

Nyla Howell

nylailan.howell@gmail.com | [LinkedIn](#)

EDUCATION

- 2024 - Geography, Doctorate of Philosophy
Rutgers University - New Brunswick
- 2020 - 2024 Bachelor of Arts in Geography and Environmental Studies & Sociology
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Summa Cum Laude
Valedictorian, *College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences*
- 2016-2020 High School Diploma
Eleanor Roosevelt High School
Greenbelt, Maryland
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

I am interested in exploring how racial minority communities prepare for disasters and are adapting to climate change in coastal and urban communities. My hope is for my research and work to promote environmental justice through equitable, community-based disaster preparedness initiatives.

SKILLS

Qualitative Coding	Academic Writing	Academic Presentations
Public Speaking	Leadership	Project Management
Restorative Practices	Teamwork	

Software Skills: NVivo

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Graduate Research Assistant** The Consortium for Climate Risk in the Urban Northeast
Rutgers University - New Brunswick
Mentor: Dr. Robin Leichenko
Project Focus: Equity and Climate Adaptation
- Project Lead** University of Maryland Baltimore County, Geography
Mentors: Dr. Dawn Biehler and Dr. Lauren Clay
Project: *Racial Oppression and Community Perceptions of Natural Hazards and Hazards Preparedness in Harlem Park, Baltimore, Maryland*
August 2023 - May 2024
- Research Assistant** Clay's Disaster Health Research Lab
University of Maryland Baltimore County
Spring 2023 - Spring 2024
Mentors: Dr. Lauren Clay and Dr. Samantha Penta
Project: *Bolstering Food System Resilience to Disasters*
- Research Assistant** NSF Coastal Hazards, Economic Prosperity, Equity and Resilience REU

University of Delaware and East Carolina University

June 2023 - July 2023

Mentors: Dr. Sarah DeYoung and Dr. Meghan Millea

Project Title: *Examining The Impact of Flooding and Hurricane Risk on the Housing Market in Low-Income and Racial Minority Communities in Eastern North Carolina*

Research Assistant

Research-Intensive Summer Experience at Rutgers University - New Brunswick

May 2022- August 2022

Mentor: Dr. Robin Leichenko

Project: *The Role of Disaster Subcultures in Local Business Community Preparedness: A Case Study of Stakeholders in Northern Monmouth County, New Jersey*

RESEARCH GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

NSF Graduate Research Fellow

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program; September 2024 - PRESENT

Bill Anderson Fund Fellow

The William Averette Anderson Fund Fellowship Program
September 2024 - PRESENT

Undergraduate Research Award

University of Maryland Baltimore County, Undergraduate Research and Prestigious Scholarships, May 2023 - May 2023
Funding Amount: \$1,500

Project: *Racial Oppression and Community Perceptions of Natural Hazards and Hazards Preparedness in Harlem Park, Baltimore, Maryland*

PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS

1. **Howell, N.** (2023). *The Impact of Corporeal Markers on Natural Hazard Preparedness During Hurricane Katrina*. 48th Natural Hazards Center Researchers Meeting and Workshop.
2. **Howell, N.**, Leichenko, R., Clemens, M., Cann, K., Madajewicz, M., Solecki, W., Kaplan, M., Herb, J.. (2024), *The Role of Disaster Subcultures in Local Business Community Preparedness: A Case Study of Stakeholders in Northern Monmouth County, New Jersey*, The Middle States Geographer (accepted and in press).
3. Cann, K., Leichenko, R., Kaplan, M., Herb, J., **Howell, N.**. (2023). *Building Equitable Research Partnerships: Learning from a Community Climate Resilience Grant Program*, Community Science.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Equity in the Eye of the Storm: Unveiling Environmental Injustices and Cultivating Resilience in Harlem Park, Baltimore, MD. 2024 Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Day, April 2024

The Role of Disaster Subcultures in Local Business Community Preparedness: A Case Study of Stakeholders in Northern Monmouth County, New Jersey, 2023 Black Doctoral Network Conference, Undergraduate Poster Competition Presentation, October 2023

The Role of Disaster Subcultures in Local Business Community Preparedness: A Case Study of Stakeholders in Northern Monmouth County, New Jersey, Oral Presentation, 2023 UMBC McNair Research Symposium, September 2023

