

# MARLENE ANGELA GARZA, PSY.D.

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## **EDUCATION**

### **Pepperdine University – Malibu, CA**

**2018**

Doctorate of Psychology, Clinical Counseling

GPA: 3.7

**Dissertation:** *Reclaiming Empowerment, Agency, and Collective Healing (REACH) for Youth: An Adaptation of Emotional Emancipation Circles for Adolescent Males of African Ancestry*  
*Dissertation Chair: Daryl Rowe, PhD*

#### **Honors and Awards**

Psi Chi National Honor Society-Pepperdine University, 2016-2018

Marco A. Garcia Memorial Fellowship-Pepperdine University, 2016, 2017

Colleagues Grant-Pepperdine University, 2015-2017

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Fellowship-Pepperdine University, 2014-2015

### **University of San Francisco - San Francisco, CA**

**2006**

Master of Arts-Counseling Psychology

Credential - Pupil Personnel Services, California Commission on Teacher Credentialing

### **University of California, Los Angeles - Los Angeles, CA**

**2002**

Bachelor of Arts--Political Science, Minors in Latin American Studies and Chicana/Chicano Studies

#### **Honors and Awards**

*Chancellors Service Award-University of California, Los Angeles, 2012*

*UCLA Latino Alumni Association Scholarship Recipient, 2001-2002*

### **West Los Angeles College - Culver City, CA**

**2013**

Certificate - Drug and Alcohol Abuse Counseling

California Association of Alcohol and Drug Educators

### **UCLA Extension - Los Angeles, CA**

**2013**

Certificate - College Counseling

### **Universidad Complutense de Madrid-Spain**

**2002**

Certificate-Advanced Spanish Grammar and Culture

## **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

**Special Skills:** Fluent in Spanish-verbal and written, provide individual psychotherapy, psychodiagnostic evaluations, and neuropsychological assessments in Spanish, performed intake evaluations in Spanish for inpatient and outpatient medical setting, translate research interviews from Spanish to English, developed treatment plan using psychological modalities from countries of patient's/client's origin, provided treatment recommendations for Spanish speaking families in hospital setting.

### **Neuropsychological Consultant**

**Nexus Clinical Solutions/Neuropsychological Consultants, Inc.**

**June 2019-present**

**Licensed Neuropsychology Supervisor:** Tony Strickland, PhD

Conduct comprehensive neuropsychological services for independent medical examinations in Spanish, collaborate on battery selection for Spanish speaking patients referred by legal teams throughout California. Conduct brief neuropsychological assessments via telehealth for patients across California, write reports and develop appropriate cognitive rehabilitation treatment plan for patients. Provide brief cognitive behavioral therapy for select Spanish speaking patients with emphasis on cognitive rehabilitation and improved socio-emotional functioning post-traumatic brain injury.

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## Neuropsychological Consultant

*Dr. Laury Paul, PhD*

February 2018-present

Conduct neuropsychological and psychoeducational evaluations for children to young adults, evaluating individuals for learning disabilities, neurological disorders, and developmental disabilities. Write integrative neuropsychological and psychodiagnostics reports and provide recommendations for school and home learning environments, managing psychiatric problems, and identifying strengths of the individual.

## Behavioral Medicine Postdoctoral Fellow

*Harbor UCLA Medical Center*

September 2018- August 2019

**Clinical Training Director:** Astrid Reina, Ph.D.

- APA Accredited, 2000-hour postdoctoral fellow
- Advanced training and professional development specializing in the provision of services in the public sector and poverdty medicine setting in several clinics across the hospital:
  - Provide outpatient psychotherapy at the Gardena High School Medical Clinic (GHS; Adolescent Medicine)
  - Behavioral Medicine Consult Clinic: consult and provide short-term treatment to patients referred from various medical departments and clinics at HUMC.
  - Provide weekly consultation services to the Department of Pediatrics focused on reducing diabetes and overweight and obesity disparities in pediatric populations
- Participation in supervision of clinical cases, administrative issues, professional development, and supervision of externs
- Teaching Behavioral Medicine Foundations to Department of Mental Health psychologists; teaching appropriate psychological and health behavior change theories, models, applications, topics, etc., to medical staff

## Neuropsychological/Rehabilitation Doctoral Intern

*Mount Sinai Medical Center-Department of Rehabilitation Medicine*

September 2017- 2018

**Clinical Training Director:** Sabrina Breed, PhD

*Inpatient Supervisors: Christina Parfene, Psy.D. & Angela Riccobono, Ph.D.*

*Outpatient Supervisors: Angeles Cheung, Ph.D, ABPP-CN & Svetlana Serova, Ph.D., ABPP-RP*

