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EDUCATION AND DEGREES

- 2012 **Ph.D.**, Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2007 **M.S.W.**, Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis
2005 **B.A.**, Psychology, Nova Southeastern University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2026- Present **Associate Research Professor**, School of Social Work, Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions, Arizona State University, AZ
- 2020-2026 **Assistant Research Professor**, School of Social Work, Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions, Arizona State University, AZ
- 2019-2020 **Research Associate**, Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University, AZ
- 2019 **Consultant**, Concert Health, Phoenix, AZ
- 2018-2019 **Director, Evaluation and Monitoring**, Coordinated Behavioral Care, Independent Practice Association, New York City, NY
- 2016-2018 **Assistant Commissioner**, Bureau of Systems Strengthening and Access, Division of Mental Hygiene, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, New York City, NY
- 2016 **Research Consultant**, Institute for Community Living, Promoting the Integration of Primary and Behavioral Health Care, New York City, NY.
- 2013-2016 **Research Associate**, McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research, Silver School of Social Work, New York University, New York City, NY
- 2011-2013 **Director, Research and Evaluation**, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, New York City, NY
- 2008-2011 **Research Project Coordinator**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
- 2007 **Field Interviewer**, Brown School of Social Work, University of Washington in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO
- 2007 **Program Coordinator**, Save the Children, La Paz, Bolivia
- 2005-2006 **Field Interviewer**, Abt SRBI Inc., St. Louis, MO
- 2005-2006 **Project Evaluator**, Philliber Research Associates, St. Louis, MO
- 2002-2005 **Certified Bilingual Field Interviewer**, Research Triangle Institute International, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- 2002-2003 **Certified Field Interviewer**, University of South Florida

RESEARCH INTEREST

(1) Improve access to and engagement in health, mental health, and housing services among structurally vulnerable populations in the Southwest United States; (2) Examine contextual and cultural implementation strategies in service delivery; and (3) Identify and address structural barriers to enable systems-level change.

GRANTS AND AWARDS (PI: Principal Investigator; Multiple Principal Investigator (MPI))

Awarded/Sponsored Projects

10. Title: Experiences of Pregnancy During Homelessness & Extreme Heat: A Qualitative Study

Funder: 2026 Watts Research Seed Grant

Role: Mercado (PI), Benjamin Biney (MPI)

Submitted: 1/15/26

Proposed funding period: 3/1/2026-3/1/27

Funding requested: \$15,000

9. Title: Evaluating Process and Outcomes of the Arizona Family Homelessness Prevention

Funder: Garcia Family Foundation

Role: Mercado (PI)

Submitted: 6/17/2025

Proposed funding period: 9/1/2025-8/31/27

Funding requested: \$174,942

8. Title: Examining quality health outcomes for Medicaid beneficiaries

Funder: Molina Health Care

Role: Mercado (PI)

Grant period: 5/1/2025-8/15/2026

Funding: \$169,999

7. Title: Returns to Homelessness Pilot – Tempe Community Action Agency

Funder: Garcia Family Foundation

Role: Mercado (PI)

Grant period: 6/1/2025 – 5/31/2026

Funding: \$25,004

6. Title: Strategies for reducing unsheltered homelessness in Arizona

Funder: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Role: Sara Shuman (U of A PI), Mercado (PI)

Grant period: 10/1/2023-9/27/2026

Sub-award: \$167,159

5. Title: Statewide homeless prevention process evaluation

Funder: Garcia Family Foundation

Role: Mercado (PI)

Grant period: 4/1/2024-9/30/2025

Sub-award: \$43,023

4. Title: Maricopa County expanded access to homeless services

Funder: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Role: Community Bridges, Inc. (Agency PI), Mercado (PI)

Grant period: 10/1/2022-9/30/2027

Sub-award: \$403,725

- 3. Title:** Estimating the incidence and prevalence of homelessness in Arizona using linked cross-system administrative data.
Funder: Garcia Family Foundation
Role: Kristin Ferguson (PI), **Mercado (MPI)**
Grant period: 10/15/2021-12/31/2026
Funding: \$1,940,000
- 2. Title:** Identifying and addressing factors associated with COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and resistance among Arizona adults
Funder: Tohono O'Odham Nation COVID-19 Seed Grant
Role: **Mercado (PI)**, Matt Ignacio (MPI), Gilberto Lopez (MPI)
Grant period: 12/31/2020-12/31/2023
Funding: \$112,500
- 1. Title:** Designing a program to address mental health disparities among Latinos: The Maryvale Family Wellbeing Project
Funder: Arizona State University, One-Square Mile Initiative
Role: **Mercado (PI)**
Grant period: 12/31/2020-12/31/2022
Funding: \$50,000

