

Emory University's Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing Announces Recipients of the 2024 Office of Nursing Research Pilot Grant Awards

Emory University's Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2024 Office of Nursing Research (ONR) Pilot Grant Awards. This year, three exceptional researchers, Associate Professor **Calli Cook, DNP, APRN, FNP-C**, Assistant Professor **Sangmi Kim, PhD, MPH, RN**, and Assistant Professor **Athena Sherman, PhD, PHN, RN, CNE**, have been selected for their groundbreaking projects that address critical health issues within their respective fields.

Dr. Calli Cook: "Neighborhood Social Determinants of Health in Migraine Diagnosis and Treatment (SDoHMigraine)"

Dr. Cook's research focuses on the impact of neighborhood social determinants of health (SDoH) on migraine diagnosis and treatment, particularly in relation to equitable access to advanced migraine-specific therapies. Recognizing that migraine, a debilitating neurological disease, disproportionately affects individuals in less affluent neighborhoods, Dr. Cook will explore how factors such as household income, education, air quality, and food availability influence migraine outcomes. By leveraging Emory Healthcare's electronic health records and conducting targeted surveys, her study aims to uncover disparities in migraine care and develop strategies to ensure that all patients, regardless of socioeconomic status, receive the appropriate treatments to manage their condition effectively.

Dr. Sangmi Kim: "Systematic Review of Mobile Apps about Intimate Partner Violence for Characteristics, Quality, and Trauma-Informed Approaches"

Dr. Kim's project addresses the critical need for accessible and reliable support systems for survivors of intimate partner violence (IPV). During the COVID-19 pandemic, the limitations of traditional in-person support services became starkly evident, underscoring the importance of digital solutions such as mobile apps. However, the responsibility of finding and assessing these apps often falls on the survivors, potentially exacerbating their trauma. Dr. Kim's systematic review aims to fill this gap by evaluating existing IPV-related mobile apps for their characteristics, quality, and trauma-informed approaches. Her work will lay the foundation for developing a curated library of apps and training researchers to harness digital health technologies in a trauma-informed manner, ultimately providing a safer and more accessible support system for IPV survivors.

Dr. Athena Sherman: "Survive and Thrive: A Community-Based Violence Prevention Intervention Promoting Self-Protection and Healing among Transgender and Gender Diverse People"

Dr. Sherman's research tackles the high rates of violence and adverse childhood experiences (ACES) faced by transgender and gender diverse (TGD) individuals. Dr. Sherman's project seeks to develop a culturally relevant, multidimensional self-defense program tailored to the unique needs of the TGD community. By partnering with TGD-owned and operated Kira Knight's Martial Arts Program, Dr. Sherman aims to disrupt the cycle of violence and victimization that contributes to the mental health disparities within this population. The program will incorporate key aspects of Transgender Theory, focusing on enhancing self-protection, coping mechanisms, and help-seeking behaviors among TGD individuals. The findings from this study will support future research, including a randomized control trial to evaluate the program's feasibility and efficacy.

For more information on Dr. Calli Cook, visit the [faculty profile](#). For more information on Dr. Sangmi Kim, visit the [faculty profile](#). For more information on Dr. Athena Sherman, visit the [faculty profile](#). To learn more about the ONR Pilot Grant, visit the [website](#)