



Stony Brook
Medicine

2nd Annual Conference

Healthcare Without Borders

Providing Clinical Care for Unaccompanied Immigrant Children

Segunda Conferencia Anual

Salud Sin Fronteras

Atención Clínica A Los Niños Inmigrantes No Acompañados



Stony Brook Medicine

Program Outline





2nd Annual Conference Healthcare Without Border

Providing Clinical Care for Unaccompanied Immigrant Children

Thursday, March 2

9am to 1:30pm

Virtual Conference via Zoom (Link will be sent to the email used to register)

Be a part of a live, open discussion with community providers and members from across New York about issues surrounding equitable and culturally sensitive healthcare for undocumented folx in our communities, specifically Latinx, unaccompanied immigrant children and adolescents. Learn about various local organizations that accompany Latinx, immigrant youth and families in care, in addition to available resources at Stony Brook Medicine. Of important, Spanish-speaking interpreters and Spanish-language closed captioning will be available for different parts of our program.

Who Should Attend: Open to the general public, this conference will be especially helpful to medical and mental health professionals, nonprofit agency stakeholders and their leadership.

Bienvenida And Welcome!

9-9:20 am

Welcoming Speech: Kimberly Alba, PsyD, Licensed Bilingual and Bicultural Clinical Psychologist, Clinical Assistant Professor, Project Lead for the Latinx Bilingual Bicultural Collaborative, and Co-chair Diversity Committee, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health, Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University.

Introduction of Opening Entertainment: Kimberly Alba, PsyD

Opening Entertainment: Michelle Carfagno

Opening Speaker

Introduction of Opening Speaker: Aline Szency, MA

9:20 – 10:20am (10 minutes of questions)

Fenix N. Arias, PhD, Manager of Operations at Yonkers Public Schools.

Panel of Providers for Undocumented and/or Immigrant Youth Q & A:

10:20-11:30am

Introduction of Panelists and Translators: Anna Coward, PhD

Panel Facilitator: Genna Hymowitz, PhD, Licensed Clinical Psychologist Research Lead for the Latinx Bilingual and Bicultural Collaborative, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavior Health, Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University.

Latinx, Bilingual and Bicultural Psychotherapist

Wilmarie Felix, LMHC

Latinx Community Based Organization

OLA of Eastern Long Island

Minerva Perez

Latinx Bilingual and Bicultural Immigration Lawyer

Eduardo Villacorta, Esq.

Free Healthcare Clinic

Stony Brook Health Outreach and Medical Education,
(Stony Brook HOME)

Christa Denmon, MD/MPH Candidate

Stony Brook Human Rights Clinic

Alia Rizvon

Latinx Person with Lived Experience

Cristian Pizarro

Latinx Talent

11:30 – 11:40am

Introduction of Poet: Veronica Tapia, MD
Hilary Garcia, Poet

Keynote: Considerations for Working with Unaccompanied Immigrant Children and Asylum-seeking Families

11:40 am – 12:40 pm

Introduction of Key Note: Malazia Cepero
Brenda Punskey, LCSW, LLM

Closing Speaker

12:40 – 1:00 pm

Introduction of Closing Speaker: Agustina Guanes
Shyjab Villacis

Connecting & Networking

1:00 – 1:30 pm

Closing Remarks and Thank Yous: Kimberly Alba, PsyD
Networking in Small Groups with separate link

Link:

<https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/97661457667?pwd=Zjk3L2dTZGRqSExsS2hhMTRUckVnZz09>

For Questions:

Kimberly.alba@stonybrookmedicine.edu

This event was made possible by the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health, Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University; the Presidential Mini-Grant for Departmental Diversity Initiative, and the Office of the Chief Diversity Officer.