Awarded/Sponsored Projects prior to 2020

- 9. Title:** Evaluating coordinated, community-based care to reduce health disparities among underserved communities
Funder: Bronx Partnership for Healthy Communities
Role: **Mercado (PI)**
Awarded: 2018
Funding: \$233,400
- 8. Title:** Examining the effects of community-based services in reducing mental health disparities (Connections to Care)
Funder: Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City, Mayor Bill de Blasio, New York City, NY
Role: **Mercado (PI)**
Awarded: 2015-2018
Funding: \$600,000
- 7. Title:** Examining trauma-informed care in Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers
Funder: National Council for Behavioral Health/Kaiser Permanente
Role: **Mercado (PI)**
Awarded: 2015
Funding: \$84,000
- 6. Title:** Examining the efficacy of the NAMI family-to-family education program
Funder: National Alliance on Mental Illness
Role: **Mercado (PI)**
Awarded: 2014
Funding: \$40,000
- 5. Title:** Evaluating the effect of social services on the health and mental health of Hispanics and African Americans
Funder: Brooklyn Community Services
Role: **Mercado (PI)**
Awarded: 2014
Funding: \$30,000

4. **Title:** The impact of the Y Schools, Y Roads, Y Scholars programs on educational outcomes
Funder: YMCA
Role: Mercado (PI)
Awarded: 2013-2015
Funding: \$180,000
3. **Title:** Evaluating a training model to improve access to services in underserved communities
Funder: Queens Library IMLS
Role: Mercado (PI)
Awarded: 2013
Funding: \$25,000
2. **Title:** Examining New York State's HIV Care System to inform development of health homes
Funder: New York State Health Foundation
Role: Mercado (PI)
Awarded: 2013
Funding: \$25,000
1. **Title:** Evaluating a systemic approach to improving the outcomes of children (Zone 126)
Funder: Department of Education, Federal Promise Neighborhood planning grant
Role: Chris Cutter (PI), Mercado (MPI)
Awarded: 2012
Funding: \$500,000

Under Review

4. **Title:** The Effectiveness of Municipal Arizona Ordinances on Unsheltered Homelessness
Funder: HUD ([PDR-2600-DC-029M](#))
Role: Sara Shuman (U of A PI), Mercado (PI), Kristin Ferguson (MPI)
Submitted: 7/20/2026
Proposed funding period: 10/1/2026-9/30/2028
Funding requested: \$170,386
3. **Title:** CBI Community Needs and Resources Assessment
Funder: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration ([SM-26-023](#))
Role: Maria Aguilar-Amaya (PI), Mercado (MPI)
Submitted: 5/28/2026
Proposed funding period: 9/30/2026-9/29/2031
Funding requested: \$1,250,921
2. **Title:** Mechanisms to Reduce Social Isolation and Loneliness and Improve Housing Stability Among Persons Experiencing Homelessness with Income
Funder: National Institutes of Health ([PA-25-304](#))
Role: Mercado (PI)
Submitted: 5/28/2026
Proposed funding period: 6/1/27-5/31/29
Funding requested: \$442,956
1. **Title:** Supporting Mental Health for All Parents and Caregivers: Tailored Information and Resources through Family Resource Centers in FQHCs
Funder: National Institutes of Health ([PAR-24-281](#))
Role: Rebecca Birr (PI), Mercado (MPI)
Submitted: 5/22/2026
Proposed funding period: 5/1/27-4/30/30
Funding requested: \$380,389

Not Awarded

Title: Developing a Structural Approach to Address Loneliness and Isolation: Implications for Social Work Education

Funder: School of Social Work Scholarly Opportunities for Advancing Research (SOAR)

Role: Mercado (PI)

Submitted: 2/2/2022

Proposed funding period: 3/1/26-7/30/26

Funding requested: \$45,000

Title: Supporting Mental Health for All Parents and Caregivers through FRCS in FQHCs

Funder: National Institutes of Health ([PAR-24-281](#))

Role: Rebecca Birr (PI), Mercado (MPI)

Submitted: 5/22/2025

Proposed funding period: 5/1/26-4/30/29

Funding requested: \$209,083

Title: Evaluating Youth Homeless Prevention Projects on Upward Mobility in Arizona

Funder: [Constellation Fund](#)

Role: Keith Bentele (PI), Sara Shuman (Co-PI), Mercado (Co-PI), Kristin Ferguson (Co-PI)

Submitted: 5/20/2025

Funding requested: \$1,000,000

Title: Addressing Social Determinants of Health: Tailoring Information & Resources to Support Parents and Caregivers Through Family Resource Centers in FQHCs

Funder: National Institutes of Health ([PAR-24-281](#))

Role: Rebecca Birr (PI), Mercado (MPI)

Submitted: 12/15/24

Funding requested: \$203,084

Title: Health Equity and Access Research and Training Hub (HEARTH)

Funder: National Institute of Health, Community Partnerships to Advance Science for Society (ComPASS) Program

Role: William Riley (PI), Mercado (MPI)

Submitted: 10/31/2023

Funding requested: \$1,251,525

Title: Evaluating the implementation of stigma-reducing strategies to promote equitable behavioral health care for Latinos

Funder: National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) [PAR-21-038](#)

Role: Mercado (PI)

Submitted: 1/2022

Funding: \$1,235,000

Title: Evaluating the implementation of stigma-reducing strategies to promote equitable behavioral health care for Latinos

Funder: Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center Pilot Seed Grant, Arizona State University

Role: Mercado (PI)

Submitted: 2022

Funding: \$50,000

Title: Evaluating the implementation of stigma-reducing strategies to promote equitable behavioral health care for Latinos

