**Sarah L. McKee**

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Department of Human Development and Family Sciences

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**Education**

Ph.D. **University of Connecticut** Expected date of completion: December 2022

Human Development & Family Sciences

Specialization: Health, Wellbeing, and Prevention

Advisor: Marlene B. Schwartz, Ph.D.

M.A. **University of Connecticut** May 2019

Human Development & Family Sciences

Specialization: Health and Well-Being

Masters Thesis: Developing a policy assessment for the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model

Advisor: Marlene B. Schwartz, Ph.D.

B.A. **University of Texas at Dallas**, *magna cum laude* May 2010

Major: Psychology, Minor: Gender Studies

Honors Thesis: Fun with food: Encouraging children’s acceptance of novel, healthy foods

Advisor: Shayla C. Holub, Ph.D.

**Research Interests**

School wellness policies; Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model; school health; food insecurity; health promotion; food equity and justice; school lunch programs; development of eating behaviors; childhood obesity prevention; parental feeding practices; attitudes and beliefs about food; food preferences

**Publications**

**McKee, S.L.**, Thorne, T.A., Koslouski, J.B., Chafouleas, S.M., & Schwartz, M.B. (2022). Assessing district policy alignment with the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model in Connecticut, 2019 to 2020. *Journal of School Health, 92*(6), 594-604. <https://doi.org/10.1111/josh.13183>

**McKee, S.L.**, Xu, R., & Schwartz, M.B. (2022). Assessing the effects of a statewide training initiative on local school wellness policies. *Health Promotion Practice.* <https://doi.org/10.1177/15248399211070808>

**McKee, S.L.**, Gurganus, E.A., Atoloye, A.T., Xu, R., Martin, K., & Schwartz, M.B. (2021). Pilot testing an intervention to educate and promote nutritious choices at food pantries. *Journal of Public Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10389-021-01570-6>

Connolly, K., Babbin, M.I., **McKee, S.L.**, McGinn, K., Cohen, J.F.W., Chafouleas, S.M., & Schwartz, M.B. (2021). Dedication, innovation, and collaboration: A mixed-methods analysis of school meals in Connecticut during COVID-19. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development, 10*(2), 1–17. <https://doi.org/10.5304/jafscd.2021.102.020>

Koriakin, T.A., **McKee, S.L.**, Schwartz, M.B. and Chafouleas, S.M. (2020). Development of a comprehensive tool for school health policy evaluation: The WellSAT WSCC. *Journal of School Health, 90*(12), 923-939. <https://doi.org/10.1111/josh.12956>

**McKee, S.L.**, Cooksey-Stowers, K., St. Louis, R., & Schwartz, M.B. (2020). Understanding the process of implementing nutrition and physical activity policies in a large national child care organization: A mixed-methods study. *Translational Behavioral Medicine, 10*(3), 801-811. <https://doi.org/10.1093/tbm/ibz045>

**Research Experience**

**UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy & Health** 2017 – present

*Graduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. Marlene Schwartz*

*University of Connecticut*

- Collaborate with research team on studies examining school wellness and access to healthy foods for populations facing food insecurity

- Coded and analyzed school wellness policies using policy measurement tools; trained teams of research assistants to score school wellness policies; organized and assisted in data collection for a study of an intervention combining nutrition education and behavioral economics in three food pantries; wrote and edited IRB applications; created reports for community research partners; co-wrote manuscripts for publication; and presented findings at professional conferences and to community partners and funders

**Adolescent Reasoning Initiative** 2012 – 2017

*Research Assistant II, Supervisor: Dr. Jacquelyn Gamino*

*Center for BrainHealth, University of Texas at Dallas*

- Large multisite, multiyear study of an advanced reasoning training program for adolescents administered through classrooms in middle and high schools

- Over 50,000 students and 300 teachers have participated in the program to date

- Administered pre- and post-assessments in schools across Texas

- Assisted in database management of student data collected from assessments

- Scored written student responses, coding for abstract thoughts

- Trained new research assistants in data collection, entry, and archival data processing

**Healthy Development Project** 2008 – 2010

*Undergraduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. Shayla C. Holub*

*University of Texas at Dallas*

- Multiple studies examining parental feeding practices and preschoolers’ eating behaviors, in addition to the antifat attitudes of preschoolers and college students

- Aided in the development of new studies through literature searches and design of study procedures

- Administered questionnaires, interviewed participants, coded video interactions, and entered data into SPSS for approximately eight studies

**Teaching Experience**

**Human Development and Family Sciences, University of Connecticut**

HDFS 3550 Comparative Family Policy Fall 2021 – Spring 2022

*Instructor of Record, Advisor: Dr. Beth Russell*

HDFS 1070 Individual and Family Development Fall 2020 – Spring 2021

*Teaching Assistant, Advisors: Dr. Eva Lefkowitz & Dr. Shannon Weaver*

**Invited talks**

Koriakin, T.A., **McKee, S.M.**, Chafouleas, S.M, & Schwartz, M.B. (2020, June 9). *Got policy? Supporting whole child success through strong school policies*. NOPREN School Wellness Working Group.

