

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## MELAWHY L. GARCIA, MPH, PHD

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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Department of Health Science  
California State University, Long Beach  
1250 Bellflower Blvd, HHS2-115, MS 4902  
Long Beach, CA 90840  
Office: HSC FOA-10  
Email: [Melawhy.garcia@csulb.edu](mailto:Melawhy.garcia@csulb.edu)  
Telephone: (562) 985-5723

Center for Latino Community Health  
Evaluation, and Leadership Training  
California State University, Long Beach  
1250 Bellflower Blvd., SSPA-024  
Long Beach, CA 90815  
Telephone: (562) 985-5312  
[www.csulb.edu/latinohealth/latinohealth](http://www.csulb.edu/latinohealth/latinohealth)

### EDUCATION

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- 2013-2017 **Ph.D. Public Health (Health Behavior Research)**  
University of California, San Diego and San Diego State University Joint  
Doctoral Program
- 2008-2010 **M.P.H. Public Health (Community Health)**  
California State University, Long Beach, Department of Health Science
- 2007 **B.A. Psychology**  
California State University, Long Beach, Department of Psychology

### PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- 2020-Present **Director**, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation, and Leadership Training,  
Department of Health Science, California State University, Long Beach
- 2018-Present **Assistant Professor (tenure track)**, Department of Health Science, California State  
University, Long Beach
- 2019-Present **Co-Director**, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation, and Leadership  
Training, Department of Health Science, California State University, Long Beach
- 2018-2019 **Faculty Research Associate**, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation, and  
Leadership Training, Department of Health Science, California State University, Long  
Beach
- 2017-2018 **Postdoctoral Research Fellow - Population Science**, Department of Family  
Medicine and Public Health, Women's Cardiovascular Health Research, University of  
California, San Diego
- 2017-2018 **Adjunct Faculty**, Graduate School of Public Health, San Diego State University
- 2013-2017 **Pre-doctoral Research Assistant**, Graduate School of Public Health, Institute for  
Behavioral and Community Health / South Bay Latino Research Center, San Diego  
State University
- 2013-2018 **Lecturer**, Department of Health Science, California State University, Long Beach
- 2011-2014 **Assistant Director**, Department of Health Science, Center for Latino Community  
Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training California State University, Long Beach
- 2009-2017 **Research Associate**, Department of Health Science, Center for Latino Community  
Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training California State University, Long Beach

### GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

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#### Current

- 2020-Present **Principal Investigator**, Tobacco Education and Cessation Program, City of Long  
Beach Department of Health and Human Services
- 2020-Present **Principal Investigator**, ANDALE Latino Scholars Program, National Institutes on Food  
and Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture
- 2019-Present **Principal Investigator**, BIENESTAR Diabetes Self-Management Empowerment  
Program for Latinos, California State University, Long Beach

2018-Present **Co-Principal Investigator**, Advancing Nutrition Development through Alliance for Education and Leadership Training (ANDALE), National Institutes on Food and Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture

### Completed Grants and Contracts

- 2018-2019 **Principal Investigator**, Los Angeles Health CARE, Community Health Worker Training, L.A. CARE Health Plan
- 2017-2018 **Principal Investigator/Evaluator**, Antelope Valley Partners for Health – Best Start Initiative Palmdale Evaluation, Department of Health Science, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training California State University, Long Beach
- 2017-2018 **Co-Principal Investigator/Evaluator**, Antelope Valley Partners for Health – Best Start Initiative Lancaster Evaluation, Department of Health Science, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training California State University, Long Beach
- 2017-2018 **Post-Doctoral Research Fellow**, Department of Family Medicine and Public Health, Women’s Cardiovascular Health Research, University of California, San Diego, Biopsychosocial Correlates of Sedentary Time among Hispanic/Latinas, PI: Matthew Allison, MD
- 2014-2017 **Graduate Research Assistant**, Graduate School of Public Health, Institute for Behavioral and Community Health / South Bay Latino Research Center, San Diego State University, Latinos Understanding the Need for Adherence in Diabetes Management, National Institutes on Nursing Research, PI: Gregory A. Talavera, MD
- 2013-2014 **Graduate Research Assistant**, Graduate School of Public Health, Institute for Behavioral and Community Health / South Bay Latino Research Center, San Diego State University, LUCES de Cambio, Clinical and Behavioral Approach to Overweight Latino Youth and Families, National Institutes on Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease, PI: John P. Elder, PhD, MPH
- 2011-2013 **Project Manager**, Department of Health Science, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training, California State University, Long Beach, Transdisciplinary Graduate Training to Prevent Childhood Obesity, United States Department of Agriculture – National Institutes on Food and Agriculture Co-PIs: Britt Rios-Ellis, PhD, Gail C. Frank, PhD, RD, CHES
- 2010-2013 **Data Manager**, Department of Health Science, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training California State University, Long Beach, Healthy Women: Healthy Family – Cervical Cancer Prevention Project, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Initiative, PI: Maria Rosa, PhD, RN
- 2009-2011 **Project Manager**, Department of Health Science, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training California State University, Long Beach, Latino Nutrition and Chronic Disease Prevention United States Department of Agriculture– National Institutes on Food and Agriculture Co-Principal Investigators: Britt Rios-Ellis, PhD, Gail C. Frank, PhD, RD
- 2009-2011 **Project Manager**, Department of Health Science, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training, California State University, Long Beach, Hablando Claro/ Straight Talk – Intergenerational HIV/AIDS Prevention Intervention, USDHHS, Office on Women’s Health, PI: Britt Rios-Ellis, PhD
- 2007-2010 **Project Coordinator**, Department of Health Science, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training, California State University, Long Beach, Protect your Family: Get Tested HIV/AIDS Prevention Project, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, PI: Britt Rios-Ellis, PhD
- 2007-2009 **Project Coordinator**, Department of Health Science, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training, California State University, Long Beach, Healthy Start: Healthy Family- Comienzo Sano: Familia Saludable Project, United States Department of Agriculture - National Institutes on Food and Agriculture, Co-PIs:

2005-2006 Britt Rios-Ellis, PhD, Gail C. Frank, PhD, RD  
**Research Assistant**, Department of Health Science, Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training, California State University, Long Beach, Cholesterol Awareness and Prevention Project, National Council of La Raza, Institute for Hispanic Health, PI: Britt Rios-Ellis, PhD

## TEACHING & MENTORING POSITIONS

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### Assistant Professor

2018-Present Department of Health Science, California State University, Long Beach

### Adjunct Faculty

2017-2018 Graduate School of Public Health, San Diego State University

### Member of Theses Committees

6. Flores-Garcia, J. (2020). Social determinants of health and Type 1 Diabetes Management among Latinx Adolescents. Masters of Public Health.
5. Dionicio, P. (2020). The impact of Telemedicine on Obesity, Physical Activity Levels and Sedentary Time. Masters of Public Health.
4. Sanchez, K. (2019). Influence of U.S. Policy Uncertainties on the Mental Health Treatment Seeking Decision-Making Process of Unauthorized Immigrants: A Qualitative Investigation. Masters of Public Health.
3. Autencio, A. (2017). Nutrition knowledge and competency among non-nutrition majors implementing a community based research intervention. Masters of Science in Nutrition.
2. Martinez, J. (2016). Patient-provider communication and type 2 diabetes management- related outcomes in Hispanic adults. Masters of Public Health.
1. Beudin, J. (2014). Fruit and vegetable intake among Latina mothers and their children in relation to maternal self-efficacy and intention. Masters of Science in Nutrition.

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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\* denotes undergraduate or master's student trainee

### A. Book Chapters

2. Crespo, N.C., **Garcia, M.**, Behar, A. Holub, C. & Elder, J.P. (2017). Reducing obesity-related health disparities in Hispanic and Latino populations in the United States: An Update. In Oxford Bibliographies in Public Health, 2017 Ed. David McQueen. Oxford University Press.
1. Rios-Ellis, B., **Garcia, M.**, Frank, G.C., Gatdula, N., Galvez, G. (2014). Comienzo Sano: Familia Saludable- An innovative model to address Latino childhood obesity through community-based participatory research and bilingual family-focused curriculum. Obesity Interventions in Underserved U.S. Populations: Evidence and Directions. Baltimore, Maryland: Johns Hopkins University Press.

