

Emily Spence, PhD
Health Behavior & Health Systems
School of Public Health
Email: Emily.Spence@unthsc.edu



Area of Expertise

I am a community-engaged scholar in the areas of program evaluation, interpersonal violence, poverty, homelessness, women's health, lifestyle interventions, and community assessment. I collaborate with groups and organizations on the design of new programs, as well as the collection and analysis of data that can be used to improve or develop solutions for a healthier community. As a program evaluator, I have assessed numerous public health concerns, including breast cancer, asthma, cradle to career development, violence, trauma, economic well-being, post-incarceration re-entry, and women's wellness. I am particularly interested in interventions that are strengths-based and support human resiliency, such as Solution-Focused therapies, Motivational Interviewing, and asset-based community development.

Qualifications

BSW, Florida State University
MSW, Florida State University
PhD in Social Work

Recent Publications

Contraception-related knowledge, attitude, belief contexts among US women experiencing homelessness: A scoping review

Galvin, A. M., Garg, A., Akpan, I. N., Spence, E. E. & Thompson, E. L., Sep 2023, In: Nursing and Health Sciences. 25, 3, p. 290-301 12 p.

The Body in Crisis: A Health Needs Assessment among Female Survivors of Interpersonal Violence

Chhetri, S., Gonzalez-Pons, K., Andrews, A., Carlson, E., Grace, J., Thompson, E. L. & Spence, E. E., Jan 2023, In: Journal of Interpersonal Violence. 38, 1-2, p. NP1970-NP1989

What's Theory Got to Do with It: Measuring Effects of Theory on Lifestyle Behaviors and Weight in the Better Me Within Randomized Trial

Dodgen, L., Kitzman, H., Spence, E., Mamun, A., Walters, S. T. & Cervantes, D., 2023, In: American Journal of Health Education. 54, 2, p. 86-98 13 p.

Implementation of the Texas Community-Engaged Statewide Consortium for the Prevention of COVID-19

Thompson, E. L., Beech, B. M., Ferrer, R. L., McNeil, L. H., Opusunju, J. J., Seguin-Fowler, R. A., Spence, E. E., Torres-Hostos, L., Amos, C. I., Desai, P. & Vishwanatha, J. K., Nov 2022, In: International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. 19, 21, 14046.

Evaluation of a School-Based Child Physical and Sexual Abuse Prevention Program

Thompson, E. L., Zhou, Z., Garg, A., Rohr, D., Ajoku, B. & Spence, E. E., Aug 2022, In: Health Education and Behavior. 49, 4, p. 584-592 9 p.

The Implementation of an Interpersonal Violence Screening Program in Primary Care Settings: Lessons Learned

Thompson, E. L., Fulda, K. G., Grace, J., Galvin, A. M. & Spence, E. E., Jul 2022, In: Health Promotion Practice. 23, 4, p. 640-649 10 p.

The Texas Community-Engagement Research Alliance Against COVID-19 in Disproportionately Affected Communities (TX CEAL) Consortium

Seguin-Fowler, R. A., Amos, C., Beech, B. M., Ferrer, R. L., McNeill, L., Opusunju, J. J., Spence, E., Thompson, E. L., Torres-Hostos, L. R. & Vishwanatha, J. K., 25 Apr 2022, In: Journal of Clinical and Translational Science. 6, 1, e64.

Development and implementation of tablet-based screening for interpersonal violence in primary care settings

Spence, E. E., Prabhakar, P., Grace, J., Fulda, K. G., Thompson, E. L. & Ondersma, S. J., 2022, In: Health Care for Women International. 43, 12, p. 1503-1509 7 p.

Development and validation of a child physical and sexual abuse prevention scale

Thompson, E. L., Garg, A., Esser, K. C., Caddy, D., Matthes, S., Rohr, D. & Spence, E. E., Oct 2021, In: American Journal of Health Behavior. 45, 5, p. 947-955 9 p.

Analyzing predictors of control measures and psychosocial problems associated with covid-19 pandemic: Evidence from eight countries

Jony, S. S. R., Haque, U., Webb, N. J., Spence, E., Rahman, M. S., Aghamohammadi, N., Lie, Y., Angulo-Molina, A., Ananth, S., Ren, X., Kawachi, N., Ito, H., Ulvi, O., Lubinda, J., Karamehic-Muratovic, A., Maher, W., Ali, P. & Rahman, M. S., Aug 2021, In: Behavioral Sciences. 11, 8, 106.

