina.
- 2019 Tomann, Margaret, Rion Caldwell, Lesly-Marie Buer, and Theresa Burriss
March 14-17. "Drowning in Dust." Presentation at the 42nd annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Association, Asheville, North Carolina.
- 2018 Buer, Lesly-Marie
October 5-6. "Keeping Watch over Reproductive Justice during the Opioid Crisis: Buprenorphine and Child Removal in Rural Appalachia." Plenary speaker at the 2nd annual meeting of Healthy and Free Tennessee, Nashville, Tennessee.
- 2018 Buer, Lesly-Marie
April 5-8. "Harm Reduction Workshop: Naloxone, Syringe Exchanges, and Social Justice." Workshop at the 41st annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Association, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 2017 Buer, Lesly-Marie
November 29-December 3. "Surviving Gendered Inequalities and Personal Responsibility: Opioid Use among Women in Rural Appalachia." Presentation at the 116th annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC.
- 2017 Buer, Lesly-Marie
March 10-12. "Reviews of the Conference from an Artist, an Activist, a Senior Scholar, and a Rising Star." Panel speaker at the 40th annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Association, Blacksburg, Virginia.
- 2017 Buer, Lesly-Marie
March 10-12. "Picketing, Lanterns, and Everyday Resistance: Confronting Gendered Inequalities and State Drug Policies in Central Appalachia." Presentation at the 40th annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Association, Blacksburg, Virginia.
- 2017 Buer, Lesly-Marie
February 18. "Stigma and Impossible Identities." Presentation at the 8th annual Appalachian Research Symposium and Arts Showcase, Lexington, Kentucky.
- 2017 Engle, Kathryn, Dwight Billings, and Lesly-Marie Buer
January 18. "Appalachia in the Current Political Landscape." Panel speaker at the Teach-In on the Presidency, University of Kentucky.
- 2015 Buer, Lesly-Marie
November 18-25. "Self-medication, Misprescription, and Health Inequalities: Intersections between Mental Health Care and Prescription Drug Misuse in Rural Central

- Appalachia.” Presentation at the 114th annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Denver, Colorado.
- 2013 Buer, Lesly-Marie; Jennifer R. Havens; Carl G. Leukefeld
March 19-23. “I’m Stuck’: Prescription Drug Misuse among Women in Central Appalachia.” Presentation at the 73rd annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Denver, Colorado.
- 2013 Buer, Lesly-Marie
March 7-9. “Media Representations of Women who Misuse Prescription Drugs in Central Appalachia.” Presentation at the 48th annual meeting of the Southern Anthropological Society, Johnson City, Tennessee.
- 2013 Buer, Lesly-Marie
February 23. “Social Lives of Diverted Prescription Drugs in Rural Appalachia.” Presentation at the 4th annual Appalachian Research Symposium and Arts Showcase, Lexington, Kentucky.
- 2012 Leukefeld, Carl G.; Lesly-Marie Buer; April Young; Adam Jonas; Robert Seaver; Jennifer R. Havens
June 9-14. “Changes in Prescription and OxyContin Drug Abuse Patterns in a Rural Kentucky County.” Poster at the annual meeting of The College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Palm Springs, California.
- 2012 Clevenger, Lesly-Marie
February 11. “Gender and Substance Abuse Treatment in Central Appalachia.” Presentation at the 3rd annual Appalachian Research Symposium and Arts Showcase, Lexington, Kentucky.
- 2010 Clevenger, Lesly-Marie; Stephanie Wood; Susan Dreisbach; Steve Koester
March 24-27. “Is the *Break the Cycle* Intervention Relevant in other Cultures?” Presentation at the 70th annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Mérida, Mexico.
- 2010 Fitch, John; Teri Anderson; Cornelis Rietmeijer; Susan Dreisbach; Lesly-Marie Clevenger
March 8-11. “Trich or Treat: Utilizing High-Quality Online Video to Measure the Long-Term Impact of Wet Prep Laboratory Training.” Poster at the 2010 National STD Prevention Conference, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2009 Clevenger, Lesly-Marie
March 17-21. “Getting Immunized against HPV: Access to and Knowledge of the HPV Vaccine among Latina University Students.” Poster at the 69th annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

PUBLIC AND INVITED LECTURES AND PANELS

2023

New York University Silver School of Social Work
University of Tennessee Public Interest Collective

