

Kayla M. Anderson, PhD

Department of Geography, University of Georgia

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Vanderbilt University; Community Research and Action, August 2025

M.Ed., Vanderbilt University; Community Development and Action, May 2020

B.A., Whitworth University; Sociology, May 2013

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2025– Assistant Clinical Professor of Community Geography and Outreach, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Community-engaged research; Participatory action research; Youth participatory action research; Environmental justice; Community organizing; Social movements and collective action; Neighborhoods and communities; Community power and empowerment processes; Geospatial analysis; Action research; Qualitative methodologies

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Anderson, K. M., & Christens, B. D. (2025). Navigating inherent challenges of locally focused action research in graduate education. *Educational Action Research*, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09650792.2025.2499532>
- Anderson, K. M., Morgan, K. Y., McCormick, M. L., Fike, K. J., & Christens, B. D. (2025). Youth and their ideal neighborhoods: How do ideals compare to lived realities across different neighborhoods in Nashville, Tennessee? *Youth*, 5(1). <https://doi.org/10.3390/youth5010020>
- Macey, G., Farrell, C., Anderson, K. M., Garcia, A., Martinez, Y., Sellen, J., Temkin, A., & Weller, M. (2024). Pesticide use and civil rights in central California: Slow violence and the state. *Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development*, 66(6), 6–24. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00139157.2024.2394005>
- Anderson, K. M., Morgan, K. Y., McCormick, M. L., Gibson, M., Clark, M., Harper, A., & Christens, B. D. (2024). Youth participatory action research for equitable urban design. *Journal of Participatory Research Methods*, 5(2). <https://doi.org/10.35844/001c.120406>
- Anderson, K. M., Morgan, K. Y., McCormick, M. L., Robbins, N. N., Curry-Johnson, S. E., & Christens, B. D. (2024). Participatory mapping of holistic youth well-being: A mixed methods study. *Sustainability*, 16, 1559. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su16041559>
- Morgan, K. Y., Anderson, K. M., & Christens, B. D. (2022). Pathways to community building: Examining generational continuity and discontinuity in community leadership development. *Applied Developmental Science*, 28(2), 107–124. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10888691.2022.2154211>
- Temkin, A. M., Uche, U. I., Evans, S., Anderson, K. M., Perrone-Grey, S., Campbell, C., & Naidenko, O. V. (2022). Racial and social disparities in Ventura County, California related to agricultural pesticide applications and toxicity. *Science of the Total Environment*, 853. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2022.158399>
- Paxton, C., Anderson, K. M., & McDonald, Y. J. (2022). The water sector industry workforce: A quantitative case study, Tennessee, USA. *Utilities Policy*, 76. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jup.2022.101356>
- McDonald, Y. J., Anderson, K. M., Caballero, M. D., Ding, K. J., Fisher, D., Morkel, C., & Hill, E. (2022). A systematic review of geospatial representation of United States community water systems. *AWWA Water Science*, 4(1), e1266. <https://doi.org/10.1002/aws2.1266>

In Review

- Morgan, K. Y., Ellison, E. R., & Anderson, K. M. (2025). Policy change and youth participatory action research in community settings: Case examples from California and Tennessee. Target Journal: *Evidence & Policy*.

In Preparation

- Christens, B. D., **Anderson, K. M.**, Morgan, K. Y., Haapanen K., & Byrd, K. (2025). Contextualist methods in community psychology. Target Journal: *American Journal of Community Psychology*.
- Anderson, K. M.**, Lewis, M. & Parks, E. (2025). From side hustle to industry: The professionalization of the short-term rental industry in Nashville, TN. Target Journal: *Urban Studies*.
- McDonald, Y. J., & **Anderson, K. M.** (2025). Building connections with operators: Navigating drinking water supply challenges. Target Journal: *Water*.
- Anderson, K. M.**, & McDonald, Y. J. (2025). Water operators know best: Utilizing community-based participatory research to assess technical, financial, and managerial challenges in community water systems in Tennessee, USA. Target Journal: *Utilities Policy*.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Anderson, K. M.**, & Christens, B. D. (2024). Neighborhood associations and community change. In B. D. Christens (Ed.), *The Cambridge handbook of community empowerment* (pp. 360–388). Cambridge University Press.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009153720>
- Morgan, K. Y., **Anderson, K. M.**, Christens, B. D., Shaltaf, L., & KaiKai, J. (2024). “Real change takes time:” Building multi-dimensional youth community power in a participatory design collective. In J. O. Conner (Ed.), *The handbook of youth activism* (pp. 320–336). Edward Elgar Publishing.
<https://doi.org/10.4337/9781803923222>