Esquema Del Programa



Segunda Conferencia Anual

Salud Sin Fronteras

Atención Clínica A Los Niños Inmigrantes No Acompañados

Jueves, 2 De Marzo

9am a 1:30pm

Conferencia Virtual A Través De Zoom (Se Enviará Un Enlace Al Correo Electrónico Utilizado Para Registrarse)

Sea parte de una discusión abierta y en vivo con proveedores comunitarios y miembros de todo Nueva York. La discusión tratará temas relacionados con el cuidado de salud equitativo y culturalmente sensible para personas indocumentadas en nuestras comunidades, específicamente niños y adolescents Latinx además de inmigrantes no acompañados. Infórmese sobre varias organizaciones locales que acompañan a Latinx jóvenes inmigrantes y familias bajo cuidado, además de los recursos disponibles en Stony Brook Medicine. De importancia, intérpretes en Español y subtítulos en Español estarán disponibles para diferentes partes de nuestro programa.

Quién debe asistir: Abierta al público en general, esta conferencia será especialmente útil para profesionales medicos y de salud mental, agencias sin fines de lucro y su liderazgo.

¡Bienvenidas!

9-9:20 am

Palabras de Bienvenida: Kimberly Alba, PsyD, psicóloga clínica licenciada bilingüe/bicultural, profesora clínica asistente, líder del Proyecto Colaborativo Bilingüe Bicultural Latinx y copresidenta del Comité de Diversidad, Departamento de Psiquiatría y Salud del Comportamiento, escuela Renaissance de Medicina en Universidad de Stony Brook.

Introducción de Entretenimiento de Bienvenida: Kimberly Alba PsyD

Entretenimiento de Bienvenida: Michelle Carfagno

Orador de Bienvenida

Introducción de Orador de Bienvenida: Aline Szency, MA

9:20 – 10:20am (10 minutos de preguntas)

Fenix N. Arias, PhD, Gerente de Operaciones de las Escuelas Públicas de Yonkers.

Preguntas Y Respuestas De Panelistas De Proveedores Para Jóvenes Indocumentados Inmigrantes:

10:20-11:30am

Introducción de Los Panelistas: Anne Coward, PhD

Facilitador del Panel: Genna Hymowitz, PhD, Psicóloga Clínica Licenciada, Líder De Investigación De Latinx Bilingüe y Bicultural Colaborativo, Profesora Clínica Asociada, Departamento De Psiquiatría Y Salud Del Comportamiento, Escuela De Renaissance De Medicine En Universidad De Stony Brook.

Psicoterapeuta Latinx, Bilingüe y Bicultural

Wilmarie Felix, LMHC

Organización Basada En La Comunidad Latinx

OLA of Eastern Long Island

Minerva Perez

Abogado Latinx Bilingüe y Bicultural de Inmigración

Eduardo Villacorta, Esq.

Clínica de Salud Gratuita

Centro Gratuito de La Salud en Stony Brook, (Stony Brook HOME)

Christa Denmon, Candidata MD/MPH

Clínica de Derechos Humanos de Stony Brook

Alia Rizvon

Persona Latinx Con Experiencia Vivida

Cristian Pizarro

Talento Latinx

Introducción de Talento Latinx: Veronica Tapia, MD

11:30 – 11:40am

Hilary García (Poema Pregrabado)

Discurso Principal: Consideraciones Para Trabajar Con Niños Inmigrantes No Acompañados Y Familias Solicitantes De Asilo

Introducción de Discurso Principal: Malazia Cepero

11:40 am – 12:40 pm

Brenda Punskey, LCSW, LLM

Palabras de Cierre

Introducción de Palabras de Cierre: Augustina Guanes

12:40 – 1:00 pm

Discurso De Cierre

Shyjab Villacis

Hablar y Conectar

1:00 – 1:30 pm

Gracias y Hasta Luego: Kimberly Alba, PsyD

Networking en Pequeños Grupos

Enlace:

<https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/97661457667?pwd=Zjk3L2dTZGRqSExsS2hhMTRUcKVNzZ09>

Para Preguntas:

