

**Yali Deng, MSW, PhD Candidate**  
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## EDUCATION

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| <b>PhD Candidate in Social Work</b>  | <b>2020-Expected June 2025</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• University of Maryland, School of Social Work, Baltimore</li></ul>                     |                                |
| <b>Master of Social Work</b>   | <b>2018-2020</b>               |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nanjing University, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Nanjing, China</li></ul> |                                |
| <b>Bachelor of Law in Social Work</b>  | <b>2012–2016</b>               |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shenzhen University, School of Psychology and Sociology, Shenzhen, China</li></ul>     |                                |

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Suicidal behaviors and mental health service use among emerging adults
- Disparities in suicide based on race/ethnicity and sexual orientation
- College setting suicide prevention
- Community-based mental health and/or substance use recovery services improvement
- Digital mental health services

### Methodology

- Generalized Linear Models
- Multilevel Modeling in analyzing nested data
- Structural Equation Modeling including Multiple Group measurement models, Latent Class Analysis, Latent Growth Curve Modeling
- Causal inference including Propensity Score Analysis
- Qualitative research methods

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## TEACHING INTERESTS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mental Health and Social Policy</li><li>• Social Work Research</li><li>• Program Evaluation</li><li>• Health and Social Justice</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Human Behavior and the Social Environment</li><li>• Statistics and Data Analysis</li><li>• Suicide Risk Assessment and Response Seminar</li></ul> |
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## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

### *Peer-Reviewed Publications*

1. Imboden, R., Tan, M., Mosby, A., **Deng, Y.**, Frey, J. J., & Cloeren, M. (In Press). Assessing Employment Needs of Individuals with Opioid Use Disorder: A Qualitative Exploration of Workforce and Clinical Partner Perspectives. *Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling*.
2. Witmer, A. M., **Deng, Y.**, Mojtabai R., Wilcox, H. C., & Aluri, J. (2025). The Association between College Enrollment and Suicide Attempts by Race and Ethnicity. *Prevention Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11121-025-01771-5>
3. Frey, J. J., **Deng, Y.**, Osteen, P. J., Imboden, R., Mosby, A., Ware, O. D., Bazell, A., & Phillips, D. R. (2024). How Are Motivational Interviewing Techniques Associated with U.S. Healthcare

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- Employees' Mental Health Help-Seeking Behaviors When Using the Interactive Screening Program. *BMJ Public Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjph-2024-001293>
4. **Deng, Y.** & Rose, T. (2024). Examining Dimensions of Help-seeking Intentions and Associations with Personal Mental Illness Stigma among Racial and Ethnic Minority Immigrants. *Journal of Community Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.23154>
  5. Witmer, A. M., **Deng, Y.**, Lewis, S., Han, S. C., Heffernan, S., Howland, Z., Wilcox, H. C., & Aluri, J. (2024). The Relationship between Race, Ethnicity, and Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors among Students at Institutions of Higher Education in the U.S. *Current Psychiatry Report*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11920-024-01530-3>
  6. **Deng, Y.**, Frey, J. J., Osteen, P. J., Mosby, A., Imboden, R., Ware, O. D., & Bazell, A. (2024). Engaging Law Enforcement Employees in Mental Health Help-Seeking: Examining the Utilization of Interactive Screening Program and Motivational Interviewing Techniques. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10488-024-01384-0>
  7. **Deng, Y.**, Li, X., Liu, L., & Chui, W. H. (2021). Suicide Attempts and Perceived Social Support among Chinese Drug Users: The Mediating Role of Self-Esteem and Depression. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 18(1), 208. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18010208>
  8. Liu, L., Chui, W. H., & **Deng, Y.** (2021). Driving after alcohol consumption: A qualitative analysis among Chinese male drunk drivers. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 90, 103058. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2020.103058>
  9. Liu, L., Chui, W. H., **Deng, Y.**, & Li, H. (2020). Dealing with Resistance: Working with Involuntary Clients in Community-Based Drug Treatment Programs in China. *Australian Social Work*, 73(3), 309–320. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0312407X.2019.1688367>

