

CONTRIBUTORS



Jessika Boles, PhD, CCLS (pronouns she/her/hers) is a Certified Child Life Specialist and team lead at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, in Nashville, Tennessee. She also holds an Adjunct Professor position in the Department of Psychology and Human Development at Vanderbilt University. Her research interests include children's participation in healthcare research, their conceptions of abstract constructs such as legacy and loss, and the ways in which children access and respond to medical information. Jessika is currently the Chief Fellow of the Association of Child Life Professionals, where she has also served on the board of directors and chaired committees focused on research and academic training.



Sherwood Burns-Nader, PhD, CCLS (pronouns she/her/hers) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at The University of Alabama. As a Certified Child Life Specialist, Sherwood's research interests include examining the psychosocial variables affecting children and families in the healthcare setting, the benefits of child life interventions, and the value of play in development and coping in children. Sherwood is an active leader in the Association of Child Life Professionals and the Southeastern Association of Child Life Professionals, including serving as Chair to the Child Life Certification Commission and Chair to the SEACLP.



Kathryn Cantrell, PhD, CCLS (pronouns she/her/hers) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Human Development, Family Studies, and Counseling at Texas Woman's University. Kathryn's research interests include examining best practices for pediatric chronic illness disclosure, racial disparities in pediatric psychosocial services, and social justice pedagogy in child life. Kathryn is the founding Executive Editor of *The Journal of Child Life: Psychosocial Theory and Practice*, an ACLP publication.



Sarah Daniels, MS, CCLS, (pronouns she/her/hers) is a Certified Child Life Specialist at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee and a doctoral candidate in Educational Psychology and Research at the University of Memphis. Sarah divides her time between clinical and research responsibilities for the child life program, with opportunities to engage in research and quality improvement projects that evaluate the feasibility, efficacy, and role of child life services in the hospital setting. Her research interests include trends in technology use and youth development, psychosocial aspects of adolescent and young adult oncology, and mixed methods research design. Sarah is a Research Fellow for the Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP) and volunteers for the ACLP Journal Committee as a member of the Review Board for the *Journal of Child Life: Psychosocial Theory and Practice*.



Quinn Franklin, PhD, CCLS is the Assistant Director of the Psychosocial Division in the Cancer and Hematology Centers at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, TX. Her interests are in incorporating evidence-based practice into the work of psychosocial clinicians in pediatric healthcare environments. More specifically, her research interests lie in psychosocial risk stratification and patient-reported outcomes and their connection to psychosocial care. Quinn is currently the President-Elect of the Association of Child Life Professionals. Her work with ACLP has included chairing the Child Life Certification Commission and Scientific Advancement of Professional Practice Committee.



Lindsay Joe, MS, CCLS is a Child Life Specialist at Children's of Alabama, where she coordinates student educational opportunities including the internship program. Over the years, Lindsay has developed a research resume by collaborating with members of the health care team and academicians. Her research interests include conducting studies in a clinical hospital setting to further the use of evidence-based practices in the psychosocial care of children and families. Lindsay has published her work in peer reviewed journals and presented at the state, regional, and national levels.



Julie C. Parker, PhD, CCLS is an associate professor at Mississippi State University where she has leadership over the undergraduate child life emphasis and the graduate early intervention program. Julie has over 25 years of clinical and academic experience preparing students to be emerging child life professionals. Her current research areas include pre-service preparation and the biopsychosocial impact of health and well-being. Julie has been an active member of the ACLP, serving on numerous committees.



Cara Sisk, PhD, CCLS is an Assistant Professor in the School of Human Ecology at Tennessee Technological University. Having served children and families as a practicing Certified Child Life Specialist informs her work educating child life students. Cara's clinical work influences her research interests of children's healthcare experiences, children with special healthcare needs and disabilities perceptions of healthcare, children with special healthcare needs social relationships, and the integration of child life interventions into child life research. Cara contributes to child life through scholarly publications, professional presentations, and volunteer service with the Association of Child Life Professionals. Cara currently serves as an ACLP Research Fellow and a member of The Journal of Child Life: Psychosocial Theory and Practice Review Board.



Jennifer Staab, MS, CCLS (pronouns she/her/hers) is a Child Life Manager and Research and Quality Improvement Specialist for the child life department at Children's Hospital Colorado. As a Certified Child Life Specialist, Jennifer's research interests include identifying the factors associated with children experiencing elevated distress in a healthcare setting and evaluating the efficacy of child life and adaptive care services. Jenny has served as the chair for several committees for the Association for Child Life Professionals (ACLP) including Evidenced-Based Practice, Research and Scholarship, and the Proposal Subcommittee for the Scientific Advancement of Professional Practice. Jennifer has published her research in peer reviewed journals and presented nationally and internationally.



Katie Walker, PhD, CCLS (pronouns she/her/hers) is an Assistant Professor in the Children's Studies, Child Life and Health program at Eastern Washington University. Katie has conducted research at medical camps to learn more about the psychosocial benefits of this environment for children with medical needs or in survivorship. As a certified child life specialist, she is also interested in research that supports the importance of child life services for children and families in the healthcare setting. Katie has enjoyed serving on ACLP committees, task forces, and the *Journal of Child Life* review board.



Brittany Wittenberg, PhD, CCLS, CFLE (pronouns she/her/hers) is an Assistant Professor in the Child and Family Studies program at Louisiana State University. As a Certified Child Life Specialist, Brittany's research program focuses on the stressful experiences that children and families encounter in pediatric healthcare settings. Brittany has presented her peer-reviewed work at conferences at the national and international level, including the Association of Child Life Professionals, Society for Research in Child Development, National Council on Family Relations, and the Institute for Patient- and Family-Centered Care.