

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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NAME: Faro, Elissa Zoe

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): ezfaro

POSITION TITLE: Associate Member, Center for Discovery and Innovation

EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)*

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Vassar College	BA	05/1999	Latin & Ancient Greek
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	MA	05/2006	Classical Art and Archaeology
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	MA	05/2007	Anthropology
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	PhD	05/2008	Classical Art and Archaeology

A. Personal Statement

Persistent deficits in health care quality in the United States are well documented and improvement and implementation efforts are now widespread. Unfortunately, little systematic progress has been made in improving optimal population health over the past two decades. I am an Associate Member at the Center for Discovery and Innovation at Hackensack Meridian Health where my research focuses on using implementation science theories and methods to improve care delivery systems by understanding the factors that determine how evidence-based interventions in health and health care are implemented. I bring ethnographic and mixed methods to participatory implementation approaches that inform the development, collection, and analysis of implementation and evaluation data. I have led and participated in improvement and implementation research that focuses specifically on how to use these methodologies to improve outcomes for underserved populations both in the US and globally. I have worked with stakeholders across multiple, varied contexts to understand the facilitators and barriers to successful translation of research into practice and I have taught these skills to different community and partner groups in academic and global settings. In my 8-year involvement with the NIH Office of the Director-funded Environmental exposures on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) Program, including as faculty for the Participant Engagement; Evaluation; and Return of Results working groups, I have led the development of ECHO's Principles of Stakeholder Engagement and developed strategies to engage research participants in novel ways as well as led several analyses around the experiences of participants and internal and external stakeholders. Currently, I lead as contact PI an NIMH-funded R01 project IMPACT; a three variable hybrid implementation-effectiveness-context cRCT implementing an evidence-based mental health intervention into home visiting programs for women in the perinatal period in Iowa and Indiana. My ethnographic and mixed methods implementation research has focused on community and partner engagement across clinical, public health, and community settings to implement evidence-based interventions in health and healthcare delivery for diverse populations.

Ongoing and recently completed projects that I would like to highlight include:

1R01MH134474-01A1 Faro (PI) Ryckman (MPI)

06/05/2024-02/28/2029

National Institute of Mental Health

Can an Evidence-Based Mental Health Intervention be Implemented into Preexisting Home Visiting Programs using Implementation Facilitation?

Our work will explore the impact of context on the implementation of a mental health intervention to provide action-based and impactful data that focuses on the lived experiences of the diverse populations served by home visiting programs in Iowa and Indiana.

Westat, Inc. Idoate (PI)

08/01/2025-07/30/2030

NIH Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL)

Wellness Advocacy Zones: Opportunities for Kinship Involvement (WAZOKI) IMPROVE-CIP)

Part of the Implementing a Maternal health and PRenancy Outcomes Vision for Everyone (IMPROVE) Initiative, Wellness Advocacy Zones: Opportunities for Kinship Involvement (WAZOKI) focuses on kinship involvement to improve maternal health outcomes, including the mental health of pregnant women in the Winnebago Tribe (Nebraska)

Role: Senior Implementation Scientist

1 U7AMC33719-01-00 Radke (PI)

10/01/2024-09/30/2029

Health Resources & Services Administration

State Maternal Health Innovation Program

Role: Implementation Scientist (Co-Investigator)

B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors

Positions and Scientific Appointments

2025-	Associate Member, Center for Discovery and Innovation, Hackensack Meridian Health
2025	NIH Special Emphasis Panel Review for [2025/05 ZRG1 HSS-S (02) M]
2024	NIH Special Emphasis Panel Review for [ZRG1 HSS-C (02)]
2024	NIH Special Emphasis Panel Review for PAR-24-113/114 "International Research Scientist Development Award" (IRSDA) (K01) and PAR-23-319 "Implementation Research on Noncommunicable Disease Risk Factors among Low- and Middle-Income Country and Tribal Populations Living in City Environments"
2024-	Panel Member NIH Science of Implementation in Health and Healthcare (SIHH) Study Section
2020-2025	Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
2020-2022	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, NY
2016-2020	Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, NY
2016-2020	Assistant Director of Pediatric Quality, Children's Hospital at Montefiore, New York, NY
2016-2020	Associate Director of Global Health, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, NY
2012-2016	Senior Analyst, National Institute for Children's Health Quality, Boston, MA
2008-2010	Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Classics, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH
2008	Lecturer, Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World, Brown University, Providence, RI