### B. Refereed Papers

14. Elfassy, T., Zeki, A., Hazzouri, A., Cai, J., Baldoni, P.L., Llabre, M.M., PhD; Rundek, T., Raij, L., Lash, J.P., Talavera, G.A., Wassertheil-Smoller, S., Daviglius, M., Booth, J.N., Castaneda, S.F., **Garcia, M.L.**, & Schneiderman, N. (In-press) Incidence of Hypertension Among US Hispanics/Latinos: The Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos, 2008 to 2017. Journal of the American Heart Association. doi: 10.1161/JAHA.119.015031
13. Perreira, K.M., Abreu, M., Youngblood, M.E., Alvarado, C. Cobo, N., Crespo-Figueroa, M. **Garcia, M.L.**, Giachello, A.L., Pattany, M.S., Talavera, A.C., & Talavera, G.A. (2020) Retaining Hispanics: Lessons from the Hispanic Community Health study / Study of Latinos (HCHS/SOL). American Journal of Epidemiology. doi: 10.1093/aje/kwaa003
12. **Garcia, M.L.**, Crespo, N., Behar, A.I. Talavera, G.A., Campbell, N., Shadron, L., & Elder, J.P. (2020). Examining Hispanic/Latino mothers' perceptions of their child's weight: Comparison of silhouette and categorical survey methods. Childhood Obesity, 16(1), 44-52. doi: 10.1089/chi.2019.0015

11. **Garcia, M.L.**, Castañeda, S.F., Matthew, A. Elder, J.P. & Talavera, G.A. (2019). Correlates of Low-adherence to Oral Hypoglycemic Medications among Hispanic/Latinos with Type 2 Diabetes in the United States. *Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice*, 155. doi: 10.1016/j.diabres.2019.04.007
10. Castaneda, S.F., **Garcia, M.L.**, Gurrola-Lopez, M., Stoutenberg, M., Emory, K., Daviglius, M.L., Kaplan, R., Giachello, A.L., Molina, K.M., Perreira, K., Youngblood, M.E., Vidot, D.C., & Talavera, G.A. (2019). Alcohol use, acculturation and socioeconomic status among Hispanic/Latino men and women: The Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos. *PLoS ONE*, 14(4): e0214906. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0214906
9. **Garcia, M.**, Gatdula, N., Bonilla E., Rios-Ellis, B., Bird, M., Rascon, M. & Frank, G.C. (2019) Engaging Intergenerational Hispanics/Latinos to Examine Factors Influencing Childhood Obesity Using the PRECEDE–PROCEED Model. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 23, 802-810. doi: 10.1007/s10995-018-02696-y
8. Behar, A.I., Crespo, N.C., **Garcia, M.**, Ayala, G.X., Campbell, N., Shadron, L.M., Elder, J.P. (2018). Validation of a shortened version of the Children’s Eating Behavior Questionnaire and associations with BMI in a clinical sample of Latino children. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*; 50(4); 372-378. doi: 10.1016/j.jneb.2017.08.013
7. McDonough, M., Vargas, M., Nguyen, S.T. **Garcia, M.**, Galvez, G., & Rios-Ellis, B. (2016). Mujer Sana, Familia Fuerte: The effects of a culturally-relevant, community-based, promotores program to increase cervical cancer screening among Latinas. *Journal of Healthcare for the Poor and Underserved*, 26(2), 568-579. doi: 10.1353/hpu.2016.0094
6. Rios-Ellis, B., Nguyen-Rodriguez, S.T., Espinoza, L., Galvez, G., & Garcia-Vega, M. (2015) Engaging community with *Promotores de Salud* to support infant nutrition and breastfeeding among Latinas residing in Los Angeles County: *Salud con Hyland's*, Health Care for Women International, 36:6, 711-729, doi: 10.1080/07399332.2014.900060
5. Rios-Ellis, B., Becker, D., Espinoza, L., Nguyen-Rodriguez, S.T., Carricchi, A., Galvez, G. & **Garcia, M.**, (2015). Evaluation of a community health worker intervention to reduce HIV/AIDS stigma and to increase motivation for HIV testing among underserved Latinos in three communities in the Southwestern United States. *Public Health Reports*, 130(5):458-67. doi: 10.1177/003335491513000509
4. Frank, G. C., Beaudoin, J., Rascon, M., **Garcia, M.**, & Rios-Ellis, B. (2013). Development of a culturally responsive nutrition promotion course for Latinos. *Journal of Family & Consumer Sciences*, 105(1), 10-17.
3. Rios-Ellis, B., Canjura, A.C., Korosteleva, O., **Garcia, M.**, & Bird, M. (2011). Rompe el Silencio: Break the Silence- Increasing sexual communication in Latina intergenerational family dyads. *Hispanic Health International*, 9(4), 1-13. doi: 10.1891/1540–4153.9.4.174
2. Rios-Ellis, B., Espinoza, L., Bird, M., **Garcia, M.**, Hoyt-D’Anna, L., & Bellamy, L. (2010). Increasing HIV-related knowledge, communication, and testing intentions among Latinos: Protege tu familia: Hazte la prueba. *Journal of Healthcare for the Poor and Underserved*, Supplement 21(3), 148-168. doi: 10.1353/hpu.0.0360
1. Gonya, M., Singh-Carlson, S., Rathnasiri, A., **Garcia, M.**, & Norng, S. (2010). Importance of developing culturally sensitive measurement tools for acquiring perceptions of health. *Journal of Cultural, Economic, Environmental and Social Sustainability*, 6(5), 177-184.

