

# Ericka Vargas

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**OBJECTIVE:** To find a full-time position incorporating my knowledge and passion for health prevention and outreach at a health care professional environment.

## **PERSONAL PROFILE**

**Gallup Top Strengths:** Context, Communication, Input, Connectedness and Restorative

- Worked with at-risk and minority populations for sexual health, and literacy via outreach and client services
- Fluent in Spanish and French with international and personal experience and interest in Francophone culture
- Proven flexibility, resourcefulness, and dependability to work with minimal supervision
- Interested in mental health phenomenon occurring in cross cultural and/or multicultural platforms

## **EDUCATION**

**Bachelor of Science in Psychology University of Florida, Gainesville FL**

*May 2016*

Minors: Francophone studies, Women's studies, and Health Disparities

Merit: 100% financed education with Machen Florida Opportunity Scholarship; Hillsborough Education Foundation 4 Year scholarship; Medallion Scholars Bright Futures scholarship

Programs: International Scholars Program

**Institute of American Universities, Aix-en-Provence, FR**

*January-May 2015*

Merit: UF International Semester Scholarship; IAU Academic Scholarship

Relevant Courses: Wine regions and economics, Multicultural psychology, French society and French language

**UF in Paris: Language and Culture in Context**

*June-July 2013*

Relevant Courses: Contemporary art and French sociolinguistics

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Medical Case Manager at EPIC (Empath Partners in Care), ASAP and Francis House Campus**

*June 2016- Current*

- Provided medical case management to 75+ HIV positive clients per Ryan White federal requirements
- Conducted rapid and oral HIV testing to clients on a Walk-in, appointment, or during an event basis
- Acted as medical interpreter during medical consultations for Spanish speaking clients
- Linked clients to care for HIV, medications, substance abuse, financial assistance, mental health, and primary care
- Outreached during testing and community events in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties for HIV testing, and education

**Practicum in Wellflorida's High Impact Prevention Program, Gainesville FL**

*August-December 2015*

- Recruited prospects for HIV testing at non-clinical settings during outreach programs
- Conducted personal HIV testing events and safer sex programs in Gainesville, Florida.
- Promoted safer sex and HIV awareness in community events through safer sex kits distribution, and education.

**Intern at COIN, Dominican Republic**

*July 2015*

- Conducted Pre and Post counseling sessions for Sexually Transmitted Infections in a clinical setting and in outreach programs for rapid HIV testing through mobile clinics in low income settings
- Participated in individual and shared counseling sessions reinforcing adherence for HIV and STI positive clients
- Transcribed a Trans-inclusive workshop titled "Trans people and HIV" for Transgender community workers at the center

**Intern at Inlingua-Provence, Aix-en-Provence, France**

*March-May 2015*

- Assisted in adult English language learning sessions for 3 adults
- Structured a pilot annual afterschool support program for low-income French elementary schools
- Conducted after-school animating classes in English and French in a low-income zone school for a 4<sup>th</sup> grade class in Marseille

**Volunteer and Shadowing at CESIC, UNIBE, Dominican Republic**

*June-August 2014*

- Observed therapies and helped with post-therapy analysis of client and critique of therapy
- Conducted therapy for children with speech and learning disabilities or anomalies
- Observed, planned and deconstructed therapies for younger adults and adult clients
- Assisted psychologists and staff to conduct psychological and medical exams to 15 young girls at a reformation institute

## **LEADERSHIP AFFILIATIONS/EXPERIENCE**

### **Resident Assistant, UF Housing Department, Gainesville FL**

*August 2013-May 2016*

- Monitored and carried crisis interventions in residence halls
- Planned and conducted community building, diversity, and social programs for 48+ residents
- Provided Customer service for residents, visitors, and other staff at the main area desk via telephone and in-person.
- Acted as a peer support to residents and visitors of the residence hall for extracurriculars, resources, and personal situations

### **Research Assistant for Psychology Sexuality lab**

*August 2013-January 2015*

- Input data of study surveys and questionnaires for RIB approved studies
- Recruited participants for sexuality studies
- Conducted literature research for articles and media to be used in study preparations and revised IRB proposal

## **TRAININGS**

### **Understanding sexual orientations and gender identities: A healthcare perspective**

*March, 2016*

- Participated in dialogue, conversations and poster presentations dealing with LGBT inclusion and health issues
- Received 6 CE hours of presentations of various topics dealing about health of the LGBT community
- Networked with individuals that work in the health care setting expressing their issues of difference

### **Yes Means Yes Positive Sexuality Seminar, UF**

*March, 2016*

- Interacted in workshop series conducted offering comprehensive sessions with speakers and resources regarding several sexuality topics
- Engaged in dialogues about my own experiences, prejudices, and knowledge about sexuality

## **Certifications**

- HIV oral and rapid testing
- Rapid Syphilis testing
- Aromatherapy

## **INVOLVEMENT**

- Wellflorida Council High Impact Prevention program volunteer
- Café 3C volunteer, Aix en Provence, France
- Reading Pals volunteer, United Way of Central Florida, Gainesville
- Foreign Language Partner, UF English Institute, Gainesville, FL.
- UF psychology club Public Relations officer
- President of French National Honor Society, Leto High School, Tampa, FL
- Secretary of the National Honor Society, Leto High School, Tampa, FL

August 2015-present  
January 2015-May 2015  
August 2014-Dec 2014  
August 2013-2014  
August 2012-2013  
August 2011-2012  
August 2011-2012

## **SKILLS**

### **Fluent in English and Spanish; advanced speaking and writing in French**

Microsoft Office Suite certified

CPR certified

*Open to travel and/or relocation 100%*

*Committed to furthering Industry related designations*