

The Word

The latest CRIB news, views and announcements

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**THE CENTRE FOR RESEARCH &
INNOVATION FOR BLACK
SURVIVORS OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS**



**FACTOR - INWENTASH
FACULTY OF SOCIAL WORK
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**

THE CRIB EXTENDS Congratulations to Professor Charmaine Williams on Appointment as Dean of U of T Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work!



The Centre for Research & Innovation for Black Survivors of Homicide Victims (The CRIB) joins with the university community in congratulating Professor Charmaine Williams, who is also a Faculty Affiliate of The CRIB, on her appointment as Dean of the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work for a five-year term from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2027.



WORKING FOR & WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Midaynta Community Services

One year ago, The CRIB was fortunate to release its Request for Proposals (RFP), entitled, *“Creating Culturally Responsive Services for Indigenous; African, Caribbean, Black (ACB); and Racialized Survivors of Homicide Victims”*. This RFP was a byproduct of the Survivors of Homicide Victims and Mental Health (SHVMH) project conducted by The CRIB and the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), that was



Shamsa Mohamed, Project Coordinator of the Healing Network Circle project at Midaynta Community Services

graciously supported by the Anti-Racism Directorate of Ontario. **Midaynta Community Services** was one of the successful community organizations that was awarded a subgrant for their project entitled, *“Healing Network Circle”*. This project sought to create safe and inclusive spaces for families and individuals impacted by grief and the loss of loved ones as a result of gang and gun violence. Click the link below to hear about their experience from Shamsa Mohamed, the Project Coordinator of the Healing Network Circle project at Midaynta Community Services. Shamsa’s testimony gives a peek into what it means for research institutions to have an impact beyond the traditional scholarly output (publications, conferences, books etc.) and recognizes the fundamental role research centres like The CRIB and others can play in society, not only in the pursuit of new knowledge and understanding, but by bringing about positive change in communities through the application of research to address the needs of our societies. The impact and the results of this project, and that of BYJ Community Services (the other community organization that was awarded a subgrant by The CRIB) will be shared with the public in the near future.

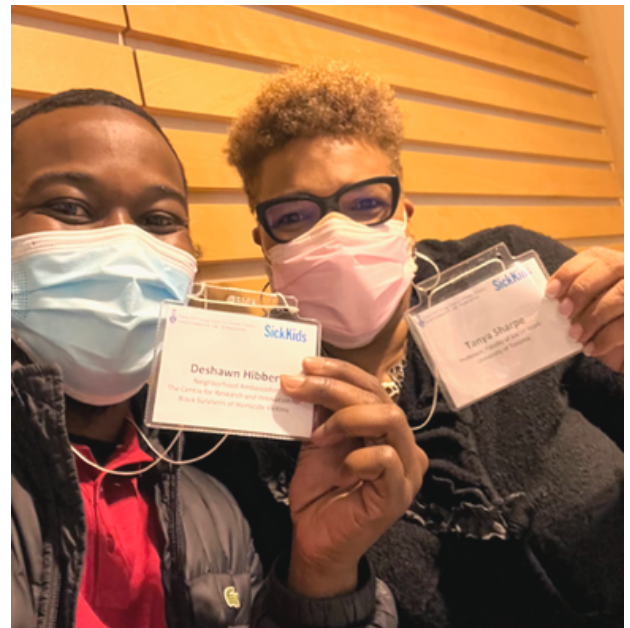




THE CRIB REPRESENTED AT THE First Annual Edwin S.H. Leong Centre for Healthy Children Symposium

On November 18, 2022, the Edwin S.H. Leong Centre for Healthy Children hosted its inaugural symposium, entitled, *“Seizing the Opportunity: Child Health Equity Research in Post-Pandemic Recovery”*. This symposium gathered leading Canadian and international academics,

and policymakers to discuss the role that research should play in addressing equity in children’s health outcomes in an era of pandemic recovery. The CRIB was pleased to be represented by its founder and director, Associate Professor Tanya Sharpe and Neighbourhood Ambassador, Deshawn Hibbert. They delivered a joint presentation entitled, *“For Us, By Us: Creating Culturally Responsive Approaches to Research”* on the Community Engagement & Youth Voice Panel which was co-chaired by Drs. Samantha Anthony, Health Clinician Scientist at The Hospital for Sick Children; and Priscilla Medeiros, Knowledge Mobilization Specialist at the Edwin S.H. Leong Centre for Healthy Children.