Funder: Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center Pilot Seed Grant, Arizona State University

Role: Mercado (PI)

Submitted: 2021
Funding: \$50,000

Title: Using a healthy equity lens to advance the science on intervention adaptation for Hispanic communities affected by Covid-19

Funder: Institute for Social Science Research, Arizona State University

Role: Mercado (PI)

Submitted: 11/2020

Funding: \$8,000

Title: Multi-level effects of a parenting intervention for enhancing Hispanic youth health behaviors supplemental funding

Funder: Minority Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research, ([PA-18-906](#)) for 2U54 MD002316-13 (NIMHD)

Role: Sonia Vega Lopez (PI), Mercado (MPI)

Submitted: 12/2019

Funding: \$256,693

Title: A community-based participatory research study to examine food insecurity in a pediatric population at risk for obesity and prediabetes (A Healthier Maryvale)

Funder: One Square Mile Initiative – Community Solutions Design Grants, Arizona State University

Role: Mercado (PI)

Submitted: 2019

Funding: \$30,000

Title: Evaluating pathways to connect chronic homeless individuals to housing services

Funder: Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Role: Mercado (PI)

Submitted: 2019

Funding: \$350,000

Title: Evaluating a housing with recovery model for adults and youth experiencing homelessness

Funder: Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Role: Wendy Wolfersteig (PI), Mercado (MPI)

Submitted: 2019

Funding: \$400,000

Title: Strengthening pathways to independent living for adults living with severe mental illness who experience homelessness

Funder: Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona

Role: Mercado (PI)

Submitted: 2019

Funding: \$75,000

PUBLICATIONS (*Supervised or mentored student co-author; †Community partner co-author)

Peer-Reviewed Manuscripts

24. Law, L.,* Shuman, S., Clindenbeard, D., **Mercado, M.**, Murphy, S., Wiley, A. D., Powell, C. & Ferguson, K. M. (2026). Provider-identified strategies to address homelessness in Arizona: A summary of strategies, evidence, and impact. *Journal of Social Distress and Homelessness*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10530789.2026.2692732>

23. **Mercado, M.**, Chavez, M. E.,* Nolan, C.,* Law, L.,* Shuman, S., Noll, L., Ferguson, K., McEntarffer, H.,* Livingston, R.,* Ellis, S., Helmes, J., Drobnyh, K.,* King, K.,* & Wickham, R. (2026). Implementing temporary financial assistance for homelessness prevention: A CFIR-guided study of provider perspectives. *Prevention Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11121-026-01937-9>
22. Law, L.,* **Mercado, M.**, Shuman, S. J., Clinkenbeard, D., Murphy, S., Duncan, A. W., ... Ferguson, K. M. (2026). The Need/Use Framework: A new framework for increasing equity in homeless and housing service provision. *Journal of Social Service Research*, 1–15. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01488376.2026.2633333>
21. **Mercado, M.**, Drobnyh, K.,* Gentry, K.,† Law, L.,* Shuman, S., Quijada, F.,* Runger, G., and Ferguson, K. (2025). Engagement in outreach services among persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness in a southwestern urban county: A spatial analysis. *Journal of Social Distress and Homelessness*, 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10530789.2025.2473762>
20. Shuman, S., **Mercado, M.**, Duncan, A., Lara, L.,* Murphy, S., Sargus, T., Powell, C., and Ferguson, K. (2025). Providers' perspectives: Factors that influence homelessness service provision in Arizona, United States. *International Journal on Homelessness*. <https://doi.org/10.5206/ijoh.2023.3.22547>
19. Ignacio, M., Antone, Q., Antone, F., Cano, M., **Mercado, M.**, Voelkel, H., Oré, C. E., Chavarria-Leslie, I. M., Jose, E. R., & Lopez, G. (2025). COVID-19 health impacts among Indigenous adults living on Tribal land in Arizona. *Journal of Rural Mental Health*, 49(3), 185–196. <https://doi.org/10.1037/rmh0000309>
18. **Mercado M.**, Lopez, G., Ignacio M, Ayers, S., Carver, A.,* Hamm, K., Wolfersteig, W., and Oesterle, S. (2024). Hesitant or confident: A qualitative study examining Latinos' perceptions of COVID-19 vaccines in Arizona. *Health Education & Behavior*, 51(4), 512-520. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10901981241255619>
17. **Mercado, M.**, Law, L.* , Ferguson-Colvin, K., & Wolfersteig, W. (2024). Intersectional structural stigma: A qualitative study with persons experiencing homelessness in the Southwest United States. *Qualitative Health Research*, <https://doi-org.ezproxy1.lib.asu.edu/10.1177/10497323241239209>
16. **Mercado, M.**, Birr, R.,† & Safyer, P. (2024). Co-designing the Family Wellbeing Program to address mental health disparities in Latino community: Lessons learned. *Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education and Action*, 18(3), 355-362. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39308379/>
15. Ignacio, M., Oesterle, S., **Mercado, M.**, Carver, A.,* Lopez, G., Wolfersteig, W., ... & Doubeni, C. (2023). Narratives from African American/Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hispanic/Latinx community members in Arizona to enhance COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination uptake. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10865-022-00300-x>
14. **Mercado, M.**, Vega-López, S., Gonzalvez, A., Vega-Luna, B., Hoyt, S., Martinez, G.,* Ayers, S., & Marsiglia, F. F. (2023). Adaptation process of a culturally congruent parenting intervention for parents of Hispanic adolescents to an online synchronous format. *Translational Behavioral Medicine*, 13(3), 160-167. <https://doi.org/10.1093%2Ftbm%2Fibac097>
13. **Mercado, M.**, Alonzo, A.,† & Wolfersteig, W. (2023). Implementation of the Accountable Health Communities Model in Arizona. *Journal of Accountable Care*. 11(3), 14-21. <https://doi.org/10.37765/ajac.2023.89434>
12. **Mercado, M.**, Wachter, K., Schuster, R., Mathis, C.,* Johnson, E., Davis, O., & Johnson-Agbakwu, C. (2022). A cross-sectional analysis of factors associated with stress, burnout and turnover intention among healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States. *Health & Social Care in the Community*, 00, 1– 12. <https://doi.org/10.1111/hsc.13712>

