Biographical Sketch
Rhonda Wilbon

Dr. Wilbon LCSW-C, LICSW, is a licensed clinical social worker, a certified John Maxwell Leadership Coach, professor and author. And, because of her strategic planning, problem solving, and team building skills, she is gradually becoming an international leader in curriculum and program development.

In November 2011 she was invited, by the Rev. Prof. Samuel K. Adjepong the Principal of the Methodist University in Accra Ghana, to provide leadership and consultation for the development of social work programs at the Methodist University. In April 2012 she was invited return as the opening Keynote for the International School Social Work Conference hosted by the University of Ghana at Legon. In January 2018 she was part of a delegation from the State of Maryland USA invited by the South African government, Division of Social Development, to develop the plans to meet the objectives of an MOU between the State of Maryland USA and the South African Government. As part of this project, she will be working with the Division of Social Development to establish initiatives to strengthen social programs across universities, strengthen child welfare systems, and services to help address issues of substance use disorders.

A native of Flint Michigan, USA she has over thirty-five years of professional social work experience and is an Associate Professor in the Ph.D. Program in the School of Social Work at Morgan State University, where she served as the inaugural chair of the Masters in Social Work Program for over five years, leading the program through its’ initial accreditation process with the Council on Social Work Education. She has been on faculty at Morgan for twenty-two years and taught in the undergraduate, masters and PhD. Programs. Assigned full time in the PhD Program, she has chaired twelve dissertation committees and served on thirteen other committees. She teaches theory and a dissertation prep course.

Dr. Wilbon has a wealth of skills that can help strengthen any academic unit/program. She will bring problem solving, relationship building, the power of written and oral communication, building confidence, healing from life wounds, team building, interpersonal wholeness and wellness, and African centered values and ethics to everything she does. She has years of experience developing academic programs and curriculum for various courses. Her mentoring, collaborative and capacity to follow as well as lead are among her greatest strengths.

Dr. Wilbon is a Co-Founder and former Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Richard Wright Public Charter School for Journalism and Media Arts in the District of Columbia. She has a private psychotherapy practice in DC and Maryland specializing in work with survivors of trauma and couples/relationship counseling. In her private practice she specializes in creative approaches to help clients heal from life wounds. She is a Consulting Editor for Social Work, the top tier social work journal published by the National Association of Social Work. She has served on the Advisory Board for The House of Ruth Maryland, the largest Domestic Violence Prevention Program in the State of Maryland, and as a contract therapist for the DC Rape Crisis Center, working with adult survivors of rape and child sexual abuse. In 2015, Springer Publisher released her first edited text book, Social Work Practice with African American’s in Urban Environments. In July 2012, she was appointed to the Council on the Role and Status of Women in Social Work Education, by the Council on Social Work Education.
She earned her bachelor’s degree in social work from Michigan State University and a Masters and Doctorate degree in Social Work from Howard University. She has also served as the liaison for the Morgan State University Head Start Program. From December 2009 to March 2010, she hosted an on-line radio show “Real Talk” with Dr. Rhonda on Familynewsradio.com. The mission of “Real Talk” was to address the needs and interest of young adults ages eighteen to thirty-five, and give a voice to their unique view of the world and their daily life experiences. Real Talk covered a diversity of topics relevant to singles, couples and young families.

Dr. Wilbon was trained as a social worker in the field of domestic violence and formerly served as the Executive Director of a shelter program for battered women and their children in Arlington Virginia and Coordinator of the crisis hotline for the Howard County Sexual Assault Center in Maryland. It was during these intense practice experiences that she developed expertise in child maltreatment and sexual abuse and began her life-long commitment to helping adult survivors of sexual abuse and maltreatment. She has taught in the Afro-American Studies Program at the University of Maryland at College Park and in the MSW Program at Howard University. For over eight years, she was the Principal Investigator for a quality child care initiative grant to evaluate the quality of child care programs where she received over 1 million dollars in funding, through the District of Columbia, Department of Human Resources, Early Care and Education Administration. In 2000 she was appointed by Governor Parris Glendening to serve on the State of Maryland Judith P. Hoyer Blue Ribbon Commission for the Funding of Early Child Care and Education Programs; she is a past member of the United Way of Central Maryland Success By 6 Committee; and served on the State of Maryland Child Care Advisory Council from 1997-2001.

EXPERTISE

- Program Development
- Curriculum Development
- Mentoring
- Team Building
- African Centered knowledge, theory and interventions
- Healing from life wounds
- Problem solving
- Relationship Building
- Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse
- Trauma
- Quality Child Care
- Popular Youth Culture
- School Social Work
- Community based academic programs
- Discipline without physical punishment
- Cultural competence
- Child Abuse and neglect

PUBLICATIONS


Funded Grants


District of Columbia, Early Care and Education Administration, Quality Child Care Assessor Training Program. Awarded Second Grant for $200,000 April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008 to evaluate the quality of subsidized child care programs.

