

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 4th 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	<i>August 2015-present</i>
• Café 3C volunteer, Aix en Provence, France	<i>January 2015-May 2015</i>
• Reading Pals volunteer, United Way of Central Florida, Gainesville	<i>August 2014-Dec 2014</i>
• Foreign Language Partner, UF English Institute, Gainesville, FL.	<i>August 2013-2014</i>
• UF psychology club Public Relations officer	<i>August 2012-2013</i>
• President of French National Honor Society, Leto High School, Tampa, FL	<i>August 2011-2012</i>
• Secretary of the National Honor Society, Leto High School, Tampa, FL	<i>August 2011-2012</i>

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