

GINA M. BESENYI, MPH,
Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior
Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina
915 Greene St Room 529
besenyi@email.sc.edu
www.beachlab.sc.edu
(785) 364-4882

Education and Training

Doctor of Philosophy, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina (expected: May 2015)

- Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior
- Dissertation Topic: Developing mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental health promotion efforts
- Dissertation Committee: Dr. Andrew T. Kaczynski (Advisor), Dr. Sara Wilcox, Dr. Gabrielle Turner-McGrievy, Dr. Benjamin Schooley

Master of Public Health, Graduate School, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas (2011)

- Dual Emphasis: Physical activity and nutrition
- Thesis Topic: Park environments and youth physical activity
- Thesis Advisor: Dr. Andrew T. Kaczynski

Bachelor of Science, Department of Kinesiology, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas (2003)

- Minor: Leadership Studies
- Kinesiology Practicum Topic: Exercise prescription for stroke rehabilitation
- Leadership Practicum Topic: Leadership theories in group exercise

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina (January 2014-May 2014)

- HPEB 511 – Health Problems in a Changing Society

Guest Lecturer, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina (August 2012-November 2014)

- HPEB 748 – Community Health Development
- HPEB 701 – Theoretical Foundations of Health Promotion
- HPEB 553 – Community Health Problems
- HPEB 511 – Health Problems in a Changing Society

Guest Lecturer, College of Allied Health Sciences, Georgia Regents University (October 2014)

- MPH 8280 – Quantitative Methods in Health Administration

Instructor, Department of Kinesiology, Kansas State University (January 2012-May 2012)

- KIN 612 – Built Environment and Physical Activity
- KIN 610 – Planning and Evaluation of Health Promotion Programs

Teaching Assistant, Department of Kinesiology, Kansas State University (August 2010-May 2012)

- KIN 346 – Social and Behavioral Epidemiology of Public Health Physical Activity Laboratory
- KIN 220 – Biobehavioral Basis of Physical Activity Laboratory
- KIN 163 – Weight Training
- KIN 160 – Aerobic Dance and Exercise
- Undergraduate Academic Advisor

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina (June 2012 – Present)

- Built Environment and Community Health (BEACH) Laboratory
 - Project Coordinator, Electronic Community Park Audit Tool (eCPAT) Project, funded by the South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute and University of South Carolina SPARC Graduate Fellowship
 - Responsibilities included literature review of mobile technology, youth policy, systems, and environment, and civic engagement, content analysis of youth friendly mobile apps, development and testing of the eCPAT app.
 - GIS Analyst, Greenville Parks and Environmental Justice and Healthy Neighborhoods Projects
 - Responsibilities included collection, management, and analysis of project spatial data
- Eat Smart, Move More South Carolina
 - Project Coordinator, Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project, funded by the CDC Community Transformation Grants as an innovative strategy
 - Responsibilities included content analysis of youth friendly physical activity and nutrition environment audit tools, review of youth physical activity, nutrition, and advocacy curricula, and team development, implementation, and evaluation of HYPE curriculum.

Research Assistant, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, School of Natural Resources, University of Missouri (August 2014 – Present)

- Special appointment working on eCPAT project and related grants with Dr. Sonja Wilhelm Stanis

Research Consultant, Parks and Environmental Justice Project, funded by the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, University of Missouri (Jan 2012 – May 2012)

- Conducted focus groups with community members in Kansas City

Research Assistant, Department of Kinesiology, Kansas State University (August 2009-2011)

- Physical Activity and Public Health Laboratory
 - Project Manager, Development of a Community Stakeholder Park Audit Tool, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Active Living Research program
 - Responsibilities included content analysis of existing park audit tool instruments, coordinated stakeholder workshop meetings, developed project website, assisted with audit tool development, and led data collection and analysis.
- Youth Health Behavior Research Laboratory
 - Team Leader, Promoting Lifelong Activity and Nutrition Through Schools (Project PLANTS), funded by National Research Initiative Grant, USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service Human Nutrition and Obesity Program