Book Chapters in Review

- McCormick, M. L., Azamian, S., Morgan, K. Y., **Anderson, K. M.**, Gibson, M., & Christens, B. D. (2025). Sense of place among young people involved in place-based action civics in Nashville, TN. In I. Butterworth (Ed.), *The psychology of place: Opportunities for rebuilding our place in a post-colonial world*. Cambridge University Press.
- Christens, B. D., Morgan, K. Y., **Anderson, K. M.**, & McCormick, M. L. (2026). How empowerment processes contribute to community mental health. In M. F. Jorge-Monteiro & J. H. Ornelas (Eds.), *Community Mental Health*.

TECHNICAL REPORTS

- Anderson, K. M.**, McCormick, M. L., & Gibson, M. (2024, May). *Dream City: A youth vision for Nashville's spaces and places*. Imagine Nashville.
- Christens, B. D., Morgan, K. Y., **Anderson, K. M.**, & Kobbervig, K. A. (2019, November). *Weaving communities: Influences and learning among lifelong community builders*. Aspen Institute.

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- Anderson, K. M.** (2022, August 24). Youth approach wellness in South Nashville.
<https://www.civicdesigncenter.org/all-projects-blog/youth-approach-wellness-in-south-nashville>
- Anderson, K. M.** (2021, April 26) University Connections: Part 1. <https://www.civicdesigncenter.org/all-projects-blog/university-connections>
- Anderson, K. M.** (2021, April 29) University Connections: Part 2. <https://www.civicdesigncenter.org/all-projects-blog/university-connections-part2>
- Anderson, K. M.** (2021, May 4) University Connections: Part 3. <https://www.civicdesigncenter.org/all-projects-blog/university-connections-part3>
- Paxton, C., **Anderson, K. M.**, and McDonald, Y. J. on behalf of the Vanderbilt University Drinking Water Justice Lab. (Spring 2021). The Tennessee Public Water Operator Survey. *Tennessee Utility News*; Technology Issue (35), 36-39.
- Allison, K., **Anderson, K. M.**, Caballero, M. D., and McDonald, Y. J. (2020, July 21). Professionals who keep our water safe deserve recognition. *The Tennessean, Opinion Section*.

GRANTS

Funded

- 2024–2025 Youth Belonging Amidst a Growing City: Stories about Youth Sense of Belonging and Sense of Place (\$25,000), The Nashville Youth Design Team, 2892 Miles to Go, Supported by the National Geographic Society
- 2024 Student Research Grant (\$500), Society for Community Research and Action
- 2023–2024 Community Scholars Award (\$6,000), The Meharry-Vanderbilt Community Engaged Research Core
- 2023–2024 Imagine Nashville Research Grant (\$60,000), Nashville Youth Design Team, Imagine Nashville & The Dream City Research Project

Not Funded

- 2025 Unincorporated Communities and Community-Based Governance for Sustainable Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation (\$300,000), Vanderbilt Center for Sustainability, Energy, and Climate Seed Project Fund
- 2024 Healthy People, Healthy Environments: Preserving, Protecting and Strengthening the Healthy Communities, Families, Environments, and Legacies of Grundy County (\$20 million), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Community Change grant

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Geography, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, University of Georgia

- Geog2011: Introduction to GIScience

Department of Human and Organizational Development, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University

- HOD-6300/8400: Action Research
- HOD-3650-02: Planetary Health & Resource Sustainability (Co-Instructed)
- HOD-3650-01: Environmental Health: Through the Lens of Water Justice, (Co-Instructed)
- HOD-2500: Systematic Inquiry (Teaching Assistant)

COMMUNITY-ENGAGED RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

- 2025– **Integrated and Equitable Climate Action**, Irvine, CA
Center for Land, Environment, and Natural Resources, University of California-Irvine
Center on Race, Poverty, and the Environment; Central Valley Air Quality Coalitions; Central California Environmental Justice Network; Azul
- 2020–2025 **Nashville Youth Design Team**, Nashville, TN
Civic Design Center
- 2022–2025 **Grundy County Environmental Justice Project**, Grundy County, TN
Grundy County Cancer Research Organization
- 2020–2022 **Short-Term Rentals in Nashville**, TN
Open Table Nashville