State of Maryland Child Care Administration, co-authored a competitive grant. Awarded $800,000 for the construction of a Child Care Center at the Morgan State University Christian Center.

Quality Assessments for Tiered Reimbursement Initiative, District of Columbia, Office of Early Childhood Development. Awarded $1 million from October 2001 to April 1, 2007 to evaluate the quality of subsidized child care programs.

Contracted by the Office of Early childhood as the Principle Investigator to oversee environmental rating scale assessments for Tiered Reimbursement Initiative.

- Hire, train, and supervise project coordinator and assessment coordinator
- Management $160,000-$200,000 annual budget
- Oversee all training on environmental rating scales
- Work closely with the CEO of the Early Care & Education Administration
Quality Care for Children Initiative, District of Columbia Office of Early Childhood
Awarded $50,000 from January 1999 to August 2001.

Subcontracted by Dr. Thelma Harms, Director of Curriculum Development at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to:
- Coordinate evaluation/research efforts
- Recruit, train, and supervise graduate level data collectors
- Coordinate scheduling of assessment pre and post test


Georgetown University, Washington, DC. Child Care Training Grant, Awarded $4,000 (Summer 2003).

Morgan State University, Faculty Development and Research Incentives. Awarded $5,455 Summer Research Grant (Summer 2000).

COMMUNITY BASED SERVICE

Boards
- Delta Sigma Theta Public Service Sorority, Columbia Maryland Alumnae Chapter
  Chair Arts & Letters Committee (August 2018- Present)
- Morgan State University, Head Start Program
  Board of Directors (Fall 2010-2012)
- House of Ruth Maryland, Baltimore Maryland
  Advisory Board (Spring 2013-2015)
- House of Ruth Maryland, Baltimore Maryland
  Board of Directors (June 2010-2012)
- Richard Wright Public Charter School for Journalism and Media Arts, District of Columbia
  President, Board of Trustees (2009-Present)
- National Association of Black Social Workers
  Academy for African Centered Social Work
  Co-Chair & Chief Instructor (Summer 2010-Present & Spring 2002-2006)
- Family League of Baltimore City
- Baltimore City Safe Start
  Screening & Assessment Development Committee (2001-2002)
- United Way of Central Maryland
  Success by Six Committee (2000-2005)
- Prince Georges County Parent Education Advisory Board (1999-2002)

State Commissions

Judith P. Hoyer Blue Ribbon Commission for the Funding of Early Child Care and Education Programs [Appointed by Maryland Governor Parris Glendening] (2000-2001)
Maryland Department of Human Resources Child Care Advisory Council (1997-2002)
Committees:
Co-Chair; Parent Network Initiative
Healthy Child Care Initiative
Public Awareness Campaign

**DISSEMINATION COMMITTEES CHAIRED**


Dr. Kimberly Johnson (2014). The Impact of Childhood Sexual Abuse on Mental Health and High-Risk Behavior’s in a Sample of Women.

Dr. Iris Jackson (2014). The Relationship between PTSD Symptoms, Social and Mental Health Factors, and Quality of Life Outcomes in a Sample of African-American Women Combat Veterans.


Dr. Turkessa Demisse (2017). Factors Affecting the Battered Professional African American Women’s Domestic Violence Trajectories.


**Morgan School of Education and Urban Studies**


**In Progress**

Melissa Henley (Proposal Defense Expected May 2018)
Rhea Porter (Proposal Defense Expected Fall 2018)
Robert Mays (Proposal Defense Expected Fall 2018)
CLINICAL CONSULTANT

Youth Villages (2014 – 2017)
    Clinical Supervisor
    • Provide clinical supervision for LGSW staff
    • Provide clinical consultation for agency

The Elizabeth Ministry
    Clinical Supervisor & Psychotherapist March 2016 – May 2017
    • Provide therapy to young mothers aging out of foster care
    • Provide clinical supervision for agency staff

District of Columbia, Rape Crisis Center
    Psychotherapist March 2010 - 2012
    • Provide therapy to adult victims of rape and child sexual abuse
    • Facilitate groups

Asili, Consultants, LLC
    Founder & CEO (January 2012-Present)
    Private Clinical Therapeutic Practice, Washington DC & Bowie Maryland
    Provide Psychotherapy for Adults, Couples and families
    Provide Clinical Supervision for LGSW working towards clinical hours