Kimberly.alba@stonybrookmedicine.edu

Este Evento fue posible gracias al Departamento de Psiquiatría de la Escuela de Medicina Renaissance de la Universidad de Stony Brook; La Mini-Subvención Presidencial para la Initiative de Diversidad Departamental, y La Oficina del Director de Diversidad



Our Speakers

Keynote Speaker



Brenda Punsky, LCSW, LLM

Brenda Punsky, LCSW, LLM is the Advocacy Director and Senior-level psychotherapist at Terra Firma, A unique mental health-medical-legal partnership (embedded in Montefiore Hospital's Bronx Health Collective) that provides trauma-informed services specifically tailored to unaccompanied immigrant youth and asylum-seeking families.

Brenda Provides trauma-informed individual, family, and group psychotherapy services, and specializes in traumatic stress, complex trauma, attachment, family-systems therapy, and acculturation. Her expertise includes conducting psychological evaluations and writing affidavits in support of patients' asylum and other immigration cases; and training medical, legal, and mental health professionals both on how to interview for and write those evaluations, and on best practices when working with unaccompanied immigrant youth and asylum-seeking families.

Her scholarly publications include Mental Health as the Cornerstone of Effective Medical -legal Partnerships for Asylum-Seekers: The Terra Firma Model and working with Parents and Children Separated at the Border: Examining the Impact of the Zero tolerance Policy and Beyond. Brenda has also collaborated with the ACLU's litigation by conducting and drafting psychological evaluations of asylum-seekers stranded at the border under the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP) in Matamoros, Mexico.

In addition to her MSW degree from Silver School of Social work, Brenda holds law degrees from both NYU School of Law, and Universidad Iberoamericana (Mexico), and worked as a human rights attorney for several years before becoming a social worker. Brenda was honored with NYU's Global Social Work Award for her outstanding International Social Justice Work and Studies. She is also a conflict mediator certified by the New York Peach Institute.

Opening Speaker



**Fenix Nikaurys Arias,
PhD**

At Age 16, Fenix Nikaurys Arias came to New York City in 1993 without speaking a word in English. Today, she holds a Doctoral degree in Urban Education, with a focus on Policy, from the CUNY Graduate Center, a Master's degree in Higher Education Administration, from the School of Public Affairs at Baruch College CUNY, a Bachelor degree in Sociology from Columbia University, and an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts, from Hostos Community College CUNY, where she began to learn English. She also holds degree certificates, in Fundraising, Immigration Law, and has successfully completed the New York State Mediation and Peace-making Certification. In addition, she is an alumnus from CORO NY Immigration and Civic Engagement Leadership Program. She has been accepted to pursue a Postdoctoral research with the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development Foundation, a branch of the United Nations, in the correlations of human capital. Currently, Dr. Arias leads the Division of Non-Instructional Services for Yonkers School District. She is a former Associate Dean of Student Engagement and Success as well as associate Dean of Student Support Services at Bronx Community College of the City University of New York (She was the Director of Testing at York College CUNY, and taught "Immigration and Crime" in the Sociology Department, as well as "Ethnicity, Class and Gender in America," at John Jay College of Criminal Justice CUNY. She sits at two community boards, and volunteers at various community-based organizations conducting mediation, fundraisers, as well as food/clothing drives. Her latest accomplishment is organizing a march on sexual violence with the organization Yo Digo No Mas, with the goal to bring awareness on the silent pandemic of abuse.

Dr. Arias' research interests are social inclusion/exclusion drivers, social policy, social justice, Globalization, transnationalism, and advocacy for minority's rights. Her doctoral dissertation explores how theories of (Social bulimic system process of inclusion and exclusion from the socio political and economic mechanisms. She studies the social exclusion drivers that prevent youths from entering the current uneven labor market, preventing them from entering the middle class. Regarding publication, Dr. Arias has a book chapter: US Citizen Children of Deportees: Picking up the Broken Pieces of a Bulimic Society, in the Book, "Outside of Justice," Springer Publishing House; Who am I? a children's book about identity, and an upcoming book on Globalization and its Discontent in which she collaborated with Sociologists Dr. Anneris Goris and Community Activist and Writer Dr. Mary Ely Gratereaux.

