

Maria L. Quintanilla, MSW LCSW

*[Contact info redacted
for online publication]*

SUMMARY

Thirty-two years of professional Social Work Experience. Experience includes clinical practice, child welfare practice, reflective supervision, clinical assessments, supervision, executive management, national trainings/consultations and graduate education teaching. Specialization in the zero to five population, infant parent and early childhood mental health, trauma academy fellow, grief and loss, Perinatal grief counselor, maternal child health, mother dyads impacted by substance use, HIV and/or AIDS, adoption and foster care.

EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts, Boston

Infant-Parent Mental Health Post Graduate Certificate Program, 2012

University of California Berkeley

Master of Social Welfare, 1989

Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico

Department of Social Welfare and Public Health

Summer Program: 1988

California State University, Los Angeles

Bachelor of Arts: (Major: Social Work), 1987

Mount Saint Mary's College

Associate Arts Degree: Liberal Arts: 1983

LICENCES

California Board of Behavioral Sciences

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, 1993-present

CERTIFICATIONS

2017 Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT) by the Child Trauma Academy

2015 California Endorsement as an Infant-Family and Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist/Reflective Practice Facilitator II

2007 Advanced Clinical Bereavement Facilitator

1998 Strengthening Multi-Ethnic Families & Communities: A Violence Prevention Parent Training

1996 & 2010 Structural Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE) Home Study Model

1997 PRIDE Trainer

1995 Model Approach to Parenting and Partnership (MAPP) Trainer

1993 Perinatal Bereavement Counselor

LANGUAGES

Bilingual: Spanish (speak, read, and write)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

California State University, Long Beach

Position: Part time Field Liaison/Lecturer Graduate Social Work Department

Fall 2013 –present

Job Responsibilities: Teach Field Practicum to first year graduate social work students and Social Work Administration to second year social work graduate students

Latino Family Institute, Inc.

West Covina, CA

Position: Founder & CEO

October 2000 – Present

Job Responsibilities: Responsible for the ongoing direction of agency's adoption, foster care, kinship adoption, and family support programs along with the implementation of the mission and strategic goals of the agency. Responsible for the development, oversight and implementation of the fiscal, administrative, clinical, recruitment and Federal and State funded programs including serving as Project Administrator for the Infant Adoption Awareness Training Program (IAATP) and previously funded Abandoned Infants Assistance Program (AIA). I worked as an Infant Child Parent Specialist from October 2005-December 2009. Provided direct service in a home visiting strength-based model that included: parent-infant mental health services, infant mental health, crises intervention, received reflective supervision, family assessments, treatment planning, couple's psychotherapy and worked collaboratively with a multidisciplinary team including public health nurses, primary physicians, HIV specialists, substance abuse counseling, parent educators, family support specialists and HIV counselors. I completed over 3200 hours working directly with the 0-5 population during this four year federally funded program. In

addition, I have also completed 500 hours as an adoption & Foster Care social worker working with during my fifteen-month Napa Program and up through July 2014 with children 0-5 in foster and adoptive placements.

Institute for Black Parenting

Latino Family Division

West Covina, CA

Position: Program Director

February 1996 – December 2001

Job Responsibilities: Responsible for ongoing direction of agency's adoption and foster care programs. Duties included overseeing the supervision of agency staff and contract personnel. Supervised the agency's Family Preservation Program Responsible for the development of the programs administrative, clinical, and recruitment components. Responsible for overseeing federal and state recruitment grants, carrying overflow and adoption and foster care cases and maintaining collateral networking on behalf of the agency. Maintained a caseload of adoption, foster care and family preservation families working closely with county to ensure timely reunification, timely permanency plans and the development of safety plans for high risk families struggling with substance use and family stability.

Hispanic Family Institute

El Centro Human Services

City of Commerce, CA

Position: Director

June 1995 – January 1996

Job Responsibilities: Responsible for ongoing direction of agency's adoption and foster care and independent living care programs. Duties included overseeing the supervision of twenty-five agency staff and contract personnel. Responsible for the development of the programs fiscal, administrative, clinical components and program tracking and reporting systems. Responsible for completing State Department of Social Services and Department of Children & Family Services for Los Angeles and Orange County contracts and request funding proposals.

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

Bell Gardens, CA

Position: Psychiatric Social Worker

October 1994-May 1995

Job Responsibilities: Responsible for providing crises intervention, clinical assessments using the DSM, individual, family and child psychotherapy under the weekly supervision of a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW).

