

TARA DELACH, Ph.D., MA, NCSP

14502 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Ste 200, Tampa, FL 33618 • (813)501-5502 • tara@morningstarwell.com

EDUCATION

- Ph.D, School Psychology**, May 2020 Tampa, FL
Ed. S., School Psychology, May 2019
M.A., School Psychology, August 2015
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
GPA: 4.0, Area of Emphasis: Cognitive-Behavioral Interventions
APA Accredited, NASP Approved Program
- M.A., Forensic Psychology**, May 2006 Denver, CO
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER
GPA: 3.96
- B.S., Psychology/B.A., Criminology**, May 2004 Gainesville, FL
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GPA: 3.66, Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

- Early identification, prevention, and intervention for children with mental health concerns, disabilities and/or challenging behaviors
- Behavioral parent training/coaching
- Implementation of multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) and application of evidence-based interventions to prevent and improve students' academic, social, and emotional well-being

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

- MORNINGSTAR WELLNESS** Tampa, FL
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW, April 2020-present
SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST, July 2019-present
Supervisor: Lindsey O'Brennan, Ph.D.
- Conduct individual therapy with children, adolescents, and adults who are experiencing mental health concerns (e.g. stress, anxiety, depression), social skills deficits, and/or challenging behavior
 - Provide parent coaching and consultation to address children's challenging behavior
 - Provide presentations to schools on a variety of topics related to children's mental health and development
 - Assist with various aspects of private practice including marketing and community outreach
- KEATING & ASSOCIATES** Temple Terrace, FL
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW, April 2020-present
PSYCHOLOGY ASSOCIATE, July 2019-present
Supervisor: Amanda Keating, Psy.D., BCBA-D
- Assist with conducting psychological evaluations for adults and teens with disabilities and/or mental health concerns

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- Administer psychological measures of cognitive, academic, adaptive, behavioral, and social functioning
- Provide individual therapy and social skills training to adults and teens
- Provide co-parenting classes for divorcing parents

CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN, Positive Parenting Partnership (P3)

Temple Terrace, FL

FAMILY EDUCATOR, July 2017- July 2018, July 2019-present

FAMILY EDUCATOR RESIDENT, July 2018-July 2019

FAMILY EDUCATOR INTERN, May 2016-July 2017

Supervisor: Amanda Keating, Psy.D., BCBA-D

- Obtained accreditation as a provider of the Triple P Positive Parenting Program, an evidence-based parenting support system designed to prevent and treat emotional and behavioral challenges in children and teens
- Co-facilitated child and parent groups utilizing the Secret Agent Society social skills curriculum for children with autism spectrum disorders and/or anxiety
- Currently provide individual and group parenting training using various levels of the Triple P Positive Parenting program curriculum including, but not limited to, those designed for parents of children with disabilities and parents of children who are at risk of abuse or neglect
- Assist parents with collecting and analyzing data in order to problem-solve challenges, monitor their children's progress, and monitor their own progress
- Work closely with case managers and financial educators to link families to community resources
- Obtaining supervision for BCBA certification

INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTER FOR EVALUATION & INTERVENTION

Tampa, FL

Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC), University of South Florida

INTERN & FCIC TRAINEE, August 2017- May 2018

Supervisor: Julianne Schmelter, Psy.D., NCSP

- Received training in the administration and interpretation of various cognitive, achievement, adaptive, and behavioral measures within a FDLRS (Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource System) clinic
- Administered cognitive and achievement tests to children and assisted with writing psychoeducational reports for children with a variety of disabilities
- Participated in parent feedback sessions following evaluations
- Received instruction, support, and mentorship in the field of developmental disabilities within an interdisciplinary training program

THE CHILDREN'S HOME, INC., January 2009-July 2014

Tampa, FL

SEEDS Program (Supporting & Empowering Educational & Developmental Services)

FAMILY TEAM CONFERENCE COORDINATOR, October 2012- July 2014

- Coordinated and facilitated family team meetings for families and schools across Hillsborough County
- Established and maintained communication with school personnel including teachers, guidance counselors, school psychologists, social workers, and ESE specialists within Hillsborough County Public Schools
- Participated in the creation of Family Support Plans and linked families to interventions and resources within the community

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- Trained Family Support Coordinators and other staff in Family Team Conferencing as well as in the use of the ASQ-3 and ELSA assessment tools
- Developed forms and systems for the Family Team Conference process

FASST Program (Family and School Support Team)