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, & AWARDS

- 2024 Excellence in Leadership Award, Graduate Leadership Institute, Vanderbilt University
- 2023 Best Overall Award, Graduate Leadership Anchor Awards, Vanderbilt University
- 2022–2023 Emerging Scholar (\$5,000), Healthy Neighborhood Study: Emerging Scholars Program
Conservation Law Foundation and Massachusetts Institute for Technology, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- 2022 2nd Place in the Doctoral Student Poster Competition, New Horizons in Conservation Conference, Yale School of the Environment
- 2020–2025 University Graduate Fellowship, Vanderbilt University

2020–2022	HASTAC Scholar, Vanderbilt University
2020	2 nd Place in the Student Paper Competition, Applied Geography Conference
2020	People's Choice Award, Southeast ECO Conference
2019	Russell G. Hamilton Student-Faculty Summer Research Grant, Department of Human and Organizational Development, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University
2019–2020	Jere Phillips Honors Scholarship, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University
2019	SP3 Student Award, Applied Geography Conference
2018–2020	Peabody Honors Scholarship, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University
2013	Daniel Burtness Leadership Award, Whitworth University
2011–2013	Sociology Department Scholar, Whitworth University
2013	Alpha Delta Kappa Society, Whitworth University
2012	Phi Alpha Theta Society, Whitworth University
2010–2013	Whitworth Laureate Society, Whitworth University

PRESENTATIONS

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Rymer, C. & **Anderson, K. M.** (2025, March 14). *Academic-Community Research Partnerships* [Panel]. Tennessee State University's Community-Engaged Research Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Anderson, K. M.**, Morgan, K. Y., & Christens, B. D. (2024, June 21). Youth action research for equitable urban design. In **K. M. Anderson** and K. Y. Morgan (Chairs), *Perspectives on action research: Transforming communities through diverse approaches* [Symposium]. Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Anderson, K. M.**, Morgan, K. Y., Christens, B. D., Silka, L., Grzanka, P. R., Schlehofer, M. M., Pickering, R. M., Trott, C. D., Savaş, Ö., & Ellison, E. (2024, June 21). *Building a SPSSI action research interest group* [Interactive discussion]. Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Anderson, K. M.** (2024, April 18). Community organization & academic collaboration to address environmental and health inequities: The Grundy County Cancer Research Organization- Community Engaged Research Project. In J. Mokos and J. Mapes (Chairs), *Practicing community geography* [Paper presentation]. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, virtual.
- Ahn, Y., **Anderson, K. M.**, Apilado, D., Crawford, B., Liu, D., & Molla, A. (2024, April 17). *ScienceCore Heuristics for Open science Outcomes in Learning (SCHOOL): Health, air quality, and environmental justice module development* [Panel]. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, virtual.
- Anderson, K. M.**, Morgan, K. Y., Christens, B. D., Trott, C. D., & Silka, L. (2023, June 26). *Pedagogical approaches to engaging students in local action research* [Interactive discussion]. Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Annual Conference, Denver, CO.
- Morgan, K. Y., **Anderson, K. M.**, Shaltaf, L., & Christens, B. D. (2023, June 22). Building a youth leadership ecosystem in the Nashville Youth Design Team. In E. Thomas (Chair), *Youth organizing and participatory action research: Towards sustainable partnerships and practices* [Symposium]. Society for Community Research and Action Biennial Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Anderson, K. M.**, & Christens, B. D. (2023, April 28). *Investigating the impacts of short-term rentals in Nashville through a graduate action research class* [Presentation]. Urban Affairs Association Annual Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Anderson, K. M.**, Morgan, K. Y., & Gibson, M. (2023, March 23). *Youth-driven change: The Nashville Youth Design Team, a youth participatory mapping collective* [Presentation]. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- Morgan, K. Y., & **Anderson, K. M.** (2022, June). *Building youth community power in a participatory design collective* [Presentation]. Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Annual Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Morgan, K. Y., **Anderson, K. M.**, Christopher, C., Marks, C., Fisher, B., & Stenson, C. (2022, June). *The role of students in research practice partnership: The case for utilizing YPAR to support engagement and dissemination* [Presentation]. Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.
- Anderson, K. M.**, Caballero, M. D., & McDonald, Y. J. (2022, March). *Exploring drinking water (in)justice at the community level: Methodological applications to promote change* [Recorded poster presentation]. New

Horizons in Conservation Conference, Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Sustainability Initiative, Yale School of the Environment, virtual.