### ***Manuscripts Under Review***

4. Garcia, M., Nguyen-Rodriguez, S.T., Gatdula, N., Aguirre, D., & Bird, M., Rascon, M., Rios-Ellis, B., & Frank, G.C.
3. Frank, G.C, Nguyen-Rodriguez, S.T., Bird, M., **Garcia, M.**, Gatdula, N., Bonilla, E., Rascon, M. & Rios-Ellis, B. Primary Outcomes of an Obesity Prevention Intervention for Latino Families. Submitted to *California Journal of Health Promotion*. (*Revise and resubmit*)
2. Bejarano, C., Gallo, L., Castaneda, S., **Garcia, M.**, Sotres-Alvarez, D., Perreira, K.M., Isasi, C., Daviglius, M., Van Horn, L., Delamater, A.M., Saving, K.L., Cai, J., & Carlson, J.A. Patterns of sedentary time in the Hispanic Community Health Study/SOL Youth (HCHS/SOL). Submitted to *JAMA Pediatrics*.
1. Pompano, L., Gallo, L.C., Castaneda, S.F., **Garcia, M.**, Martinez-Mendoza, P., Munoz, F., & Talavera, G.A. Psychological distress, disease self-management behaviors, and cardiovascular risk

factors among Hispanics/Latinos with poorly-controlled diabetes. Submitted to the Journal of Behavioral Medicine.

### **Manuscripts In Preparation**

4. **Garcia, M.**, Gatdula, N., Bonilla, E., Bird, M., Rascon, M. & Rios-Ellis, B. Hablando Claro: Clear Talk! Applying an Intergenerational Approach to Prevent STIs among Latinas.
2. **Garcia, M.**, Castaneda, S.F., Gallo, L.C, Lopez-Gurrola, M., & Talavera, G.A. Socio- environmental influences on child sedentary behaviors: Results from the Hispanic Community Health Study /Study of Latino Youth.
1. Castaneda, S.F., **Garcia, M.**, Gallo, L.C, Lopez-Gurrola, M., & Talavera, G.A Biopsychosocial and Ecological influences on Latina Women's Sedentary Time: Results from the Hispanic Community Health Study/ Study of Latinos HCHS/SOL San Diego Casitas

### **C. Other Peer-reviewed Research Publications**

1. Frank, G.C, **Garcia, M.** Ortega, E., & Rios-Ellis, B. (2012). Reducing obesity risk by addressing breastfeeding with Latina moms using Motivational Interviewing techniques. Latinos and Hispanics in Dietetics and Nutrition Newsletter, Fall/Winter 2012.

