



Dr. Cheryl Grills

Cheryl Grills, Ph.D, is a Clinical Psychologist with a current emphasis in Community Psychology. On the faculty of Loyola Marymount University (LMU) for the past 34 years, she is a Professor of Psychology, Director of their Psychology Applied Research Center, and President's Professor in their College of Liberal Arts.

Dr. Grills is a national past President of the Association of Black Psychologists and currently serves as Commissioner and Vice Chair of Los Angeles County's Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections, which focuses on conditions and practices within county jails and correctional facilities.

She also served as Co-Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection whose work led to significant reforms in LA County's approach to child welfare, including establishment of an Office of Child Protection.

She serves as a research principal investigator on several multi-site projects addressing mental health disparities, social determinants of health, positive youth development, and COVID's impact on communities of color nationally.

Her work in the area of racial stress focuses on research and training associated with racism, racial stress, implicit bias and the development of community-based self-help models to address the negative effects of racism on people of African ancestry in the US and globally.

Dr. Grills' research interests, publications, and projects include African Psychology, African-centered models of treatment engagement with African-Americans; community psychology; community mental health; and program evaluation with community-based organizations engaged in social justice efforts, community change and prevention on a host of social issues. Dr. Grills was appointed to the Reparations Task Force by Governor Gavin Newsom.