**Conference Presentations**

Atoloye, A.T., **McKee, S.M.**, Gurganus, E.A., Xu, R., Martin, K., & Schwartz, M.B. (2020, July 20-24). *Pilot test of Supporting Wellness at Pantries (SWAP): Clients choose healthier foods after a food pantry implements a nutrition ranking system* [Poster presentation]. SNEB 2020 Annual Conference, San Diego, CA. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jneb.2020.04.137>

Concannon, J.R., Koriakin, T.A., Connolly, K., Charouleas, S.M., **McKee, S.L.**, & Schwartz, M.B. (2020, February 18-21). *Got policy: Supporting whole child success through strong school policies* [Conference session]. National Association of School Psychologists 2020 Annual Convention, Baltimore, MD. <https://apps.nasponline.org/professional-development/convention/session-detail.aspx?ID=16827>

**McKee, S.L.**, Koriakin, T.A., Chafouleas, S., & Schwartz, M.B. (2019, November 2-6). *Pilot testing the Wellness School Assessment Tool for the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model* [Oral presentation]. American Public Health Association 2019 Annual Meeting and Expo, Philadelphia, PA. <https://apha.confex.com/apha/2019/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/443446>

Gurganus, E.A., **McKee, S.L**., & Schwartz, M.B. (2019, March 13-15). *The feasibility and impact of a nutrition ranking system for food pantries* [Breakout session]. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Healthy Eating Research 13th Annual Grantee Meeting, Detroit, MI.

**McKee, S.L.**, Cooksey-Stowers, K., St. Louis, R., & Schwartz, M.B. (2018, April 25-27). *Facilitators and barriers in implementing nutrition and physical activity policies in a large national child care organization* [Poster presentation]. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Healthy Eating Research 12th Annual Grantee Meeting, Nashville, TN.

Dolan, E.A., Tan, C., Farago, F., **Trauterman, S.L.**, Schindler, C.K., Moiger, S., Reith, E., & Holub, S.C. (2010, April). Mothers’ beliefs about their infants’ body shapes: Accuracy and associations with feeding. Poster session presented at the Southwestern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Addison, TX.

**Assistantships**

**UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Health** Fall 2017 – present

*Graduate Research Assistant, Supervisor: Dr. Marlene Schwartz*

*University of Connecticut*

-See “Research Experience” section above

**Human Development and Family Sciences Honors Program** Spring 2018 – Spring 2020

*Graduate Teaching Assistant, Supervisor: Dr. Kari Adamsons*

*University of Connecticut*

-Graded student assignments to assist students in professional development

-Attended weekly seminar course to support seniors in the Honors Program

-Arranged informational sessions for prospective Honors Program students

-Arranged thesis poster presentation night for current seniors in the Honors Program

**Human Development and Family Studies College Career Pathways Program** Fall 2017

*Graduate Assistant, Supervisor: Dr. Shannon Weaver*

*University of Connecticut*

-Arranged visits to a lecture course for high school classes participating in the UConn Early College Experience (ECE) program

-Arranged and assisted with training workshop for high school teachers participating in the UConn ECE program

**Honors, Awards, and Fellowships**

**University of Connecticut – The Graduate School**

Summer 2022 Summer Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship

Fall 2019 Doctoral Student Travel Fellowship

**American Public Health Association – School Health Education and Services Section**

November 2019 Outstanding Student Abstract

**University of Texas at Dallas**

May 2010 Graduated magna cum laude

May 2010 Graduated with School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences Honors

2008-2009 Dean’s List (4 semesters)

2008-2010 Psi Chi, UT Dallas chapter

2006-2010 Academic Excellence Scholarship (full tuition plus stipend, 4 years)

**Professional Affiliations**

**American Public Health Association**

School Health Education and Services section member

Food and Nutrition section member

**Nutrition & Obesity Policy Research & Evaluation Network (NOPREN)**

School Wellness work group member

Early Childhood work group member

**University of Connecticut Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy (InCHIP)**

Graduate student affiliate

**University of Connecticut Collaboratory on School and Child Health (CSCH)**

Graduate student affiliate