SYSTEMS NAVIGATOR/SUPERVISOR, October 2011-October 2012

- Performed duties listed below in the FASST Team Supervisor job description (see below), as well as:
- Reviewed referrals to the FASST program and contacted families and professionals to determine children's eligibility for the program
- Obtained initial assessment information and provided resources and referrals to families
- Served as a point of contact for school and community professionals
- Assisted in writing a grant for the SEEDS program, which partners with Hillsborough County Public Schools to provide wraparound services for children and families in Hillsborough County

FASST TEAM SUPERVISOR, April 2010- September 2011

- Provided oversight, team supervision and individual supervision to the Family and School Support Team
- Selected, supervised, and trained department program and support staff
- Monitored and ensured compliance with contract objectives
- Assigned cases to Family Support Coordinators and oversaw provision of family support services
- Ensured completion of all paperwork in a timely manner, including Targeted Case Management (TCM) billing
- Participated in team meetings, utilization reviews, staff meetings, and peer reviews

FAMILY SUPPORT COORDINATOR, January 2009-April 2010

- Gathered referral and assessment information through interviews, observations, and collateral contacts
- Created support plans, coordinated services, and monitored ongoing progress of families
- Served as a liaison to connect children and families to all involved agencies and systems, including natural support systems
- Completed all requirements necessary to bill Medicaid for Targeted Case Management services for children at risk of abuse and/or neglect
- Reviewed and evaluated outcomes of participants related to contract objectives

FAMILY RESOURCES, INC., On-Campus Intervention Program (OCIP)

Clearwater, FL

COUNSELOR, Clearwater High School, August 2007-April 2008

- Conducted intake assessments with each student who was assigned to OCIP
- Provided crisis intervention, individual counseling, and group counseling on a daily basis
- Collected and compiled statistical data, and completed program reports
- Linked students and families to resources within the community

18TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUVENILE ASSESSMENT CENTER (JAC)

Centennial, CO

SCHOOL LIAISON, September 2006- May 2007

- Conducted assessments of youth who were brought in by law enforcement or referred to the JAC by schools, The Court, or family members within 4 counties in CO
- Cultivated and maintained communications with school personnel including administrators, deans,

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counselors, social workers, psychologists, school resource officers, and district-level officials

- Marketed the JAC to school professionals and presented at school functions
- Maintained records of all juveniles referred by school professionals
- Provided reports to school professionals following each youth's assessment
- Prepared and distributed statistics for each school district on a monthly basis
- Participated on various juvenile justice committees such as the Juvenile Sex Offender Task Force and the Truancy Task Force

INTAKE SPECIALIST, August 2006- September 2006

Centennial, CO

- Conducted assessments of youth who were brought in by law enforcement or were referred by The Court, their families, or the community within 4 counties in CO
- Referred youth and families to appropriate services within the community
- Fingerprinted juveniles and took mug shots
- Provided reports for the Court regarding bond and service recommendations for youth
- Attached Electronic Monitoring Systems for juveniles on pre-trial release
- Prepared paperwork for juveniles released on bond and those released with PTA's (Promise to Appear)

COMMUNITY REACH CENTER- (SQUARE ONE DAY TREATMENT)

Northglenn, CO

CHILD THERAPIST INTERN, September 2005- May 2006

- Conducted individual therapy sessions with children (ages 5-11) in a day treatment setting
- Co-facilitated and facilitated group therapy sessions of groups of up to six children
- Consulted with psychiatrists, case workers, teachers, other professionals, and caregivers regarding case management and treatment planning for children
- Assisted in the treatment milieu including crisis intervention, behavior management, and educational support

DR. SPIEGLE'S PRIVATE PRACTICE (CLINICAL/FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY) Denver, CO

INTERN, September 2004- June 2005

Supervisor: Richard Spiegle, Psy.D.