Sponsored Projects

2020 & 2021 Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA) Survey

Thompson, E. (PI) & Spence, E. (Col)

Cook Children's Health Care System

1/09/20 → 31/03/22

Direction Home Program Year VIII

Spence, E. (PI)

United Way of Tarrant County

1/08/16 → 31/07/17

Directions Home Evaluation Program Year IV

Spence, E. (PI)

United Way of Tarrant County

1/04/12 → 31/05/13

Directions Home Independent Evaluation PYV

Spence, E. (PI)

United Way of Tarrant County

1/06/13 → 31/05/14

Directions Home Program Year VI

Spence, E. (PI)

United Way of Tarrant County

1/08/14 → 30/07/15

Directions Home Program Year VII

Spence, E. (PI)

United Way of Tarrant County

1/08/15 → 31/07/16

Evaluation of the Second Chance Act Mentoring Program

Spence, E. (PI)

Family Pathfinders of Tarrant County Inc

1/11/13 → 31/12/15

HB4 Pre-K Quality Implementation Consultation and Report

Spence, E. (PI)

Early Learning Alliance

1/07/16 → 31/12/16

Health Advocacy Project for Interpersonal Violence Victims

Spence, E. (PI), Fulda, K. (Col), Walters, S. (Col) & Thompson, E. (Col)
Office of the Gov - Criminal Justice Div
1/10/18 → 30/06/19

Health Advocacy Project for Interpersonal Violence Victims

Spence, E. (PI), Fulda, K. (Col), Walters, S. (Col) & Thompson, E. (Col)
1/10/18 → 30/09/21

Health Navigation Incentives for Dual Diagnosis Patients (Medicaid Waiver 1115)

Walters, S. (PI), Nejtek, V. (Col), Thombs, D. (Col) & Spence, E. (Col)
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
28/05/13 → 31/01/18

HSC Interventions to Address O

Wagner, T. (PI) & Spence, E. (Col)
City of Fort Worth
1/03/24 → 28/02/25

Key School Evaluation

Spence, E. (PI)
The Key School
1/07/13 → 31/08/14

Learning Community to Identify Best Practices for Self-Care for Mental Health Professionals

Spence, E. (PI) & Barnett, T. (Col)
Mental Health Connection of Tarrant Co.
1/08/18 → 31/01/21

Morris Foundation Trauma-Informed Care

Spence, E. (PI)
UNTHSC Foundation
1/01/21 → 31/12/21

Needs Assessment for Trauma Support Services of North Texas

Spence, E. (PI)
Trauma Support Services of North Texas
1/10/14 → 1/07/15

Play It Safe Evaluation - Women's Center of Tarrant County

Thompson, E. (PI), Spence, E. (Col) & Thompson, E. (Col)
Women's Center of Tarrant County
1/03/18 → 30/09/20

Reaching Teens Pilot Evaluation Project

Spence, E. (PI) & Spence, E. (Col)
Mental Health Connection of Tarrant Co.
1/09/14 → 31/08/17

Reforming and Integrating Policies for Hospital Discharge, Continuum of Care, and Social Services for People Who Are Homeless with Co-Occurring Mental and Medical Illness in Tarrant County

Nejtek, V. (PI) & Spence, E. (Col)
Hogg Foundation For Mental Health
1/02/13 → 31/01/15

Regional Medical Library for Region 3 of the Network of the National Library of Medicine (ARK, KS, LA, MO, NE, OK, TX) and National Public Health Coordination Office

Spence, E. (PI) & Wagner, T. (Col)

NLM: National Library of Medicine

1/05/21 → 30/04/26

Second Chance Act Community-Based Reentry Program

Spence, E. (PI) & Yockey, A. (Col)

Family Pathfinders of Tarrant County Inc

1/01/22 → 30/09/24

Second Chance Act Comprehensive Community-Based Adult Reentry Program

Spence, E. (PI)

Family Pathfinders of Tarrant County Inc

1/10/18 → 30/09/21

Second Chance Act Comprehensive Community-Based Reentry Program Utilizing Mentors Program

Spence, E. (PI)

Family Pathfinders of Tarrant County Inc

1/12/14 → 31/12/17

Second Chance Mentoring Evaluation

Spence, E. (PI)

Cornerstone Assistance Network

18/11/14 → 15/01/17

Systems Change Project Center for Transforming Lives

Thompson, E. (PI) & Spence, E. (Col)

Center for Transforming Lives

1/01/19 → 30/06/19

TESSA HIV-IPV Expansion

Spence, E. (PI) & Thompson, E. (Col)

DHHS - Office of Women's Health

15/09/19 → 14/09/21

TESSA HIV-IPV Expansion

Spence, E. (PI)