Other Experience and Professional Memberships

2024-	Board Member, Alliance for Stakeholders of Preeclampsia to Inform Research Efforts (ASPIRE)
2024-	Board Member, Planned Parenthood of Iowa
2023-	Member, Examining Barriers and Opportunities to Improve Health Outcomes for Pregnant & Postpartum Iowans with Methamphetamine Use Collaborative
2023-	Member at Large, University of Iowa Council on the Status of Women
2020-	Member, Reproductive Justice Working Group, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies
2017-	Member, Anthropological Association of America
2017-	Member, Society for Medical Anthropology
2017-	Member, Society for Applied Anthropology

- 2015-2016 Member, Professional Advisory Committee, National Center for Family/Professional Partnerships, Family Voices
- 2002-2012 Member, Archaeological Institute of America

Honors

- 2022- Fellow, Society for Applied Anthropology
- 2007 Rackham International Research Award, University of Michigan
- 2006-2007 Brown Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship, Brown University
- 2005-2006 Simon A. Courtade Fellowship, University of Michigan
- 1999-2000 Abby Leach Memorial Fellowship, Vassar College

C. Contributions to Science

1) Implementation Science

I have worked on implementation research for over a decade. As a few examples, I have worked with content experts to design intervention and measurement strategies for assessing the impact of best practice-based interventions. I have studied how to apply implementation practices in real-world settings in the US and globally. My work has focused on closing the gap between evidence-based interventions and current practice to improve access to and quality of care.

- a) **Faro, EZ**, Jones, D., Adeagbo, M., Cho, H., Tabb Dina, K., Tandon, D., and K. Ryckman. Can an Evidence-Based Mental Health Intervention be Implemented into Preexisting Home Visiting Programs using Implementation Facilitation? Study Protocol for a Three Variable Implementation Effectiveness Context Hybrid Trial. *Implementation Sci* 19, 76 (2024).
- b) **Faro, EZ.**, Houghton, J., Lauria, ME, Miziou, E., Singer, A, Dabla, D, Gbeleou, S, Ekouevi, DE, Hirschhorn, LR, and KP Fiori. A pragmatic approach to qualitative formative evaluation of an integrated primary care program in Togo, West Africa. *Global Implementation Research and Applications*. September 2022. PMID: N/A
- c) **Faro EZ**, Sauder KA, Norman GS, Anderson A, Vega CV, Napp D, Huddleston KC. A Mixed-Methods Analysis to Understand the Implementation of a Multi-stakeholder Research Consortium: Environmental influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO). *Journal of Clinical and Translational Science*, 7(1), E198. PMID: PMC10565193
- d) **Faro EZ**, Adeagbo O, Mpinganjira MG, *et al* Measurement of and training for NCD guideline implementation in LMICs: a scoping review protocol *BMJ Open* 2023;**13**:e073550. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2023-073550

2) Health Equity

I led and have worked on several projects that implicitly and explicitly work to address inequalities in both healthcare delivery and health outcomes. Working to amplify the voices of partners and communities across the care delivery spectrum, from children with sickle cell disease more generally to healthcare for all children, is a critical component of improving equity. Collectively, this work informed my contributions to research on ways to improve health disparities across the lifespan for populations experiencing intersectional, structural, and systemic biases.

- a. **Faro, EZ**, Shook L, Treadwell M, King A, Whiteman L, Ivy ED, Hulihan, M, Kavanagh P, Selk S, Oyeku, SO, and S Berns. A National Measurement Framework to Assess and Improve Sickle Cell Care in Four US Regions. *Public Health Rep* 2020 135(4): 442-451 PMID: PMC7383758
- b. Lion, KC., **Faro, EZ.**, and TR Coker. All Quality Improvement is Health Equity Work: Designing Improvement to Reduce Disparities. *Pediatrics* Supplement 2022 Mar 1;149(Suppl3):e20200459348E PMID: N/A
- c. Blocklinger KL, Gumusoglu SB, Kenney AS, Faudel AJ, **Faro EZ**, Brandt DS, Knosp B, Davis HA, Hunter SK, Santillan MK, Santillan DA. Depression in the time of COVID-19: Examination of prenatal and postpartum depression, rurality, and the impact of COVID-19. *Journal of Affective Disorders*. 2024 Oct 28.
- d. Santillan DA, Davis HA, **Faro EZ**, Knosp BM, Santillan MK. Need for improved collection and harmonization of rural maternal healthcare data. *Clin Obstet Gynecol* 2022 Dec 1;65(4):856-867.

