

Experience

Freelance Writer

December 2017- Present

Little Octopus LLC

- Compose highly-researched nutrition and health content for non-profits, academic institutions, and social enterprise businesses

WIC Nutrition Communications Consultant (Contract)

August 2017- December 2017

San Diego State University Research Foundation's Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program

- Designed a multi-channel communications campaign called [Stick With WIC](#) that endeavors to increase WIC retention for a state-funded research study

Communications and Documentation Specialist

May 2016 – August 2017

Save the Children (The TOPS Program) – Washington, DC

- Created and edited nutrition, social and behavior change, and agricultural technical materials
- Co-led an agency-wide Knowledge Management Community of Practice
- Co-taught and developed curriculum for an all-day Video Storytelling Workshops in Kampala, Uganda

Knowledge Management Specialist (Contract)

January 2016 – May 2016

Senior Knowledge Management Coordinator (Contract)

September 2015 – January 2016

Save the Children (Department of Global Health and Saving Newborn Lives program) – Washington, DC

- Designed and executed a communications plan for [Healthy Newborn Network website](#) launch
- Produced the [Healthy Newborn Network video](#), including creating the concept design and script
- Collaborated with technical experts to revise neonatal web content and add key resources
- Developed an overview of Save the Children's global health activities
- Edited monthly knowledge management and advocacy e-newsletters

Community Health and Nutrition Graduate Intern

February 2015 – May 2015

Arlington County Office of Community Health – Arlington, VA

- Revised county's Nutrition Operating Manual policy using evidence-based best practices
- Designed nutrition and physical activity lesson plans for children's afterschool programming
- Created and implemented a program implementation plan for a Healthy Corner Store pilot

Essay Specialist

June 2014- May 2015

PrepMatters – Bethesda, MD

- Provided one-on-one writing coaching for students' admissions essays and applications to highly selective universities

Senior Knowledgebase Content Writer

February 2012 – August 2014

UnitedHealth Group – Washington, DC

- Led year-long project to rewrite entirety of content in the pharmacy proposal knowledgebase, including regular tracking and progress reporting for senior leaders
- Designed and led webinar series on soft skills for content managers

Grant Writer

February 2011 – February 2012

AIDS Healthcare Foundation – Los Angeles, CA

- Wrote and edited foundation and government grant proposals, winning \$1.7+ million in one year

- Ghost-wrote donor appeal letter, prompting \$60,000+ in donations
- Initiated text donation campaign, raising \$5,000+ in two months

Senior Proposal Development Writer

August 2009 – January 2011

UnitedHealth Group – Los Angeles, CA

- Wrote department-wide policy and procedure documents

Business Information Writer/Information Consultant

August 2007 – August 2009

Aetna Inc. – Hartford, CT

- Edited an internal sales newsletter

Marketing and Development Assistant

May 2006 – August 2007

Marlboro College – Marlboro, VT

- Created copy for college publications and website

Education

Master of Science in Nutrition & Food Studies

George Mason University – Fairfax, VA

2015

- *Awarded:* The Provost’s Graduate Research Fellowship

Bachelor of Arts in Historical Musicology

Marlboro College – Marlboro, VT

2006

- *Recipient:* Agnes M. Lindsay Trust Scholarship 2005 – 2006
- *Winner:* Freshman/Sophomore Essay Prize 2003

Journal Publications

Durairaj, A; Gewa, C.; Komwa, M. & Pawloski, L. (Published, December 2017). [“Our Turn to Eat:” Shifting Gender Norms and Food Security in the Wakiso District of Uganda.](#) *The Journal of Hunger and Environmental Nutrition.*

Conference Presentations

Durairaj, A; Gewa, C. (September 18, 2015.) *‘We Now Make Our Own Money and Decisions’: Gender Norms and Food Security in the Wakiso District of Uganda.* Paper presented during a themed session at the Fifth International Conference on Food Studies in Blacksburg, VA.

Technical Skills

- Microsoft Office Suite, MailChimp, SurveyMonkey, SharePoint, WordPress, Prezi, Facebook, LinkedIn, and NVivo software

Volunteer Experience

- Parent Advisor at the Rady Children’s Hospital Heart Institute
- Wellness curriculum research for Women Infants and Children (WIC) program administered by Red Cross in San Diego, CA in 2017
- Write landing page copy for the [Meals for McDowell Campaign](#), benefitting Five Loaves and Two Fishes Food Bank in Kimball, WV, resulting in more than \$25,000 in donations