

Peiyuan Zhang, PhD Candidate, MSW

University of Maryland School of Social Work
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Education

2025 (expected)	PhD	University of Maryland, Baltimore, School of Social Work
2019–2021	MSW	Washington University in St. Louis, Brown School
2015–2019	BSW	University of Chinese Academy of Social Science, School of Social Work

Research Interest

- Quality of end-of-life care among older adults with dementia
- Equitable access to end-of-life care among minoritized racial and ethnic populations
- Implementation quality of advance care planning

Teaching Interest

- Human Behavior and Social Environment
- Research Methods
- Social Welfare Policy
- Gerontology Theory
- Death Dying and Bereavement

Grants & Fellowships

- **2024 National Institute of Aging (NIA) F99/K00 Transition to Aging Research**
(Pending decision: Scored 35)
Project: Developing and Evaluating an Advance Care Planning Implementation
Quality Assessment Tool for Use of Nursing Homes
Period: July 2024-June 2029
- **University of Maryland School of Social Work PhD Program Dissertation Grant**
Dissertation: Developing and Evaluating an Advance Care Planning Implementation
Quality Assessment Tool: A Three-Paper Dissertation
Period: May 2024-June 2024
Amount: \$4,000
- **Horizon Foundation Advance Care Planning Evaluation Project Grant**
Project: Community-based Advance Care Planning intervention for Adult Population
Period: July 2023-July 2024
Amount: \$5,000
- **Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work (AGESW) Pre-Dissertation Fellowship**
Period: May 2022- May 2023
Amount: \$1,200

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Cagle, J.G., Stump, T., Wanzhu, T., Ersek, M., Floyd, A., Van den Block, L., **Zhang, P.**, Todd, T.D., & Unroe, K. (2025). A Psychometric evaluation of the staff-reported eold-cad measure among nursing home residents with cognitive impairment. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*. 40 (1). <https://doi.org/10.1002/gps.70037>
- Saylor, M., Hanna, V., **Zhang, P.**, Thai, G., Green, C., Cagle, J.G., & Wolff J. (2024). Advance care planning in adults ages 80 years and older with impaired cognition: Using actual conversations to examine best practices. *Alzheimer's & Dementia*. In press.
- Clem S., **Zhang P.**, & Cagle J. G. (2024). Exploring congruency of death location preferences versus expectations: Findings from the general public in Brazil, Italy, Japan, and the U.S. *Illness, Crisis & Loss*. *Illness, Crisis & Loss*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/10541373241262378>
- Zhang P.**, Nketsiah E., & Hyunjin N. (2024). Service provider perspectives on advance care planning use in rural dementia patients and caregivers: A qualitative study. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*. 67 (6), 825-840. <http://doi.org/10.1080/01634372.2024.2351071>.
- Yang X., **Zhang P.**, Jing S., Cheng Y., Cavaletto A. (2024). Logotherapy-based interventions for Chinese family caregivers of older adults with dementia through online groups: A mixed-methods study. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*. Online first. <http://doi.org/10.1080/01634372.2024.2326689>
- Cagle, J. G., Carrion, I., Becker, T.D., & **Zhang P.** Spanish translation and dissemination of empower materials to address barriers to pain management at the end of life. *Palliative Medicine Reports*, 5(1), 162–170. <https://doi-org./10.1089/pmr.2023.0090>
- Greif, G. L., Lee, H., & **Zhang, P.** (2024). The intermarriage of Whites and Asian Americans: Clinical considerations from qualitative interviews. *Journal of Couple & Relationship Therapy*. Online First. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15332691.2024.2307046>
- Cagle J. G., **Zhang P.**, & Clem S. (2023). Estimating the impact of hospice care on key outcomes using a nationwide U.S. probability sample. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10499091231218261>
- Greif, G. L., Chung, Y., Lee, H., & **Zhang, P.** (2023). The Experiences of Asian Americans Who Intermarry in the United States: A Qualitative Study. *Families in Society*. Online First. <https://doi.org/10.1177/104438942311933>.
- Zhang P.**, Clem S., Rose R., Cagle J.G. (2023). Exposure to a loved one's death and advance care planning: Moderating effects of age. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*. Online First. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10499091231188689>.
- Zhang, P.**, & Cagle, J. G. (2023). Previous experience in medical decision making and advance care planning conversations: Findings from a nationwide cross-sectional survey. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*, Online First. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10499091231174621>.
- Zhang, P.**, Sun, F., & Hirsch, J. (2023). Perceived barriers and social cultural factors associated with advance care planning conversations among Chinese American older adults. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 42(10), 2110–2118. <https://doi.org/10.1177/07334648231176142>
- Zhang, P.**, & Cagle, J. G. (2023). When living wills go missing: Associations with hospice use and hospital death using national longitudinal data. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 42(5), 1108-1112. <https://doi.org/10.1177/07334648221146774>
- Burke, C., Hampel, S., Gholson, K., **Zhang, P.**, & Rufkhar, B. (2021). COVID-19 family

support team: providing person and family centered care during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Journal of Social Work in End-of-Life & Palliative Care*, 17(2–3), 158–163. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15524256.2021.1922126>