Panelists



Wilmarie Feliz, LMHC

Wilmarie Feliz, is a licensed Mental Health Counselor in the state of New York. She has a wide range of experience working with communities in non-profit settings throughout New York City. She worked diligently in providing advocacy and trauma-informed mental health care to children and families following occurrences or allegations of child abuse. Through this work she also completed continuing education and is a certified Clinical Trauma Professional. Additionally, Wilmarie works with families and individuals who may be experiencing extreme or usual hardships in addition to challenging immigration statuses. Wilmarie has experience in providing psychological evaluations, short-term or long-term counseling.



**Christa Denmon,
MD/MPH Candidate**

Christa Denmon is one of the Co-Chairs of the Stony Brook HOME Steering Committee alongside Rachel Kim. She is in her fourth year of the MD/MPH Program with plans to pursue neurology upon graduation. Through SB Home, Christa has worked on various operational initiatives including improving clinic flow, volunteer experience, and patient satisfaction. Current projects with SB HOME leaders are focusing on broadening the reach of the Clinic to better serve its patients and their communities.

Panelists



Eduardo M Villacorta, Esq

Eduardo M. Villacorta, Esq. is the founder of Villacorta Law Group P.C. He is an attorney licensed to practice law in New York, New Jersey and El Salvador.

He obtained his law degree at the Central American University in El Salvador. Subsequently, Mr. Villacorta immigrated to the United States to continue his legal education. He obtained his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from West Virginia University. There, he became a member of the West Virginia University Immigration Law Clinic.

After Graduating, Mr. Villacorta moved to New York and became an expert in immigration. He is a deportation and removal defense attorney. He helps immigrants by representing them in immigration court. He is also a pioneer in presenting complex cancellation of Removal cases during the current administration. Additionally, Mr. Villacorta has reunited hundreds of families from all over the world through the U.S. family petition system. He also serves as the president of the Salvadoran American Chamber of Commerce. His offices are in Suffolk and Nassau Counties.

Panelists



Minerva Perez, Executive Director of OLA

Minerva Perez, Executive Director, Centers her work on the protections, empowerment, and celebration of our Latino Community. Before joining OLA as Executive Director in 2016, she was the Director of Residential and Transitional Services for six years at The Retreat, where she ran a 24-hour crisis shelter for women and children fleeing domestic abuse. Minerva is a sought-after speaker, regularly participating in panels and public forums focused on immigrant rights and women's rights. Minerva was named "Sag Harbor Person of the Year" in 2018, and in 2019 she was nationally recognized as one of the NBC's "Latino 20" for her leadership of OLA and its impact in our region. In 2019, Minerva also appeared on Fox News Channel's the Story with Martha MacCallum where she discussed the ICE raids our community was experiencing at that moment and the Latino vote. Most recently, Minerva has left advocacy efforts related to the COVID-19 pandemic such as working with Suffolk County officials to establish a coordinated response to meeting the needs of the homebound and hungry in Suffolk's 10 towns; ensuring ongoing, regular access to food for East End families hardest hit by COVID; working with Suffolk County officials to provide free COVID-19 testing by bringing a mobile testing unit to a remote part of the East End; and launching Project Hope: Coping with COVID, a FEMA-funded New York State initiative that allows OLA to provide crisis counseling in English, Spanish, and Portuguese to the entire East End by hiring and training 20 new staff members. Minerva holds a BFA in Drama from New York University's Tisch School of Arts.