### **REFEREED PRESENTATIONS**

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\* denotes student trainee

37. \*Figuroa, W., Ortiz, J., & **Garcia, M.** (2019). Factors contributing to uncontrolled diabetes among Hispanic/Latino Adults in Long Beach. 2019 Graduate Research Conference, California State University, Long Beach, Long Beach CA. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
36. \*Sanchez, K., Bavarian, N., **Garcia, M.**, & Lovato, K. (2019). Influence of U.S. policy uncertainties on the mental health treatment seeking decision-making process of undocumented Hispanic/Latino immigrants: A qualitative investigation. 2019 UndocuJ Conference. Long Beach, CA. Abstract and Oral Presentation.
35. \*Pompano, L., Gallo, L.C., Castaneda, S.F., **Garcia, M.**, Munoz, F., Martinez-Mendoza, P., & Talavera, G. (2019). Factors predicting adherence to an integrative model of care intervention in Hispanic/Latino patients with Type II Diabetes. Nutrition 2019 Conference, American Society for Nutrition, Baltimore, MD., Abstract and Poster Presentation.
34. **Garcia, M.L.**, Crespo, N., Behar, A.I., Talavera, G.A., & Elder, J.P. (2019). Perceptions of Children's Weight among Hispanic/Latino Mothers: Comparison of Visual Silhouette and Categorical Survey Methods. 2019 Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions, Society of Behavioral Medicine, Washington, DC. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
33. **Garcia, M.L.**, Castaneda, S.F., & Talavera, G.A. (2019). Modifiable Correlates of Low-Adherence to Oral Hypoglycemic Medications among Hispanic/Latinos with Type 2 Diabetes. 2019 Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions, Society of Behavioral Medicine, Washington, DC. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
32. \*Sanchez, K., Bavarian, N., **Garcia, M.**, & Lovato, K. (2018). Influence of U.S. policy uncertainties on the mental health treatment seeking decision-making process of undocumented Hispanic/Latino immigrants: A qualitative investigation. 2018 Graduate Research Conference, California State University, Long Beach, CA.
31. **Garcia, M.**, Gallo, L., Gurrola-Lopez, M., Perreira, K., Sotres-Alvarez, D., Isasi, C., Chambers, E.C., Daviglius, M.L., Van Horn, L., Evenson, K.R., Carlson, J., Talavera, G.A. (2018). Socio-environmental influences on youth total sedentary time: Results from the Hispanic Community Health Study / Study of Latino Youth. American Heart Association EPI/Lifestyle Conference 2018, New Orleans, LA. Abstract and Poster Presentation
30. Makarem, N., Aggarwal, B., St-Onge, M.P., Sears, D., Castaneda, S., Marinac, C., Talavera, G.A., Sotres-Alvarez, **Garcia, M.**, & Gallo, L.C. (2018). Nightly Fasting Duration is Associated With Cardiometabolic Risk Profiles Among Hispanic/Latina Women in the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos. American Heart Association EPI/Lifestyle Conference 2018, New Orleans, LA. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
29. **Garcia, M.L.**, Castañeda, S.F., Matthew, A. Elder, J.P., Marcus, B.H., & Talavera, G.A. (2018). Correlates of low-adherence to oral hypoglycemic medications among

Hispanic/Latinos with Type 2 Diabetes. National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, Network on Minority Health Research Investigators Annual Meeting, Bethesda, MA. Abstract and Poster Presentation.

