

BRANDI R. GILBERT, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

2013 Ph.D., Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
2007 B.A., Elementary Education, University of Delaware, Newark, DE

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

2017- Co-Director, American Evaluation Association Graduate Education Diversity Internship
2015- Research Associate- Culturally Responsive Evaluation in Practice, Urban Institute
2013-2015 Research Associate, Community Science
2007- 2013 Graduate Research Assistant, National Hazards Center
2008-2009 Intern, American Evaluation Association
2007-2007 Research Assistant, Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware

CAREER BRIEF

Dr. Brandi Gilbert, PhD is a Research Associate in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center at the Urban Institute. She has helped lead a number of projects focusing on disaster resilience as well as disaster preparedness, response and recovery. Most recently this has included an evaluation of Rockefeller Foundation’s 100 Resilient Cities Initiative and Resilience Academies and Capacity Building Initiative; an assessment of disaster preparedness and response capacities in a 10-state Midwest region, and a study examining mechanisms to expedite post-disaster housing recovery efforts.

Dr. Gilbert is also the Co-Director of the American Evaluation Association Graduate Education Diversity Internship—a pipeline program intended to cultivate the evaluation and research capacities of students of color and other under-represented groups. She brings together multidisciplinary graduate students to engage in hands-on learning experience around culturally responsive approaches, through training workshops and internship placements in non-profit and governmental agencies.

In her past work, Dr. Gilbert has conducted studies focusing on disaster preparedness among community-based organizations, long-term Hurricane Katrina recovery among adolescent youth, housing recovery in the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake, economic impacts of the 2010 BP oil spill on families in Gulf Coast communities engaged in seafood and shipbuilding industries, and the role of retired and senior residents in disaster recovery initiative. Dr. Gilbert earned her BA in elementary education from the University of Delaware and her PhD in sociology from University of Colorado Boulder.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

“Embedding the Graduate Education Diversity Internship within a Larger System” Lee, K. & Gilbert, B. 2014. *New Directions for Evaluation*, 143: 97-108.

“Disaster Preparedness among Community-Based Organizations in the City and County of San Francisco: Serving the Most Vulnerable.” Ritchie, L., Tierney, K., & Gilbert, B. 2010. Pp 3-39 in *Community*

Disaster Recovery and Resiliency: *Exploring Global Opportunities and Challenges*, Edited by D. S. Miller and J.D Rivera.

“Putting Disaster and Emergency Management Evaluation in the Dutch Context: Learning from International Experience.” (In Dutch). Engel, K., Jordan, A., Gilbert, B., & Ritchie, L. 2010. Magazine of Crisis Management and *National Security*, September 2010 Issue.

SELECTED REPORTS

As We Face a Growing Threat of Natural Disasters, Why is the Administration Chipping away at Resilience Efforts? (2017). Written for Urban Wire Blog. [Primary Author]

“The National Disaster Resilience Competition’s Resilience Academies: Preliminary Outcome Evaluation.” 2107. Written for The Rockefeller Foundation. [Lead Author]

“How the Federal Government is Working to End Homelessness 2016.” Written for United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. [Contributing Author]

“How Would Terminating USICH Affect Efforts to End Homelessness? Findings from Interviews with Federal Agencies, National Advocacy Organizations, and State and Local Stakeholders.” 2016. Written for United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. [Contributing Author].

Site Visit Evaluation for Mississippi Place-Based Efforts. (2015). Written for W.K. Kellogg Foundation. [Contributing Author]

Corporation for National and Community Service and Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Staff Focus Group Findings.” 2014. For the Corporation for National and Community Service. [Contributing Author]

“Global Libraries Impact Work Group Bucharest, Romania, Meeting Report.” 2014. For the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. [Contributing Author]

“Summary of Evaluation Site Visits and Telephone Interviews for Place-Based Grantee Efforts.” 2014. For the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. [Contributing Author]

“Impact Work Group Needs Assessment.” 2014. For the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. [Contributing Author]

“Young Males of Color Grantee Cohort Gathering Report”. 2013. For the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. [Primary Author]

“Theory and Practice of Community Reconciliation: A Literature Review.” 2013. For the Andrus Family Fund. [Contributing Author]

“Warning Decisions in Extreme Weather Events: Exploring Inter-Organizational Warning Processes for Flash Floods in Boulder, Colorado and Hurricanes in Miami, Florida.” 2011. For the National Science Foundation. [Contributing Author]

“Disaster Preparedness Among Community-Based Organizations in the City and County of San Francisco.” 2008. For the Fritz Institute. [Contributing Author]

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Gilbert, B. (July 2017). Big Lights, Big Cities, Big Plans for Disaster Resilience. (Panel), Boulder, CO.

Gilbert, B. (November 2016). Resilience: What Is It, and How Do We Build a Stronger Evidence Base for Resilience Investments? (Panel), Atlanta, GA.

Gilbert, B. (July 2016). Non-Governmental, Community-Based, and Faith-Based Organizations: A Critical, Yet Hopeful, Look at Their Role (Panel), Boulder, CO.