11. **Mercado, M.**, Marroquín, M.,* Ferguson, K., Bender, K., Shelton, J., Prock, A., ... & Barman-Adhikari, A. (2021). The intersection of housing and mental well-being: Examining the needs of formerly homeless young adults transitioning to stable housing. *Social Science and Medicine-Population Health*, 14. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2021.100775>
10. Talmage, C., **Mercado, M.**, Yoder, G., Hamm, K., & Wolfersteig, W. (2021). Critiquing indicators of community strengths in community health needs assessments. *International Journal of Community Well-Being*, 1-22. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42413-020-00106-2>
9. **Mercado, M.**, & Little, V.† (2019). Clinicians' perceptions of telephone-delivered mental health services. *The Journal of Mental Health Training, Education and Practice*, 15(2), 104-113. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JMHTPE-08-2019-0039>
8. Stanhope, V., Choy-Brown, M.,* Barranger, S., Manuel, J., **Mercado, M.**, McKay, M., & Marcus, S. (2017). A comparison of how behavioral health organizations utilize training to prepare for health care reform. *Implementation Science*, 12(1), 19. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13012-017-0549-0>
7. Beharie, N.,* **Mercado, M.**, & McKay, M. (2017). A protective association between SNAP participation and educational outcomes among children of economically strained households. *Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition*, 12(2), 181-192. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19320248.2016.1227754>
6. **Mercado, M.**, Fuss, A.,* Sawano, N., Gensemer, A., Brennan, W., McManus, K., ... & Cleek, A. (2016). Generalizability of the NAMI family-to-family education program: Evidence from an efficacy study. *Psychiatric Services*, 67(6), 591-593. <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ps.201500519>
5. Padgett, D., Smith, T.,* Choy-Brown, M.,* Tiderington, E.,* & **Mercado, M.** (2016). Trajectories of recovery among formerly homeless adults with serious mental illness. *Psychiatric Services*, 67(6), 610-614. <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ps.201500126>
4. Stern, S, Walsh, M.,† **Mercado, M.**, Levene, K.,† Pepler, D. J., Carr, A., ... & Lowe, E. (2015). When they call, will they come? A contextually responsive approach for engaging multi-stressed families in an urban child mental health center: A randomized clinical trial. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 25(5), 549-563. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1049731514548038>
3. Woolley, M. E., Rose, R. A., **Mercado, M.**, & Orthner, D. K. (2013). Teachers teaching differently: A qualitative study of implementation fidelity to professional development. *Journal of Education and Training Studies*, 1(1), 55-68. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1114/jets.v1i1.48>
2. Orthner, D. K., Jonessanpei, H., Rose, R., **Mercado, M.**, & Akos, P. (2010). CareerStart: A middle grades strategy for promoting student school engagement and academic success. *Studia Universitatis Babes-Bolyai, Sociologia*, 55(1). <https://doi.org/10.1093/cs/32.4.223>
1. Orthner, D. K., Akos, P., Rose, R., Jones-Sanpei, H., **Mercado, M.**, & Woolley, M. E. (2010). CareerStart: A middle school student engagement and academic achievement program. *Children & Schools*, 32(4), 223-234. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cs/32.4.223>

Peer-Reviewed Manuscripts: Under review

3. Shuman, S., Law, L. & **Mercado, M.** (Under review, 2026). A scoping review of homeless encampment resolution strategies in the United States. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*.
2. Quijada Dibarrart, F.,* **Mercado, M.**, Ata, S., Drobnyh, K.,* Law, L.,* Ferguson, K., & Runger, G. (Under review, 2026). Enrollment patterns and household characteristics associated with returns to homelessness. *Housing Studies*.

1. Quijada Dibarrart, F.,* Ata, S., **Mercado, M.**, & Runger, G. (Under review, 2026). Human systems event representation learning: Case study in homelessness prediction. *Journal of Computational Social Science*.

