AbSPORU
Alberta SPOR SUPPORT Unit



# DAYIRAI KAPFUNDE

**University of Alberta**

**Project Title:**
The Cost of Caring: Exploring the Occupational Health Experiences of Racialized-as-Black Women Allied Healthcare Workers in Alberta

## ABOUT DAYIRAI

Dayirai Kapfunde, MSW, RCSW, PhD© is a registered clinical social worker, educator, and PhD candidate in the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta. Her research explores the occupational health experiences of racialized-as-Black women allied healthcare workers in Alberta, with a focus on how race, gender, and workplace structures shape health and well-being. Drawing on both clinical practice and community-engaged scholarship, Dayirai is committed to advancing health equity and informing policies that support healthier, more inclusive workplaces.

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Healthcare workers care for others every day, yet little is known about how workplace environments affect the health and well-being of racialized-as-Black women working in allied health professions. Through interviews and focus groups with social workers, psychologists, mental health therapists, dietitians, and pharmacists, this study explores how experiences such as discrimination, belonging, support, and workplace culture shape occupational health. The findings will contribute to recommendations for healthcare organizations, policymakers, and educators to foster more equitable, psychologically safe, and healthy workplaces for those who provide care.