Panelists



Cristian Pizarro

Cristian Pizarro is Thirty-Nine Years old and was once an undocumented immigrant. Currently, he is a stay-at-home father of two wonderful children. He has been with his wife for twenty years and has been married for ten. He was born in the rural town of Llay-Llay, Chile. He lived there until he was six. At the time, there was limited economic opportunities for rural families. His parents believed that more possibilities were available to them if they moved to New York City. They began a new life in New York in September of 1990.



Alia Rizvon

Alia is currently a second-year medical student here at the Renaissance School of Medicine. She is a co-founder of the Stony Brook Human Rights Clinic, a student-run clinic that aims to support local asylum seekers and substantiate their cases to stay in the U.S. She acted as President of the Renaissance School of Medicine's chapter of Physicians for Human rights from 2021-2022, where she spearheaded events of refugee healthcare as well as human rights Crisis in Iran.

Closing Speaker



Shyjab Villacis

Shyjab Villacis Born February 21st, 1996 in Quito, Ecuador began his career in multimedia upon graduating from high school in the Summer of 2014. Post-graduation, he was recruited to work as a field organizer for the Pennsylvania Democratic Party, where he moved up to Regional Digital Director for Hillary Clinton's 2016 Presidential election. He continued to lead on the ground digital work in social media marketing for the campaign.

Upon Clinton's Loss, Villacis went into private sector marketing, serving as a director for various businesses, until the Winter of 2018, where he was once again on the road covering the upcoming Presidential election. Throughout the campaign, he photographed and curated digital assets for multiple candidates, until ultimately being recruited by now President Joe Biden's team.

Succeeding Biden's victory, Villacis began working full time as Marketing Director for Cabanillas & Associates, one of the leading Hispanic Owned Law Firms in the United States. In addition to his role as Marketing Director at Cabanillas & Associates, Villacis also serves as executive producer of "El Show De Cabanilla" Saturdays and Sunday on Mega 97.9FM & LaX 96.3FM. His latest project is the DJ Perreria Block Party where he is one of the main event producers.

Music and Entertainment



Michelle Carfagno

Michelle Carfagno is a second-year Colombian American medical student at the Renaissance School of Medicine, Stony Brook University. She graduated with a Biological Sciences degree from Cornell University. Originally from Long Island, Michelle is so grateful to be completing her medical training in the place where she grew up. At RSOM, Michelle currently serves as the Co-Senator for the Class of 2015 and has served on the executive board of RSOM's Medical Student Pride Alliance. Outside of medical school, Michelle has been passionate about performing and singing both classical and contemporary music for the last 20 years. She takes immense pride in her Colombian American Heritage and is grateful for the sacrifices her mother and grandmother made in immigrating to the United States to provide her with the opportunities she has today. In her future medical career, Michelle hopes to incorporate advocacy in her patient care, especially for her Latinx patients, to make sure their voices are heard both during parent's care and beyond.



Hilary Garcia

Hilary Garcia was born in the Dominican Republic in a small *pueblo* called *San Victor*. Hilary immigrated to the United States at the age of 5. After learning English very quickly, she began to love reading sometimes even reading through the night. She learned to blend her two cultures, overcoming difficulties along the way. She currently enjoys perfecting her craft in art, dancing and writing; and hopes to pursue a career in digital art.

Spanish-Language Translators



Elena Davidiak, PhD

Elena Davidiak received her Bachelor's Degree in foreign languages from Moscow State Linguistic University. Her graduate studies at the University of Iowa focused on language structure and acquisition, with emphasis in Spanish. She joined the Stony Brook facility in 2007, after completing her graduate coursework, and consecutively defended her dissertation in Child multilingualism and was awarded the PhD title in 2010. She has taught undergraduate and graduate courses, and also directed individual study in language acquisition and translation and acted as a reader for Masters dissertations.

Her primary research area is the sociopragmatic aspect of bilingualism and multilingualism, with focus on bilingual language acquisition in children and code switching. She is also interested in the theory and practice of translation and interpreting and in teaching language for special purposes, especially for medical personnel.