28. \*Bonilla, E., Bird, M., Nguyen-Rodriguez, S., Rios-Ellis, B., **Garcia, M.L.**, Lucas, W., Martinez, C. (2018). Salud a la Vida: Cheers to Life! A University and Community-Based Prevention Intervention to Address HIV, Hepatitis C, Alcohol, and Substance Abuse among Latinx Young Adults. American Public Health Association Conference, 144th Annual Meeting and Exposition, San Diego, CA. Abstract and Oral Presentation.
27. Behar, A.I., Ayalal, G., Campbell, N., Crespo, N., Elder, J., Shadron, L, **Garcia, M.** (2017) Validation of a Shortened Version of the Children's Eating Behavior Questionnaire in a Clinical Sample of Latino Children. 2017 Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions, Society of Behavioral Medicine, San Diego, CA. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
26. **Garcia, M.**, Socio-environmental influences on youth total sedentary time: Results from the Hispanic Community Health Study. (2017). University of California San Diego, Public Health Research Day, San Diego, CA. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
25. \*Gatdula, N., **Garcia, M.**, Bonilla E., Rios-Ellis, B., Bird, M., Frank, G.C. & Galvez, G (2016) Engaging intergenerational Latinos to develop a family-based intervention applying the PRECEDE-PROCEED model to examine factors influencing childhood obesity. American Public Health Association Conference, 144th Annual Meeting and Exposition, Denver, CO. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
24. \*Tolentino-Baldrige, C., Carr, A.A., Bird, M., Rios-Ellis, B., **Garcia, M.L.**, & Ortiz-Valenzuela, M.A. (2015). Utilizing peers for an integrated HIV, hepatitis C, alcohol and substance abuse prevention program for young Latino adults. Association of Nurses in Aids Care Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
23. **Garcia, M.**, Bird, M., Rios-Ellis, B. & Bonilla, E. (2016). Salud a la Vida: Cheers to Life! A partnership to develop an HIV, Hepatitis C, and Substance Use Prevention Intervention through Community Based Participatory Research. Latina Researchers Network, 2016 Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
22. \*Aguilar, M., Bird, M., & **Garcia, M.**, Bonilla, E., Gatdula, N., & Nguyen-Rodriguez, S. (2016). Community Forums: An Innovative Approach to Engage Community in Research Planning and Dissemination. Latina Researchers Network, 2016 Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
21. \*Bonilla, E., Gatdula, N., **Garcia, M.** & Bird, M. (2016) The role of mentoring through experiential learning opportunities for the next generation of professionals. Latina Researchers Network, 2016 Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
20. **Garcia, M.**, Buelna, C., Martinez-Mendoza, P., Castañeda, S.F., Gallo, L.C., & Talavera, G. (2015). Latinos Understanding the Need for Adherence: Chronic disease management through culturally tailored care coordination in a federally qualified community health center. American Public Health Association Conference, 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition, Chicago, IL, Abstract and Presentation.
19. **Garcia, M.**, Madanat, H., & Fraga, M. (2015). Toilet to Tap: Qualitative study to inform the implementation of a wastewater sanitation project in a rural community in Baja California. American Public Health Association Conference, 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition, Chicago, IL, Abstract and Presentation.
18. Gatdula, N., **Garcia, M.**, Bonilla, E., Chaple, M.C., & Parga, M. (2015). Sanos y Fuertes: Healthy & Strong: The role of community health workers in training and mentoring the next generation of health professionals. American Public Health Association Conference, 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition, Chicago, IL, Abstract and Presentation.
17. **Garcia, M.**, Madanat, H., & Fraga, M. (2015). Qualitative study to assess water quality and sanitation services to inform the implementation of a novel wastewater initiative in rural Mexico. Public Health Research Day, University of California, San Diego, 2015.
16. **Garcia, M.**, Campbell, N., & Elder, J. (2014). A staged approach to addressing pediatric overweight and obesity in a clinic setting. International Society of Behavior Nutrition and Physical Activity, International Conference, San Diego, CA. Poster Presentation.
15. \*Vera, A., **Garcia, M.**, Concklin, R., Jaramillo, N., (2014). Assessing the acceptability of a novel

wastewater system in a rural mexican migrant community: A qualitative investigation. Research Symposium. Moorehouse College. Atlanta, GA. Poster Presentation.