DHHS - Office of Women's Health

15/09/19 → 31/08/22

TESSA: Technology Enhanced Screening and Supportive Assistance

Spence, E. (PI), Fulda, K. (Col), Walters, S. (Col) & Thompson, E. (Col)

DHHS - Office of Women's Health

15/08/15 → 31/07/18

Texas Asthma Control Evaluation

Spence, E. (PI) & Sterling, D. (Col)

Texas Dept of State Health Services

1/11/12 → 31/08/13

Texas Asthma Control Plan Evaluation

Spence, E. (PI) & Sterling, D. (Col)

TX Department of State Health Services

1/09/13 → 31/08/14

Texas CEAL Consortium

Spence, E. (PI), Wagner, T. (Col) & Sambamoorthi, U. (Col)
RTI International
9/09/20 → 31/10/21

Texas CEAL Consortium

Spence, E. (PI), Wagner, T. (Col) & Sambamoorthi, U. (Col)
Westat, Inc.
1/11/21 → 31/08/23

Texas Center for Minority Health Education, Research and Outreach - Outreach Core

Spence, E. (PI) & Paul, M. (Col)
NIMHD: Natl Institute on Minority Health
16/07/12 → 31/05/18

Texas Center of Minority Health, Education, Research and Outreach Community Engagement

Spence, E. (PI) & Yockey, A. (Col)
NIMHD: Natl Institute on Minority Health
23/09/17 → 16/06/24

Texas Center of Minority Health, Education, Research and Outreach Community Engagement

Spence, E. (PI)
NIMHD: Natl Institute on Minority Health
23/09/17 → 31/05/22

Texas Center of Minority Health, Education, Research and Outreach - Core 2

Spence, E. (PI)
NIMHD: Natl Institute on Minority Health
23/09/17 → 31/05/22

Texas Center of Minority Health, Education, Research and Outreach - Core 2

Spence, E. (PI)
NIMHD: Natl Institute on Minority Health
23/09/17 → 31/05/22

Texas Center of Minority Health, Education, Research and Outreach - Core 2

Spence, E. (PI) & Chhetri, S. (Col)
NIMHD: Natl Institute on Minority Health
23/09/17 → 31/05/22

Texas Center of Minority Health, Education, Research and Outreach - Project 3

Spence, E. (PI), Walters, S. (Col) & Barnett, T. (Col)
NIMHD: Natl Institute on Minority Health
23/09/17 → 31/05/22

Texas Center of Minority Health, Education, Research and Outreach - Project 3

Spence, E. (PI), Walters, S. (Col) & Barnett, T. (Col)
NIMHD: Natl Institute on Minority Health
23/09/17 → 31/05/22

Texas Education for Homeless Children and Youth (TEHCY) Resource Curation and Development

Thompson, E. (PI) & Spence, E. (Col)
Education Service Center Region 13
1/09/19 → 30/08/20

Texas Minority Health, Education, Research, and Outreach (Texas MiHERO)

Vishwanatha, J. (PI), Knebl, J. (Col), Raines-Milenkov, A. (Col), Cunningham, T. (Col), He, J. (Col), Spence, E. (Col), Clay, P. (Col) & Basha, R. (Col)
NIMHD: Natl Institute on Minority Health
14/09/17 → 30/06/22

The Mental Health Connection's Recognize & Rise Community Awareness Initiative

Spence, E. (PI)
Mental Health Connection of Tarrant Co.
1/07/23 → 31/12/23

True Worth Place Implementation Support Services

Spence, E. (PI) & Walters, S. (Col)
True Worth Place
1/08/14 → 10/05/15

United Way: Financial Stability Evaluation: Year Four

Spence, E. (PI)
United Way of Tarrant County
1/09/13 → 31/10/19

United Way of Tarrant County Community Assessment Project Director and Vendor

Spence, E. (PI)
United Way of Tarrant County
1/02/18 → 31/12/18

United Way of Tarrant County Education Evaluation

Spence, E. (PI)
United Way of Tarrant County
1/07/12 → 30/11/13

United way of Tarrant County Finacial Stability Evaluation

Spence, E. (PI)
United Way of Metropolitan Tarrant County
1/07/12 → 30/06/13

United Way of Tarrant County Third-Party Independent Evaluation Services

Spence, E. (PI) & Yockey, A. (Col)
United Way of Tarrant County
15/08/22 → 15/12/23

VietAmerican Health Pilot Study

Nguyen, U.-S. (PI), Spence, E. (Col) & Spence, E. (Col)
NIMHD: Natl Institute on Minority Health
25/07/20 → 31/08/23