She is fluent in English, Spanish, Russian, and her research analyzes the contact situation and relationship between these languages.

Spanish-Language Translators



Julian Herrero, MBA

Julian Herrero, MBA is a Certified Medical Interpreter who has been with Stony Brook University Hospital for the last eight years. Originally from Spain, Mr. Herrero has lived in different countries, learning new languages until he landed in the US. In his previous employment with Long Island University, Julian traveled all over the world, which provided him with the opportunity of continuing to learn new cultures that had helped him to understand and better assist patients and their families.



Our Conference
Planning
Committee



Kimberly Alba, PsyD

Dr. Kimberly Alba (she/her/hers/ella) is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health, Child Division, in the Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University. She identifies as a Latina, bilingual and bicultural clinical psychologist. She dedicates significant efforts to the delivery, supervision, and teaching of culturally humble, trauma informed care.

Dr. Alba attended Adler University in Chicago, Illinois, where she achieved a doctorate in clinical psychology. She has worked in New York City health care systems such as the Mount Sinai Hospital and New York Presbyterian, Columbia University Irving Medical Center. She has pioneered programming for Child Parent Psychotherapy and Dialectical Behavior Therapy for Children, in addition to Spanish-bilingual and bicultural training opportunities. At Stony Brook University, Dr. Alba participates in clinical practice, teaching, and program development related to the treatment and assessment of youth and families who experience traumatic stress, acculturative stress, racial discrimination and structural oppression. Dr. Alba is a Co-Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Program Lead for the Department's Latinx Bilingual and Bicultural Collaborative and Member of the Dialectical Behavior Therapy for Adolescents (DBT-A) Consultation Team.

Dr. Alba is also the President of SANA Healing Spaces, Inc., a company that provides consultation to a variety of organizations to improve their use of trauma-informed and culturally humble design and procedures. She participates as a mental health consultant for #YoDigoNoMas (#SayNoMore), where she sits on the Yo Digo No Mas Executive Board and helps with the creation and delivery of community prevention materials aimed to prevent sexual violence within the Latinx community. Dr. Alba also has a range of features on media platforms for New York Presbyterian Hospital, Newsday, United States Representative Jamaal Bowman, and the Yo Digo No Mas Talk Show. During her free time, Dr. Alba enjoys spending time with her family and staying active by hiking and running.

Email: Kimberly.Alba@stonybrookmedicine.edu



Anna I. Coward, PhD

Dr. Anna Coward is a clinical psychologist and clinical assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health at Stony Brook School of Medicine. Dr. Coward is originally from Madrid, Spain. Dr. Coward completed her undergraduate degree at Boston College, a master's in psychology at New York University, and earned her doctorate in Clinical Psychology at Fairleigh Dickinson University. She completed her pre-doctoral internship at New York Presbyterian-Columbia University Medical Center in New York

Dr. Coward specializes in working with adults diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illness and mood disorders. Dr. Coward Conducts psychotherapy in English and Spanish and has experience working Spanish speaking patients on issues related to acculturation ad immigration. She serves as a co-chair on the diversity committee in the Department of Psychiatry and is passionate about the mission of providing culturally sensitive care to more people. Dr. Coward was previously employed at Elmhurst Hospital in Queens, NY as an inpatient psychologist and at The New York State Psychiatric Institute as an outpatient psychologist at a community clinic in Inwood, NY. She has been outpatient psychologist in the adult outpatient clinic at Stony Brook Since 2019.

