

# Elizabeth W. Wachira, PhD, MPH

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## EDUCATION

PhD                      May 2017              Health Studies, Texas Woman's University

Dissertation Title:

"I Can't Even Walk, You Expecting Me To Climb A Mountain?" An Exploration Of Service Providers' Perception Of Vulnerability Among Individuals Experiencing Homelessness.

Data disseminated through digital stories and an executive summary report given to stakeholders in the County

MPH                      2012                      Social and Behavioral Sciences, Community Health  
University of North Texas Health Science Center

BSN                      2007                      Nursing, University of Mary-Hardin Baylor

## PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

2012-Present              Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES), National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (# 20856)

2012- Present              Certified in Public Health (CPH), National Board of Public Health Examiners (#7690)

2007 – Present              Registered Nurse, Texas Board of Nursing (# 745369)

## ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2013-Present              Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Health Studies, Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX

## HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES TAUGHT

Texas Woman's University

*Undergraduate courses:*

HS 1902/1901: Fitness and Health Lab and Lecture

HS 2373: Health Aspects of Human Sexuality

HS 3053: Community Health

HS 3373: Health Promotion for the Child

HS 4363: Consumer Health

## PRESENTATIONS AS PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

American Public Health Association      Chicago, IL                      November 2015  
Poster , *A Spatial Analysis of Cardiovascular Disease in Texas*

Health in Africa Conference                      Champaign, IL                      May 2015  
Podium Presentation , *A Political Ecology of Africa's Brain Drain Crisis*

## SCHOLARLY WORKS IN PROGRESS

Publication research manuscript – expected Fall 2017

*“A Spatial Analysis of Cardiovascular Disease in Texas: Use of a Vulnerability Index to Target High Needs Areas”*

## **OTHER RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS**

Texas Woman’s University

*Quality Enhancement Scholar (2015-2016):*

(PI) Ethnographic qualitative study to explore the how vulnerabilities manifest within complex structures existing within the local lived context, so as to propose the identification of vulnerabilities as determinants of health

(2015) Texas Woman’s Quality Enhancement Scholar -\$1000

(2016) Texas Woman’s Quality Enhancement Scholar -\$2000

- Used ethnographic research a to identify and measure health related constructs
- Secondary data analysis of archival data to support findings through data triangulation

## **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

HHSC Center for Elimination of Disproportionality & Disparities (February – August 2014)

Program Intern, State Partnership Grant to Improve Minority Health (SPGIMH) in the Dallas-STAR and Hidalgo-START PLUS areas

- Assist with the development and implementation of the State Partnership Grant to Improve Minority Health (SPGIMH) in the Dallas-STAR and Hidalgo-START PLUS areas.
  - Project’s goal is to promote the voluntary adoption and implementation of the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care (National CLAS Standards) by healthcare providers.
- Facilitated Community Engagement Interviews

Denton County Health Department (January – July 2012)

Health Educator Intern, Primary assessor, reviewing Denton County’s actions in creating a Heart Healthy City

## **SERVICE ACTIVITIES: COMMUNITY**

Denton County Health Department (2012-2013)

Health Education Volunteer - Led Diabetes community focus group, assisted with planning and coordination of annual 5K county run and health fair

Temple Christian Center (2014 – Present)

Campaign Director, develop and oversee stewardship campaign teams and events

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

Health Educator	2012 – Present
Graduate Researcher	2014 - 2017
Registered Nurse	2007 to Present

## **SKILLS**

- Research Methods – Quantitative & Qualitative
- Working knowledge of Anthropology & Medical Geography concepts as they relate to informing and conducting health research
- Computing/Software
  - ArcGIS, NVivo , SPSS, Microsoft Office
- Languages: English, Swahili, Kikuyu, some Spanish