Non-Peer Reviewed Publications

19. Hernandez, N.,* Ramakumar, S.,* Aguilar-Amaya, M., & **Mercado, M.** (2026). Examining and contextualizing the navigation process for individuals experiencing homelessness (Report No. 4) [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
18. Hernandez, N.,* Ramakumar, S.,* Aguilar-Amaya, M., & **Mercado, M.** (2025). *Examining and contextualizing the navigation process for individuals experiencing homelessness* (Report No. 3) [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
17. Hernandez, N.,* Ramakumar, S.,* Aguilar-Amaya, M., & **Mercado, M.** (2024). *Examining and contextualizing the navigation process for individuals experiencing homelessness* (Report No. 2) [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
16. **Mercado, M.**, Hernandez, N.,* Aguilar-Amaya, M., & Ramakumar, S.* (2023). *Examining and contextualizing the navigation process for individuals experiencing homelessness* (Report No. 1) [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
15. **Mercado, M.**, Brown, D.,† Straight, A.,† & Drobnih, K.* (2023). *SDOH Tool: Arizona Block Group Data Dashboard* [Web tool]. Garcia Family Foundation, Arizona Housing Analytics Collaborative, Home Matters to Arizona, and Valley Leadership. Data sources: PolicyMap, Housing and Transportation Index, 2017–2020. Available from Arizona Housing Analytics Collaborative at azhac@asu.edu.
14. **Mercado, M.**, & Law, L.* (2022). *Health disparities among persons experiencing homelessness* [Report]. Arizona Town Hall.
13. Wolfersteig, W., Hilley, C.,* **Mercado, M.**, & Law, L.* (2022). *Assessing the effectiveness of the 2MATCH Project on social determinants of health and healthcare utilization* [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
12. Wolfersteig, W., Hilley, C.,* **Mercado, M.**, & Law, L.* (2022). *Comparing community service needs to capacity: A gap analysis of the social needs of the 2MATCH service area as compared to its capacity to meet those needs* [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
11. Wolfersteig, W., Hilley, C.,* & **Mercado, M.** (2021). *2MATCH, To Match, align through community hubs, gap analysis, Year 4 Report* [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
10. **Mercado, M.**, Hilley, C.,* & Wolfersteig, W. (2021). *Quality Improvement Plan: Dignity Health – St. Joseph’s Hospital Medical Center* [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
9. Wolfersteig, W., Hilley, C.,* **Mercado, M.**, & Law, L.* (2021). *Dignity Health 2MATCH Quarterly Report, November 2020 – January 2021* [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
8. Wolfersteig, W., Hilley, C.,* **Mercado, M.**, & Law, L.* (2021, June). *Dignity Health 2MATCH Quarterly Report, February 2021 – April 2021* [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
7. Wolfersteig, W., Hilley, C.,* **Mercado, M.**, & Law, L.* (2021, September). *2MATCH Final Report 2021* [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.

6. Wolfersteig, W., Hilley, C.,* **Mercado, M.**, & Law, L.* (2021). *Dignity Seed Grant Award Updated Report 2021* [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
5. Wachter, K., Mathis, C.,* **Mercado, M.**, et al. (2021). *Provider wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic: Preliminary findings from a survey of staff employed by refugee resettlement agencies in Arizona* [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
4. Wachter, K., Mathis, C.,* **Mercado, M.**, et al. (2021). *Provider wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic: Preliminary findings from a survey of workers within a public safety net hospital in Arizona* [Report]. Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University.
3. **Mercado, M.** (2020). Social services innovations: Telephone behavioral health services — Training a remote workforce. *Social Work Today* [Editorial].
2. **Mercado, M.**, Little, V.,† & Eunice, K.† (2019). Clinicians' perceptions of telephone-delivered mental health services. *Behavioral Health News* [Editorial].
1. Campanelli, P., Cleek, A., Freidmutter, C., McKay, M., **Mercado, M.**, Pardo, G., Smith, B.,* & Vilgorin, B. (2015). *New report draws lessons from New York State's HIV care system to inform development of health homes* [Report]. *Crain's Health Pulse*.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

(*Supervised or mentored student co-author; †Community partner co-author)

40. Maiberger, A., & **Mercado, M.** (2026, July). Shared housing as a trauma-informed strategy: Building healing communities in the Southwest [Conference presentation]. 27th Annual Summer Institute: Healing Communities: Trauma-Informed Social Work Practice in the Southwest, Arizona State University, Flagstaff, AZ.
39. **Mercado, M.**, Law, L.,* Shuman, S., & Ferguson, K. (2025, January). Findings, opportunities and tensions: Building an inter-university collaborative to end homelessness. Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
38. Shuman, S., Law, L.,* **Mercado, M.**, Bentele, K., & Ferguson, K. (2025, November). The experiences and needs of people living in homeless encampments in Arizona. Poster presentation at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
37. **Mercado, M.**, Alonzo, A., & Wolfersteig, W. (2025, January). Why state and local contexts matter: The intersection of contexts and the implementation of the Accountable Health Communities Model in Arizona. Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
36. **Mercado, M.**, Alonzo, A., & Wolfersteig, W. (2024, December). Examining the intersection of context and implementation of the Accountable Health Communities Model in Arizona. Poster presentation at the Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health, Washington, DC.
35. **Mercado, M.**, Lopez, G., Ignacio, M., & Carver, A.* (2023, January). Understanding COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and uptake among a diverse group of Latino community members in Arizona. Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.
34. **Mercado, M.**, & Law, L.* (2023, November). Findings, opportunities and tensions: Building an inter-university collaborative to end homelessness. Poster presentation at the Council for Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Orlando, FL.