- Caballero, M. D., **Anderson, K. M.**, & McDonald, Y. J. (2022, February). *Crude oil production & regulation of BTEX in drinking water in the United States* [Presentation]. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, virtual.
- McDonald, Y. J., **Anderson, K. M.**, Caballero, M. D., Ding, K., Fisher, D. H., Morkel, C. P., & Hill, E. (2022, February). *Geospatial representation of United States community water system estimated service area boundaries: A crucial step to assessing water justice at the community level* [Presentation]. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, virtual.
- Morgan, K. Y., **Anderson, K. M.**, Thabit, B., & Shaltaf, L. (2021, June). *Youth voice, community development, and spatial justice: Reflections from a youth-led participatory mapping collective* [Presentation]. Society for Community Research and Action Biennial Conference, virtual.
- Anderson, K. M.**, Gasteyer, S., Lander, P., Manners, J., & VanDerslice, J. (2021, April). *Utilizing collaboration to address the complexities of drinking water* [Panelist and session organizer]. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, virtual.
- Anderson, K. M.**, & McDonald, Y. J. (2021, April). Operators know best: Utilizing public water system operators to understand technical, managerial, and financial challenges facing community water systems in Tennessee. In **K. M. Anderson** (Chair), *From theory to practice: Addressing evidence gaps and applications of the Drinking Water Disparities framework* [Paper presentations]. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, virtual.
- McDonald, Y. J., & **Anderson, K. M.** (2020, October). *Unmasking differences: How using the correct unit of analysis in geospatial drinking water research has the potential to reveal community-level differences* [Presentation]. Applied Geography Conference, virtual.
- Morgan, K. Y., & **Anderson, K. M.** (2020, October). *Nashville through the eyes of youth: Using participatory mapping as a tool for spatial justice* [Presentation]. Applied Geography Conference, virtual.
- Anderson, K. M.**, & Morgan, K. Y. (2020, October). *Critical GIS demo and resource share* [Teach-in]. Southeast ECO Conference, virtual.
- Anderson, K. M.**, & Morgan, K. Y. (2020, June). *Motivations, experiences, and learning in community leadership* [Presentation]. Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Annual Conference, Denver, CO. (Cancelled due to Covid-19)
- Anderson, K. M.**, & McDonald, Y. J. (2020, April). *Operators know best: Engaging public water operators to understand technical, managerial, and financial challenges facing community water systems in Tennessee* [Presentation and session organizer]. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Denver, CO. (Cancelled due to Covid-19)
- McDonald, Y. J., & **Anderson, K. M.** (2019, October). *A community-engaged research approach: Collaborating with key Tennessee drinking water stakeholders to understand public water systems' needs* [Presentation]. Applied Geography Conference, Charlotte, NC.

Invited Presentations

- Anderson, K. M.** (2025, April 16). *Geographic Information Science: Methods and applications*. [Guest Lecture]. Systematic Inquiry (HOD 2500), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Nicole Allen, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2025, March 5). *Applications of Geographic Information Science*. [Guest Lecture]. GIS for Social Impact (HOD 3890), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Stacy Curry-Johnson, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2025, February 24). *The environment as a driver of health outcomes*. [Guest lecture]. Social and Structural Influences on Health (NURS 8214), School of Nursing, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Leah Branham, M.S.W.
- Anderson, K. M.** (2025, February 5). *Community-engaged research on rural environmental justice*. [Guest lecture]. Watershed Science Capstone (ESCI 430A), Department of Environment & Sustainability, The University of the South, Seawanee, TN. Instructor: Keri Watson, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2024, November 7). *Collective action to address environmental injustices* [Colloquium speaker]. Department of Psychology Colloquium Series, The Department of Psychology, The University of the South, Seawanee, TN.