- APA Accredited, 2000-hour internship
- Concurrent rotations on outpatient and inpatient (Brain Injury Unit and Spinal Cord Injury Unit)
- Conduct and score brief and comprehensive neuropsychological and psychodiagnostic assessments on populations with a wide array of medical and neurological diagnosis, conduct medical chart reviews, and write integrative neuropsychological and psychodiagnostic reports
- Provide individual neuropsychological and psychological interventions (i.e. cognitive remediation, psychotherapy, psychoeducation, behavioral counseling, advocacy counseling).
- Interdisciplinary team consultation including participation in patient evaluations, and conferences
- Participate in didactics specific to neuroanatomy (monthly series), neuropsychology (i.e. fact finding protocol for board certification in neuropsychology), and rehabilitation psychology.
- Attend monthly grand rounds with several different departments in the school of medicine.
- Attend weekly individual and group supervision led by psychologists and bi-weekly group supervisions led by board certified neuropsychologists and rehabilitation psychologists in the New York City area

## Neuropsychology Testing Clerk

*Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center*

September 2016- 2017

**Licensed Neuropsychology Supervisor:** Nora Jimenez, Ph.D.

Assessment Clerkship Training Program: Neuropsychological outpatient assessments conducted in Spanish and English for patients referred by physicians from medical departments. Patient diagnoses include various neurological disorders, general medical disorders, and psychiatric disorders. Referrals for assessments include screening of dementia or assessment of capacity and evaluation of epilepsy temporal lobectomy surgical candidates for baseline assessment pre-surgery and follow up assessment one-year post-surgery. Provide assessment to Spanish speaking patients, observed Wada testing for epilepsy surgical candidates.

## Neuropsychology Extern

*Sports Concussion Institute*

September 2016- 2017

**Licensed Neuropsychology Supervisor:** Tony Strickland, PhD

Provide comprehensive concussion care for athletes of all ages playing high velocity sports, including

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baseline testing, cognitive rehabilitation, concussion management, neuropsychological evaluation, neurosurgical consultation, psychotherapy, pain management, and psychiatric consultation. Patient population includes military service men and women, persons suffering with substance use addictions, and patients suffering with post-concussion syndrome.

## **Psychology Extern (two rotations)**

### ***Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center***

**September 2015-August 2016**

**Licensed Clinical Psychology Supervisor:** Virginia Chavarria, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

Outpatient Adult Brain Injury Rehabilitation Clinic: Conduct initial weekly psychodiagnostic evaluations for mood, cognition, and neurobehavioral functioning on patients rehabilitating from major neurocognitive disorders, facilitate a weekly Cognitive Behavioral Therapy psychotherapy group with outpatients in acquired brain injury-day rehabilitation program to discuss topics such as relationships, substance use and social functioning after brain injury, participate in family conferences with multidisciplinary treatment team, provide consultation to other rehabilitation therapy disciplines, conduct comprehensive Spanish neuropsychological assessments for outpatients to determine level of cognitive functioning for evaluations to include eligibility to obtain driver's license after brain injury, assess patient's effects of myelinating disorders.

**Licensed Clinical Psychology Supervisor:** Jason Smith, Ph.D., ABPP-RP

Epilepsy Service & Acute Stroke Service, Spanish Adult Brain Injury: Administer weekly inpatient comprehensive psychodiagnostic evaluations in Spanish for patients on the Epilepsy Monitoring unit, and participate in team determination of patient surgical candidacy, provide brief psychotherapy and behavioral interventions to inpatients and outpatients and provide patient psychological recommendations to interdisciplinary treatment team, participate in weekly didactic seminars on medical conditions requiring rehabilitation, complete 2-3 psychodiagnostic reports weekly, including cognitive assessments and follow-up evaluations with daily direct clinical supervision.

## **Psychotherapy Intern**

### ***Pepperdine Community Counseling Clinic***

**2015-2017**

**Licensed Clinical Psychology Supervisor:** Aaron Aviera, Ph.D.

Provide long term psychotherapy for a diverse population of race, gender, and age, in English and Spanish, maintain progress notes and complete intake forms for all clients to ensure proper documentation of session content and interventions, engage in weekly group supervision.