Email: Anna.Coward@stonybrookmedicine.edu



Genna Hymowitz, PhD

Dr. Hymowitz (*she/her/hers*) is a clinical psychologist, clinical associate professor and Director of Bariatric and Weight Loss Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health at Stony Brook Medicine. She is also a clinical associate professor in the Department of Psychology at Stony Brook University. She has extensive training and experience in behavioral medicine, cognitive behavioral therapy for mood and anxiety disorders, acceptance and commitment therapy and relaxation/mindfulness-based treatments. She has experience providing needs assessments and evaluation and individual psychotherapy with Spanish speaking patients. Her research focuses on investigating biopsychosocial factors impacting obesity, shared decision and the relationships among weight related stigma, eating behavior and psychopathology. Her more recent research has focused on the intersection of weight related stigma, and other forms of trauma and discrimination in Latinx Communities. Dr. Hymowitz completed her undergraduate training at Brown University and her doctoral training and a post-doctoral fellowship at Stony Brook University and completed a clinical internship at the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center in Chicago, IL.

Email: Genna.Hymowitz@stonybrookmedicine.edu



Wilfred Farquharson, PhD

Wilfred H. Farquharson (Wil) is a native Long Island, New York. He attended the University of Buffalo where he earned his Doctor in Philosophy in Counseling Psychology. Soon after earning his doctorate degree, Dr. Wil became a NYS licensed clinical psychologist in 2011. His work has been proven to aid in the emotional healing of children, adolescents, and young adults. His previous work experience includes private practice serving Long Island for 7 years. He has also worked with emotionally disturbed youth in residential care where his primary clinical focus was trauma and other related disorders. Dr. Farquharson then went on to work on state-run inpatient setting where he served a severe and persistent mentally ill population. He is currently at Stony Brook Renaissance School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health. He is the Director of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry outpatient services, providing care as a psychologist and teaching the next generation of providers in his Clinical Assistant Professor role. He is training to provide evidence-based practices such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Dialectical Behavior Therapy, and Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. His developing research interests are targeted at closing the health care disparity gaps and increasing provider knowledge based on the impacts of implicitly bias and discrimination in healthcare. Dr. Farquharson has been a member of the New York State Office of Mental Health, Statewide Multicultural Advisory Committee since 2015, and served as the chair for four years. His service in these roles allows him to continue to serve his community using his expertise in the field of psychology and serves his passion for addressing mental healthcare disparities. Alongside his professional work, he truly enjoys spending time with his family and traveling. Dr. Farquharson considers himself fortunate to have a career that neatly aligns with his life's work by producing high quality, equitable care for all.

Email: Wilfred.FarquharsonIV@stonybrookmedicine.edu



**Alexander Peguero-Medrano,
MSN, PMHNP-BC**

Alex is a bilingual board-certified family psychiatric nurse practitioner. He is experienced working in psychiatry since 2012 when he started as registered nurse. Alex graduated with a Master's in Nursing from Hunter College in 2017. Since 2017, Alex has experience working in acute care settings as an emergency room nurse practitioner providing psychiatric consultation services and in outpatient clinics providing care to individuals of all age groups. He has worked closely with individuals and family members who are predominately Spanish-Speaking, homeless or undocumented. Alex currently works as a psychiatric nurse practitioner in the Adult Outpatient Department through Stony Brook. His roles include working as integrated provider, collaborating closely with medical physicians to address their clients' mental healthcare, supervising nurse practitioner students through NP residency program and focusing medication management while providing psychoeducation, support, and empathetic understanding of others. Alex is excited to fill the role of becoming a new father this year.

Email: Alexander.Peguero-Medrano@stonybrookmedicine.edu



Veronica Tapia, MD

Dr. Veronica Tapia (Former Murphy, She/her/hers) is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health, Child Division, in the Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University. Dr. Tapia completed medical school and general psychiatry residency at SUNY Downstate Medical in Brooklyn NY. She then completed her fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. After completing fellowship, Dr. Tapia worked as psychiatrist and acting clinical director at two outpatient school-based day treatment programs in Yonkers, NY through Rockland Children's Psychiatric Center. At Stony Brook Medical Dr. Tapia is also a Co-Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Participated in the Department's work group for Spanish-Speaking Bilingual and Bicultural Care, and is also one of the founding creators of the newly developing Transgender and Gender Non-Binary clinic for children and adolescents through affiliation with endocrinology and adolescent medicine. Dr. Tapia is personally interested transgender care, cross cultural sensitivity, minority populations, and equitable health care for all. Originally born and raised in Cuenca, Ecuador she now lives in Stony Brook, NY with her daughter.

