

Community Youth Study

New York University | Nathan Kline Institute

Update.

We hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and safe. Our hearts go out to the people affected by this unprecedented event everywhere. We want to thank the healthcare workers, local communities, and each person doing what they can to contain COVID-19.

We believe that the COVID-19 public health situation highlights the disparities that our research examines, making it even more important now to understand how these stressful experiences can affect people's health and to understand what characteristics and what resources help people cope.

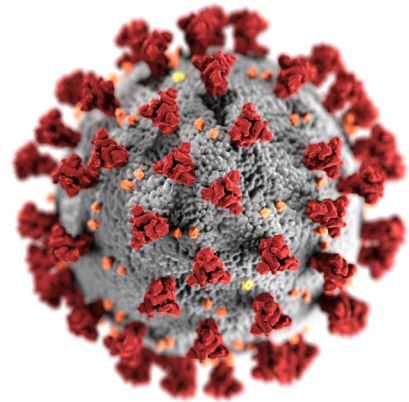
We are in the process of restarting the study soon. We are developing tools that will allow participants to provide electronic consent and also do the survey online. Our team will be contacting each eligible participant to tell them more about the steps involved in this process very soon.

Keeping the safety of our participant's and our team has always been paramount. We now have the tools and training that will allow us to continue to do the study safely for everyone.

We have a brand new website! Please visit us at: <https://cystudy.org>. We are available to help and inform our participants in any way we can. If you have any questions, would like to give us any feedback or suggestions, or if you are interested in participating in the study when it resumes, please call or text us at (917) 938-4647 or email us at CYS@NKI.rfmh.org.

Understanding COVID-19.

At the beginning of the pandemic, we asked some of you to tell us about your experience dealing with COVID-19 and how it affected your life, by participating in a brief online survey. Thanks to all the people that participated. We are in the process of analyzing the information we collected, and will update you with the results in future communications.



Now that we have been living with COVID-19 for almost a year we understand better how to stay safe and how to fight it. But we haven't even scratched the surface of what the long term effects of living through this pandemic will have for our physical and mental health. We hope to answer these questions with your help and the research that we do.

Thanks again for being part of this study all these years, please stay safe and take care of each other.

Staff Spotlight

DeVanté Cunningham | Doctoral Candidate

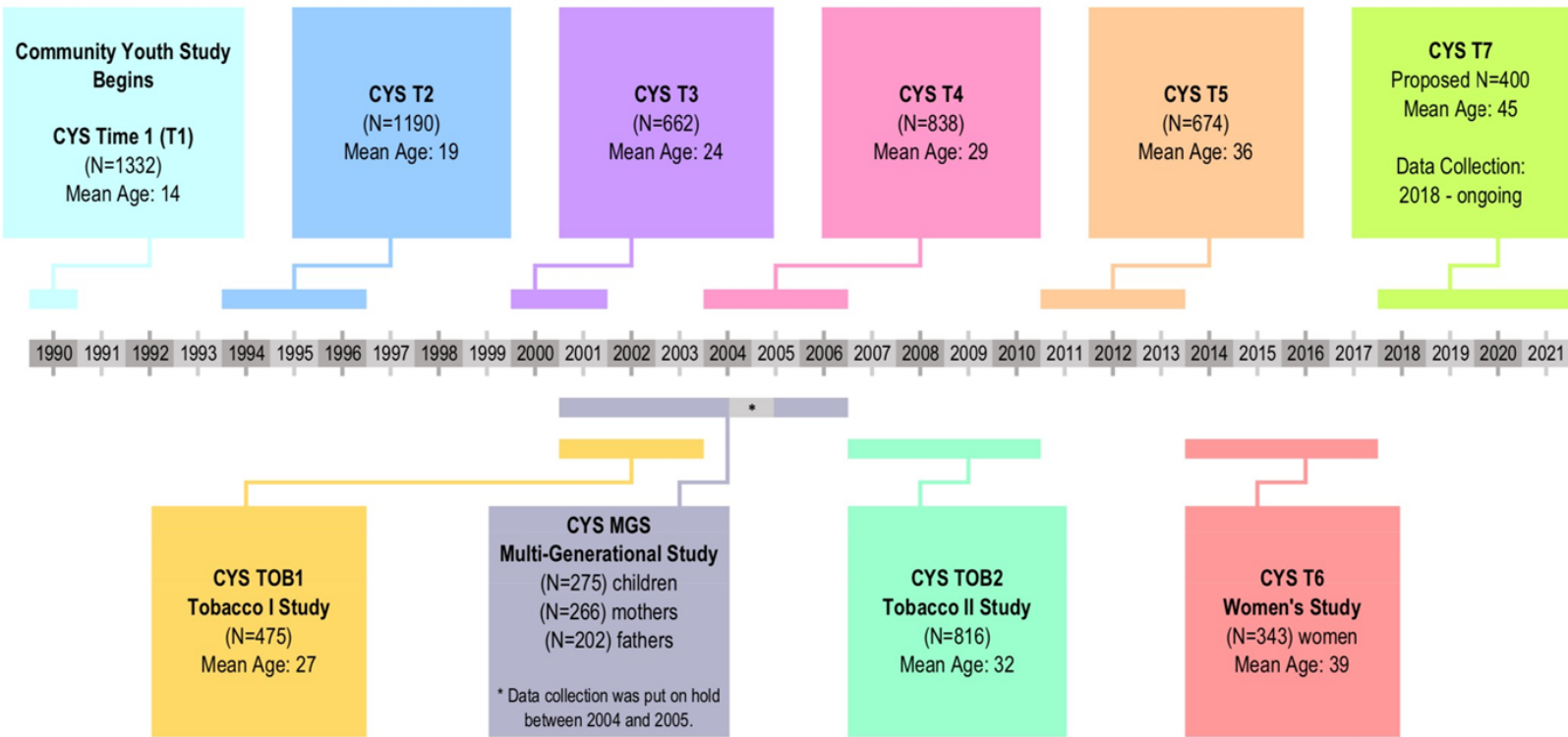
DeVanté “DJ” Cunningham was born in Petersburg, Virginia but grew up in Würzburg, Germany. DJ is a fourth-year doctoral candidate in Clinical Psychology at Montclair State University (MSU) and has served as a pre-doctoral intern and research assistant for the Community Youth Study since 2018. As a study pre-doctoral intern and research assistant, he helps with data collection, contacting participants, and grant writing.