3) Maternal and Child Health

One of my primary research foci throughout my career has been to apply anthropological, ethnographic, quality improvement, and implementation research theories and methods to understanding and improving care delivery and health outcomes for maternal and child populations. With a particular focus on vulnerable populations and those in low-resource settings, my research has sought to improve care for women and children in the US and globally.

- a) **Faro, EZ**, Santillan, D., Boeldt, K., Funk, M., and Santillan, M. Social media provides support and education for pregnant people when healthcare does not. *Front. Glob. Womens Health* 5(2024):1410831. doi: 10.3389/fgwh.2024.1410831
- b) **Faro, E.Z.**, Sauder, KA, Anderson, AL, Dunlop, AL, Kerver, JM, McGrath, M, Roary, M, Roman, CA, and KC Huddleston. Characteristics ECHO Cohorts Recruited During Pregnancy. *Am J of Matern Child Nurs* 2021 Jul-Aug;46(4):230-235. PMCID: PMC8225566
- c) Thenuwara K, Santillan D, Henkle J, Forman J, Dunbar A, **Faro EZ**, Hunter S. A statewide mobile simulation program for improving obstetric skills in rural hospitals. *Anesthesia & Analgesia* 2022: 10-1213 PMID: 38758671
- d) Haughton J, Dabla D, Goin DE, Singer AW, **Faro EZ**, Levano S, Miziou E, Kangni-Zovoin A, Agoro S, Ekouevi DK, Fiori KP, Hirschhorn LR. A time series analysis of disruptions to maternal and child health care in northern Togo during the COVID-19 pandemic in the context of an integrated primary care program. *Advances in Global Health*. 2024;3(1): 2123937. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1525/agh.2024.2123937>

4) Improvement Science

My early health services career focused on using improvement science to close the gap between current practice and evidence-based interventions. I led and collaborated on projects at the national level as well those more focused on supporting improvement in front-line implementation.

- a) **Faro EZ**, Shook L, Treadwell MJ, King AA, Whiteman LN, Ivy ED, Hulihan M, Kavanagh PL, Selk S, Oyeku S, Berns SD. A national measurement framework to assess and improve sickle cell care in 4 US regions. *Public Health Rep* 2020 Jul/Aug;135(4):442-451. PMCID: PMC7383758
- b) Rea CJ, Brady TM, Bundy DG, Heo M, **Faro E**, Giuliano K, Goliav B, Kelly P, Orringer K, Tarini BA, Twombly K, Rinke RL. Pediatrician adherence to guidelines for diagnosis and management of high blood pressure. *J Pediatr* 2022 Mar;242:12-17.e1. PMID: 34774574
- c) Davidson, L., White, V., and **EZ Faro**. Advancing Pediatric Provider Practice: Preparing Youth for Transition from Pediatric to Adult Medical Care a QI initiative. *Journal Pediatr Nurs* 2022 (Sep–Oct): 66:171-178 PMCID N/A
- d) Germán M, Hsu-Walklet T, Gurney BA, Parekh J, Berman RS, Herrick J, Briggs RD, Aviv EX, **Faro EZ**. “Nice to meet you”: a quality improvement project to increase warm handoffs. *Clin Pract Pediatr Psychol* 2020 Sep;8(3):247-256.

5) Anthropological Approaches to Understanding Systems of Human Behavior

I have taken the methods of anthropological inquiry including ethnography and epistemology and applied them to 1) understand organizational culture; 2) identify system-level contextual factors that impact implementation, and 3) identify opportunities for implementation of evidence-based best practices.

- a) **Faro, EZ**, Taber, P., Seaman, A.T. *et al.* Implicit and explicit: a scoping review exploring the contribution of anthropological practice in implementation science. *Implementation Sci* **19**, 12 (2024). PMCID: PMC10863116
- b) **Faro, EZ**. And L. Bauman. Tribalism in a Pediatric Emergency Department. *Human Organization*. March 2020 79(1): 24-32. PMCID N/A
- c) **Faro, EZ**, Mantell, J.E., Gonzalez-Argoti, T., Hoffman, S., Edelstein, Z., Tsoi, B., and L.J. Bauman. Implementing PrEP Services in Diverse Healthcare Settings. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr Supplement*

Jul 1;90(S1):S114-S128. PMCID: PMC9204802

- d) **Faro, EZ**, Heurtin-Roberts, S., H.S. Reisinger. Anthropology and Implementation Science. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Anthropology*. June 2022. PMCID N/A

A complete list of my published work can be found in MyBibliography:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/myncbi/elissa.faro.1/bibliography/public/>