## **Psychotherapy Intern**

### ***Union Rescue Mission-Pepperdine Counseling Clinic***

**2014-2017**

**Licensed Clinical Psychology Supervisor:** Aaron Aviera, Ph.D.

Provide psychological services to men in Spanish and English in a residential treatment facility at the Union Rescue Mission, a homeless shelter serving ethnically diverse men who are in alcohol/drug rehabilitation program, who suffer from co-occurring disorders and chronic mental illness including psychotic disorders, personality disorders, and mood disorders; maintain progress notes and complete intake forms for all clients to ensure proper documentation of session content and interventions, participated in ongoing skill development through didactic seminars pertaining to relevant factors within multicultural clientele, engage in weekly individual and group supervision.

## **Substance Abuse Counseling Intern**

### ***Asian American Drug Abuse Program***

**September 2012-May 2013**

**Supervisor:** Patricia Abrantes, MSW

Worked with adolescents ranging from 14-18 years old struggling with substance abuse problems in an inpatient facility, assisted team with a broad spectrum of clinical and agency services, co-facilitated small CBT groups on topics ranging from substance abuse triggers, rehabilitation, to educational planning, health and hygiene, co-facilitated and interpreted family counseling sessions and parent education group meetings in Spanish

## **Substance Abuse Counseling Intern**

### ***Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services***

**January 2012-May 2012**

**Supervisor:** Natasha McCool, LMFT

Worked with adolescents ranging from 14-18 years old struggling through substance abuse problems in an outpatient setting, assist facility with a broad spectrum of clinical and agency services, including 8 core conditions as outlined in TAP 21 (Screening and Assessment, Treatment Planning, Referral, Service Coordination, Counseling, Client Education, Documentation, Professional and Ethical Responsibilities), co-facilitated small CBT groups on topics ranging from substance abuse triggers and rehabilitation, facilitated weekly parent education groups in Spanish

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## SUPERVISION AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Adjunct Faculty-Psychology and Addiction Studies**

**Los Angeles Community College District-West Los Angeles College**

**2019-Present**

Teach undergraduate college-level classes during the academic school year. Teach Group Dynamics, Introduction of Psychology, Law and Ethics for Addiction professionals, and Life Span Psychology. Developed online supplemental information for students in all classes. Canvas Teaching certified.

### **Peer Supervisor- Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program**

**Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology**

**2016-2017**

Mentor and supervise two first year and one second year doctoral students in Pepperdine's GSEP Clinical Psychology program. Coordinate weekly meetings with students, provide feedback on psychological intake evaluations, provide feedback on writing, diagnosing clients, and developing treatment plans for clients. Participate in weekly case conferences and group supervision, participate in clinical outreach and network opportunities, networking activities, and clinical development projects

### **Project Match Intern, Los Angeles Community College District**

**West Los Angeles College**

**June-December 2016**

Mentorship training program that recruits and prepares a diverse community college faculty to educate the most diverse and largest community college district in the U.S. Mentored by Psychology course advisor and Alcohol and Drug Studies Director. Guest lectures in Introduction to Psychology and Fieldwork/Practicum for Alcohol and Drug Studies certificate program. Supervised by Dr. Carrie Canales.

### **Secondary School Counselor Intern Supervisor**

**2008-2015**

**Los Angeles Unified School District**

Work with 1-3 Masters' level students each semester, teaching counseling skills, relevant computer programs for school counseling, oversee curriculum development for group counseling sessions, Supervise individual, family and group counseling sessions for families in English and Spanish, monitor paperwork and approve documentation needed for submission to university and the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, provide weekly supervision on cases and programming

### **Camp Director and Associate**

**1998-2009**

***Norm Hull and Associates-CORE Leadership Camps***

Taught high school students leadership and management skills such as Facilitative Leadership, Situational Leadership, Group Development Model, Results/Process/Relationships and Teambuilding and served as the liaison for two camps on university campuses in California

### **Peer Counseling Coordinator - UCLA**

**April-September 2002**

***Summer Readmission and Retention Program***

Organized a peer counseling team to counsel students seeking academic readmission to UCLA, organized and facilitated peer counselor training on counseling techniques, academic methodologies and strategies, organized database of student information and participated in meetings with university administrators, academic counselors, and student leaders involved in the program.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Dissertation Topic:** *Reclaiming Empowerment, Agency, and Collective Healing (REACH) for Youth: An adaptation of Emotional Emancipation Circles for Adolescent Males of African Ancestry*

Group Handbook for Mental Health Clinicians, culturally grounded adaptation of Emotional Emancipation Circles treatment manual for young men originally created by the Community Health Network and the Association of Black Psychologists. Manual follows culturally relevant indigenous principles through seven keys of emancipatory healing developed to inspire action in the young black men.