Queen of the Valley Hospital

West Covina, CA

Position: Maternal Child Health Medical Social Worker

September 1993-September 2003

Job Responsibilities: Responsible for providing medical social work services to families whose infants were in the hospital's Labor & Delivery, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and Mother Baby Care Unit. Provided specialized intensive services to: teen mothers and their infants, mothers who were planning an adoption for their infants and for infants who were born prenatally exposed to substance use, parents whose infants were born prematurely or with medical complications and provided crises intervention and grief counseling to parents whose infants

died in the NICU. Conducted training for medical personnel on the identification of domestic violence and child abuse in the hospital setting. Coordinated the hospital's SCAN (Suspected Child Abuse Neglect) Team and collaborated with local law enforcement and LA County's Child Death Review Team.

Pacific Clinics-Community Mental Health Clinic

Duarte, CA

Position: Clinical Social Worker

May 1991-August 1993

Job Responsibilities: Responsible for providing crises intervention, clinical assessments using the DSM, individual, family and child psychotherapy under the weekly supervision of a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) and a licensed clinical psychologist (Ph.D.). Special emphasis was placed on working with children who were in the foster care system with histories of significant trauma and with parents whose children were chronically mentally ill and support psychotropic medication compliance and parent's grief process.

California Department of Social Services-Adoptions Bureau

Berkeley and Oakland CA

Position: Adoption Social Worker

July 1989- November 1990

Job Responsibilities: Responsible for providing adoption related services to families adopting infants through the Independent Adoptions Program. Services included: parent-infant integration support, family assessments, home visits, case management services, supportive services to mothers and fathers that were relinquishing parental rights of their infants and the completion of all of the required paperwork for the completion of the adoption by family's adoption attorney.

YWCA Wings

Covina CA

Position: Community Outreach Worker

July 88- August 89

Job Responsibilities: Responsible for facilitating a women's support group for domestic violence survivors, completing restraining orders for women impacted by domestic violence, court advocacy at hearing related to obtaining restraining orders, training new Los Angeles County Sheriff Officers on domestic violence at the sheriff's academy, community outreach to local schools and community providers regarding domestic violence, answering the agency's domestic

violence hotline, working in agency's shelter for battered women, and identifying resources and linkages for women and children in crises.

AFFILIATIONS

National Associations of Social Workers (NASW)

National Council of Latino Executives (Advisory group to the Child Welfare League of America-CWLA)

Latino Advisory Group for Wendy's Dave Thomas Foundation

Adoption Exchange Association (AEA): Board Member/Board Secretary

Professional Publications

Quintanilla, M., Correa-Romero, F., and Alvarez-Blasco, R., *Latino Families Are a Valuable Resource for Waiting Children*. 2012 North American Council on Adoptable Children Summer Adopt Talk.

Hutchison, C., Ortega, R., Quintanilla, M., *Nuestra Cultura Nuestra Familia: Working With Latino Adoptive and Foster Parents*. 2008 AdoptUsKids Publication.

Cristo, M., Encinas, A., Kappos, B., Quintanilla M. (Source Fall 2009) *Barriers to HIV Disclosure for Latino Mothers: Gender Roles, Cultural Ideals, and Religion*. The National AIA Resource Center.

Cristo, M., Encinas, A., Kappos, B., Quintanilla M., *A Culturally Competent Program Model: to Prevent Child Endangerment and Abandonment among Latinas and their Families living with Substance Abuse and HIV/AIDS*-Replication Manual 2009. Project funded by the U. S. Department of Health & Human Services Administration of Children and Families, Children's Bureau Grant Number: 93.551

Quintanilla, M., and Tello, J., *Formalizing Families Ties Through Adoption*. 2003 Revised 2012 This curriculum was funded by the U. S. Department of Health & Human Services Administration of Children and Families, Children's Bureau Grant Number: 90-CO-0905

Quintanilla, M., *Remove Barriers and Latino Families Will Adopt*. North American Council on Adoptable Children Summer Recruitment News. 2002.

Honors & Awards

2019 Adoption Excellence Award from The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

2017 Bruce D. Perry MD, Ph.D. Spirit of the Child Award

2010 Courage & Curiosity Award- for "Courage to Connect Children to Their Culture through Adoption" Center for Family Connections, Boston

2005 Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Service Appreciation

2002 Service Award Hispanic Training Center, Orange County - California

2000 Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Service Appreciation