

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.  
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME: Beverly May

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

POSITION TITLE: Project Manager, University of Kentucky College of Public Health, National Library of Medicine Environmental Health Literacy Project

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
Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky	BA	05/1979	Psychology
University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky	BSN	05/1990	Nursing
University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky	MSN	05/1995	Nursing
University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky	DrPH	08/2019	Public Health

**A. Personal Statement**

An Appalachian native, I have over 30 years of experience as a registered nurse dedicated to the health of communities in eastern Kentucky. For 20 of these, I served as a family nurse practitioner providing primary health care for medically underserved residents, with a focus on uninsured, homeless, and behavioral health populations. I have worked extensively with community groups, clinical agencies and academic teams in eastern Kentucky to provide health information, health care and research strategies that are culturally and educationally appropriate to public health staff and lay people. I have also played a lead role in training and supervising lay health advisors for data collection and implementation of an environmental health-informed intervention for asthma in connection with an R01 supported by the National Institute of Environmental Health Science (NIEHS), for which I served as project manager. This recently completed project (R01 ES024771) was funded as one of the NIEHS *Research to Action* initiatives. This role was one of many I have assumed over the years and in which I am currently engaged. At the core of my roles in these efforts is applying cultural competence to community engagement and epidemiologic methods within community/academic partnerships. I currently serve as a project manager for other federally funded projects, included one funded by the National Library of Medicine, involving community health communication and environmental health literacy in Appalachia (G08 LM013185). In that role, I am responsible for community outreach, data collection and data management in the evaluation of environmental health literacy resources by key stakeholders in eastern Kentucky. I also contribute to instrument development and data collection for the environmental health-related portion of a recently awarded NIEHS Research to Action study being implemented in Letcher and Martin Counties (R01 ES032396). With respect to the University of Kentucky Center for Appalachian Research in Environmental Sciences (UK-CARES), I have served on the Stakeholder Advisory Board since 2017, been active as a grant reviewer within the UK-CARES Pilot Project Program and helped create an introductory training video on community engagement for researchers. With this extensive background in community-engaged research methods and practice, I am well-qualified to continue my roles serving on the UK-CARES Internal Advisory Board and the Stakeholder Advisory Board.

**B. Positions and Honors****Positions and Employment**

1983 - 1986 Community Organizer, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, Somerset, KY  
 1990-1991 Staff Registered Nurse, Methodist Hospital, Pikeville, KY  
 1990-1993 Registered Nurse/Health Educator, Mud Creek Clinic, Grethel, KY

1993-1995	Staff Registered Nurse, Emergency Department, Appalachian Regional Hospital, Hazard, KY
1994-1995	Teaching Assistant, University of Kentucky College of Nursing, UK Center for Rural Health, Hazard, KY
1995-2000	Family Nurse Practitioner, Mary Breckinridge Healthcare, Asher, KY
1996-2000	Voluntary Faculty, University of Kentucky College of Nursing, Lexington, KY
2001-2002	Family Nurse Practitioner (locum tenens), Mary Breckinridge Healthcare, Hyden, KY
2002-2004	Family Nurse Practitioner, Frontier Nursing Healthcare, Asher, KY
2004-2011	Clinical Director, Healthcare for the Homeless, Kentucky Mountain Health Alliance, Hazard, KY
2011	Voluntary Faculty, University of Kentucky College of Nursing, Lexington, KY
2011-2015	Family Nurse Practitioner, Mountain Comprehensive Care, Prestonsburg, KY
2015-present	Project Manager, University of Kentucky College of Public Health, Whitesburg, Kentucky

### **Clinical Licensure and Board Certifications**

Registered Nurse, Kentucky Board of Nursing #1065548

### **C. Contributions to Science**

- Many of my research contributions have centered on health inequity and health disparities in Appalachian communities in Kentucky via participation in long-running community-academic partnerships. In many of these projects, my role has been as a public health liaison, a health communications expert, and a community advocate. My in-depth understanding of rural communities where I have resided has been instrumental in fostering community engagement with biomedical and population health scientists. In an NIEHS *Research to Action* project to reduce respiratory health disparities in Appalachian communities, I was an effective liaison within a long-standing community-academic partnership. The project evolved from the finding that adults in Appalachian Kentucky are 50 percent more likely to develop chronic obstructive pulmonary disease than people living elsewhere in the United States. The project involved a comprehensive community-based assessment to better understand the environmental, social, and behavioral factors that may contribute to this health inequity. We then used the assessment to develop innovative approaches to improving respiratory health and to develop a community-endorsed environmental public health action strategy for reducing respiratory health inequities in the region. I was closely involved in the community relations aspects of this work including oversight of field staff and documentation of remote site operations, and the engagement of key community constituencies. I also trained interviewers and rural lay health advisors (LHA) about respiratory health, data collection and research ethics, each of which received 40 hours of training. Finally, I contributed to development of the action strategy.
  - May B**, Cardarelli K, Silver R, Christian, W, Schoenberg S, Browning S. (2019). Hollows as Sampling Units for CBPR in Appalachia: The Mountain Air Project. *Progress in Community Health Partnerships*, 13(4) 401-410. PMID: 31866595.
  - National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Partnerships for Environmental Public Health (PEPH) Annual Meeting, Durham, NC. Poster: "A Strategy for Engaging a Difficult to Reach Appalachian Population: The Mountain Air Project." December 13, 2018.
  - Midwest Residential Energy Conference, Lexington, Kentucky. Presentation: "Ongoing Research in Adult Asthma and the Home Environment: The Mountain Air Project." March 21, 2018.
  - American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. Presentation: "Enumeration Methodology for Engaging an Underrepresented Appalachian Population: The Mountain Air Project." November 8, 2017.
- I have a long history of engagement with community concerns for environmental health impacts in eastern Kentucky, with particular reference to the region's coal-rich mountain geography, its dominant agricultural and industrial activities (e.g., tobacco production and mining), and its socio-economic disadvantage associated with the region's persistent health inequities. My work has spanned from local community organizing, to testimony before government bodies on environmental health threats, to bringing an Appalachian community perspective to scientific journal publications.
  - Cardarelli, K. Westneat, S. Dunfee, M. **May, B.** Schoenberg, N. Browning, S. ((2021) Persistent Disparities in Smoking among Rural Appalachians: Evidence from the Mountain Air Project. *BMC Public Health* 21(1): 270. Doi: 10.1186/s12889-021-10334-6