**Dissertation Chair:** Daryl Rowe, PhD

### **Graduate Assistant to Dr. Daryl Rowe**

**2016-2017**

***Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology***

***Theories and Techniques of Multicultural and Community Interventions***

Researched relevant articles which incorporate multicultural training and evidence based practices with traditional theoretical orientations for class discussions, created annotated summaries of research articles on integrating multicultural treatment with traditional treatment modalities and using proverbs in psychotherapy treatment.

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Research Assistant to Dr. Elena Flores

September 2004-2006

*University of San Francisco, UC San Francisco*

Translated interview transcripts from Spanish to English for coding, organized data from interviewers into document for research team, assisted with literature review

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Independent Consultant**

**2011-Present**

***Guidance by Garza-Holistic Academic Counseling Services***

Founder of private practice academic consulting services with aim to assist families in preparing for the college application process, guide students in understanding majors through career assessment and interest inventory, set post-secondary goals and how to prepare for college applications and scholarships, provide assistance with personal statements for undergraduate and graduate admissions and scholarships

**Undergraduate Application Reader**

**2008-Present**

***UCLA Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Relations with Schools***

Analyze undergraduate freshman applications through a process called Comprehensive Review, readers are trained to evaluate all application data to assess student's academic and personal achievements in comparison to the academic opportunities available in the student's community environment. Readers undergo extensive training and practice evaluating applications. Contracted position during high volume application season

**College Counselor**

**2014- 2015**

***Alexander Hamilton Senior High School***

Organize and facilitate workshops and seminars for college and graduation for 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade families on college planning and preparation, improved college eligibility by 20% within one year for a graduating class of over 600 students, collaborate with over 100 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada to connect students with the right post-secondary opportunities.

**Secondary School Counselor, Junior and Senior Class Sponsor**

**2006-2014**

***Alexander Hamilton Senior High School***

Advised and counseled students and families on academic planning and preparation, post-secondary options, social-emotional, crisis intervention, teacher and parent mediation, collaborate with counselors, teachers and administrators to create school's master schedule with over 100 teachers and 3100 students, facilitate classroom sessions, hold parent meetings, create class schedules for 380 students; organize and facilitate seminars on college and graduation for 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade families; increased attendance at college counseling workshops from previous years by 150%; Coordinate, oversee and direct student activities such as graduation ceremony, prom, senior week, talent show with budgets ranging from \$5,000 to \$60,000

**Student Affairs Assistant**

**2003-2004**

***UCLA College Academic Counseling***

Advise students' in-person and via telephone on all college rules, regulations, policies, process student academic petitions; scheduled and prepared files for counseling appointments, updated substitutions and exemptions on Degree Progress Reports and monitored student progress

**Mentorship Coordinator, Peer Counselor - UCLA**

**1999- 2002**

***Campus Retention Committee***

Analyzed and organized applicants interested in mentorship program, paired upper classmen with underclassmen, created and facilitated mentorship events and weekend activities on minimal budgets. Advised UCLA students on course selection, academic planning, financial planning, personal issues, etc. for one of five student-initiated, student-run organizations focused on advising students on academic probation.

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## VOLUNTEER WORK

**Primary Leader, Volunteer and Fundraising Team** **2006-present**

***Students Run Los Angeles***

***Star Award-Students Run Los Angeles***

Train and mentor a team yearly of up to 40 high school students aged 14-18 to complete the Los Angeles Marathon, manage daily training sessions and weekend long runs from 4 miles-20 miles during a period of seven months from August to March every academic year, coordinate with headquarters on race registration, bus ordering, event planning and advertising with social media, attend yearly leader conference consisting of seminars and activities aimed to provide support and best practices for all leaders. Attend seminars regarding meal preparation, training calendars, mental health and mentoring, Volunteer in school/team registration and check-in on event day.

**Scholarship Chair**

**August 2011-2013**

***UCLA Latino Alumni Network-Los Angeles, CA***

Create and disseminate scholarship applications to undergraduate students through advertisements on social networks, university departments, and with high school and community college counselors, coordinate over sixty interviews with applicants and UCLA Alumni panelists, select awardees for one of our scholarships totaling \$75,000, collaborate with James West Alumni Center and UCLA Financial Aid Office to distribute funds to students, hold quarterly meetings with scholars to review service opportunities and commitments to ULAN.

