



RESEARCH

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## INTRODUCTION: DR. VERONICA BROWN



Veronica Brown, PhD, MSPH

Dr. Brown serves as the Data Analyst for the TN-CTSI and the Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Research Design (BERD) Unit of the Department of Preventive Medicine at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

She earned her Masters in Public Health from Meharry Medical College and her doctorate in Epidemiology and Biostatistics from the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. After obtaining her doctorate, Dr. Brown went on to complete her postdoctoral training at the University of Texas Medical Branch, as an NIH T32 trainee, and the University of Houston School of Pharmacy.

Prior to her arrival at UTHSC, Dr. Brown worked as a state regional epidemiologist for the Texas Department of State Health Services focusing solely on the COVID-19 emergency response. Her studies and interests have involved research methods and design, health disparities, cancer prevention, and infectious diseases.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Brown to the team!

## TN-CTSI TEAM

[tnctsi@uthsc.edu](mailto:tnctsi@uthsc.edu)

**Karen Johnson, MD, MPH**  
Co-Director

**Michelle Martin, PhD**  
Co-Director

**Derita Bran, MSN, RN, CCRC**  
Director of Administration

**Margaret Lynn, LMSW, RDN, CCRP, CIP**  
Director, Clinical Research Development

**Ashley Evans, MS**  
Community Engagement Specialist and  
Recruitment Manager

**Kendria Barnes, MSPH**  
Program Evaluation and Research Specialist

**Veronica G. Brown, PhD MSPH**  
Data Analyst

## CERTIFICATION COURSE

TN-CTSI's 2022 Certification Exam Preparation Course ran from January 2022 through March 2022. Designed to prepare clinical research study staff for the SOCRA (Society of Clinical Research Associates) or ACRP (Association of Clinical Research Professionals) clinical research certification exam, the course was conducted by Zoom. The 18 one-hour sessions are available, along with a study guide, [here](#).

### Reactions from attendees:

- "I have been using the study guide very closely lately and it has been a tremendous help! Thank you for providing us with such a fantastic resource!"
- "I am very satisfied and would definitely recommend the course to my peers."

For more information, please send an email to [mlynn@uthsc.edu](mailto:mlynn@uthsc.edu) or [dbran@uthsc.edu](mailto:dbran@uthsc.edu).

## MEET THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD: KAREN BERNARD



Karen Bernard

Karen Bernard is a member of the TN-CTSI Community Advisory Board (CAB).

She holds a bachelor's degree in Biology from Tennessee State University and a bachelor's degree in Dietetics from the University of Memphis.

Ms. Bernard is the Food Program Coordinator at The Works, Inc. She manages the organization's seasonal farmers' market and kitchen programming using the Cooking Matters curriculum to teach participants ways to choose and prepare the healthy foods they need all within their food budget.

She is motivated by the people within her community and enjoys providing free services and opportunities to build skills that can lead towards health improvement.

Ms. Bernard believes one of her best skills is being relatable to the people she serves and it's important to make people feel heard. "People don't care about what you know until they know you care."

The TN-CTSI aims to integrate community engagement into research through our Community Advisory Board (CAB). Our goal is to collaborate with community members to address health and healthcare disparities across the state of Tennessee. Through our newsletter, we highlight CAB members and the important work and efforts they make towards eliminating health disparities within Tennessee.

## FEATURE: SOUTH MEMPHIS FARMERS MARKET



The South Memphis Farmer's Market is back again for the 2022 season from June 23 - September 1, every Thursday from 8:00am - 1:00pm.

This farmer's market offers fresh produce access to the South Memphis

neighborhood and surrounding communities. The market accepts 6-8 growers per season as well additional prepared foods vendors and handicraft vendors. During the busiest months of the season, they also highlight local talent through inviting local music artists and spoken word artists to perform while visitors shop. Additional market events and activities include food trucks, games for kids, and cooking demos. The South Memphis Farmer's Market also offers cooking demos every week of the market season through the community partners at UT Extension, inviting visitors to try easy, fresh recipes created from fruits and vegetable sold by produce vendors!

The South Memphis Farmers Market is conveniently located at the corner of Mississippi Blvd and South Parkway with lots of FREE parking.

For more information on how to get involved, make sure to check out their [website](#) and connect with the South Memphis Farmers Market on [Facebook](#) and Instagram [@SoMEFM](#).

## SERVICES & RESOURCES

### Need help recruiting participants for your study?

The TN-CTSI can help guide you towards your ideal participant! We offer guidance, assistance, and helpful tools through our Recruitment Innovation Center to help you meet your goals.

### Request for Assistance Testimonial

"We recently submitted a request for help with development of a flyer for a study. Ashley was very attentive to our needs and asked questions about how we wanted to represent the study. After giving her our vision, she presented us with multiple options for flyers. We liked all the options Ashley presented! The flyers were professional, and we went back and forth on trying to decide which format we wanted. Ashley was very patient with us and changed formats based on our request and offered advice on why "not" to go with some format. Thank you, Ashley for simplifying the process of flyer development for us!"

- Colette Stewart, College of Dentistry

### Having trouble organizing the necessary materials for your study?

Essential documents are required for research studies and must be maintained in a manner that leads to successful study management. TN-CTSI can provide guidance on the most efficient means to set-up study related documents. For help, request for assistance through our [website](#).

### Become a Member of TN-CTSI

By being engaged and becoming a member of TN-CTSI, you'll receive guidance toward specific resources that may be vital to the completion of a research project. As a member you will also receive information about the latest research news, training, and funding opportunities available to you through the TN-CTSI.

Please visit our [website](#) to learn more about becoming a member.

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## CONTACT US

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