Oral Defense Announcement
University of Missouri – St. Louis Graduate School

An oral examination in defense of the dissertation for the degree
Doctor of Education with an emphasis in Educational Practice

Antaniece Patrice Sills-Carter

B.S.W., May, 2013, University of Missouri-Columbia
B.S. in Human Development and Family Studies., May, 2013, University of Missouri-Columbia
M.S.W with an emphasis in Urban Education., August, 2015, Washington University-St. Louis

Accessibility to Resources for Homeless Documented Immigrant Families: A Case Study

Date: November 21, 2019
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Place: 527 Clark Hall

Abstract
This study seeks to explore the experience of a homeless documented immigrant family attempting to access school and community resources. Research has shown that due to disadvantages including but not limited to lack of economic mobility, employment access, lone parent families, and cultural background, some immigrant families may face challenges accessing services (Arnold, 2004). Difficulty accessing services then can inhibit adjustment and may lead to homelessness.

The purpose of this study is to investigate the issue of homelessness as experienced by immigrants within an urban community. A case study will highlight the experience of a homeless documented immigrant family, as defined by the McKinney Vento Act, with a child enrolled in the City of St. Louis, Missouri. Based on the results from this study, a better understanding of challenges that homeless documented immigrant families face while trying to access housing, social services, and educational services will be discussed. This study offers strategies on how various types of resources can be communicated within institutions or community networks that these populations are a part of. Understanding the perspective and becoming knowledgeable of effective resource access for this specific population will assist social workers, teachers and other professionals in the field of education.

Defense of Dissertation Committee
Laura Westhoff, Ph.D.
Florian Sichling, Ph.D.
Miriam Jorge, Ph.D.
Brian Hutchison, Ph.D.