14. Rios-Ellis, B., **Garcia, M.** Rascon, M., & Frank, G. (2012). Latino Nutrition and Chronic Disease Prevention: A multidisciplinary program to enhance teaching, research and training for underrepresented students. Science of Eliminating Health Disparities Summit, National Harbor, MD. Poster presentation and abstract publication.
13. Garcia, M. Rios-Ellis, B. Frank, G.C., & Nguyen-Rodriguez, S. (2012). Sanos y Fuertes (Healthy and Strong) Childhood obesity prevention through culturally relevant curriculum development and health educations with Latino families. American Public Health Association, 140<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition, San Francisco, CA. Abstract and Presentation.
12. **Garcia, M.**, Rios-Ellis, B., Rascon, M., Nguyen-Rodriguez, S., (2011). Latino nutrition and chronic disease prevention: Multidisciplinary program to enhance teaching, research, and experiential learning for underrepresented students. American Public Health Association, 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition, Washington, DC. Abstract and oral presentation.
11. **Garcia, M.**, Rios-Ellis, B., Gatdula, N., Espinoza, L. (2011). Role of community health workers as agents of change to promote health. American Public Health Association, 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition, Washington, DC. Abstract and oral presentation.
10. Rios-Ellis, B., **Garcia, M.**, Nguyen-Rodriguez, S., Rascon, M., Smallwood, N. (2011). Comienzo Sano: Creating university and public partnerships to promote Latina maternal child health. American Public Health Association, 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition, Washington, DC. Abstract and poster presentation.
9. **Garcia, M.** Rios-Ellis, B., Frank, G.C., Ortega, E. (2011) Latino nutrition Latino nutrition and chronic disease prevention: Multidisciplinary program to enhance experiential learning opportunities for students to address childhood obesity. International Food and Nutrition Conference, Tuskegee, AL. Abstract and oral presentation.
8. **Garcia, M.** (2010). Comienzo Sano: Familia Saludable- Student Experiential Learning Opportunities in Childhood Obesity Prevention. Invited presentations Students Active in Community Health, California State University Long Beach, CA
7. Rios-Ellis, B., **Garcia, M.** & Espinoza, L. (2010). Straight Talk: Hablando Claro- Applying an intergenerational approach to the Teen Health Project to prevent HIV/AIDS among Latinas in Los Angeles County. American Public Health Association, 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition, Denver, CO. Abstract and oral presentation.
6. **Garcia, M.**, Rios-Ellis, B. & Espinoza, L. (2010). Protege tu Familia-Hazte La Prueba: Conducting effective HIV outreach and prevention among Latino Families. XVIII International AIDS Conference, Vienna, Austria. Abstract and poster presentation.
5. Rios-Ellis, B., **Garcia, M.**, Espinoza, L., Rodriguez-Nguyen, S., Huerta, B., Danzinger, A., & Zaldivar, R. (2010). Salud es Cultura: Protegete!- Reinforcing positive cultural attributes to prevent HIV in underserved Latino communities through a community health worker intervention. International AIDS Conference, Vienna, Austria. Abstract and poster presentation.
4. Rios-Ellis, B., **Garcia, M.** & Espinoza, L. (2010). Protege tu familia- Hazte la prueba. 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic Health Research Conference, Jackson, MI. Abstract and oral presentation.
3. **Garcia, M.** & Rodriguez, S. (2009). Latino mental health and Promotores de Salud approaches to mental health. Southern California MRISP-COR Conference on Mental Health Disparities, Long Beach, CA. Invited presentation.
2. Rios-Ellis, Canjura, C., **Garcia, M.**, Korosteleva, O., & Mallotte, C.K. (2009). Improving Sex related communication in Latina mother and daughters. International Society for STD Research Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. Abstract and Poster Presentation.
1. **Garcia, M.** (2009). Protege Tu Familia: Hazte La Prueba: Utilizing promotores de salud for HIV prevention. 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic Health Research Conference, Tuskegee, AL. Abstract and oral presentation.

## **TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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- 2020 Institute Fellow, Center for Health Equity Research Institute 2020, California State University Long Beach, CA
- 2018 Learning from the Lancet: Lessons and future Research Directions - 2012 and 2016 Global Series on Physical Activity and Health, University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA
- 2017 Early Career Investigator Seminar – Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute (ACTRI), University of California San Diego, San Diego, CA
- 2017 Writing Health Disparities Research Grants, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
- 2017 Research Leaders Academy, American Heart Association, Denver, CO
- 2016 Advanced Design/ Conduct of Clinical Trials, Society of Behavioral Medicine, Washington DC
- 2016 Designing Digital Health Interventions, Society of Behavioral Medicine, Washington DC
- 2015 Qualitative Research Design, University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA
- 2015 Categorical Data Analysis Workshop, California State University, Long Beach, NIMHD Research Infrastructure for Minority Institutions Training, Long Beach CA
- 2015 Doctoral Student Training & Retreat, Minority Training Program for Cancer Control Research, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 Grant Writing Seminar, Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), San Diego, CA
- 2014 Evaluation and Applied Research Methods, Claremont University, Claremont, CA
- 2014 International Public Health Field Training, VIIDAI -University of California, San Diego/ San Diego State University/ Universidad de Baja California, San Quintin, Mexico
- 2012 EXITO! Latino Cancer Research and Leadership Training, Institute for Health Promotion Research, University of Texas, San Antonio, San Antonio, TX
- 2010 Grant Writing Training, School of Public Health, University of Texas Houston, El Paso Campus, El Paso, TX
- 2009 International Health Perspectives, Study Abroad Program to Tanzania, California State University, Long Beach, Tanzania