- Anderson, K. M.** (2024, October 23). *Environmental justice and citizen science* [Guest lecture]. Visual Culture Climate Change (CMST 3890), College of Arts and Science, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Sasha Crawford-Holland, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2024, September 10). *Action research and geospatial analysis* [Guest lecture]. Action Research (HOD 6300 and HOD 8400), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructors: Brian D. Christens, PhD & Paul Speer, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2024, April). *Student perspectives on graduate education and research* [Invited speaker]. Vanderbilt University Graduate Research and Education Advisory Board Meeting, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- Anderson, K. M.** (2024, April). *Community organization & academic collaboration to address environmental and health inequities: The Grundy County Cancer Research Organization- Community Engaged Research Project* [Colloquium presentation]. Department of Human and Organizational Development Colloquium Series, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- Anderson, K. M.,** Barrett, E., Hanebutt, R. A., & Jurinsky, J. (2024, February). *Community research and action doctoral program: Student milestones* [Colloquium panel]. Department of Human and Organizational Development Colloquium Series, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- Anderson, K. M.** (2024, February). *Environmental justice and community power* [Guest Lecture]. Health Equity and Community Power (HODC 3650-04/05), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Jyoti Gupta, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2024, January). *Using a health equity framework to contextualize social determinants of health: Grundy County, Tennessee case study* [Guest lecture]. Social Determinants of Health (HODH 3650-03 and HOD 7500-7), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Yolanda J. McDonald, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.,** McDonald, Y. J., & Curry-Johnson, S. (2024, January). *Spatial computing* [Guest panel]. Project Special Topics: Projects in Computing for Sustainability (CS 3892), School of Engineering, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Douglas Fisher, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2023, October). *Action research* [Guest Lecture]. Community Inquiry (HOD 6210 and HOD 8210), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructors: Beth Shinn, PhD & Doug Perkins, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.,** & Hanebutt, R. A. (2023, October). *Scoping better: How to save time (& stress) with Covidence!* [Training]. Department of Human and Organizational Development, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- Anderson, K. M.** (2023, September). *Grundy County Cancer Research Organization: Community-engaged research partnership study- Environmental justice in Grundy County, TN* [Guest lecture]. Vanderbilt School of Science and Math, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructors: Menton Deweese, PhD & Angela Eeds, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2023, August). *Short-term rentals in Nashville, TN* [Guest lecture]. Action Research (HOD 6300 and HOD 8400), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructors: Ashley Carse, PhD & Paul Speer, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2023, April). *Policy and advocacy around short-term rentals in Nashville* [Guest lecture]. Public Policy and Advocacy (HOD 8130), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Beth Shinn, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.,** & Christens, B. D. (2022, October). *Action research* [Guest lecture]. Community Inquiry (HOD 8210 and HOD 6210), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructors: Beth Shinn, PhD & Ashmeet Oberoi, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2022, March). *Interviews* [Guest lecture]. Systematic Inquiry (HOD 2500), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Jordan Jurinsky, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.,** & Haapanen, K. (2022, March). *Problems of power: Environmental injustice* [Guest lecture]. Health Equity & Community Power (HOD 3650), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Jyoti Gupta, PhD
- McDonald, Y. J., **Anderson, K. M.,** & Caballero, M. D. (2021, October). *GIS and drinking water justice* [Guest lecture]. Special Topics: Computing and the Environment (CS 3891), School of Engineering, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Douglas Fisher, PhD

- Anderson, K. M., & Morgan, K. Y.** (2021, February). *Student perspectives on action research* [Guest lecture]. Action Research (HOD 6300), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructors: Brian D. Christens, PhD and Sarah Suiter, PhD
- Anderson, K. M., & Morgan, K. Y.** (2020, October). *Incorporating GIS into action research* [Guest lecture]. Action Research (HOD 6300), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructors: Brian D. Christens, PhD and Sarah Suiter, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2020, March). *Conducting research as a graduate student* [Guest lecture]. Human and Organizational Development Capstone (HOD 4953), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Yolanda J. McDonald, PhD
- Anderson, K. M.** (2019, March). *The built environment* [Guest lecture]. Health and Human Services Seminar- Environmental Health (HOD 3650), Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Instructor: Yolanda J. McDonald, PhD