- Gilbert, B. (November 2015). Funding for Graduate Education and Research. Presented at The Bill Anderson Fund Student Council Workshop Series. Presented via webinar.
- Gilbert, B. (October 2014). Evaluating a Comprehensive Nutrition, Food Access and Physical Activity Initiative: A Mixed Methods Approach to Evaluating the Multi-Level Impact of Transforming Prince George's County Communities. Presented at American Evaluation Association Conference, Denver, CO.
- Gilbert, B. (August 2013). It Took a Part of Your Life Out: Lifestyle Changes Following the BP Oil Spill. Presented at the American Sociological Association Conference, New York, NY.
- Gilbert, B. (March 2013). Vulnerability and Resilience as Process: A Multi-Disciplinary Perspective to Inclusive Disaster Planning and Policy. Presented at Advancing and Redefining Communities for Emergency Management Conference, Washington, DC.
- Ritchie, L. and Gilbert, B. (March 2013). Resilience from the Bottom Up: Assessing Disaster Preparedness in Community-Based Organizations. Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Society for Applied Anthropology. Denver, CO.
- Ritchie, L. and Gilbert, B. (October 2012). The Role of Stakeholder Feedback in Disaster Preparedness Evaluation: A Collaborative Project with the US Geological Survey. Presented at American Evaluation Association Conference, Minneapolis, MN.
- Gilbert, B. (August 2012). The Activism that Never Happened: A Case Study of Youth Volunteerism Following the BP Spill. Society for the Study of Social Problems, Denver, CO
- Gilbert, B. & Campbell, N. (August 2012). "You're Not From Around Here, Are You?" Self-Presentation in the Field. Presented at Annual Conference of Black Sociologists, Denver, CO.
- Gilbert, B. (July 2012). Understanding Children's Disaster Recovery within a Social Context. Annual Hazards Research and Applications Workshop, Children and Disasters (Panel), Boulder, CO.
- Gilbert, B. & Ritchie, L. (November 2011) Assessing the Needs of Youth in the Aftermath of the Gulf Oil Spill. Presented at American Evaluation Association Conference, Anaheim, CA.
- Gilbert, B. & Ritchie, L. (May 2011). Filling a Critical Gap: Recognizing the Role of Non-Governmental Organizations in U.S. Disaster Preparedness and Response. Presented at Veterans Health Administration Comprehensive Emergency Management Program Evaluation and Research Conference, Washington, DC.
- Ritchie, L., Tierney, K. & Gilbert, B. (December 2009). Exploring the Role of Community-Based Organizations in Helping Vulnerable Populations Prepare for and Respond to Disasters. Presented at Netherlands US Water Crisis Research Network Meeting, Newark, DE.
- Gilbert, B. (November 2009). Examining Stakeholder Input: A Culturally Responsive Evaluation of the Women's Resource Center Student Volunteer Program. Presented at American Evaluation Association Conference, Orlando, FL

SELECTED RESERCH PROJECTS

100 Resilient Cities Monitoring and Evaluation (2017-2022)

Sponsor: Rockefeller Foundation

Description: Asses impact of the 100 RC model to help cities become more resilient to physical, social and economic challenges.

Role: Task Lead

Improving the Speed of Housing Recovery Program Launch after Severe Disaster (2017-2019)

Sponsor: US Department of Housing and Urban Development

Description: Assess factors that cause delays and challenges in post-disaster housing recovery through mixed methods analysis. Develop technical assistance guidance and tools for HUD grantees.
Role: Deputy Director

Enabling Conditions for Disaster Management and Readiness (2017)

Sponsor: Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies

Description: Examine factors that shape capacity of non-profit and governmental organizations to prepare for and respond to disasters, using a combination of quantitative and qualitative indicators.

Role: Deputy Director

Rockefeller Foundation's Resilience Academies and Capacity Building Initiative Evaluation (2015-2017)

Sponsor: Rockefeller Foundation

Description: Conduct a qualitative study involving 18 site visits to assess technical assistance efforts for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's National Disaster Resilience Competition

Role: Deputy Director

Collaborations and Partnerships to End Homelessness (2015-2016)

Sponsor: Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

Description: Document impacts of U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness to inform policy decisions around funding of the Council, based on interviews with more than 50 federal agencies, national advocacy organizations, and state and local stakeholders

Role: Task Lead

Using a Place-Based Approach to Improve Education, Health, and Financial Security Among Mississippi Families (2013-2015)

Sponsor: W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Description: Conduct process and impact evaluation of grantee efforts: administrative data analysis and site visits with participant focus groups and service provider interviews. Build evaluation capacity of grantees through online and in-person training workshops.

Role: Task Lead

Sensemaking and Coping Following the 2010 BP Oil Spill (2010-2013)

Sponsor: American Sociological Association Minority Fellowship Program

Description: Examine social and economic impact of the BP oil spill on youth in their families in Gulf Coast communities through in-depth interviews with youth and community stakeholders.

Role: Project Director

Temporary Housing in the Aftermath of the Haiti Earthquake (2010-2011)

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Description: Document strengths and challenges of housing efforts among non-profit organizations based in Jacmel and Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Role: Project Director

Bay Area Preparedness Initiative (2007-2010)

Sponsor: Fritz Institute

Description: Assess preparedness of community-based organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area through interviews and surveys. Inform community of practice facilitating preparedness partnerships between emergency practitioners and non-profits

Role: Task Lead