## PRESENTATIONS

**Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA**

**August 2014**

“Sharing best practices when working with school counseling interns” presented to Secondary School Counselors supervising Master’s students from LMU’s School Counseling Masters’ degree program

**Alexander Hamilton High School, Los Angeles, CA**

**August 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014**

“Understanding the College Application Process” a workshop for parents and students beginning the college selection process

**Alexander Hamilton High School, Los Angeles, CA**

**February 2014**

“Preparing your child for high school and beyond” event for parents with children in middle schools within LAUSD

**Asian American Drug Abuse Program, Los Angeles, CA**

**February 2013**

“Academic preparation and integration into traditional high schools for adolescents in a residential treatment facility” Presented in English and Spanish

**Communities in Schools, Los Angeles, CA**

**October 2012**

“Understanding the College Application Process and assisting students with writing their personal statement for college” a seminar for graduation coaches and program coordinators working with middle and high school students in 40 low performing schools in Los Angeles

**West Los Angeles College, Culver City, CA**

**March 2011**

“Counseling strategies for working with chemically dependent adolescents in treatment facilities” Presented to a class of students in a vocational training program

## LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

**Primary Leader** *Students Run Los Angeles, marathon team*

**September 2006-June 2015**

**Vice President-2001-2002** *UCLA Latin American Student Association*

**1998-June 2002**

**Founding Committee Member: Leadership Academy-Chapman University**

**2007-2008**

**Vice-Chair** *UCLA Campus Programming Committee*

**September 2001-June 2002**

**Director-UCLA Festival Latino**

**1999-2001**

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## ADDITIONAL SKILLS

**Language:** Fluent in Spanish, provide psychotherapy, psychodiagnostic evaluations, and neuropsychological assessments in Spanish, translate research interviews from Spanish to English  
**Computers:** Proficient in Microsoft Office (Excel, ACCESS, Word, Power Point, Publisher), HTML, LAUSD Student Information Systems, Medical Records systems (Affinity, ORCHID, EPIC)  
**Personal Athletic Training:** CrossFit level 1 trainer, with education in proper technique, skills, and exercise programming and modifications for athletes with injuries, education in athlete anatomy

## CURRENT ASSOCIATIONS

*National Latino Psychological Association*  
*International Neuropsychological Society*  
*Hispanic Neuropsychological Society*  
*American Psychological Association*  
    *APA-Division 22 Rehabilitation Psychology*  
    *APA-Division 28 Psychopharmacology and Substance Use*  
    *APA-Division 45 Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*  
*UCLA Alumni Association, Latino Alumni Network*  
*California Association of Alcohol and Drug Educators*  
*Divers Alert Network-PADI Certified Advanced Open Water Diver*  
*CrossFit, Inc. Level 1 Trainer*

## REFERENCES

### **Aaron Aviera, Ph.D.**

Clinical Director, Pepperdine University  
Union Rescue Mission Counseling Center  
Email: [Aaron.Aviera@pepperdine.edu](mailto:Aaron.Aviera@pepperdine.edu)  
Phone: (310) 568-2341

### **Nora Jimenez, Ph.D.**

Neuropsychologist  
Department of Neurology  
Los Angeles County-University of Southern California  
Medical Center  
Email: [njimenez@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:njimenez@dhs.lacounty.gov)  
Phone: (323) 409-7385

### **Daryl Rowe, Ph.D.**

Professor Emeritus, Psychologist  
Pepperdine University  
Email: [darylrowepdhd@gmail.com](mailto:darylrowepdhd@gmail.com)  
Phone: (323) 962-6067

### **Carrie Canales, Ph.D.**

Alcohol and Drug Studies Director  
West Los Angeles College  
Course Advisor, Psychology  
Email: [CanalesC@wlaac.edu](mailto:CanalesC@wlaac.edu)  
Phone: (310) 287-4588

### **Virginia Zuverza-Chavarria, Ph.D., ABPP-CN**

Clinical Psychologist II  
Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center  
Email: [vzchavarria@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:vzchavarria@dhs.lacounty.gov)  
Phone: (562) 401-7054

### **Sabrina Breed, Ph.D.**

Director of Clinical Training-Clinical Psychology  
The Mount Sinai Hospital  
Department of Rehabilitation Medicine  
Email: [Sabrina.breed@mountsinai.org](mailto:Sabrina.breed@mountsinai.org)  
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### **Astrid Reina, Ph.D.**

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Harbor-UCLA Medical Center  
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