Neighbourhood Ambassador, Deshawn Hibbert & Founding Director of The CRIB, Dr. Tanya Sharpe



IN THE SPOTLIGHT: NEW TEAM MEMBERS!

If Nauman could go back in time, he would love to be an Indian classical musician. As things stand, Nauman has a Ph.D. in criminology from Cardiff University, UK. Nauman has worked as a lecturer and a researcher at a public university in Lahore, Pakistan. He has published research papers on urban violence, organized crime, child labor, primary education, and infant mortality. He has also worked on several development-related projects which contributed to policy formulation at the provincial and national levels in Pakistan. Nauman's long-term ambition is to lead policy changes to address the overrepresentation of racialized populations in the criminal justice and child welfare systems. Nauman is currently a Master of Social Work student in the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work program at the University of Toronto. He enrolled in this program to appreciate, through engagement at the grassroots level, the systematic barriers and injustices faced by marginalized communities in Canada.



Dr. Nauman Aqil, Research Assistant



Navneet Kaur Mann, Research Assistant

Navneet is currently an MSW student at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work at University of Toronto. She previously completed her BSc in Psychology at the University of British Columbia and has worked in mental health and substance use for over six years. Navneet has worked in various mental health settings such as correctional facilities, hospitals and community. Her work has provided her with a close understanding of how our systemically oppressive systems continue to affect communities and individuals disproportionately. In addition to her knowledge of culturally responsive and

sustainable anti-oppressive practices, which are essential in mental health interventions and research, she looks forward to working with The CRIB to develop research for and with black survivors of homicide victims that is primarily community driven.

Fun Fact: Navneet loves collecting seasonal candles and playing pickup basketball.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT: NEW TEAM MEMBERS!

Lara is a current second-year HBSc candidate at the University of Toronto, studying GlobalHealth, Biology, and Bioethics. As a Global Health student, she is interested in policy change to accommodate marginalized communities in the healthcare system. More specifically, she is interested in equitable healthcare for LGBTQ+ and marginalized women, as well as research on BIPOC and women's health in general. She advocates for empowerment through education and believes in accessibility of health education through avenues such as social media.



Lara Reyes, Research Assistant - Social Media Designer & Content Creator

Fun Fact: Lara likes to stress-bake including cakes, cupcakes, and cookies!



CAREER CORNER:



The Black Research Network (BRN) is looking to recruit two casual contract roles to support the delivery of programming and operations under the supervision of the Program Lead and under general direction of the Director.

Launched as a University of Toronto Institutional Strategic Initiative to promote Black excellence at U of T, the BRN aims to enhance the research capacity of Black scholars within the university and on the world stage. This includes increasing the visibility of Black scholars' research accomplishments by sustaining a cross-divisional, interdisciplinary network and facilitating robust research engagement across the U of T and internationally.



[Interested in applying?](#)
[Click here for more information](#)



Season's Greetings from all of us at The CRIB!

As we approach the end of 2022, while there is much to be concerned about, there is still much to be thankful for! In this season of thanksgiving, we therefore pause to give thanks. Thanks to everyone who has supported The CRIB over the last year. We also extend our most profound appreciation to the countless Black survivors of homicide victims for whom we do this work in service to, and whose voices we are committed to uplifting.

We wish for you and your families a peaceful and joy filled holiday season and a New Year that brings you peace and prosperity, **from our CRIB to yours!**



The CRIB is located within the number one ranked university in Canada (University of Toronto) and more specifically within the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, which is ranked second in the world among schools of social work according to the Center for World University Rankings.

Make a Gift to The CRIB

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