Email: veronica.tapia@stonybrookmedicine.edu



Aline Szency, MA

Aline is a Clinical Psychology Doctoral Candidate at Stony Brook University and a psychology extern at the Stony Brook University Consortium Program. Aline works to provide children, adolescents, and families struggling with depression, anxiety, and interpersonal difficulties with evidence-based mental health care.

Email: Aline.Szency@stonybrookmedicine.edu



**Agustina Guanes, SW
Intern**

Agustina Guanes is a Social Work Student at Stony Brook's School of Social Welfare. She is currently an intern for Stony Brook Psychiatry where she was given the opportunity to work on this project. She is an immigrant from Paraguay and was excited about the idea to help with a program that helps bring awareness and access to the population. Agustina hopes to continue working with the Spanish-speaking population in the future.

Email: Agustina.Guanes@stonybrookmedicine.edu



**Wilmarie Feliz,
LMHC**

Wilmarie Feliz, is a licensed Mental Health Counselor in the state of New York. She has a wide range of experience working with communities in non-profit settings throughout New York City. She worked diligently in providing advocacy and trauma-informed mental health care to children and families following occurrences or allegations of child abuse. Through this work she also completed continuing education and is a certified Clinical Trauma Professional. Additionally, Wilmarie works with families and individuals who may be experiencing extreme or usual hardships in addition to challenging immigration statuses. Wilmarie has experience in providing psychological evaluations, short-term or long-term counseling.

Email: felizlmhc@gmail.com



Jacqueline Peña, Student Shadowing

Jacqueline Peña is a senior at CUNY Queens College and will be graduating in December 2023 with her bachelor's degree in psychology. She has been working as a newborn hearing screener at Long Island Jewish Hospital and North Shore University Hospital. She has volunteered at Cohen Children's Hospital working in the Child Life Center. Jacqueline is currently shadowing Dr. Alba in effort to obtain more experience in the field of psychology, and Latinx Bilingual and Bicultural care.

Email: Jacqueline.Pena@stonybrookmedicine.edu



Malazia Cepero, Intern Renaissance School of Medicine at SBU

Malazia Cepero is a Junior at American University with a Major in Public Health and Minor in Psychology. Malazia's goal is to serve her community and create a Mental Health Treatment Center for the youth ages 9-12 with and provide resources that may otherwise be inaccessible. She is currently interning with Dr. Farquharson and Dr. Nahmias at Stony Brook Renaissance School of Medicine in efforts to obtain experience through the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health. Her Internship experience focuses on projects related to access to care for the community and population health as she hopes driving her goals for the future.

Email: Malazia.Cepero@stonybrookmedicine.edu

Thank You!

We would like to thank the following people and organizations for their participation and ongoing partnership!

iGracias!

All of our speakers and panelists especially the brave ones that were willing to share personal experiences.

The Stony Brook University President's office

Dr. Judith Brown-Clarke, our Vice President for Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer and all affiliated DEI partners across the Stony Brook University Campus

HWB Conference Planning Committee

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health and its Diversity and Inclusion Committee

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health's Latinx Bilingual Bicultural Collaborative

Tony Fabrizio – Video Production Manager

Lorraine Botti, Marianne Bastian, and Amy Margolies for marketing and registration for the event

Jennifer Davidson, School of Social Welfare

Angelea Laccasaglia, School of Nursing

OLA of Eastern Long Island (Organización Latino Americana)

Yonkers Public Schools

Montefiore Hospital's Bronx Health Collective

SB HOME

SB Human Rights Clinic

Dr. Elena Davidiak and Julian Herrero, MBA

Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature

Latinx Medical Student Association (LMSA)