The Impact of Disaster Subcultures on Business and Community Preparedness in Coastal New Jersey, Poster Presentation, 2023 Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Day, April 2023

The Impact of Disaster Subcultures on Business and Community Preparedness in Coastal New Jersey, Poster Presentation, 2022 Annual Meeting Middle States Division of the American Association of Geographers, October 2022

The Impact of Disaster Subcultures on Business and Community Preparedness in Coastal New Jersey, Oral and Poster Presentation, 2022 Rutgers University Research Intensive Summer Experience (RISE) Summer Symposium, August 2022

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Campus Food Pantry Manager	University of Maryland, Baltimore County Retriever Essentials Food Pantry, Spring 2021-Spring 2024
Residential Assistant	University of Maryland Baltimore County Residential Life Shriver Living Learning Community, Fall 2022– Spring 2024
Ramadan Desk Staff	University of Maryland Baltimore County, Center of Wellbeing Gathering Space, March 2024 - April 2024
Student Site Coordinator	University of Maryland Baltimore County, Shriver Center, Spring 2021- Spring 2024
Secretary	Sociology Society Club, University of Maryland Baltimore County, Spring 2023-Present
Community Development Intern	Prince George’s County Office of Homeland Security and Office of Emergency Management, July 2020- May 2022
Student Intern	Federal Emergency Management Agency, Individual and Community Preparedness Division Headquarters, June 2019 - August 2019
Co-chair and Member	Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Youth Preparedness Council, July 2017- July 2019

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Student Member	Geography and Environmental Studies Department Promotion and Tenure Committee, University of Maryland Baltimore County, Fall 2022
Peer Mentor	Shriver Learning Living Community, Fall 2020 - Spring 2022
Volunteer	Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management, May 2021 - August 2021
Volunteer	The Montgomery County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Incorporated Sorority, Eastern Region Emergency Response Team, May 2021- Spring 2024

HONORS & AWARDS

Rutgers University - New Brunswick

- *Graduate Research Fellow, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship*, Spring 2024
- *National Aeronautics and Space Agency New Jersey Space Grant Awardee*, Summer 2022

University of Maryland Baltimore County

- *Valedictorian*, UMBC College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Spring 2024
- *Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, Eta Chapter of Maryland*, Spring 2024
- *Outstanding Senior Award*, Department of Geography & Environmental Systems, Spring 2024
- *President's List*: Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023
- *Dean's List*, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences: Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023
- *Ronald E. McNair Scholar*, REM 32 Cohort, April 2023 - Spring 2024
- *Undergraduate Research Award Scholar*, May 2023 - Spring 2024
- *Residential Assistant of the Year*, Residential Assistant, 2022-23
- *Jaqueline Hrabowski Scholar*, Spring 2022 - Spring 2024
- *Shattuck Family Internship Program for Entrepreneurship Innovation and Social Change: Retriever Essentials Food Pantry*, Fall 2021
- *France Merrick Foundation Scholar*, Fall 2021- Spring 2024
- *Senatorial Scholarship*, Senator JoAnne Benson, Fall 2021- Spring 2024
- *Maryland Delegate Scholarship*, Delegate Jazz Lewis, Fall 2021 - Spring 2022
- *Student Intern and Service Fund: Retriever Essentials*, Summer 2021
- *Samuel Rosenberg Service Scholarship*, The UMBC Shriver Center, Spring 2021
- *Make Your Mark Leadership Scholarship*, Student Government Association, Fall 2021
- *2020 Donald "Doc" Lumpkins Memorial Scholarship Program*, Maryland Emergency Management Agency, Fall 2020

University of Colorado Boulder, Natural Hazards Center

- *Undergraduate Student Paper Competition Winner: The Impact of Corporeal Markers on Natural Hazard Preparedness During Hurricane Katrina*. 48th Natural Hazards Center Researchers Meeting and Workshop, May 2023

Black Doctoral Network Conference

- *Honorable Mention in the Undergraduate Poster Competition Presentation: The Role of Disaster Subcultures in Local Business Community Preparedness: A Case Study of Stakeholders in Northern Monmouth County, New Jersey, October 2023*