Zhang, P. (2019). The needs research of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Patients under social support theory (in Chinese). *Journal of Social Work and Management*, 19(2), 49–56. <http://www.xml-data.org/shgzygl/html/1552903311461-372367600.htm>

Under Review

Zhang, P., Wang, Y., Wang, K., & Cagle, J.G. (2024). Social work involvement in advance care planning post 2016 Medicare policy change: A systematic review. *Palliative Medicine*. Under Review

De Fries, C., To, M., **Zhang, P.**, Ea, E., Sun, F., Wu, B., Levkoff, S., & W, K. (2024). End-of-life care planning among older Vietnamese and Filipino Americans: A qualitative analysis. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*. Under Review.

Other Publications

Zhang, P., Cagle, J.G., & Unroe, K. (2024) What are elements for successful Advance Care Planning Implementation in Nursing Homes: A systematic review. PROSPERO 2024 CRD42024561386 Available from: https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/prospero/display_record.php?ID=CRD42024561386

Zhang, P. (2023). Review of “A tablet-based intervention for activating nursing home residents with dementia: results from a cluster-randomized controlled trial” by O’Sullivan et al. *International Psychogeriatrics Review*. Available from: https://www.ipa-online.org/UserFiles/Zhang_IPGreview_JMB_1.pdf

Ji, G., **Zhang, P.**, & Sun, F. (2023). Exploring an Innovative Palliative Care Model in Rural China. *International Psychogeriatrics Bulletin*. Available from: <https://www.ipa-online.org/resources/publications/ipa-bulletin/june-2023-articles>

Conference Presentations

Peer-Reviewed

Zhang, P., Clem, S., Guan, T., Becker, T.D., & Sacco, P. (2024, November 13-16). *Validation of modified sense of control scale among older cancer patients*. [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting, Seattle, WA, United States.

Zhang, P., Wang, Y., Wang, K., & Cagle, J.G. (2024, November 13-16). *Social work involvement in advance care planning post 2015 Medicare policy change: A Systematic review*. [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting, Seattle, WA, United States.

Tucker, G.G., Cagle, J.G., Stump, T., Tu, W., **Zhang, P.**, Floyd A., & Unroe, K. (2024, November 13-16). *Family involvement and symptom burden in nursing home residents with cognitive impairment*. [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting, Seattle, WA, United States.

Thai, G., Hanna, V., **Zhang, P.**, Echavarria, D., Wolff, J., & Saylor, M. (2024, March 20-23). *Advance care planning in dementia care: Eliciting values from serious illness*

