Bernadine Waller, PhD, LMHC

Dr. Bernadine Waller is a nationally recognized leader in intimate partner violence research. She is an award-winning National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) T32 Research Fellow in the Department of Psychiatry, Division of Translational Epidemiology and Mental Health Equity at Columbia University Irving Medical Center and New York State Psychiatric Institute. Her research examines the intersections of intimate partner violence (IPV), help seeking and mental health, with a specific focus upon Black women.

Dr. Waller's ground-breaking research is nationally lauded and transforming the landscape of domestic violence service provision. She developed the first theories in the country that identify help-seeking among African American women. Her passion for meeting the psychosocial needs of African American women survivors is evident. She is the winner of multiple awards for her research, including the **2022 Elizabeth Young New Investigator Award** from the Organization for the Study of Sex Differences (OSSD); the **2022 Outstanding Dissertation Award** from the Society of Social Work and Research (SSWR); and **2022 Student Award for Social Work Research** from the Group for the Advancement of Social Work Education (GADE). Her scholarship has also been used to help shape the reauthorization of the *Violence Against Women Act* and is currently being used to reshape domestic violence service provision system in New York City. Her research interest stems from more than a decade of practice experience. She has provided trauma-informed services to IPV survivors, court-mandated offenders, and emerging adults. Relatedly, her scholarship has been published in high impact journals including the *American Journal of Psychiatry*, the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence,* and the *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*. Dr. Waller has also been a subject matter expert in the *New York Times* and the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* and has written OpEd articles for *Newsday* and the *Huffington Post.*

Dr. Waller is a sought-after speaker who regularly shares her work with national audiences, including the Commonwealth of Virginia, NYPD Special Victims Unit, and international audiences including Canada, Ghana, Nigeria, and Malaysia. Her TEDx Talk*, Hindered Help*, illuminates the barriers that prevent Black women from securing crisis assistance during their IPV help seeking and is part of the required curriculum at several universities, including the University of Michigan and Rutgers universities.

A scholar-clinician, Dr. Waller has taught in academia for more than 12 years. A testament to her investment in the next generation of scholar activists was winning the **2020 GADE Award for Teaching in Social Work**. She is as a member of the Women's Council, a sub-committee of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) which accredits all schools of social work, and a member of the Research Capacity and Development Committee for SSWR.

Dr. Waller earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Social Work and a Master of Arts in Mental Health Counseling from Adelphi University; as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, with a concentration in Legal Studies from Temple University.