- Assisted in preparing for evaluations, consultation, and expert testimony in the domestic, criminal, and civil arenas
- Examined evidence, reviewed relevant research, and assisted in the preparation of cases for court
- Assisted in clinical/forensic interviewing and administration of psychological tests
- Conducted collateral interviews in child custody cases
- Aided in writing professional reports to courts and attorneys
- Provided court-ordered supervision for parent-child visitation

PEACEFUL PATHS DOMESTIC ABUSE SHELTER

Gainesville, FL

CHILD ADVOCATE VOLUNTEER, August 2003 -February 2004

CHILD ADVOCATE INTERN, May - August 2003

- Conducted physical and emotional assessments of children upon their entrance into the shelter
- Facilitated educational and social support groups of up to ten children at a time (2 days/week)
- Acted as a confidant and offered individual support for children
- Advocated proper parenting techniques and provided emotional support for mothers
- Assisted in resolving conflicts between residents of the shelter

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- Organized play activities and provided childcare while mothers worked towards obtaining their goals

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION, July 2018-present Tampa, FL
“Parent Perceptions of the Acceptability, Effectiveness and Experience of Engaging in the Group Stepping Stones Triple P Intervention for Parents of Children with Disabilities”
University of South Florida
Major Professor: Kathy Bradley-Klug, Ph.D., NCSP

- Conducting a qualitative case study to examine the perceptions that parents of children with disabilities or developmental delays have about the acceptability, effectiveness, and overall experience of engaging in Group Stepping Stones Triple P, an evidence-based parenting intervention for parents of children with a disability.

FLORIDA PBIS PROJECT Tampa, FL
GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, May 2018-July 2018
University of South Florida, Department of Child & Family Studies, College of Behavioral & Community Sciences
University Supervisor: Kelli Henson, Ph.D., NCSP, BCBA

- Assisted in drafting the proposal and IRB application for a study aimed at validating the *Perceptions of Practices Survey*, which is a self-report measure to assess educators’ perceptions of the extent to which their schools implement Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS).
- Assisted in drafting the proposal and IRB application for a study intended to refine the *Tier I and the Tier II/III Critical Components Checklists (CCCs)* for use by schools and districts. These tools are intended to assess the fidelity of Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) implementation.

SPECIALIST DEGREE THESIS, May 2018 Tampa, FL
“Transitions to Preschool Special Education: The Relationship of Child, Family, and Early Intervention Characteristics”
University of South Florida
Major Professor: Kathy Bradley-Klug, Ph.D., NCSP

- Conducted a study examining the factors or characteristics that make it more likely that children will qualify for special education after receiving early intervention services in Florida. Results of the study may help early intervention providers determine which children may benefit from more intensive, more frequent, or possibly different types of intervention, based on data collected at the time the child enters the Early Steps program.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA Tampa, FL
GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT, August-December 2017, August 2016- December 2016
Supervisor: Jose Castillo, Ph.D.

- Provided bi-weekly individual and group supervision to graduate students participating in a Consultation course
- Facilitated students’ understanding of a systematic problem-solving process through modeling, practice, and feedback
- Assisted students in engaging in self-evaluation of their own consultation skills, including both problem-solving skills and interpersonal/communication skills

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FLORIDA PROBLEM SOLVING/RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION PROJECT Tampa, FL
GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, May 2015-present
University of South Florida
University Supervisor: Jose Castillo, Ph.D.

- Assisted in collecting, analyzing, and reviewing data related to professional development and chronic absenteeism in order to assist project staff in improving provision of services to school districts
- Entered, analyzed, and checked reliability of data
- Assisted in writing reports for the purpose of providing feedback to school districts based on data that were collected and analyzed

PEDIATRIC SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH TEAM Tampa, FL
RESEARCH ASSISTANT, January 2015-December 2016
University of South Florida
Principal Investigator: Kathy Bradley-Klug, Ph.D., NCSP

- Participated in a variety of research activities related to Pediatric School Psychology
- Assisted in developing a questionnaire aimed at determining children's understanding of their own medical condition/health literacy

ADHD/EARLY CHILDHOOD RESEARCH TEAM Tampa, FL
RESEARCH ASSISTANT, January 2015-August 2015
University of South Florida
Principal Investigator: Julia Ogg, Ph.D., NCSP

- Assisted in identifying adult measures of ADHD in preparation for a study related to long-term outcomes for children with ADHD
- Reviewed manuscripts that were submitted to various school psychology journals
- Assisted in the development of a proposal for a study aimed at examining the relationship between parental involvement and academic outcomes for students with ADHD
- Researched and identified previous studies on the relationship between parental involvement and academic outcomes

VARSITY RESEARCH TEAM Tampa, FL
RESEARCH ASSISTANT, August 2014-December 2016
University of South Florida
Principal Investigator: Linda Raffaele Mendez, Ph.D., NCSP

- Studied a variety of topics related to vulnerable and at-risk youth
- Assisted with literature reviews and preparation of conference presentations

SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH TEAM Tampa, FL
RESEARCH ASSISTANT, August 2014-December 2014
University of South Florida
Principal Investigator: Shannon Suldo, Ph.D.