- Led data collection teams and assisted with data entry and analysis
- Research Assistant, Healthy Opportunities for Physical Activity and Nutrition (HOP’N) After School, funded by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service U.S. Department of Agriculture
 - Aided in project website development and assisted with data entry
- Research Assistant, Healthy Opportunities for Physical Activity and Nutrition (HOP’N) Home, funded by the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund
 - Assisted with data entry
- Research Assistant, Scouting Nutrition and Activity Program (SNAP), funded by the Sunflower Foundation of Kansas
 - Assisted with data entry

Publications

1. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Moore, J.B., Remington, K., & Kaczynski, A.T. (under review). Exploring neighborhood greenness and objectively measured physical activity: Statistical and spatial considerations. Manuscript submitted for publication in the *Journal of Rural Health*.
2. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Child, S.T., & Ajja, R. (under review). Exploring sedentary park users’ perceptions of social and physical park environments: A qualitative approach. Manuscript submitted for publication in the *Journal of Leisure Research*.
3. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R., Oestman, K.B., & Colabianchi, N. (under review). Exploring sex differences in the relationship between park proximity and features and youth physical activity. Manuscript submitted for publication in the *Journal of Park and Recreation Administration*.
4. Kaczynski, A.T., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Koohsari, M.J., Oestman, K.B., Bergstrom, R., Potwarka, L.R., & Reis, R.S. (in press). Are park proximity and park features related to park use and physical activity among adults? Variations by multiple socio-demographic characteristics. Manuscript accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*.
5. Lenkerd, A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Blake, C.E., & Barr-Anderson, D.A. (in press 2015). Investigating issues of environmental justice in neighborhoods surrounding parks. Manuscript accepted for publication in the *Journal of Leisure Research*.
6. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R., Lightner, J., & Hipp, A. (2014). Planning for health: A community-based spatial analysis of park availability and chronic disease across the lifespan. *Health and Place*, 27, 102-105.
7. Moore, J.B., Beets, M.W., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Morris, S.F., & Kolbe, M.B. (2013). Sex moderates associations between perceptions of the physical and social environments and physical activity in youth. *American Journal of Health Promotion*.
8. Westley, T., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2013). Parental neighborhood safety perceptions and their children’s health behaviors: Associations by child age, gender, and household income. *Children, Youth, and Environments*, 23(3), 118-147

9. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Child, S. (2013). Differences in youth and adult physical activity by gender and race/ethnicity within park settings. *Preventing Chronic Disease*, 10, 42.
10. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Vaughan, K.B. (2013). Demographic variations in observed energy expenditure across park activity areas. *Preventive Medicine*, 56, 79-81.
11. Bai, H., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2013). Perceptions of neighborhood park quality: Associations with physical activity and BMI. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 45(1), 39-48.
12. Vaughan, K.B., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Bergstrom, R., & Heinrich, K.M. (2013). Exploring the distribution of park availability, features, and quality across Kansas City, Missouri by income and race/ethnicity: An environmental justice investigation. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 45(1), 28-38.
13. Bopp, M., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Active commuting influences among adults. *Preventive Medicine*, 54, 237-241.
14. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Development and testing of a community stakeholder park audit tool. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 42(3), 242-249.
15. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Hastmann, T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Variations in observed park physical activity intensity level by gender, race, and age: Individual and joint effects. *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*, 8(S2), 151-160.

Professional Publications

1. Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Parks and physical activity: Green infrastructure for healthy communities. In *F as in fat: How obesity threatens America's future 2011*. Washington, DC: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Trust for America's Health.
2. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Vaughan, K.B., & Bai, H. (2011). Kansas City parks and physical activity project: A report to the City of Kansas City, Missouri Parks and Recreation Department. Manhattan, KS: Kansas State University.

Refereed Conference Presentations

1. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Diehl, P., Schooley, B., Turner-McGrievy, B., Wilcox, S., Wilhelm Stanis, S., & Kaczynski, A.T. (in progress). Development of the electronic Community Park Audit Tool (eCPAT): Validity and reliability with youth. Submitted for presentation at the 14th Annual International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity, June 3-6, 2015, Edinburgh, Scotland.
2. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., & Veitch, J. (in press). Using technology for community-based active living advocacy and environmental change: The Community Park Audit Tool App (eCPAT). Workshop accepted for presentation at the 14th Annual International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity, June 3-6, 2015, Edinburgh, Scotland.

3. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Steedley, M., Diehl, P., Schooley, B., Turner-McGrievy, B., Wilcox, S., Wilhelm Stanis, S., Smith, T., & Kaczynski, A.T. (under review). eCPAT: Development and beta testing of mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental health promotion efforts. Submitted for presentation at the *Active Living Research Twelfth Annual Conference*, February 22-25, 2015, San Diego, CA.
4. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Carter, T.K., Pope, A.W., Gordon, K.L., Freeman, B., & Kaczynski, A.T. (in press). The Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project: Facilitator's Guide. Winner PHEHP Public Health Materials Contest to be presented at the *American Public Health Association 142nd Annual Meeting and Exposition*, November 15-19, 2014, New Orleans, LA.
5. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Veitch, J., Abbott, G., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Bergstrom, R.D. (in press). Park proximity and multiple health outcomes: Findings from the United States and Australia. Accepted for presentation at the *American Public Health Association 142nd Annual Meeting and Exposition*, November 15-19, 2014, New Orleans, LA.
6. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Moore, J.B., Remington, K., & Kaczynski, A.T. (in press). Associations of neighborhood greenness with objectively measured physical activity in urban and rural middle school youth. Accepted for presentation at the *American Public Health Association 142nd Annual Meeting and Exposition*, November 15-19, 2014, New Orleans, LA.
7. Heboyan, V., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Pope, A.W., & Oniffrey, T. (2014). Rates and correlates of physical activity among underserved minority populations: Evidence from South Carolina's LGBT Tobacco Users. Presented at the *International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*, May 21-24, 2014, San Diego, CA.
8. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Fair, M.L., Dunlap, E., Kaczynski, A.T., Powers, A., & the LiveWell Greenville Park Hop Team. (2014). Park Hop: An inter-agency collaboration to promote park visitation and physical activity in Greenville, SC. Presented at the *Active Living Research Eleventh Annual Conference*, March 9-12, 2014, San Diego, CA.
9. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Carter, T.K., Pope, A.W., Gordon, K.L., Hebda, S., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2014). Youth advocacy for policy, systems, and environmental changes for healthy eating/active living: Pilot evaluation of the Health Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project. Presented at the *Active Living Research Eleventh Annual Conference*, March 9-12, 2014, San Diego, CA.
10. Child, S., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Kaczynski, A.T. (2014). Environmental impacts on health: Arguing for a fundamental cause approach. Presented at the *Fourth International Conference on Health, Wellness, and Society*, March 14-15, 2014, Vancouver, Canada.
11. Child, S., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Ajja, R. (2013). Exploring sedentary park users' perceptions of social and physical park environments: A qualitative approach. Presented at the *American Public Health Association 141st Annual Meeting and Exposition*, November 2-6, 2013, Boston, MA.
12. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Lenkerd, A., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Blake, C.E. (2013). Equitable Communities? A GIS spatial analysis of unhealthy characteristics around parks. Presented at the *URISA GIS and Public Health Conference*, June 17-20, 2013, Miami, FL.

13. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Carter, T.K., Bozard, E., Gordon, K., Pope, A.W., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2013). Engaging youth in policy, systems, and environmental change efforts: Development of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Curriculum. Presented at the *Active Living Research Tenth Annual Conference*, February 26-28, 2013, San Diego, CA.
14. Kaczynski, A.T., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Vaughan, K.B., Bergstrom, R.D., & Reis, R. (2013). Socio-demographic variations in the association of park proximity and facilities with park use and physical activity among adults. Presented at the *Active Living Research Tenth Annual Conference*, February 26-28, 2013, San Diego, CA.
15. Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Vaughan, K.B. (2013). Using the Community Park Audit Tool for community-based advocacy and environmental change. Workshop presented workshop at the *Active Living Research Tenth Annual Conference*, February 26-28, 2013, San Diego, CA.
16. Moore, J.B., Beets, M.W., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Morris, S.F., & Kolbe, M.B. (2013). Sex moderates the associations between perceptions of the physical and social environment with physical activity in youth. Presented at the *Active Living Research Tenth Annual Conference*, February 28-30, 2013, San Diego, CA.
17. Bai, H., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2013). Influence of perceived park quality and facility use on youth park visits and park-based physical activity. Presented at the *Active Living Research Tenth Annual Conference*, February 28-30, 2013, San Diego, CA.
18. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R.D., & Lightner, J.S. (2012). Protecting our health: A GIS spatial analysis of park availability and chronic disease across age groups. Presented at the *American Public Health Association 140th Annual Meeting and Exposition*, October 27-31, 2012, San Francisco, CA.
19. Bai, H., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Perceptions of neighborhood park quality: Differences across demographic and visit characteristics. Presented at the 2012 *International Symposium on Society and Resource Management*, June 17-21, 2012, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
20. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Vaughan, K.B., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Bergstrom, R.D. (2012). Are we too dense? A geographic analysis of fast food density, park space, and body mass index across Kansas City, Missouri. Presented at the *International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity Annual Meeting*, May 23-26, Austin, TX.
21. Vaughan, K.B., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Heinrich, K.M. (2012). Deprivation amplification in Kansas City, Missouri: Exploring differences in park quantity and quality by income and race. Presented at the *International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity Annual Meeting*, May 23-26, Austin, TX.
22. Engstrom, T.W., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Parental neighborhood safety perceptions and children's health behaviors: Variations by age, gender, and household income. Presented at the *International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity Annual Meeting*, May 23-26, Austin, TX.

23. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R., & Vaughan, K.B. (2012). Exploring gender differences in the relationship between park proximity and features and youth physical activity. Presented at the *Active Living Research Ninth Annual Conference*, March 12-14, San Diego, CA.
24. Vaughan, K.B., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R.D., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Environmental justice and physical activity: Examining disparities in access to parks in Kansas City, Missouri. Presented at the *Active Living Research Ninth Annual Conference*, March 12-14, San Diego, CA.
25. Bai, H., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Perceptions of neighborhood park quality: Associations with physical activity and BMI. Presented at the *Active Living Research Ninth Annual Conference*, March 12-14, San Diego, CA.
26. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Community park audit tool: Development, reliability, and outcomes among stakeholders. Presented at the *National Recreation and Park Association Leisure Research Symposium*, November 1-4, 2011, Atlanta, GA.
27. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Bopp, M.J., & Wittman, P. (2011). Gender and age differences in motivators and barriers for active commuting. Presented at the *American Public Health Association 139th Annual Meeting and Exposition*, October 30-November 2, 2011, Washington, DC.
28. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Wilhelm Stanis, S., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2011). Observed physical activity by park setting among youth by gender, age, and race/ethnicity. Presented at the *Active Living Research Eighth Annual Conference*, February 22-24, 2011, San Diego, CA.
29. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Development and testing of a community stakeholder park audit tool. Plenary presentation at the *Active Living Research Eighth Annual Conference*, February 22-24, 2011, San Diego, CA.
30. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Hastmann, T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2010). Variations in observed park physical activity intensity level by gender and race across age groups. Presented at the *International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity Annual Meeting*, June 9-12, 2010, Minneapolis, MN.

Invited and Professional Conference Presentations

1. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Steedley, M., Diehl, P., Schooley, B., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2014). eCPAT: Development and testing of mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental health promotion efforts. Presented at the *2014 SEC Symposium on Obesity*, September 21-23, Atlanta, GA.
2. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., & Davis, P. (2014). eCPAT: Engaging youth in the development and testing of an app for park research and policy actions. Presented at the *South Carolina Recreation and Park Association Conference*, September 14-16, 2014, Hilton Head, SC.
3. **Besenyi, G.M.** (2014). eCPAT: Development and testing of mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental health promotion efforts: App development. Presented at the *University of South Carolina Graduate Student Day*, April 11, 2014, Columbia, SC.

