

VIRGINIA OLIVAS, MSW
Department of Social Work
School of Behavioral And Applied Sciences Azusa Pacific University
PO Box 7000, Azusa, CA 91702-7000
volivas@apu.edu

EDUCATION

California State University, Long Beach, California
Bachelor of Arts, Communication Studies 1992

University of California, Los Angeles, California
Master of Social Work 1997

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA. **2016 – Present**
Assistant Professor-Field Faculty, DCFS Stipend Program Coordinator, Dept. of Social Work, MSW Program

PROFESSIONAL POST-BACCALAUREATE AND POST-MASTERS SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California **2016-Present**

LA DCFS Stipend Program Coordinator & Field Faculty Member

Assistant Professor, MSW Program

Responsible for the coordination and implementation of the LA DCFS Internship Stipend Program (previously known as University Consortium for Children & Families) -Teach field seminar and field liaison activities for DCFS Cohort -Evaluation of students, field instructors, and program outcomes -Liaise with the Department of Children & Family Services and University partners -Ensure compliance with DCFS contract -Provide supplemental instructional support, curriculum development, and coordinating with MSW Faculty regarding training needs and support of child welfare content -Member of Executive Field Team, coordinate and assist with MSW Foundation. & Specialization Year student field interviews, placements, and overall field process coordination.

Latino Family Institute, W. Covina, California Contracted Consultant/Program Manager

Adoption, Foster Care & Kinship Programs

2016 - Present

Review and approve RFA home studies. Provide staff supervision, training and consultation as needed.

Consortium for Children, San Rafael, California

2011 – Present

Permanency Planning Mediator

Mediate and create post-adoption contact agreements for children being adopted through the public child welfare system.

Latino Family Institute, W. Covina, California

2008 –2016

Program Manager, Adoption, Foster Care & Kinship Programs

Managed Adoption, Resource Family, and Kinship Adoption programs. Supervised staff within all three

programs. Collaborated with Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Orange Counties as a partner private, non-profit agency partner. Oversaw Quality Assurance of county contracts and statement of works and implemented Corrective Action Plans as needed. Attended Resource Family Agency cooperative meetings designed for adoption/foster family agencies. Reviewed, developed and implemented new agency policy and forms. RFA/Home study review and approval. Supervised contract workers. Supervised the certification process for incoming and parents. Reviewed & approved of quarterly Needs & Service Plans for all children suitably placed. Facilitated quarterly trainings and support groups for certified families in English and Spanish. Provided weekly staff and monthly group supervision. Provided case management supervision for Kinship Adoption Program. Supervised outreach and recruitment. Facilitated workshop presentations at National conferences for issues dealing with Latino culture as it pertains to child welfare. Served as a Field Instructor for MSW interns since 2005, for APU, CSULB, CSULA, and USC

Latino Family Institute, W. Covina, California **2006 –2008**
Adoption & Foster Care Social Work Supervisor

Provided supervision to social workers, case managers, and interns. Attended Foster Family Agency Cooperative adoption/foster family agency meetings. Conducted staff meetings, trainings and group supervisions.

Latino Family Institute, W. Covina, California **2000 –2006**
Senior Social Worker

Managed an adoption and foster care caseload. Provided case management (progress notes, Quarterly Reports, Needs & Service Plans. Attended IEP's & TDM's, monitored birth family visitation, provided support for children and LFI families, crisis management (after-hours assessment and intervention), child safety. Oversaw and adhered to Title 22 regulations, designed and implemented various LFI case management forms. Provided training to new LFI staff, monitored birth family visitation, facilitated foster parent education & support groups, certification and re-certification of foster/fost-adopt families. Matching Coordinator: identified prospective matches, pre-placement conferences, presentations, transitional visits, placement in the fost/adopt home, adoptive placement, finalization. Home Studies: wrote S.A.F.E. and Regular Home Studies,, addendums, and RFAs. Field Instructor: Supervised MSW students, Interim Supervisor: supervised 4 social workers and an overall caseload of 30 children. Facilitate PS-MAPP classes and trainings for prospective adoptive foster/adoptive parents.

Latino Family Institute, W. Covina, California **2000 –2001**
Home Study Contract Social Worker

Conducted S.A.F.E. and regular Adoption home studies for Spanish-speaking prospective adoptive families.