- experiences*. [Poster presentation]. The Annual Assembly of Hospice and Palliative Care, Phoenix, AZ, United States.
- Saylor, M., Hanna, V., Thai, G., **Zhang, P.**, Cagle, J.G., & Wolff J. (2024, March 20-23). Advance care planning: Including persons with dementia and their caregivers. The Annual Assembly of Hospice and Palliative Care, Phoenix, AZ, United States.
- Zhang P.**, & Yang X. (2024, Jan 10-14). *Logotherapy-based interventions for Chinese family caregivers of older adults with dementia through online groups: A mixed-methods study*. [Poster Presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 28th Annual Conference, Washington, DC, United States.
- Greif, G. L., Chung, Y., Lee, H., & **Zhang, P.** (2024, Jan 10-14). *The Experiences of Asian Americans Who Intermarry in the United States: A Qualitative Study*. Society for Social Work and Research 28th Annual Conference, Washington, DC, United States.
- Deitz, A. H. H., Tennor, M. K., Mack, L.-J. M., Cavaletto, A., Chung, Y., Lee, H., & **Zhang, P.** (2024, Jan 10-14). A Collaborative Research Process in Social Work Doctoral Education: Recentering Community. [Symposium Presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 28th Annual Conference, Washington, DC, United States.
- Zhang, P.**, Stump, T., Tu, W., Becker, T.D., Orth Jessica., Floyd A., & Unroe. K. (2023, November 8-12). *Exploratory factor analysis of the comfort assessment in dying with dementia scale*. [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting, Tampa, FL, United States.
- Zhang, P.**, Sun, F., & Hirsch, J. (2023, November 8-12). *Perceived barriers and social cultural factors associated with advance care planning conversations among Chinese American older adults*. [Symposium presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting, Tampa, FL, United States.
- Zhang, P.** (2023, November 8-12). *Exploration of preparedness for medical decision making for family caregivers of people with dementia* [Symposium presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting, Tampa, FL, United States.
- Zhang, P.**, Nketsiah E., Hyunjin N. (2023, November 8-12). *Service provider perspectives on advance care planning use in rural dementia patients and caregivers: A qualitative study* [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting, Tampa, FL, United States.
- Davitt, J., Becker, T. D., Brown, J., Barry-Dutro, E., Seseck, G., & **Zhang, P.** (2023, November 8-12). *Building the research practice partnership to promote continuous quality improvement in adult protective services*. [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting, Tampa, FL, United States.
- Clem, S., **Zhang, P.** & Cagle, J. G. (2023, June 12–15). *Exploring Congruency of Death Location Preferences Versus Expectations: Findings from the general public in Brazil, Italy, Japan, and the U.S.* [Poster presentation]. International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics Asia/ Oceania Regional Congress, Yokohama, Japan.
- Zhang, P.**, & Becker, T. D. (2023, January 11–15). *Association between sense of control and death anxiety in older adults* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research 27th Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ, United States.
- Zhang, P.**, & Cagle, J. G. (2022, November 2–6). *Individuals' knowledge about a loved one's end of life care wishes is associated with their own advance care planning* [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana, United States.

- Cagle, J., Orth, J., Becker, T. D., **Zhang, P.**, Ersek, M., Tu, W., Floyd, A., & Unroe, K. T. (2022, November 2–6). *Symptom burden and quality of life for nursing home residents with dementia: UPLIFT trial early data* [Paper presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, United States.
- Davitt, J., Brown, J., **Zhang, P.**, Barry-Dutro, E., & Sesek, G. (2022, November 2–6). *Engaging in CQI to Enhance Adult Protective Services Intake and Screening: A qualitative Analysis*. [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, United States.
- Clem, S., **Zhang, P.** & Cagle, J. G. (2022, November 2–6). *Exploring Congruency of Death Location Preferences Versus Expectations: Findings from a National Sample of the US General Public*. [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, United States.
- Zhang, P.**, Clem S., & Cagle, J. G. (2022, April 24–26). *Prompting advance care planning: Exploring its association with Death Exposure* [Oral presentation]. The Social Work Hospice and Palliative Care Network 2022 General Assembly. Santa Fe, NM, United States.
- Zhang, P.** (2018, March 18-19). *Chinese ALS patients' needs: Rare disease policy development* [Oral Presentation]. The 9th Lam Woo Distinguished Social Work Award Presentation Cum Conference on the Gerontological Social Work Theory and Practice in the New Era, Beijing, China.

Research Experience

University of Denver School of Social Work

Core Member of Qualitative Analytical Team (2024 January- Present)

PI: Kaipeng Wang, PhD, MSW

Funding Source: NIH/NIA – 1R03AG080374-01

Project: Examining the relationship between death attitude and AD completion and attitude among older Chinese Americans

Responsibilities: Qualitative analysis, manuscript writing, research dissemination

Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health

Core Member of Mixed-Methods Analytical Team (2022–Present)

PI: Jennifer L. Wolff, PhD

Funding Source: NIA R01-AG058671-01A1

Project: The Sharing Health Care Wishes in Primary Care

Responsibilities: Qualitative analysis, manuscript writing, research dissemination

University of Maryland Baltimore School of Social Work

Project Manager/Graduate Research Assistant (2021–Present)

PI: John G. Cagle, PhD, MSW

Funding Source: NIA R01-AG066922-01

Project: Utilizing Palliative Leaders in Facilities to Transform Care (UPLIFT)

Responsibilities: Coordination and execution of research activities in nursing home-based intervention implementation including participant recruitment, data collection, educational materials design, qualitative interviews and quantitative analysis.