33. **Mercado, M., & Law, L.*** (2023, November). Exploring need and use among providers serving people experiencing homelessness in Arizona. Poster presentation at the Council for Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Orlando, FL.
32. **Mercado, M.** (2023, March). Addressing mental health disparities in Latino families using CBPR. Oral presentation at the Maternal and Child Health Conference, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.
31. **Mercado, M.,** Vega-Lopez, S., Gonzalvez, A., Vega-Luna, I., Martinez, G.,* & Marsiglia, F. (2022, January). Examining the adaptation process of a culturally congruent online intervention for Latinx families. Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Denver, CO.
30. **Mercado, M.,** Law, L.,* & Wolfersteig, W. (2022, January). Exploring how structural stigma plays a role in the health care experiences of persons of color who experience homelessness. Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Denver, CO.
29. **Mercado, M.,** Mathis, C.,* Wachter, K., Schuster, R., Davis, O., & Johnson-Agbakwu, C. (2022, January). Provider mental wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic: Findings from a survey of healthcare and social workers at a public safety net hospital. Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Denver, CO.
28. **Mercado, M.,** Evans, L., Oesterle, S., & Wolfersteig, W. (2022, January). "My daughter is in med school": Culturally relevant motivations and trusted sources contributing to the early adoption of COVID-19 vaccine among African Americans. Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Denver, CO.
27. **Mercado, M.,** Vega-Lopez, S., et al. (2021, December). Identifying implementation strategies to enhance the effectiveness and equitable implementation of an adapted culturally congruent online parenting intervention for Latinx families. Poster presentation at the Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health, Washington, DC.
26. Gotlieb, E., **Mercado, M.,** & Hamm, K. (2021, November). Using community-based participatory research to promote anti-racist policies: Examples from a community health needs assessment. Poster presentation at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
25. **Mercado, M., & Law, L.*** (2021, November). How community assets can advance health equity for persons of color who experience homelessness. Oral presentation at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
24. **Mercado, M.,** Carver, A.,* et al. (2021, November). Culturally tailored strategies to increase COVID-19 vaccine acceptance in Black, Latino, and Indigenous communities in Arizona. Oral presentation at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
23. **Mercado, M.,** Marroquin, M.,* et al. (2021, January). The intersection of housing and mental wellbeing: Exploring the needs of formerly homeless young adults transitioning to independent living. Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.
22. **Mercado, M., & Law, L.*** (2021, January). Using a mixed-methods approach to understand the health care experiences of a diverse sample of individuals who experience homelessness. Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.

21. Gotlieb, E., **Mercado, M.**, & Hamm, K. (2021, January). Mixed policy, mixed perception: Attitudes towards marijuana and electronic cigarettes in a landscape of changing policy. Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.
20. **Mercado, M.**, & Little, V.† (2020, November). Behavioral health clinicians' perceptions of telephone-delivered mental health services. Oral presentation at the Council for Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Orlando, FL.
19. **Mercado, M.**, Khol-Grant, E. (2020, January). Ichoose: Using consumer voice to inform technology and service innovation. Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
18. **Mercado, M.**, Sharp, C., & Gopalan, P. (2016, December). Examining core implementation teams' strategies for adopting a trauma-informed care approach in primary care settings serving safety net populations. Poster presentation at the Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health, Washington, DC.
17. **Mercado, M.**, et al. (2016, January). Exploring Black and Latino high school youths' lived experiences in Step Up: A multi-component program applying a positive youth development lens. Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
16. **Mercado, M.**, Sharp, C., Valez, L., Gopalan, P., Batista, P., & Gensemer, A. (2016, September). Adopting a trauma-informed care approach. Poster presentation at the Health Equity Initiative, Implementing Systems-Level Change for Health Equity: A Partnership Summit, Boston, MA.
15. Umpierre, M., & **Mercado, M.** (2016, January). Understanding mental health literacy to enhance child mental health service engagement for Latino parents. Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
14. Padgett, D., Smith, B.,* Tiderington, E.,* Choy-Brown, M.,* & **Mercado, M.** (2016, January). Mental health recovery and homelessness: A mixed method study of supportive housing. Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
13. McKay, M., Cleek, A., & **Mercado, M.** (2016, January). Business Effectiveness Assessment Module Practice Improvement Network (BEAMPIN). Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
12. Stern, S., Walsh, M., **Mercado, M.**, & Lowe, E. (2015, January). "When they call, will they come? A contextually responsive approach for engaging multi-stressed families in an urban child mental health center." Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
11. **Mercado, M.**, & Pardo, G. (2014, November). Facilitating students' understanding of program evaluation processes through field education. Oral presentation at the 2014 Field Education Innovators Showcase, Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Tampa, FL.
10. Small, L.,* Pardo, G., **Mercado, M.**, Gopalan, P., Ali, S., McKay, M., & Mellins, C. (2014, July). Addressing the global needs of HIV-impacted families: How community collaborations modeling the CHAMP family program support perinatally HIV-infected youth entering adolescence. Oral presentation at the World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development, Melbourne, Australia.