## **AWARDS**

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- 2018 Clinical Research Award, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, Network of Minority Research Investigators 2017 Annual Meeting, Bethesda, MD
- 2016 Professional Development and Support for Dissertation and Research Activities Mini Grant Award, Doctoral Incentive Program, California State University System
- 2016 Student Travel Award, U54 San Diego State University/ University of California San Diego- Cancer Center Collaborative Partnership, Institute of Behavioral and Community Health, San Diego State University
- 2016 Professional Development Award, Doctoral Incentive Program, California State University System
- 2014 Hispanic Center of Excellence Scholarship, University of California, San Diego
- 2010 Dean's Graduate Honors Award Recipient, College of Health and Human Services, California State University Long Beach.
- 2010 Health Science Outstanding Graduate Award, Department of Health Science, College of Health and Human Services, California State University, Long Beach

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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### **Ad Hoc Reviewer**

- 2020 Manuscript review, Health Education & Behavior
- 2020 Manuscript review, Journal of Multidisciplinary Healthcare
- 2019 Manuscript review, Journal of Nutritional Science
- 2018 Manuscript review, Journal of Health Promotion Practice
- 2017 Manuscript review, California Journal of Health Promotion



2017 Manuscript review, Journal of Adolescent Health  
2016 Manuscript review, Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health  
2015 Manuscript review, Journal of Public Health Nursing

### **Abstract Reviewer**

2013-2016 Abstract reviewer, Latino Health Equity Conference, Long Beach, CA  
2015 Abstract reviewer, National Health Disparities Conference, Long Beach, CA  
2012-2014 Abstract reviewer, American Public Health Association – Annual Conference

### **Committee Memberships**

2017-Present Scientific Interest Group Member, Youth Study Area, Hispanic Community/ Health Study – Study of Latinos, National Study  
2017-2019 Scientific Interest Group Member, Sociocultural Study Area, Hispanic Community/ Health Study – Study of Latinos, National Study  
2014-2018 Community Advisory Board Member, Masters of Public Health Program, Department of Health Science, California State University, Long Beach  
2012-2015 Advisory Committee Member, Building Healthy Communities- Santa Ana Madison Neighborhood Program, University of California, Irvine  
2010-2012 Advisory Committee Member, California Area Health Educator Center, AltaMed Health Services, Los Angeles  
2012 Organizing Committee, Addressing Latino HIV/AIDS Townhall, Internal AIDS Conference, Washington, DC  
2012 Organizing Committee, Developing a Collaborative Plan to Address HIV/AIDS among Latino Communities in the United States Seminar, United States Conference on AIDS, Las Vegas, NV

### **Consulting**

2017 Grant Writing, University of California Los Angeles, BRITE Center, Los Angeles, CA  
2015 Grant Writing, Long Beach Department of Health/ Human Services, Long Beach, CA  
2015 Research Associate, College of Health and Human Sciences, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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2018-Present Network of Minority Research Investigators (NIDDK), Member  
2017-Present American Heart Association, Member  
2016-Present Society of Behavioral Medicine, Member  
2014-Present Early Career Investigator, Hispanic Community Health Study – Study of Latinos  
2014-Present Latino Caucus of Public Health, Member  
2009-Present American Public Health Association, Member  
2010-2011 Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Past Member  
2009-2010 Etta Sigma Gamma, Health Science Honor Society, Past Member  
2009-2010 Health Science Graduate Association, CSULB, Secretary

### **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

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Fluent in Spanish

### **REFERENCES**

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Available upon request