L.A. County Dept. Children & Family Services, Covina, California CSW II, Children Social Worker–
Adoptions Division **1997–1999**

Supervised adoption caseload (110 cases weighted- 96 children), majority of caseload was Spanish speaking and consisted of foster children in prospective adoptive homes; *CHILD SAFETY*: conducted home visits with focus on child safety & adoption process, replaced children into prospective adoptive or foster homes, oversaw children's adjustment in home, assisted parents in meeting children's psychological,

social, medical and academic needs; *COURT-RELATED ACTIVITIES*: wrote RPP – Review of Permanent Plan reports, 366.26 Permanent Placement reports often requesting termination of parental rights in order to proceed with adoptions, testified in court, maintained ongoing contact with minor’s attorney & DCFS County Counsel; *ADOPTION-RELATED ACTIVITIES*: conducted pre-placement conferences to match children, participated in recruitment events, transitioned children into prospective adoptive homes, completed adoption home studies, adoptively placed children, initiated adoption assistance payments, and initiated adoption finalization process.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Association of Latina/Latino Social Work Educators
- Council on Social Work Education

SCHOLARSHIP/PUBLICATIONS

Rawlings, M., Olivas, V., Waters, D., Tran, D. (2021) Developing engagement competence for Public Child Welfare: Results of an inter-university simulation project. *Clinical Social Work Journal*, (2021), 1-12
<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/349484271>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Rawlings, M., Olivas, V., Waters-Roman, D. & Tran, D. (2020, November). *Engaging diverse clients in public child welfare: Using simulation to prepare students*. Workshop presented at the CSWE 66th Annual Program Meeting. (Virtual)
- Rawlings, M., Olivas, V., Waters, D., Tran, D. (2020, February). *Using simulation to prepare MSW students for public child welfare: Findings from an inter-university collaboration*. Southern Region Child Welfare Workforce Development Conference, Riverside, CA
- Olivas, V. (2019, September). *Cultural Considerations for student success*. Presentation at the Annual Field Instructor Training at Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA.
- Olivas, V. (2019, September). *Student supervision, opportunities & challenges, self-care*. Presentation at the Annual Field Instructor Training at Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA.
- Olivas, V., Waters, D., Tran, D. (2019, April). *The utilization of simulations to promote resiliency and self-care in public child welfare workers*. CalSWEC Summit Workshop, Long Beach, CA
- Olivas, V. (2018, September). *Cultural considerations for student success*. Presentation at the Annual Field Instructor Training at Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA.
- Olivas, V. (2017, September). *Student supervision, opportunities & challenges*. Presentation at the Annual Field Instructor Training at Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA.
- Quintanilla, M, Olivas, V. (2015, August). *Raising your Latino adopted child with cultural pride*. North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC)
- Quintanilla, M, Olivas, V. (2015, August). *Legal, emotional, and psychological aspects in adoption*. North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC)
- Quintanilla, M, Olivas, V. (2015, August). *Our ideals and experiences as Latino adoptive families*. North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC)
- Quintanilla, M, Olivas, V. (2011, August). *Raising your Latino adopted child with cultural pride*. North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC)
- Quintanilla, M, Olivas, V. (2009, August). *Raising your Latino adopted child with cultural pride*. North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC)

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS

- *A.C.T –Adoption Clinical Training, Kinship Center 2002 (48 hour training)* Core Clinical Issues in Adoption
- *PS-MAPP –Certified Trainer, 2005 (48 hour training)*
- Certified and trained through the Community College Foundation to teach Permanency & Safety, Model Approach to Partnerships & Parenting (PS-MAPP) courses. This training curriculum is designed to train prospective foster and adoptive parents.
- *Field Instructor Training Course, 2005 Cal State Long Beach & 2016 Azusa Pacific University* Certified and trained for Field Instruction.
- *Permanency Planning Mediator, 2006* Mediate and create post-adoption contact agreements for children being adopted through the public child welfare system.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING TO RESOURCE PARENTS

- P.S. MAPP Training to Prospective Adoptive Parents
- Adoption Pre-Placement Process & Preparation Trauma & Children, Effects & Interventions Preserving Connections
- Managing Challenging Behaviors
- Brain Development and Regulation (*based on work of Dr. Bruce Perry*) Non-Violent Communication & Discipline Technique
- 20 Things I wish my Adoptive Parents Knew (*based on book by Sherrie Eldridge*) Formalizing Families Ties Through Adoption
- Adoptive Parenting: Self-Regulation & Legal Challenges
- Parent & Child Resiliency
- Understanding Adoption & Kinship Adoption
- Dynamics in Kinship Adoption
- Antecedents to Lying and Teaching the Truth
- Child Developmental Trauma, Effects & Interventions
- Strategies to Strengthen Attachment
- An Inside Out Approach to Parenting (*based on work of Dr. Dan Siegel*)
- 7 Core Lifelong Issues in Adoption (*based on work of Kaplan/Silverstein*)
- 15 Discipline Techniques (*based on PS-MAPP*)
- W.I.S.E-Up! (*based on C.A.S.E workbook*)