4. Diehl, P., Schooley, B., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Kaczynski, A.T. (2014). Facilitating community health promotion: Design and usability testing of a mobile community park audit app. Presented at the *University of South Carolina Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management Research Symposium*, March 28, 2014, Columbia, SC
5. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Hipp, J.A., Groshong, L., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2014). Examining the efficacy of point-of-decision prompts for encouraging park-based physical activity. Presented at the *American Academy for Health Behavior 14th Annual Scientific Meeting*, March 16-19, 2014, Charleston, SC.
6. Carter, T.K., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Bozard, E.L., Gordon, K.L., Pope, A.W., Splittgerber, A., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2013). Engaging youth in policy, systems, and environmental change. Presented at the *American School Health Conference*, October 7-12, 2013, Myrtle Beach, SC.
7. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Carter, T.K., Bozard, E., Gordon, K., Pope, A.W., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2013). Building youth capacity for policy, systems, and environmental change for healthy eating and active living: Development of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project. Presented at the *South Carolina Public Health Association Annual Conference*, May 21-24, 2013, Myrtle Beach, SC.
8. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Child, S.T., & Ajja, R. (2013). Exploring sedentary park users' perceptions of social and physical park environments: A qualitative approach. Presented at the *South Carolina Public Health Association Annual Conference*, May 21-24, 2013, Myrtle Beach, SC.
9. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Carter, T., Bozard, E., Pope, A., Gordon, K., & Splittgerber, A. (2013). Building youth capacity for policy, systems, and environment change for healthy eating and active living: Development of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project. Presented at the *2013 Conference on the Value of Play*, February 17-20, 2013, Clemson, SC.
10. Kaczynski, A.T., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Carter, T., Bozard, E., Pope, A., Gordon, K., & Splittgerber, A. (2012). Building youth capacity for policy, systems, and environment change for healthy eating and active living: Development of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project. Presented at the *South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute and Boeing Center for Children's Wellness Scientific Retreat on Obesity*, October 19, 2012, Charleston, SC.
11. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Engaging stakeholders in evaluating and promoting park environments for physical activity. Presented at the *67th Annual South Carolina Recreation and Park Association Conference*, September 9-11, 2012, Greenville, SC.
12. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Youth physical activity within park activity areas: Differences by gender and race/ethnicity. Presented at the *2012 Conference on the Value of Play*, February 26-29, 2012, Clemson, SC.
13. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, McHenry, M.L., & Vaughan, K.B. (2011). Evaluating park environments for physical activity. Presented at the *National Recreation and Park Association Annual Congress*, November 1-4, 2011, Atlanta, GA.
14. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., & Wilhelm Stanis, S. A. (2011). Creating healthier communities: Using the community park audit tool to facilitate advocacy for park-based physical activity.

Presented at the *Kansas Public Health Association Fall Conference*, September 21-22, 2011, Wichita, KS.

15. Vaughan, K.B., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Environmental justice and physical activity: Examining disparities in access to parks in Kansas City, MO. Presented at the 68th *Annual Kansas Public Health Association Fall Conference*, September 21-22, 2011, Wichita, KS.
16. Vaughan, K.B., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Evaluating park environments to promote youth advocacy for physical activity. Presented at the 7th *Annual Extension HealthFest, Rock Springs*, April 2, 2011, Junction City, KS.
17. Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Evaluating park environments for physical activity. Presented at the *Missouri Park and Recreation Association Annual Conference and Exposition*, March 8-11, 2011, St. Louis, MO.
18. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Evaluating park environments for physical activity. Presented at the *Kansas Recreation and Parks Association Conference and Trade Show*, February 1-3, 2011, Wichita, KS.
19. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2010). Leveraging the role of parks as activity-promoting elements of the built environment. Invited presentation at the Kansas Department of Health and the Environment *Kansas Health Summit: Built Environment and the Outdoors*, October 19-20, 2010, Wichita, KS.
20. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2010). Variations in youth park-based energy expenditure by race/ethnicity, age, and gender. Invited presentation at the 67th *Annual Kansas Public Health Association Fall Conference*, September 29-30, 2010, Topeka, KS.
21. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Bopp, M., & Wittman, P. (2010). Gender and age differences in motivators and barriers for active commuting. Presented at the 67th *Annual Kansas Public Health Association Fall Conference*, September 29-30, 2010, Topeka, KS.
22. Kaczynski, A.T., Bopp, M., Wittman, P., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2009). To drive or not to drive: What influences walking and cycling to work? Presented at the *Kansas Department of Health and the Environment 2009 Summit: Cultivating Healthy Kansans*, December 1-3, 2009, Topeka, KS.
23. **Besenyi, G.M.** (2007). Employee wellness: Fit for work. Presented at the *Association of Public Safety Communications Officials Conference*, June 5-8, 2007, Holton, KS.