- Participated in discussions and research activities related to providing students with a continuum of mental health services in the school setting.

NDRI, Inc. (National Development and Research Institutes, Inc.) Pasco County, FL
RESEARCH ASSISTANT, September 2007-July 2008
Supervisor: Sarah Farkas, Ph.D.

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- Contacted potential participants and obtained consent for participation in a nationwide study of adolescent substance abuse treatment
- Met with youth and parents in their homes to administer interviews and collect data
- Maintained a database of research and provided information to the lead researcher on a regular basis

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY & LAW Gainesville, FL
RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Spring 2003

Major Professor: Alex Piquero, Ph.D.

- Aided professor and graduate student in analyzing research related to skyjackings using SPSS
- Organized data and corrected mistakes made in data entry

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM Gainesville, FL
RESEARCH SCHOLAR, June 2003 –April 2004

- Conducted independent research on skyjacking under the supervision of a professor
- Carried out a literature review and used statistical analysis to interpret skyjacking data
- Presented results of research at The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 41st Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV.

SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

SEVEN OAKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Pasco County, FL

SAND PINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

CHESTER TAYLOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY INTERN, August 2018-June 2019

Site Supervisors: Kyle Popkave, Ed.S., NCSP & Lindsey O'Brennan, Ph.D., NCSP

University Supervisor: Natalie Romer, Ph.D., NCSP

- Participate in problem-solving meetings and engaged in data-based decision making at all tiers of support (Tier, 1, Tier 2, Tier 3) for students in PreK through 5th grade
- Assist in collecting and analyzing school-wide data for the purpose of identifying at-risk students and problem-solving supports
- Conduct psychoeducational evaluations and diagnostic assessments of students for the purpose of problem-solving as well as determination of special education eligibility
- Conduct record reviews, behavior observations, and clinical interviews
- Administer behavior rating scales and self-report assessments of social-emotional functioning
- Consult with teachers, parents, guidance staff, and administrators regarding students' academic, behavioral, and mental health needs

GEORGE M. STEINBRENNER HIGH SCHOOL Lutz, FL

ADVANCED PRACTICUM STUDENT, January 2017-May 2017

Site Supervisor: Katie Wiles, M.S., NCSP

University Supervisor: Lindsey O'Brennan, Ph.D.

- Provided individual and group therapy to students in a large, rural high school one day per week
- Co-led and planned weekly group therapy sessions for students with autism spectrum disorders
- Conducted record reviews, behavior observations, and clinical interviews
- Administered behavior rating scales and self-report assessments of social-emotional functioning
- Consulted with teachers, parents, guidance staff, and administrators

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- Completed intake summaries, developed and implemented individualized treatment plans based on assessment data, collected and monitored progress to evaluate treatment effectiveness based on students' goals
- Administered cognitive and achievements tests as part of psychoeducational evaluations

MARTINEZ MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lutz, FL

ADVANCED PRACTICUM STUDENT, August 2016-December 2016

Site Supervisor: Katie Wiles, M.S., NCSP

University Supervisor: Lindsey O'Brennan, Ph.D., NCSP

- Provided individual and group therapy to students in a large, rural middle school one day per week
- Planned and led weekly group therapy sessions in time and task management
- Conducted record reviews, behavior observations, and clinical interviews
- Administered behavior rating scales and self-report assessments of social-emotional functioning
- Consulted with teachers, parents, guidance staff, and administrators
- Completed intake summaries, developed and implemented individualized treatment plans based on assessment data, collected and monitored progress to evaluate treatment effectiveness based on students' goals

CHASCO ELEMENTARY/CHASCO MIDDLE SCHOOL

New Port Richey, FL

PRACTICUM STUDENT, January 2016-May 2016

Site Supervisor: Jamie Gray, Ed.S., NCSP

University Supervisor: Janice Parker, Ph.D., NCSP

- Used a multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) framework to make recommendations for improving students' academic and behavioral outcomes at a rural, culturally diverse, Title I elementary school one day per week as well as at a rural Title I middle school one day per week
- Conducted record reviews, classroom observations, and teacher, parent, and student interviews to generate evidence-based hypotheses from an ecological perspective
- Assisted in planning and coordinating evidence-based interventions for students with academic and behavioral challenges
- Provided class-wide social skills training using the Skillstreaming curriculum

