

## Peiyuan Zhang, PhD, MSW

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### **Education**

2025	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

### **Academic Appointment**

2025–Present     Assistant Professor University of Alabama School of Social Work

### **Research Interests**

- Quality of end-of-life care among older adults with dementia
- Culturally appropriate advance care planning
- 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**  
(Scored, not funded)  
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**

- Zhang, P.**, Erbeling, T., Schneider, G., Vernick, N., & Cagle, J.G. (2025). Evaluation of a community-based advance care planning campaign for a general adult population. *Palliative Medicine Reports*. Accepted.
- Thai, G.H., Hanna V, **Zhang, P.**, Green, C., Cagle, J.G., Wolff, J., & Saylor, M. (2025) Asking older adults with impaired cognition and care partners about serious illness experiences can elicit goals of care during advance care planning. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*. 2025;0(0). <http://doi.org/10.1177/10499091251367337>
- De Fries, C. M., To, M. N., **Zhang, P.**, Ea, E., Sun, F., Wu, B., ... Wang, K. (2025). End-of-life care planning among older vietnamese and filipino americans: A qualitative analysis. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 1–22. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01634372.2025.2535480>
- Yi, Z., Xu, S., & **Zhang, P.** (2025). Attitudes toward end-of-life care and preferred death locations: A latent profile analysis. *Death Studies*, 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07481187.2025.2491584>
- Wang, K., Sun, F., **Zhang, P.**, De Fries, C. M., Li, X., Zhu, J., & To, M. N. (2025). Culturally Tailored Community Brain Health Education for Chinese Americans Aged 50 or Above: A Mixed-Methods Open Pilot Study. *Geriatrics*, 10(2), 58. <https://doi.org/10.3390/geriatrics10020058>
- 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.** (2024). Spanish translation and dissemination of empower materials to addressed 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

### **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](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](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.**, Zeng, X., Wang, J., Wu, B., Schulman-Green, D., Hanson, L., & Pei, Y. (2025, November 11-15). Sociocultural considerations in feeding decision-making among chinese americans with advanced dementia. [Symposium presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting, Boston, MA, United States. (Accepted).
- Zhang, P.**, Davitt, J., Kusmaul, N., Sacco, P., Unroe, P., & Cagle, J.G. (2025, November 11-15). *Elements for successful advance care planning implementation in nursing homes: A systematic review*. [Poster presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting, Boston, MA, United States. (Accepted).
- Zhang, P.**, Davitt, J., Kusmaul, N., Sacco, P., Unroe, P., Wang, K., & Cagle, J.G. (2025, November 11-15). *Developing an Assessment Tool of Nursing Home-Based Advance Care Planning Implementation Quality*. [Symposium presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting, Boston, MA, United States. (Accepted).
- Cagle, J.G., & **Zhang, P.**, Becker, T.D., Floyd, A., Schwoyer-Morgan, T., & Unroe, K. (2025, November 11-15). Assessing palliative care needs in nursing homes among residents with cognitive impairment: UPLIFT trial findings. Gerontological Society of America 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting, Boston, MA, United States. (Accepted).
- Zeng, X., **Zhang, P.**, Wang, J., Wu, B., Schulman-Green, D., Hanson, L., & Pei, Y. Professionals' practices to support chinese-american dementia caregivers' decision-making on feeding. [Symposium presentation]. Gerontological Society of America 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting, Boston, MA, United States. (Accepted).
- Choi, S. L., Lee, H. Y., Noh, H., **Zhang, P.**, & Francis, H. P. Healthcare Access and Barriers Among Older Asian Americans: Cultural Influences and Systemic Challenges. [Paper Presentation]. The Gerontological Society of America 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting, Boston, MA, November 2025. (accepted).
- 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., Sesek, 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 2025	Death, Dying, and Bereavement (In-person) Independent Instructor
Fall 2024	Human Behavior and Social Environment (Hybrid: In-person & Synchronous)

## Independent Instructor

Fall 2023      Human Behavior and Social Environment (Hybrid: In-person & Asynchronous)  
Teaching Assistant

## 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

2025–Present      BSW Program Committee Member  
University of Alabama School of Social Work

2025–Present      Third Convener for Hospice, Palliative, and End-of-Life Care Special Interest Group  
Gerontological Society of America



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