Academic Service Activities

- Manuscript reviewer, *Preventing Chronic Disease* (2014)
- Manuscript reviewer, *Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport* (2014)
- Abstract reviewer, *American Public Health Association – Physical Activity Section* (2013, 2014)
- Manuscript reviewer, *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice* (2012-2014)
- Manuscript reviewer, *Landscape and Urban Planning* (2013)
- Manuscript reviewer, *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* (2012)

- Manuscript reviewer, *Journal of Park and Recreation Administration* (2010, 2011)
- Search committee member, Assistant Professor of Physical Activity and Public Health, Department of Kinesiology, Kansas State University (2011-2012)

Research Funding Awards

Pending

- Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City KC Children's Mercy (PI) 01/01/15-06/30/16
 - Developing sustainable technology infrastructure to improve park awareness, utilization, and physical activity promotion across greater Kansas City
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$75,000

Ongoing

- National Recreation and Park Association Kaczynski (PI) 07/01/14-06/30/15
 - Development and testing of eCPAT mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental change health promotion efforts
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$15,000
- University of South Carolina Office of Research Kaczynski (PI) 05/16/14-05/15/15
 - Evaluation of an inter-agency collaboration to promote park visitation and physical activity among youth in Greenville County, SC
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$14,842
- University of South Carolina Office of the Provost Kaczynski (PI) 05/16/14-08/15/15
 - Are disparities in access to quality park environments associated with childhood obesity? An environmental justice investigation
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$19,996
- University of Missouri Research Council Wilhelm Stanis (PI) 04/01/14-05/31/15
 - Evaluation of eCPAT: Assessing the acceptability, feasibility, and efficacy of the Community Park Audit Tool with youth.
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$7,498
- South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute Kaczynski (PI) 07/01/13-12/30/14
 - eCPAT: Using mobile technology to assess the acceptability, feasibility, and efficacy of the Community Park Audit Tool with youth
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$29,666

Completed

- SPARC Graduate Fellowship Besenyi (PI) 05/16/13-05/16/14
 - eCPAT: Development and testing of mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental health promotion efforts
 - Role: PI
 - Amount: \$4,970
- Eat Smart, Move More South Carolina Kaczynski (PI) 08/16/12-09/30/13
 - Building youth capacity for healthy community design
 - Role: Project Manager
 - Amount: \$46,604
- Kansas State University Small Research Grant Kaczynski (PI) 06/01/10-12/31/11
 - Examining neighborhood park influences on physical activity
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$1,500
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Active Living Research Kaczynski (PI) 01/15/10-01/14/12
 - Development of a community stakeholder park audit tool
 - Role: Project Manager
 - Amount: \$49,989

Not Funded

- University of South Carolina Office of Research Kaczynski (PI) 07/01/13-06/30/14
 - Evaluation of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$14,931
- The Duke Endowment Kaczynski (PI) 04/01/13-03/31/15
 - Building youth capacity for healthy community design: Implementation of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project in Greenville
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$200,140

Major Scholarships and Awards Received

- Public Health Training Materials Award, Public Health Education and Health Promotion, APHA (2014)
 - Received award as part of a collaborative team that developed the HYPE curriculum
- George M. Reeves Trustee Fellowship, University of South Carolina (2014)
 - Received fellowship for excellence in graduate study, research, and scholarship (\$750)
- Preparing Future Faculty Certificate (2014)
 - Received certificate for accomplishing faculty professional development work
- Arnold School of Public Health Fellowship (2013-2014)
 - Received fellowship for PhD program (\$4000)