9. **Mercado, M.**, Gopalan, P., Fuss, A., Forth, M.,† McKay, M. (2014, April). Changing the game: The "Next Generation Evaluation" initiative. Oral presentation at the Third International Conference on Practice Research, Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, New York, NY.
8. **Mercado, M.**, Cleek, E., Chow, E., & McKay, M. (2014, April). We have all this data! Building evaluation capacity at a social service agency. Oral presentation at the Third International Conference on Practice Research, Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, New York, NY.
7. Vu, C., **Mercado, M.**, Fuss, A., & Peri, D. (2014, March). Addressing the gap between clinical and business practices through a learning collaborative model. Oral presentation at the Annual Research & Policy Conference on Child, Adolescent, and Young Adult Behavioral Health, Tampa, FL.
6. **Mercado, M.**, & Baharie, N.* (2014, January). Examining the association between food insecurity and children's educational outcomes. Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.
5. **Mercado, M.**, Osuji, H.,* & McKay, M. (2014, January). Do community HIV mentors trained in evidence-based HIV prevention programs have an effect on youth outcomes? Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.
4. Cleek, A., **Mercado, M.**, & Fuss, A. (2013, June). Using data in a transformed behavioral health system. Oral presentation at OMH/Children's Mental Health Coalition Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY.
3. Cleek, A., **Mercado, M.**, & Fuss, A. (2013, April). Improved behavioral health outcomes: Introducing fast-track outcome assessments to NYS safety net mental health clinics. Oral presentation at Children's Mental Health Services Conference Planning Committee, New York, NY.
2. **Mercado, M.** (2012, January). Multilevel study examining first-generation status, academic and social integration, and educational outcomes among community colleges students. Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
1. Chapman, M., & **Mercado, M.** (2012, January). Gang activity among new immigrant Latina adolescents. Oral presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

Invited Presentations

- Mercado, M.**, Shuman, S., Uss, A. (2026, August). Creating Safety and A Sense of Stability to Support Pathways Out of Homelessness: An Evaluation of the Phoenix Safe Outdoor Space [Oral Presentation]. Arizona Department of Housing. Phoenix, Arizona.
- Ferguson, K., & **Mercado, M.** (2025, July). Homeless Prevention [Oral Presentation]. Scottsdale Human Services Department. Phoenix, Arizona.
- Mercado, M.**, & Oesterle, S. (2021, October). SIRC Health Equity Lecture Series – CEAL [Oral presentation]. Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.

Media Interviews and Appearances

- Mercado, M.** (2024, April). Interviewed by A. Johnson for Arizona State University Now article entitled, *The long way home: Insights into Arizona's homelessness crisis*.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2021 **Lecturer:** Center for Applied Behavioral Health Policy, Arizona State University
Training course title: Interdisciplinary Training Academy for Integrated Substance/Opioid Use Disorder.
Training course titles: (1) Using Data to Inform Practice, Research and Policy. (2) Examining Health Disparities in Populations with Substance/Opioid Use Disorders. (3) Applied Conceptual Models and Frameworks.
- 2013- **Co-Instructor: Silver School of Social Work, New York University/Buenos Aires,**
 2016 **Argentina**
Course: SW-GS 600 – Integrated Social Work Practice and Field Instruction I
Course: SW-GS 601 – Integrated Social Work Practice and Field Instruction II
- 2013- **Co-Instructor: Silver School of Social Work, New York University/Buenos Aires,**
 2016 **Argentina**
Course: SWGS 6809 – Global Mental Health: Practice, Research, and Policy
- 2015 **Trainer: Silver School of Social Work, New York University**
Training course title: Integrated Primary and Behavioral Health Care
- 2012 **Guest Lecturer:** Bank Street College of Education, New York City
Training course title: Community Based Fieldwork
- 2010 **Teaching Practicum:** School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Course: SOWO 530, Foundations of Social Welfare and Social Work, UNC
- 2010 **Guest Lecturer:** School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Course: SOWO 492, Seminar in Service Learning

Student Supervision and Mentorship

- 2025-Present **Doctoral Student Faculty Mentor**, Benjamin Biney, Doctoral student, School of Geography, Arizona State University (ASU)
- 2025- Present **Task Manager**, Chelsea Nolan, Master's Student, School of Social Work, ASU
- 2023-Present **Supervisor**, Klim Drobnyh, Doctoral Student, School of Computing and Augmented Intelligence, ASU
- 2022-2026 **Faculty Member, Comprehensive and Dissertation Committee**, Lara Law, School of Social Work, ASU
- 2025-2026 **Task Manager**, Jennifer Moore, Master's Student, School of Social Work, ASU
- 2025-2026 **Task Manager**, Jack Borja Alcantara, Master's Student, School of Social Work, ASU
- 2025-2026 **Task Manager**, Bryn Hutton, Master's Student, School of Social Work, ASU
- 2025-2026 **Supervisor**, Priyam Mistri, Master's student, Data Science, Analytics, and Engineering, ASU
- 2025-2026 **Supervisor**, Devarsh Sukhadiya, Master's student, Science in Information Technology, ASU

