

Kayla M. Anderson, PhD

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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; Community organizing; Environmental justice; Social movements and collective action; Neighborhoods and communities; Community power and empowerment processes; Geospatial analysis; Action research; Qualitative methodologies.

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- McCormick, M. L., Morgan, K. Y., **Anderson, K. M.**, Gibson, M., Fike, K. J., and Christens, B. D. (2026). Participatory drawing as a method to explore youth sense of place. *Journal of Participatory Research Methods*. <https://doi.org/10.35844/001c.164971>
- Morgan, K. Y., **Anderson, K. M.**, & Ellison, E. R. (2026). Policy change and youth participatory action research in community settings: Case examples from California and Tennessee. *Evidence & Policy*. <https://doi.org/10.1332/17442648Y2026D000000090>
- 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 Preparation

Anderson, K. M. (2026). Centering the “rural” in environmental justice scholarship: A case study of Grundy County, Tennessee, USA. Target Journal: *Journal of Rural Studies*

Azamian, S., **Anderson, K. M.**, Morgan, K. Y., & Christens, B. D. (2027). Social-emotional aspects of empowerment processes. Target Journal: *American Journal of Community Psychology*

BOOK CHAPTERS

McCormick, M. L., Azamian, S., Morgan, K. Y., Gibson, M., **Anderson, K. M.**, & Christens, B. D. (2026). 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.

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>

TECHNICAL REPORTS

De Asis Miralle, A., Macey, G., & **Anderson, K. M.** (2026). *Unhoused populations*. California’s Fifth Climate Change Assessment.

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

2026–2027 Youth-led placemaking in rural Georgia (\$9,880), Rural Engagement Research Seed Grant, Office of Public Service and Outreach, University of Georgia
Principal Investigator. Co-PIs: S. Adams, J. Edwards, L. Healy, A. Jackson, B. Walker

- 2026–2027 Addressing barriers crucial to rural implementations of pharmacogenomics (ABC-PGx) (\$8,677), Rural Engagement Research Seed Grant, Office of Public Service and Outreach, University of Georgia
Co-Researcher. PI: C. D. Thomas; Co-PIs: C. Brown, V. Dixon, S. Liggett, S. Moore
- 2026 Learning to listen: Using participatory methods in graduate health curricula to enhance cultural humility and build heat resilience (\$10,000), Franklin College of Arts & Sciences, University of Georgia
Co-Researcher. PI: J. Shannon; Co-PIs: A. Grundstein, S. Lester, K. Meixner
- 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
Principal Investigator. Co-PIs: M. L. McCormick, M. Gibson
- 2024 Student Research Grant (\$500), Society for Community Research and Action
Principal Investigator.
- 2023–2024 Community Scholars Award (\$6,000), The Meharry-Vanderbilt Community Engaged Research Core
Principal Investigator.
- 2023–2024 Imagine Nashville Research Grant (\$60,000), Nashville Youth Design Team, Imagine Nashville & The Dream City Research Project
Principal Investigator. Co-PIs: M. L. McCormick, M. Gibson
- 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
Co-Principal Investigator. PI: B. A. Ackerly
- 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
Co-Principal Investigator. PI: B. A. Ackerly

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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

- Geog2011: Maps, Data, & Society
- Geog2011E: Maps, Data, & Society (Online)
- Geog1101: Human Geography: People, Places, & Cultures
- FYOS1001: First-Year Odyssey Seminar: The Power of Place: Why Neighborhoods Matter

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

- 2026– **Youth-Led Placemaking in Rural Georgia**, Thomson-McDuffie County, GA
University of Georgia's Archway Partnership and J.W. Fanning Institute

2025–2026	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
2022–2025	Grundy County Environmental Justice Project , Grundy County, TN Grundy County Cancer Research Organization
2020–2025	Nashville Youth Design Team , Nashville, TN Civic Design Center
2020–2022	Short-Term Rentals in Nashville , TN Open Table Nashville

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, & AWARDS

2026–2027	Teaching Academy Early Career Fellows Program, University of Georgia
2026	Rural Engagement Workshop for Academic Faculty, University of Georgia
2024	Excellence in Leadership Award, Graduate Leadership Institute, Vanderbilt University
2023–2024	Meharry-Vanderbilt Community Engaged Research Core, Community Scholar
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	2 nd 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 Burtress 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