#### *Manuscript Under Review*

10. Titus-Glover, D., Unick, J., Zhu, S., Shim, S., **Deng, Y.**, Shaya, F. (Revise & Resubmit). Leveraging Characteristic Parameters to Inform Recovery Among Women with Opioid Use Disorder. Submitted to *Substance Use and Addiction Journal*.
11. Liu, L., **Deng, Y.** & Li, X. (Revise & Resubmit). Methamphetamine as a Social Necessity: Perspectives from Chinese Female Drug Users. Submitted to *Substance Use and Misuse*.
12. Mammadli, T., Mack, L.J.M.\*, **Deng, Y.\***, Betz, G., Hong, C., Runge, Z., Kamugisha, S., DeForge, B., & Whitfield, D.L. (Revise & Resubmit). Substance Use Among Transgender and Nonconforming Youth Living in the U.S.: A Systematic Review. Submitted to *Social Science and Medicine*.

\* (equal contribution)

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#### PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. **Deng, Y.** (2025, January). Trends in Suicide Attempt by Race/Ethnicity Among College Students: Findings from Healthy Mind Study, 2014-2023 [Poster session]. The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Society for Social Work and Research, Seattle.
2. **Deng, Y.** (2024, October). The Association Between Sense of Belonging, Perceived Campus Climate and Depression Among Asian American College Students [Poster session]. The Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Kansas City.
3. Unick, J. & **Deng, Y.** (2024, April). Lessons in Measurement: Practice Relevant Measurement of Recovery in Community Settings [Symposium]. National Conference on Addiction Recovery Science, online.

4. **Deng, Y. & Frey, J.** (2024, April). Barriers and Facilitators of Mental Health Service Utilization among College Students at Risk for Suicide: A Systematic Review [Paper presentation]. The third Annual Suicide Research Symposium, online.
5. Frey, J., Spencer-Thomas, S., **Deng, Y.**, Mosby, A. Mortali M., & Tajouh Daghuie, C. (2024, April). National Guideline for workplace suicide prevention: moving prevention upstream [Paper presentation]. The third Annual Suicide Research Symposium, online.
6. Frey, J., **Deng, Y.**, & Mosby, A. (2024, January). A National Guideline for workplace suicide prevention: social worker's role in moving prevention upstream [Poster session]. The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Society for Social Work and Research, Washington DC.
7. **Deng, Y.**, Frey, J., Osteen, P. J., & Mosby, A. (2024, January). Work/life balance or the actual workplace? Factors associated with depression and burnout among healthcare employees [Paper presentation]. The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Society for Social Work and Research, Washington DC.
8. **Deng, Y.**, & Frey, J. (2023, November). Minority stress and suicidal behavior among sexual minority adults: Examining the moderating role of concealment and community connectedness [Poster session]. The American Public Health Association annual meeting, Atlanta, GA.
9. **Deng, Y.**, Frey, J. J., Osteen, P. J., Imboden, R., & Mosby, A. (2023, April). Use of Online Anonymous Screening and Counseling to Increase Mental Health Help-Seeking among Healthcare Employees [Paper presentation]. The second Annual Suicide Research Symposium, online.
10. **Deng, Y.**, Aggarwal, N., & Adams, V. (2023, January). Using a Directed Acyclic Graph to Inform Research with Propensity Score Analysis [Paper presentation]. The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Society for Social Work and Research, Phoenix, AZ.
11. **Deng, Y.**, & Rose, T. (2023, January). Mental Illness Stigma and Different Types of Help-seeking Intentions among Racial and Ethnic Minority Immigrants [Poster session]. The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Society for Social Work and Research, Phoenix, AZ.
12. **Deng, Y.**, & Frey, J. J. (2023, January). Use of Online Anonymous Screening and Counseling to Increase Mental Health Help-Seeking: a Comparison between Healthcare System and Law Enforcement System [Paper presentation]. SAMHSA's 19<sup>th</sup> Prevention Day, National Harbor, MD.