2024-2025	Supervisor , Megan Chavez, Master's student, Master of Arts in Psychological Sciences, Northern Arizona University
2025- 2025	Task Manager , Catherine Hsieh, Master's student, School of Social Work, ASU
Fall 2025	Supervisor , Ana Feinson, Undergraduate student, School of Geography, ASU
Spring 2025	Task Manager , Kalissa Urbietta, Master's student, School of Social Work, ASU
Spring 2025	Task Manager , Robert Fugate, Master's student, School of Social Work, ASU
2023-2024	Doctoral Student Faculty Mentor , Francisca Quijada Dibarrart, School of Computing and Augmented Intelligence, ASU
2023	Supervisor , Ann Carver, Doctoral Student, School of Social Work, ASU

Practicum Education Instructor

2019- Present	MSW Practicum Education Supervisor , School of Social Work, ASU Students: Holly Brown, Sandra Siegel, Seol Ki, Kaylin Shady, Cheryl Velasquez
2013-2017	Seminar in Field Instructor (SIFI) , New York University

LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, AFFILIATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

University/Unit Non-committee

2022-2024	Member, Public Service Advancement Committee (PSAC) for Watts College, Arizona State University
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Community Service

2025-Present	Member , Data Warehouse Enterprise for Linkage (DWEL-AZ) Analytics Workgroup
2023-Present	Consultant , Data Insights Workgroup, Maricopa Association of Governments
2022-Present	Member , Data Advisory Committee, Arizona Health Improvement Plan (AzHIP)
2023-Present	Member , Innovations Workgroup, Governor's Interagency Community Council on Homelessness and Housing
2023-Present	Member , Data and Accountability Workgroup, Governor's Interagency Community Council on Homelessness and Housing, Governor Katie Hobbs, Arizona

Professional Service

2025-Present	Reviewer , BMC Psychiatry
2025-Present	Reviewer , BMC Health Services Research
2021-Present	Reviewer , Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities
2021-Present	Reviewer , International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health
2021-Present	Reviewer , Public Health
2021	Reviewer , Council for Social Work Education. Latina/Latino Issues Track, Cultural Competence Track, Human Behavior and the Social Environment Track

- 2020 – Present **Reviewer**, Social Science & Medicine – Population Health, Medical Anthropology
- 2015 **Consulting Editor**, Families in Society

Professional Affiliations

- 2015 – Present Council on Social Work Education
- 2015 – Present National Association of Social Workers
- 2015 – Present American Evaluation Association
- 2012 – Present Society for Social Work and Research

Professional Development and Certifications

- 2023 Community-Engaged Dissemination and Implementation (MS-CEDI) Training
Trainers: Paul Estabrooks, PhD; Prajakta Adsul, PhD; Jessica Austin, PhD; Matt Buman, PhD; David Chambers, DPhil; JD Smith, PhD; Catie Willging, PhD; Felipe Castro, PhD; Brian Bumbarger, PhD; Paris Davis, PhD; Cady Berkel, PhD; Sabrina Oesterle, PhD; Borsika Rabin, PhD; Sarah Lindstrom Johnson, PhD; Russ Glasgow, PhD; Jennie Hill, PhD; Rodger Kessler, PhD
- 2021 NIH National Research Mentoring Network Grant Writing Coaching
Trainer: David Drake, PhD, University of Iowa
- 2020 Breaking Through Bias in Maternity Care
Trainer: Self-paced training, Arizona Department of Health Services
- 2019 Licensure #: LMSW-22101, Arizona, Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners
- 2019 Field Instructor Certification Training
Trainer: Self-paced training, Arizona State University
- 2017 Facilitative Leadership for Social Change Certificate
Trainer: Glenna Gerard and Simone John, Interaction Institute for Social Change
- 2016 Certificate in Culturally Competent Care: A Cornerstone of Caring,
Trainer: Self-paced training, Ciné-Med
- 2015 Certificate in Trauma Informed Care - Advanced Certificate Program in Integrated Primary and Behavioral Health
Trainers: Peter Campanelli, PhD and Anthony Salerno, PhD, Silver School of Social Work, New York University, NY

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2015 **Award Recipient**, New York Nonprofit Rising Star, New York
- 2007 **Royster Fellow**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill - **Award: \$200,000**
- 2011 **Annie E. Casey Dissertation Fellowship**, MDRC
- 2011 **Future Faculty Fellowship**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2011 **Social Science Presentation Award**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2009 **Fellow**, Education Pioneers, Washington, DC - **Award: \$10,000**

- 2009 **Policy Research Fellow**, Jobs for the Future, Washington, DC
- 2007 **Shanti Khinduka Fellowship International Social Work Education**, Washington University in St. Louis - **Award: \$5,000**
- 2006 **Graduate Fellow**, Center for Latino Family Research, Washington U. St. Louis
- 2005 **Whitney M. Young Jr. Fellow**, Brown School of Social Work, Washington U. St. Louis - **Award: \$60,000**
- 2005 **James Farquhar Award**, Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL