Todd D. Becker, LMSW

University of Maryland School of Social Work 525 West Redwood Street Baltimore, MD 21201-1777 todd.becker@ssw.umaryland.edu

Education

2018–Present PhD Candidate, Social Work

University of Maryland

Dissertation: Attitudes Toward Medical Aid in Dying in a National Sample

of Hospice Clinicians (chair: John Cagle, PhD, MSW)

Advanced to candidacy 6/9/2022

2014–2016 MSW

University of Iowa

2009–2013 BA, Spanish and French

University of Iowa

Licensure

2018–Present Licensed Master of Social Work (Maryland: #23863)

2016–Present Licensed Master of Social Work (Iowa: #081586)

Publications

Peer-Reviewed

- **Becker, T. D.,** & Cagle, J. G. (2022). Bereavement support services in a national sample of hospices: A content analysis. *OMEGA—Journal of Death and Dying*. Advance online Publication. https://doi.org/10.1177/0030222821997602
- **Becker, T. D.,** Leffler, K. A., & McCarthy, L. P. (2022). Individual characteristics associated with color-blind racial attitudes in Master of Social Work students. *Journal of Social Work Education*, *58*(3), 472–485. https://doi.org/10.1080/10437797.2021.1942352
- Buckley, T. D., **Becker, T. D.,** & Burnette, D. (2022). Validation of the abbreviated Lubben Social Network Scale (LSNS-6) and its association with self-rated health amongst older adults in Puerto Rico. *Health & Social Care in the Community*. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/10.1111/hsc.13977

- Lee, J., Baik, S., **Becker, T. D.,** & Cheon, J. H. (2022). Themes describing social isolation in family caregivers of people living with dementia: A scoping review. *Dementia*, 21(2), 701–721. https://doi.org/10.1177%2F14713012211056288
- Millstein, L. S., Rosenblatt, P. Y., Allen, J., Bellin, M. H., Whitney, L., Eveland, S. R., Lee, M.-C., Mutchie, H., **Becker, T. D.,** & Cagle, J. G. (2022). Advance care planning and communication skills improve after an interprofessional team simulation with standardized patients. *Palliative Medicine Reports*, *3*(1), 123–131. https://doi.org/10.1089/pmr.2021.0086
- **Becker, T. D.** (2021). Health care utilization as a predictor of death anxiety in older adults. *Death Studies*, 46(3), 728–737. https://doi.org/10.1080/07481187.2020.1774942
- **Becker, T. D.,** Davitt, J. K., & Moone, R. P. (2021). The intersection of sociopolitical trends and Aging Network training: An analysis of national conference proceedings. *Educational Gerontology*, 47(6), 257–268. https://doi.org/10.1080/03601277.2021.1917753

Invited

- **Becker, T. D.,** & Cagle, J. G. (2022). The importance and impact of culture in palliative care. In T. Altilio, S. Otis-Green, & J. G. Cagle (Eds.), *Oxford textbook of palliative social work* (2nd ed., pp. 26–38). Oxford University Press. http://doi.org/10.1093/med/9780197537855.003.0003
- **Becker, T. D.** (2021). Geriatric social work: Opportunities for practitioners [Review of the book *The Practice of Social Work With Older Adults: Insights and Opportunities for a Growing Profession*, by M. Kaplan]. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 64(2), 208–210. https://doi.org/10.1080/01634372.2020.1749747

Under Review

- **Becker, T. D.,** & Cagle, J. G. (2022). *Priority research topics and patient and family needs in a national sample of hospice agencies* [Manuscript submitted for publication]. School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore.
- Shdaimah, C. S., Franke, N. D., **Becker T. D.,** & Leon, C. S. (2022). *Of house and home: The meanings of housing for women engaged in criminalised street-based sex work*[Manuscript submitted for publication]. School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore.
- Kusmaul, N., **Becker, T. D.,** Gibson, A., & Wallace C. L. (2020). *Medical aid in dying: Does policy prevent suffering at the end of life?* [Manuscript submitted for publication]. School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Kusmaul, N. S., **Becker, T. D.,** Hector, P., Bern-Klug, M., & Smith, K. (2019). *High interest in pursuing trauma-informed care in nursing home social services directors* [Manuscript submitted for publication]. School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

In Preparation

- **Becker, T. D.,** Clem, S. E., & Sacco, P. (2022). Further evaluation of a modified version of the Hospice Philosophy Scale: A multigroup confirmatory factor analysis. [Manuscript in preparation]. School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore.
- Shdaimah, C. S., **Becker, T. D.,** Franke, N. D., & Leon, C. S. (2021). *Creepy men, reject families, and shithead guys: The policing of women's intimate relationships in a prostitution court* [Manuscript in preparation]. School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore.
- **Becker, T. D.,** Choate, S. E., DeForge, B. R., & Cagle, J. G. (2020). *Social workers' attitudes toward medical aid in dying: A systematic review* [Manuscript in preparation]. School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore.
- Choate, S. E., **Becker, T. D.,** & Purser, G. L. (2020). *Death in the absence of fear: A thematic analysis of lack of death fears* [Manuscript in preparation]. School of Social Work, Louisiana State University.
- Cagle, J. G., & **Becker, T. D.** (2020). *Estimating the impact of social work involvement on palliative care outcomes: A meta-analysis* [Manuscript in preparation]. School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore.
- **Becker, T. D.,** & Buckley, T. D. (2020). *Decade in review: Gerontological content in the Council on Social Work Education's Annual Program Meeting and the Society for Social Work and Research's Annual Conference* [Manuscript in preparation]. School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore.
- **Becker, T. D.,** Cagle, J. G., Sacco, P., & Guralnik, J. M. (2019). *The prevalence of prior mental health and substance use problems in older persons and their family members: Findings from a national sample with stratification by end-of-life care* [Manuscript in preparation]. School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Presentations

Peer-Reviewed

Becker, T. D., Kusmaul, N., Gibson, A., & Wallace, C. L. (2022, November 2–6). *Medical aid in dying: Does policy prevent suffering at the end of life?* [Poster presentation].

- Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, United States.
- **Becker, T. D.,** Buckley, T. D., & Burnette, D. (2022, November 2–6). Knowledge, attitudes, and practices toward COVID-19 among older adults in Puerto Rico. In D. Burnette (Chair), *The experience of the COVID-19 pandemic among older adults in Puerto Rico* [Symposium]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, United States.
- Cagle, J., Orth, J., **Becker, T. D.,** Zhang, P., Ersek, M., Tu, W., Floyd, A., & Unroe, K. T. (2022, November 2–6). *Symptom burden and quality of life for nursing home residents with dementia: UPLIFT trial early data* [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, United States.
- Camacho, D., Pacheco, K., **Becker, T. D.,** Reid, M. C., & Wethington, E. (2022, November 2–6). *Loneliness in community-dwelling US older Latinx adults* [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, United States.
- Fabelo, H., Morgan, M., Vazquez, J., & **Becker, T. D.** (2022, November 2–6). Life lessons: The experiences of older adults living in Puerto Rico during COVID-19. In D. Burnette (Chair), *The experience of the COVID-19 pandemic among older adults in Puerto Rico* [Symposium]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, United States.
- Morgan, M., Kim, S. **Becker, T. D.,** & Buckley, T. D. (2022, November 2–6). The association of loneliness and mental health among older Puerto Ricans: The moderating role of loss of a loved one to COVID-19. In D. Burnette (Chair), *The experience of the COVID-19 pandemic among older adults in Puerto Rico* [Symposium]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, United States.
- Kusmaul, N., & **Becker, T. D.** (2022, September 7–10). *High interest in pursuing trauma-informed care in nursing home social services directors* [Paper presentation]. International Long Term Care Policy Network 6th International Conference on Evidence-based Policy in Long-term Care, London, England, United Kingdom.
- Camacho, D., Pacheco, K., & **Becker, T. D.** (2022, August 3–6). Descriptions and experiences of COVID-19 among older Hispanics in the USA. In M. P. Aranda & D. Camacho (Chairs), *The impacts of COVID-19 on older adults' psychological and physical wellbeing, and use of telemedicine* [Symposium]. World Psychiatric Association 22nd World Congress of Psychiatry, Bangkok, Central Thailand, Thailand.
- Camacho, D., Pacheco, K., **Becker, T. D.,** Reid, M. C., Wethington, E. (2022, May 18–22). *Descriptions and experiences of loneliness in older Latinx adults* [Paper presentation]. International Institute for Qualitative Inquiry 18th International Congress of Qualitative

- Inquiry, Champaign, IL, United States.
- **Becker, T. D.,** & Cagle, J. G. (2022, January 12–16). *Social workers' attitudes toward medical aid in dying: A modified systematic review* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 26th Annual Conference, Washington, DC, United States.
- Cagle, J. G., & **Becker, T. D.** (2022, January 12–16). *Estimating the impact of social work on palliative care outcomes: A meta-analysis* [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 26th Annual Conference, Washington, DC, United States.
- **Becker, T. D.,** & Cagle, J. G. (2021, November 10–14). *Bereavement support services in a national sample of hospices: A content analysis* [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Phoenix, AZ, United States. https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igab046.2181
- **Becker, T. D.,** & Cagle, J. G. (2021, November 10–14). *Unmet needs in hospice and research priorities: Priorities from a national sample of hospice agencies* [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Phoenix, AZ, United States. https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igab046.1380
- Cheon, J. H., Park, M. K., & **Becker, T. D.** (2021, November 10–14). *Housing cost burden and well-being in older adults moderated by neighborhood cohesion and disorder*. [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Phoenix, AZ, United States. https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igab046.3396
- Shdaimah, C. S., Leon, C. S., & **Becker, T. D.** (2021, May 27–30). *Creepy men, reject families, and the policing of women's intimate relationships in a prostitution court* [Paper presentation]. Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, United States.
- Buckley, T. D., **Becker, T. D.,** Burnette, D., & Fabelo, H. E. (2021, January 20–22). *Validation of the six-item Lubben Social Network Scale with Spanish-speaking older adults in Puerto Rico* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 25th Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, United States.
- Choate, S. E., Purser, G. L., & **Becker, T. D.** (2021, January 20–22). *Death in the absence of fear: A thematic analysis of lack of death fears* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 25th Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, United States.
- Lee, J., Baik, S., **Becker, T. D.,** & Cheon, J. H. (2021, January 20–22). *Social isolation in informal caregivers of people with dementia: A scoping review* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 25th Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, United States.
- **Becker, T. D.,** & Leffler, K. A. (2020, November 16–20). Individual characteristics associated with color-blind racial ideology in Master of Social Work students. In **T. D. Becker**

- (Chair), *Critical race theory in action: A multisite inquiry of MSW education* [Panel presentation]. Council on Social Work Education 66th Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO, United States.
- Millstein, L. S., Rosenblatt, P. Y., **Becker, T. D.,** Cagle, J. C., Allen, J. C., Bellin, M. H., Eveland, S. R., Lee, M.-C., & Perez Marquez, B. (2020, November 18). *An interprofessional training to improve advance care planning skills of students and healthcare professionals by collaborating with oncology and palliative care champions [Paper presentation]. University of Maryland, Baltimore Center for Interprofessional Education Seed Grant Symposium, Baltimore, MD, United States.*
- **Becker, T. D.,** & Cagle, J. G. (2020, November 4–7). *Evaluating an advance care planning skills training for medical, nursing, and social work students* [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, United States. https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igaa057.784
- **Becker, T. D.,** Cagle, J. G., & Sacco, P. (2020, November 4–7). *The prevalence of prior mental health and substance use problems in older persons and their families* [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, United States. https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igaa057.552
- **Becker, T. D.,** Moone, R., & Davitt, J. K. (2020, November 4–7). *A follow-up content analysis of Aging Network conference proceedings: Aligning research and practice* [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, United States. https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igaa057.207
- Kusmaul, N. S., & **Becker, T. D.** (2020, November 4–7). Social work training and readiness for trauma-informed care in nursing homes. In M. Bern-Klug (Chair), *The 2019 National Nursing Home Social Services Directors' study* [Symposium]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, United States. https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igaa057.2535
- **Becker, T. D.,** Millstein, L. S., Cagle, J. G., Rosenblatt, P. Y., Bellin, M. H., Allen, J. C., & Eveland, S. R. (2020, August 6, 13, 20). *A training targeting advance care planning for medical, nursing, and social work students* [Poster presentation]. Nexus Summit 2020, Minneapolis, MN, United States.
- **Becker, T. D.** (2020, March 6). *The impact of social identity on perceived career self-efficacy in Master of Social Work students* [Poster presentation]. University of Maryland, Baltimore 42nd Annual Graduate Research Conference, Baltimore, MD, United States.
- **Becker, T. D.,** & Burry, C. L. (2020, January 15–19). "I don't know how to live sober": Trauma-informed treatment in carceral settings [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 24th Annual Conference, Washington, DC, United States.

- **Becker, T. D.** (2019, November 13–17). *Healthcare encounters as predictors of death anxiety in older adults* [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Austin, TX, United States. https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igz038.3114
- Burry, C. L., & Becker, T. D. (2019, October 24–27). *Smart decarceration: Meeting a Grand Challenge through social work education* [Poster presentation]. Council on Social Work Education 65th Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO, United States.
- Burry, C. L., **Becker, T. D.,** & Parrish, M. (2019, August 12–14). "I want to be a better mom for my kids": Narratives of mothers who are incarcerated [Paper presentation]. International Coalition for Children With Incarcerated Parents 2nd International Biennial Conference, Huddersfield, England, United Kingdom.

Under Review

- Buckley, T. D., Burnette, J. D., **Becker, T. D.,** & Morgan, M. (2023, January 11–15). *Delayed health care among older adults in Puerto Rico during COVID-19* [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 27th Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ, United States.
- Burnette, J. D., Buckley, T. D., **Becker, T. D.,** & Kim. K. (2023, January 11–15). *Knowledge, attitudes, and practices toward COVID-19 among older adults in Puerto Rico* [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 27th Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ, United States.
- Cho, S., Buckley, T. D., & **Becker, T. D.** (2023, January 11–15). *The moderating effect of sex on sense of community and quality of life among older adults in Puerto Rico during COVID-19* [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 27th Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ, United States.
- Fabelo, H. E., **Becker, T. D.,** Morgan, M., & Vazquez, J. (2023, January 11–15). Puerto Rican older adults' resilience and wisdom: Lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 27th Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ, United States.
- Kim, S., **Becker, T. D.,** Morgan, M., Buckley, T. D., & Burnette, J. D. (2023, January 11–15). *COVID-19 attitudes and quality of life in older adults in Puerto Rico: The mediating role of psychological sense of community* [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 27th Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ, United States.
- Zhang, P., & **Becker, T. D.** (2023, January 11–15). *Association between sense of control and death anxiety in older adults* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 27th Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ, United States.

Funding

Funded Research Support

June 2022 Attitudes Toward Medical Aid in Dying in a National Sample of Hospice

Clinicians

Principal investigator: Becker, T. D.

Funder: University of Maryland School of Social Work

Award: Dissertation Grant Award

Amount: \$4,000

February 2016 Agency Centralization and Hospital Social Worker Burnout

Principal investigator: Becker, T. D.

Funder: University of Iowa Graduate & Professional Student Government

Award: Research Grant

Amount: \$1,500

Unfunded Research Support

July 2022 Attitudes Toward Medical Aid in Dying in a National Sample of Hospice

Clinicians

Principal investigator: Becker, T. D.

Funder: University of Maryland, Baltimore Graduate Student Association

Award: Research Award

Amount: \$1,000

December 2019 Translation & Dissemination of Evidence-Based Materials to Address

Barriers to Pain Management at the End-of-Life

Principal investigator: Cagle, J. G.

Role: Project manager (300 hours of effort [\$7,000])

Funder: Mapi Research Trust Award: Catherine Pouget Award

Amount: \$10,000

Funded Travel Support

August 2022, Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting (2019); September 2021, Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting (2021,

October 2019 2022); Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference (2022,

2023)

Funder: University of Maryland School of Social Work

Award: PhD Travel Fellowship Amount: \$600 (each time awarded)

November 2019 International Coalition for Children With Incarcerated Parents 2nd

International Biennial Conference (2019)

Funder: University of Maryland Graduate Student Association

Award: Travel Fellowship

Amount: \$300

October 2019 Nexus Summit (2020)

Funder: UMB Center for Interprofessional Education Faculty Award Award: Faculty Awards in Support of Interprofessional Education

Amount: \$2,000

Research Experience

Fall 2022–Present Graduate Research Assistant (.5 FTE)

University of Maryland School of Social Work Faculty mentor: Joan K. Davitt, PhD, MLSP, MSW

Summer 2022 Graduate Research Assistant (.5 FTE)

University of Maryland School of Social Work Faculty mentor: John G. Cagle, PhD, MSW

Topic area: Palliative care in long-term care residents

Responsibilities: Conducted face-to-face and telephone survey interviews

for Utilizing Palliative Leaders in Facilities to Transform care for Alzheimer's Disease (UPLIFT-AD; Project No. 1R01AG066922-01)

2021–2022 Graduate Research Assistant (.5 FTE)

University of Maryland School of Social Work Faculty mentor: David Camacho, PhD, MSW, MSG

Topic areas: LGBTQIA+ older adults, loneliness, chronic pain, suicidality

Responsibilities: Conducted in-depth, semistructured interviews in Spanish; conducted survey interviews in Spanish, conducted qualitative and quantitative data analysis; prepared results for dissemination

2019–2021 Graduate Research Assistant (.5 FTE)

University of Maryland School of Social Work Faculty mentor: John G. Cagle, PhD, MSW

Topic areas: Hospice, hospice pain management, hospice drug disposal

programs, advance care planning, mental health in older adults Responsibilities: Collaborated with interdisciplinary research teams, assisted with Catherine Pouget Award grant proposal, assisted with UPLIFT-AD intervention preparation and data collection, assisted with research design conceptualization, assisted with data collection and management, prepared IRB protocols, conducted qualitative and

quantitative data analysis, prepared results for dissemination, coauthored

book chapter

2018–2019 Graduate Research Assistant (.5 FTE)

University of Maryland School of Social Work Faculty mentor: Caroline L. Burry, PhD, LCSW-C Topic areas: Prison-based, trauma-informed programs

Responsibilities: Assisted with data collection and management, conducted qualitative data collection, conducted qualitative and quantitative data analysis, prepared results for dissemination

Teaching Experience

Boise State University School of Social Work

Fall 2022, Adjunct instructor

Summer 2022, Class: Foundations of Research II

Spring 2022 Level: Graduate

Enrollment: 16

Format Hybrid online

Spring 2021 Adjunct instructor

Class: Foundations of Research I

Level: Graduate Enrollment: 15

Format: Hybrid online

Lifespan of Greater Rochester (in conjunction with St. John Fisher College)

Spring 2021 Seminar instructor

Class: Loss, Separation, and Grief Level: Undergraduate and graduate

Enrollment: 20

Format: Synchronous online

University of Maryland School of Social Work

Spring 2019 Teaching assistant

Class: International Social Welfare

Level: Graduate Enrollment: 14 Format: In person

University of Iowa School of Social Work

Spring 2018, Teaching assistant

Fall 2017 Class: Death and Dying: Issues Across the Life Span

Class: Undergraduate, graduate

Level: 50 per semester

Primary instructor: Sara Sanders, PhD, MSW

Format: In person

Social Work Practice Experience

2017–2018 Social Worker III

Adult outpatient medical-surgical clinics University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics

Responsibilities: Collaborated with interdisciplinary medical team, managed 11 outpatient clinics, conducted outpatient preoperative

assessments, provided information and referral services

2016–2017 Social Worker II

Adult inpatient cardiology

University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics

Responsibilities: Collaborated with interdisciplinary medical team, carried

caseload of 15, conducted inpatient discharge planning

Winter 2016 Social Work Student

Adult inpatient and outpatient upper abdominal transplant

University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics

Responsibilities: Collaborated with interdisciplinary medical team, carried caseload of 15, outpatient preoperative transplant assessments, inpatient

discharge planning

2015–2016 Social Work Intern

Adult inpatient and outpatient oncology University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics

Responsibilities: Collaborated with interdisciplinary medical team,

provided float coverage across inpatient and outpatient oncology services,

conducted outpatient preoperative assessments, conducted inpatient

discharge planning

Spring 2015 Social Work Intern

Adult inpatient psychiatry

University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics Populations: Eating disorder, mood disorder

Responsibilities: Collaborated with interdisciplinary medical team, conducted admission assessments, assisted with commitments, observed

therapy sessions

Honors

2019 Pre-Dissertation Fellows Program

Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work

2011–2013 Academic All-Big Ten

University of Iowa

2012–2013, Dean's List

Fall 2011, University of Iowa

2009-2010

Memberships

2022–Present American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine

2022–Present Hospice & Palliative Nurses Association

2021–2022 Law & Society Association

2019–Present Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work

2019–Present Gerontological Society of America

2019–Present Society for Social Work and Research

Service

Ad Hoc Conference Reviewer

2021–Present Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting

Ad Hoc Journal Reviewer

2021–Present *OMEGA*—Journal of Death and Dying

2020 Social Work in Health Care

University of Maryland, Baltimore

2018–2019 Representative

University of Maryland Graduate Student Association

University of Maryland School of Social Work

2022–2023 Representative

University of Maryland School of Social Work PhD Social Committee

University of Iowa

2012–2013, 2010–2011

Representative Iowa Student-Athlete Advisory Committee