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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2023-Present

### **Graduate Research Assistant**

Project: Innovations in Recovery Through Infrastructure Support (IRIS)

*funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse; PI: Dr. Jay Unick*

Sub-project: Using Agency Data to Inform Recovery Services and Data collection

- Organize clinical data from a community-based recovery agency into structured and analyzable longitudinal data, collaborate with PI to communicate with community partners iteratively to understand the context of data, propose research questions and conceptualize statistical models
- Run analysis and generate data report to understand client's service use pattern and treatment entry longitudinally; share findings with community partners, on IRIS website, in conference; prepare manuscripts

Sub-project: Reversing the Cycle Peer Emergency Department Intervention

- Work closely with PI to evaluate a peer recovery coach program using emergency room data and quasi-experimental design under causal inference framework
- My work included 1) writing IRB application and data request, 2) managing and analyzing longitudinal clinical data using R, 3) reviewing literature and conceptualizing causal inference models, 4) writing abstracts for conference

#### Translating & Disseminating Research:

- Generate “research corner” (a section in IRIS website) write-ups quarterly, which involves searching, selecting research articles within an emerging topic and summarizing it in an accessible way that translate academic knowledge into practice or other forms of community action  
<https://www.iris.ssw.umaryland.edu/research-corner>

2021-2023

#### **Graduate Research Assistant**

Project: Program Evaluation of Workplace Interactive Screening Program (ISP)  
*funded by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention; PI: Dr. Jodi Frey*

- Review literature, analyze quantitative data using logistic regression models, structure equation modeling to understand the utilization of ISP and motivational interview techniques
- Work collaboratively to organize qualitative interview themes, codes and quotes about the implementation and impact of ISP
- Collaborate with PI to disseminate research with funder, in conference, and academic journals

Project: Preventing Suicide in Michigan Men (PRiSMM)

*funded by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); PI: Dr. Jodi Frey*

- Manage and analyze quantitative Qualtrics survey data (one group pre-post design) to understand the impact of Men therapy website on men’s mental health and help-seeking behavior
- Train other research assistant to do quantitative data management and analysis
- Assist drafting project quarterly report for funder
- Analyze qualitative interview data about utilization of Men Therapy website with a team member

Project: Operation PROSPER: Peer Reintegration and Other Services Promoting Employment in Recovery

*funded by University of Maryland, School of Medicine, ATIP Innovation and Collaboration Pilot Grant, Co-PI: Dr. Jodi Frey*

- Code qualitative data with team members, collaborate with team to draft manuscripts to understand the assessment of employment needs for people with opioid use disorders

Project: Workplace Suicide Caregiver Survey

Without funding, PI: *Dr. Jodi Frey*

- Meet with a committee and assist to develop a survey on suicide caregivers’ needs

2021

#### **Core Research Team Member**

Project: Health, COVID, and Immigrants of Color (Course Team Project)

*funded by University of Maryland School of Social Work, PI: Dr. Nalini Negi*

- Work with a team to form research questions, develop questionnaires, collect and analyze quantitative data, and write manuscript independently for publication (my research is to understand mental health stigma and help-seeking among racially diverse immigrants)

2019

**Graduate Research Assistant**

Project: Working with People with Substance Use Disorder in China

*funded by the National Social Science Fund of China; PI: Dr. Liu Liu*

- Code and analyze qualitative using thematic analysis, analyzed quantitative data using logistic regression model, collaborated with PI to draft the research paper

Project: Drunk Driving and Public Safety

*funded by Nanjing Traffic Police Department; PI: Dr. Liu Liu*

- Review extensive literature, conduct and compile 10 interviews in Chinese
- Code and analyze qualitative interview data using thematic analysis, collaborate with team members to write reports and journal articles

Project: Behavior and Attitudes towards Using Tobacco among College Students

Without funding, PI: *Dr. Liu Liu*

- Review extensive literature, develop survey questionnaire

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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Spring 2024

**Adjunct Instructor**

University of Maryland, School of Social Work, MSW Program

- Social Work Research (Hybrid)

Fall 2023

**Teaching Assistant**

University of Maryland, School of Social Work, MSW Program

- Mental Health and Social Policy (In-person)

Spring 2023

**Teaching Assistant**

University of Maryland, School of Social Work, MSW Program

- Social Work Research (In-person)

Spring 2023

**Teaching Assistant**

University of Maryland, School of Social Work, MSW Program

- Introduction to Suicide Risk Assessment and Response, 2-hour seminar

**CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

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09/2022-02/2023

**Peer Supporter (Volunteer)**

White Island Health Organization, Online

- Provide asynchronous peer personal feedback in a letter form for Chinese college students/young adults with mental health needs

06/2019-09/2019

**Social Worker (Intern)**

Nanjing Traffic Police Department, Nanjing, China

- Assist traffic accident mediator to provide conciliation and legal advice about financial compensation for people involved in traffic accidents
- Read and analyze 5 controversial administrative cases and summarize 5 case reports for educational purposes

01/2018-04/2018	<b>Social Worker (Intern)</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Affiliated Hospital of Anhui Medical University, Children Hematological Oncology, Hefei, China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compile a handbook containing information about available bailout funds; assist families with financial difficulties to apply for a bailout fund and organize fundraising campaigns on the Internet</li> <li>• Organize educational/entertainment events for children once a week</li> <li>• Enhance communication between healthcare providers and patients by organizing seminars and lectures on topics about preventative care, and post-discharge consultations</li> </ul>
04/2016-04/2017	<b>Community Social Worker (Full-Time)</b> Sihai Community Service Center, Shenzhen, China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design and conduct community needs surveys (n=400), analyze data and assist with drafting report</li> <li>• Design, coordinate and implement a lot of community building and service programs including after-school program, summer educational/entertainment events for children, community space transformation, dyad (parent-children) parenting program, whole community educational/entertainment activity etc</li> <li>• Conduct home visits to disadvantaged families to identify needs and provide emotional support or link resources</li> </ul>
09/2012-09/2013	<b>Special Education Teaching Assistant (Volunteer)</b> Nanshan Rehabilitation and Care Center, Shenzhen, China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct one-on-one rehabilitation exercises with children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders, including simple handcrafting, painting and sports</li> </ul>

## AWARDS & HONORS

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2024	Dissertation award Funder: University of Maryland, School of Social Work Amount: \$2,748
2023	Jeongseok Kong & Sunmi Jin Memorial PhD Scholarship Funder: University of Maryland, School of Social Work Amount: \$2,000
2023-2024	Travel Award University of Maryland, School of Social Work
2024	Travel Fellowship University of Maryland, Graduate Student Association
2019	Best Social Work Documentary Award Third Social Work Documentary Workshop, Nanjing University of Science and Technology & University of Southern California
2018-2019	Excellent Student of Academic Performance (First Prize Scholarship) Nanjing University, Nanjing, China
2013-2015	Excellent Student of Academic Performance (Second Prize Scholarship) Shenzhen University, Shenzhen, China
2013	Excellent Volunteer

## SELECTED SERVICES

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### *Invited Reviewer*

2024	<i>BMC Public Health</i>
2023	<i>Journal of Workplace Behavioral Health</i>
2022	<i>Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal</i>

### *Other services*

2021-2023	Committee member, Workplace Suicide Prevention and Postvention Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Help with survey development, analyze website survey and generate report</li></ul>
2022-2023	President, University of Maryland, Chinese Students and Scholars Association <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organize campus-wide events including 2023 Lunar New Year gala (200+ attendees), and 2022 Fall Chinese student welcoming lunch gathering events (20 attendees), 2022 Mid-Autumn Festival outdoor event (30-40 attendees)</li></ul>

## CERTIFICATE

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2022	Certified Question, Persuade, Refer and Pathfinder Training, QPR Institute (Online suicide prevention training institute)
2016	Certificate of the Primary Social Work Profession Qualifications The Ministry of Civil Affairs and Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, China

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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2022-present	Society of Social Work and Research
2024-present	Council on Social Work Education
2023-2024	American Public Health Association

## LANGUAGES

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Mandarin Chinese (native), English (proficient)