Washington University in St. Louis Brown School

Mentor: Charlene Caburnay, PhD, MPH (2019–2021)

Graduate Research Assistant

Topics: Technology-based communication for health and cancer

Responsibilities: Recruited research participants for multiple NIH R01 studies, assisted with quantitative and qualitative data collection and management, qualitatively identified facilitators and barriers to dissemination and implementation of an effective Lung Protective Management algorithm to facilitate lung utilization, helped to design dissemination and implementation strategies for Lung Protective Management

University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences School of Social Work

Independent Study; Mentor: Xiaochun Zhou, PhD, MSW

Funding Source: Beijing Students' Social Innovation Funding (\$600)

Topics: Advanced care planning, social support, ALS

Responsibilities: Designed interview instrument, conducted semi-structured case interviews, conducted needs assessment of ALS patients based on ecological system theory, wrote and published a paper

Awards

2023	Global Health Aging in Japan Scholarship (\$2,300)
2023	Travel Award (\$500), Society for Social Work and Research
2022	Travel Award (\$300), University of Maryland Graduate Student Association
2022	Travel Scholarship (\$600), University of Maryland School of Social Work
2022	Outstanding Poster Award, Social Work Hospice & Palliative Network
2020	Merit-Based Scholarship (\$25,000), Washington University in St. Louis
2019	Beijing Outstanding Undergraduate, Beijing Ministry of Education
2019	Beijing Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis, Beijing Ministry of Education
2018	National Scholarship (\$1200, 1.0%), Ministry of Education of China
2018	Lam Woo Distinguished Social Work Award (\$1,000, 4 winners nationwide), The Hong Kong Polytechnic University & Peking University
2017	Beijing Students' Social Innovation Funding (\$600), Beijing Municipal Education Committee
2017	Chancellor Scholarship for Outstanding Contribution (\$1,000, 0.1%)
2017	Top Class Scholarship of University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
2016	Top Class Scholarship of University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
2016	Beijing Undergraduate Research Competition Award
2016	Outstanding Summer Internship Award, Beijing College Association
2016	Outstanding Project Award, National Social Innovation Competition

Teaching Experience

Fall 2024 Human Behavior and Social Environment (Hybrid: In-person & Synchronous)

Independent Instructor

Responsibilities: Develop syllabus and curriculum, independent teaching,

Grading, and measuring students core competencies in assessment, intervention, and evaluation.

Fall 2023 Human Behavior and Social Environment (Hybrid: In-person & Asynchronous)
Teaching Assistant
Responsibilities: Grading, providing constructive feedback to students' reflectional journals and class group activities facilitation

Clinical Experience

2019–2020 Social Work Intern & Member of COVID-19 Support Team (.5 FTE)
Barnes Jewish Hospital Palliative Care Department
Washington University in St. Louis Medicine School
Responsibilities: facilitated communication about goals of care and health care decision-making; provided counseling for over 80 patients and families to improve their quality of life; designed and updated patients' support packages including resources for recording oral history, memorial services, financial aid, relaxation strategies, etc.; made supportive calls to over 60 COVID-19 patients' families, provided emotional, tangible, and bereavement support

2017–2018 Medical Social Worker (BSW practicum; .5 FTE)
Peking University International Hospital Oncology Department
Responsibilities: provided group support for over 50 cancer patients and their families by using elements of arts expressive therapy to reduce their stress and pain; applied cognitive behavioral intervention to carry out case work for ICU patients' family members within a 6-month period; organized a "Positive Youth Development" summer camp for 20 children of healthcare workers to promote family cohesion and sense of belonging to the hospital; trained and supervised volunteers to do routine voluntary services

Fall 2017 Medical Social Worker (part-time)
Beijing Dongfangsiyu Rare Disease Center
Responsibilities: Conducted needs assessment of ALS patients in Beijing; provided case services for over 30 patients for advanced care planning and to reduce death anxiety; organized weekly health information sessions for ALS to support family-centered caregiving systems

Service

2023–Present Peer reviewer
BMC Palliative Care
BMC Geriatrics
BMJ Public Health
BMC Medical Ethics
Journal of Palliative Care

2022–Present Treasurer
University of Maryland Chinese Student Scholars Association

2022–Present Secretary
University of Maryland School of Social Work
International Students Association

2019–2020 Student Ambassador
Washington University in St. Louis School of Social Work

2017–2018 Policy Instructor
Beijing Haidian District People’s Government

2016–2017 Chairperson of Social Innovation Association
University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Professional Affiliations

2021–Present Member, Society for Social Work and Research

2021–Present Member, Gerontological Society of America

2021–Present Member, Chinese Gerontology Studies Interest Group

2019–Present Member, Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network