Outside of his research work, DJ is a therapist and has clinical interests in trauma, internalizing disorders, behavioral disorders, and adolescent and young adult mental health. DJ is an adjunct professor at MSU where he teaches a course on Psychological Aspects of Human Sexuality to undergraduate students. He is the co-chair of his fraternity’s (Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.) auxiliary group, the Sigma Beta Club, which is a young male mentoring program geared to developing wholesome value, leadership skills, and social and cultural awareness of youth at a most critical stage in the youth’s personal development. DJ is a board member of the Sigma Community Enrichment Initiative (SCEI), a non-profit organization geared towards providing support for youth in Northern and Central New Jersey. DJ is also an avid photographer and enjoys playing and watching sports.



TRAJECTORY

COMMUNITY YOUTH STUDY



The Community Youth Study started in 1990 when our research group was based at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in the East Harlem community. We were interested in including the life experiences of adolescents from our ethnically and racially diverse local community into our research program on adolescent development. At the time, ethnic and racial minority groups had been given very little attention in the national body of research on adolescent development. Thirty years later, we've completed nine waves of study and are currently enrolling for our tenth wave. Of these ten waves, seven have been open to the whole cohort who has participated over the years, while three waves of study were more specialized and had different eligibility criteria.

MEET THE TEAM



**KERSTIN ("TINA")
PAHL**

Principal Investigator



**SHARIFA ("SHAR")
WILLIAMS**

Biostatistician



**LISA
WANG**

Project Manager



**DANIELA
GALVEZ**

Field assistant



**LINDA
CAPOBIANCO**

Project Administrator



**PEDRO
BATISTA**

Field supervisor



**ARIADNA
CAPASSO**

Pre-Doctoral Intern



**MUAZZEZ
("MELIKE") AKSOY**

Research Assistant



**PARICHAT ("CHAT")
PINTONG**

Field assistant



**DEVANTE ("DJ")
CUNNINGHAM**

Pre-Doctoral RA.

Please Note: We also may train other undergraduate and graduate level interns on study procedures and protocols. All interns undergo the same ethics training and approval that our paid staff undergo.

PATICIPATE IN OUR CURRENT STUDY

“Longitudinal Effects of Socioeconomic Disadvantage and Racial Discrimination on Health Among African Americans and Puerto Ricans”

Our current wave of study, funded by the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, is examining how social conditions influence stress burden, well-being, and health over time, with particular interest in:

1. Stressful experiences, including discrimination and socioeconomic disadvantage
2. Individual characteristics and resources that may help you cope with

For this study, we are conducting surveys like we have done in the past. In addition, we are collecting measurements assessing cardiovascular and metabolic health and collecting a few biological specimens to assess biomarkers of your metabolic health, endocrine and immune system function, and stress reactivity. If you have not already participated, please contact us.

We are recruiting for this study for the next few years and would be happy to tell you more about this study and discuss your participation. You would be compensated up to a \$160 dollars for participating. We would also enter you into a prize drawing for a 1-in-50 chance of winning a \$500 gift card.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions, would like to give us any feedback or suggestions of what you'd like to hear from us, or are interested in participating in our current study, please call, text, or email us.

Phone: (917) 938-4647

Email: CYS@nki.rfmh.org

Website: <https://cystudy.org>

We've seen

160

participants so far for this current study.

We've had

3

winners of gift card drawings of \$500 each for the current study.

We plan to interview

240

more participants for our current study.