2022

Drug Policy Alliance
Tennessee Department of Children's Services

2021

Meharry Medical College Addiction Medicine Fellows
Tennessee Center for AIDS Research
Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations
University of Tennessee

2020

Drug Policy Alliance
Elon University
New York University Langone Health
New York University Silver School of Social Work
University of North Carolina Asheville

2019

East Tennessee Regional Health Council

2018

Mountain Area Health Education Center

2017

Ohio University
University of Kentucky
Virginia Tech

2015

University of Kentucky

PUBLIC MEDIA

- 2020 Buer, Lesly-Marie, Ash-Lee Woodard Henderson, and Barbara Ellen Smith
June 17. "Appalachia and the Health of the Nation." Roundtable for Haymarket Books,
Chicago, Illinois.
- 2020 Buer, Lesly-Marie
May 28. "Feminist Responses to the Opioid Crisis in Southern Appalachia." Interviewed
by McNair Ezzard for A Better World, WPVM, Asheville, North Carolina.
- 2020 Buer, Lesly-Marie
May 11. "In 'Rx Appalachia,' Lesly-Marie Buer Explores Gender Inequities in Recovery

in Appalachia.” Interviewed by Taylor Sisk for 100 Days in Appalachia, Morgantown, West Virginia.

- 2018 Buer, Lesly-Marie
September 25. “Housing and Health.” Interviewed by Carol Myer for Health Connections, WUOT, Knoxville, Tennessee.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019-2020 Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Planning, Health Resources and Services Administration, \$200,000
2016 James S. Brown Graduate Student Award, University of Kentucky, \$1,000
2016, 2017 Student Travel Funding, University of Kentucky Appalachian Center, \$500
2015 Billings-Eller Appalachian Center Mini-Grant, University of Kentucky, \$500
2013-2017 Student Travel Funding, University of Kentucky, \$1,600
2013 James S. Brown Graduate Student Award, University of Kentucky, \$1,500
2011-2014 James Still Fellow, University of Kentucky, \$45,000

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2021 Finalist, Weatherford Award for Nonfiction, Berea College and the Appalachian Studies Association
2018 Margaret Lantis Award for Excellence in Original Research by a Graduate Student, University of Kentucky
2016 Society for Medical Anthropology Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco Study Group’s Graduate Student Paper Prize
2008-2009 Merit Scholarship, University of Colorado Denver
2005 Cum Laude, College of Charleston
2004-2005 Chancellor’s List, College of Charleston
2004 Lambda Alpha Honors Society, College of Charleston
2001-2005 Merit Scholarship, College of Charleston

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND OTHER EXPERIENCE

Collaboratives

- 2020 Member, Opioid Research Consortium of Central Appalachia (ORCCA) and Studies to Advance Recovery Support (STARS) Network
2019-current Co-founder, Appalachian Harm Reduction Research Collaborative, Western North Carolina and East Tennessee

Leadership Roles

- 2023-current Advisory Board Member, Appalachian Justice Research Center at the University of Tennessee
2019-2022 Founder and Fund Advisor, Hellbender Harm Reduction Fund
2018-2020 Planning Committee, Appalachian Studies Association 42nd and 43rd annual conferences

- 2018 At-large Member, East Tennessee Regional Leadership Association, Class of 2018
- 2017-2019 Graduate Student Representative-at-Large, National Association of Student Anthropologists, American Anthropological Association
- 2016-2018 Co-Chair, Young Appalachian Leaders and Learners (Y'ALL), Appalachian Studies Association
- 2016 Distinguished Lecture Series Chair, 16th annual Distinguished Lecture Series with Dr. Rayna Rapp, Department of Anthropology, University of Kentucky
- 2015-2016 Planning Committee, Distinguished Lecture Series, Department of Anthropology, University of Kentucky
- 2012-2016 Steering Committee, Appalachian Research Symposium and Arts Showcase, Lexington, Kentucky
- 2011-2016 Vice President, Graduate Appalachian Research Community, University of Kentucky
- 2013 Symposium Committee Chair, 4th annual Appalachian Research Symposium and Arts Showcase, Lexington, Kentucky

Reviewer for Journals

International Journal of Drug Policy
 Journal of Addiction Medicine
 Journal of Adolescent Health
 Journal of Appalachian Studies
 Journal of Drug Issues
 Rural and Remote Health
 Substance Abuse: Research and Treatment
 Substance Use and Misuse

Reviewer for Conferences

Harm Reduction Coalition Conference, 2020
 42nd annual Appalachian Studies Association Conference, 2019