- South Carolina Public Health Association, Public Health Scholarship (2013)
 - Received scholarship for high academic and professional promise in public health (\$750)
- South Carolina Public Health Association, Malcolm U. Dantzler Scholarship (2013)
 - Received award and scholarship for significant commitment to public health (\$500)
- South Carolina Public Health Association, Top Student Abstract Award
 - Received award and oral presentation for public health research (\$100)
- Support to Promote Academic Advancement of Research and Creativity (SPARC) Fellowship (2013)
 - Received fellowship funds to conduct innovative research (\$5000)
- University of South Carolina, Graduate School Travel Grant Award (2013)
 - Received travel award to present scientific research (\$500)
- University of South Carolina, Graduate School Travel Grant Award (2012)
 - Received travel award to present scientific research (\$750)
- University of South Carolina, Arnold School of Public Health Travel Grant Award (2012)
 - Received travel award to present scientific research (\$250)
- Kansas State University, Department of Nutrition, Nutrition for Youth Graduate Scholarship (2012)
 - Received scholarship for doctoral studies focused on youth health (\$1000)
- Kansas State University, Graduate School, Outstanding Public Health Student Award (2011)
 - Received award for outstanding accomplishments in public health research and education
- Kansas State University, Department of Kinesiology Most Outstanding Graduate Student Award (2011)
 - Received award and scholarship for outstanding graduate accomplishments (\$350)
- Kansas Public Health Association, Best Student Research Poster Award (2010)
 - Received scholarship to attend the 2010 APHA Conference (\$500)
- American Association of University Women Scholarship (2009-2010)
 - Received scholarship for exhibiting superior non-traditional student leadership (\$1000)

Relevant Professional Experience

Manager, LifeCare Fitness Center, Holton, Kansas (August 2004-August 2009)

- Responsible for all aspects of departmental operations while effectively managing annual budget
- Supervised and conducted numerous public consultation and needs assessment activities
- Coordinated community wellness promotions including health fairs, wellness education, race directing, and sports competitions
- Coached and developed a highly-effective team of full and part-time staff

Wellness Coordinator, Community HealthCare Systems, Onaga, Kansas (June 2006-August 2009)

- Coordinated multiple wellness departments to expand community services
- Initiated quality improvements and enhanced system wide communication
- Co-developed and instructed Lifestyle Exercise And Nutrition (LEAN) weight management program

Professional Certifications (1996-2011)

- Certified Personal Trainer, American Council on Exercise (ACE; 2005-2011)
- Certified Group Fitness Instructor, American Council on Exercise (ACE; 2006-2011)
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support, American Heart Association (AHA; 2009-2011)
- Certified Aquatic Director, United States Water Fitness Association (USWFA; 2006-2010)
- Level II Swim Coach, American Swimming Coaches Association (ASCA; 2004-2010)
- Certified Lifeguard/Water Safety Instructor, American Red Cross (ARC; 1996-2010)

Professional Affiliations (2009-present)

- Member, American Public Health Association (APHA; 2010-present)
- Member, International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity (ISBNPA; 2010-present)
- Member, South Carolina Public Health Association (SCPHA; 2013-present)
- Member, Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA; 2013-present)
- Member, Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA; 2010-2012)
- Member, Kansas State University Public Health Club (PHC; 2010-2012)
- Member, Kansas State University Kinesiology Student Association (KSA; 2009-2011)

Community Service Activities (2003-present)

- Board Member, Northeast Kansas Multi-County Health Department Board of Directors (2011-2012)
- Member, Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church (2012-present)
- Volunteer, Jackson County KS Health Department (2010-2012)
- Member, St. Dominic's Altar Society (AS; 2006-2012)
- Charter Member, Jackson County KS Service to Mankind (SERTOMA; 2008-2010)
- Member, Jackson County Communities that Care Coalition (JCCTCC; 2008-2009)
- Volunteer, Jackson County KS Sheriff's Youth Summer Camp (2008-2010)
- Volunteer, Relay For Life (2005-2007)
- Volunteer, Geary Rehabilitation and Fitness Center (2002-2003)
- Volunteer, Walk Kansas - Team Captain (2003)