Community Speaking Engagements

- Anderson, K. M.** (2025, September). *Community Mapping and Social Change*. [Presentation]. Augusta Preparatory Day School, Augusta, GA.
- Anderson, K. M., & Gibson, M.** (2023, July). *Engaging young people in decision making spaces* [Presentation]. Youth Health Working Group- Health in All Policies, Metro Nashville Health Department, Nashville, TN.
- Anderson, K. M., & Ranseen, O.** (2023, March). *Sustainable city planning workshop* [Workshop facilitator]. Nashville Youth Climate Summit, Nashville, TN.
- Anderson, K.M.** (2022, April). *Testimony in Opposition to HB064: The “Airbnb Bill”* [Testimony]. Local Government Committee Meeting, Tennessee State House of Legislators, Nashville, TN.
- Anderson, K. M., & McDonald, Y. J.** (2022, March). *Key findings from the Tennessee Public Water Operator Survey* [Presentation]. Annual Tennessee Association of Utility Districts Technology Conference, Knoxville, TN.
- Anderson, K. M., & McDonald, Y. J.** on behalf of the Vanderbilt Drinking Water Justice Lab. (2021, March). *Partnering with Tennessee water professionals: Mapping community water systems and operator survey key findings* [Presentation]. Annual Tennessee Association of Utility Districts Technology Conference, virtual.

STUDENT ADVISING & MENTORSHIP

Department of Human and Organizational Development, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University

Undergraduate Thesis Advising

Elise Wagner (2021). “Comparing the effectiveness of “Design Your Neighborhood” to other forms of civic action curricula” [Co-advisor of honors thesis]. Department of Human and Organizational Development, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.

Catherine Paxton (2020). “Retaining an essential workforce: A quantitative analysis of workforce retention factors among water operators in Tennessee” [Co-advisor of honors thesis]. Department of Human and Organizational Development, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Department of Geography, Franklin College of Arts and Science, University of Georgia

2025– Undergraduate Committee

Franklin College of Arts and Science, University of Georgia

2025– Career Readiness Working Group

Department of Human and Organizational Development, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University

2021–2023 Community Research and Action Student Association, *Co-President*

2022–2023 Community Research and Action Admissions Committee

2022 Colloquium Series, *Panel Co-Organizer*, “Data and Activism for Social and Environmental Justice” with David A. Padgett and Amber J. Bosse

2022	Colloquium Series, <i>Panel Co-Organizer</i> , “Youth Leadership in Nashville: Voice, Power, and Social Change”
2021–2022	Community Research and Action Professional Development Committee
2020–2021	Colloquium Committee
2019–2020	M.Ed. in Community Development & Action, Peer Mentor Program, <i>Peer Career Mentor</i>

SERVICE TO THE FIELD

PEER REVIEWER FOR JOURNALS

American Journal of Community Psychology, Social Science and Medicine, SSM- Mental Health

MEDIA MENTIONS

Vanderbilt University School of Engineering. (2025). Course seeks to engage students in discussions about planetary health, sustainability. <https://engineering.vanderbilt.edu/2025/01/27/course-seeks-to-engage-students-in-discussions-about-planetary-health-sustainability/>

Vanderbilt University. (2024, May 20). Two decades of collaboration: Vanderbilt and Civic Design Center’s impact on Nashville’s urban evolution. <https://www.vanderbilt.edu/government-community-relations/2024/05/20/two-decades-of-collaboration-vanderbilt-and-civic-design-centers-impact-on-nashvilles-urban-evolution/>

Vanderbilt University. (2024, April 1). Graduate School recognizes excellence among students, faculty at Honors Banquet. <https://news.vanderbilt.edu/2024/04/01/graduate-school-recognizes-excellence-among-students-faculty-at-honors-banquet/>

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2024–	Youth at the Table , Nashville, TN • Participatory Action Research Training Consultant • Youth Participatory Action Research Curriculum Development
2019–2025	Civic Design Center , Nashville, TN • Co-Developer and Facilitator of the Nashville Youth Design Team • Research Fellow
2024–2025	South Cumberland Community Fund , Monteagle, TN • Research Consultant
2022–2024	Environmental Working Group , Washington, D.C. • GIS Research Consultant • GIS Intern
2015–2018	Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia • Case Manager • Developed in-school mentoring programs
2013–2015	Orangeburg County School District , Orangeburg, SC • Middle School Social Studies Teacher

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Association of Geographers
- Society for Community Research and Action
- Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
- Urban Affairs Association

METHODOLOGICAL SKILLS

Experience with a range of data management, analysis, and visualization software, including ArcGIS Pro and online, QGIS, Posit (formerly R), Stata, SPSS, NVivo, MAXQDA, Microsoft Office Suite, REDCap, Covidence, and Canva