Community Speaking Engagements

- Anderson, K. M.** (2026, September 23). *Community mapping*. [Presentation]. Augusta Preparatory Day School, Augusta, GA.
- Anderson, K. M.** (2026, April 16). *Community mapping*. [Workshop]. AP Human Geography Day, University of Georgia, Athens, GA.
- Anderson, K. M.** (2025, October 29). *The importance of third spaces for youth*. [Presentation]. Resilient Tennessee Collaborative Quarterly Meetings, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, Brentwood, TN.
- Anderson, K. M.** (2025, October 8). *Community mapping*. [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.
- Conference Presentations**
- Morgan, K. Y., **Anderson, K. M.**, Ellison, E. R., Christens, B. D., McCormick, M. L. (2026, June 27). *Youth research, power, and policy change* [Symposium]. Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- 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.** (2026, October 28). *Geography internships*. [Guest Lecture]. Professional Development in Geography & Atmospheric Sciences (GEOG3910), Franklin College of Arts & Sciences, University of Georgia, Athens, GA. Instructors: Jerry Shannon & Andrew Grundstein.
- Anderson, K. M.** (2026, August 26). *Digital learning tools*. [Guest Lecture]. Graduate Teaching Seminar (GRSC7770), Franklin College of Arts & Sciences, University of Georgia, Athens, GA. Instructors: Anna Harper & Jerry Shannon.
- Anderson, K. M.** (2026, March 17). *Youth participatory mapping and urban design*. [Guest Lecture]. Research Techniques in Environmental Design and Planning (EDES8020) and Research Strategies (PLAN6950), College of Environment and Design, University of Georgia, Athens, GA. Instructor: Jon Calabria
- Anderson, K. M.** (2026, January 27). *Youth participatory mapping*. [Guest Lecture]. Art Education in School, Museum, and Community (ARED 4060S/6060S), Lamar Dodd School of Art, University of Georgia, Athens, GA. Instructor: Christina Hanawalt, PhD.
- 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, Sewanee, 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, Sewanee, 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

STUDENT ADVISING & MENTORSHIP

Graduate Student Advising

TBD Kevin Zisadza, PhD in Geography, Franklin College of Arts & Sciences, University of Georgia.

Graduate Student Committee Member

- 2027 Ella Filippo, MUPD in Urban Planning and Design, College of Environment and Design, University of Georgia. Thesis: TBD
- 2026 Jennifer Ampomah, MUPD in Urban Planning and Design, College of Environment and Design, University of Georgia. Thesis: “Redeveloping Advance Park, Winneba, Ghana: A multifunctional cultural park for year-round community use, Effutu Municipality, Central Region, Ghana.” [Reading chair]
- 2026 Lauren Anderson, MLA in Landscape Architecture, College of Environment and Design, University of Georgia. Thesis: “Design for play: Facilitating Informal play in neighborhoods.”
- 2026 McKenna White, MHP in Historic Preservation, College of Environment and Design, University of Georgia. Thesis: “Does y’all really mean all? The National Register and LGBTQ+ preservation in the Southeast.”

Undergraduate Thesis Advising

- 2021 Elise Wagner, BA in Human and Organizational Development, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University. Honors Thesis: “Comparing the effectiveness of “Design Your Neighborhood” to other forms of civic action curricula” [Co-advisor]
- 2020 Catherine Paxton, BA in Human and Organizational Development, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University. Thesis: “Retaining an essential workforce: A quantitative analysis of workforce retention factors among water operators in Tennessee.” [Co-advisor]

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

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

- 2026– Department Advisory Committee, *Committee Member*
- 2026– Colloquium Committee, *Committee Member*
- 2025– Undergraduate Studies Committee, *Committee Member*
- 2025– Undergraduate Internship Coordinator

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, *Committee Member*

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, *Panel Co-Organizer*, “Youth Leadership in Nashville: Voice, Power, and Social Change”

2021–2022 Community Research and Action Professional Development Committee, *Committee Member*

2020–2021 Colloquium Committee, *Committee Member*

2019–2020 M.Ed. in Community Development & Action, Peer Mentor Program, *Peer Career Mentor*

SERVICE TO THE FIELD

Peer Reviewer for Journals

Journal of Participatory Research Methods, American Journal of Community Psychology, Journal of Community Psychology, Journal of Youth Development, Social Science and Medicine, SSM- Mental Health

MEDIA MENTIONS

UGA Today. (2026, April 22). UGA Rural Engagement Workshop empowers faculty to connect with communities. <https://news.uga.edu/uga-rural-engagement-workshop-empowers-faculty-to-connect-with-communities/>

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

2024–2025 **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**, Columbia, SC

- 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