RICHEY ELEMENTARY/MITTYE P. LOCKE ELEMENTARY

New Port Richey, FL

PRACTICUM STUDENT, August 2015-December 2015

Site Supervisor: Katina Tucker, Ed.S., NCSP

University Supervisor: Janice Parker, Ph.D., NCSP

- Used a multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) framework to make recommendations for improving students' academic and behavioral outcomes at a rural, culturally diverse, Title I elementary school
- Conducted record reviews, classroom observations, and teacher, parent, and student interviews to generate evidence-based hypotheses from an ecological perspective
- Conducted various assessments with students (i.e., curriculum-based measures, behavior rating scales, norm-referenced cognitive and achievement tests)
- Developed academic and behavioral interventions using the problem solving process, delineated appropriate goals for students, and specified an evaluation plan to monitor progress

SAN ANTONIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

San Antonio, FL

PRACTICUM STUDENT, August 2014- May 2015

Site Supervisor: Lianro Wagener-Smith, Ed.S., NCSP

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University Supervisor: Julia Ogg, Ph.D., NCSP

- Observed and shadowed a school psychologist one full day per week at a rural elementary school
- Utilized the problem-solving framework to assess students' academic and behavioral concerns
- Conducted records reviews, teacher interviews, behavioral observations using the Behavioral Observations of Students in Schools (B.O.S.S.) and AIMSWeb curriculum based measures
- Observed teacher planning meetings and the respective lessons
- Attended various meetings regarding behavior intervention plans, problem-solving, and exceptional student education eligibility

SCHOLARLY WORK

Delach, T.B. (2020). *Parent Perceptions of the Acceptability, Effectiveness, and Experience of Engaging in the Group Stepping Stones Triple P Intervention for Parents of Children with Disabilities* (Ph.D. Dissertation).

Delach, T. B. (2018). *Transitions to Preschool Special Education: The Relationship of Child, Family, and Early Intervention Characteristics* (Ed. S. Thesis). Retrieved from <https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/etd/7143/>

Hernandez Gonzalez, O. & **Delach, T.**, (2016, November). *Effective Vocabulary Interventions for English Language Learners*. Paper presented at the Florida Association of School Psychologists Annual Conference, Palm Harbor, FL.

Delach, T. & Gonzalez, O., & Storey, E. (2015, October). *Cognitive-behavioral interventions for children with GAD, OCD and Selective Mutism*. Presented at the Florida Association of School Psychologists, Orlando, FL

Raffaele Mendez, L. M., Randle, C., Ornduff, R., Lam, Y. H., **Delach, T.**, Esposito, E., Dickinson, S., & Mulrenin, S. (2014, November). *Helping youth develop emotion regulation skills: Practical strategies for schools*. Skill building workshop presented at the annual conference of the Florida Association of School Psychologists, Sarasota, FL.

***Wilson, T.** (2004, March). Historical trends in skyjacking. Presented results of research at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 41st Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV.

**Legal name change from Wilson to Delach in August 2004*

SERVICE TO SCHOOLS

Guest Speaker, *Triple P Positive Parenting Program*. University of South Florida School Psychology Program, June 2019.

Guest Speaker, *Incorporating mindfulness into group therapy for adolescents on the Autism spectrum*. Hillsborough County Public Schools Area 2 School Psychologists Team Meeting, May 2017.

CERTIFICATIONS

Nationally Certified School Psychologist

Certified Provider of various Triple P-Positive Parenting Program interventions, including:

- Level 2: Selected (Seminars)

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- Level 3: Primary Care, Discussion Group, Teen Discussion Group, Primary Care Stepping Stones
- Level 4: Standard, Standard Group, Standard Teen, Group Teen, Standard Stepping Stones, Group Stepping Stones
- Level 5: Enhanced, Pathways, Family Transitions

Florida Problem Solving/Response to Intervention Training Certification – *Florida Dept. of Education*

Trauma-Focused CBT Web Certification - *NIMH*

Certified Provider, Secret Agent Society- *Social Skills Training Institute*

Youth Mental Health First Aid Certification- *SAMHSA Now is the Time/Florida Project AWARE*

AWARDS AND HONORS

University Graduate Fellowship, \$10,000, USF Graduate School, 2014

Criminology & Law Honor Society, University of Florida, 2003-2004

University Scholars Program Scholarship, University of Florida, \$1,750, 2003-2004

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Florida Association of School Psychologists (FASP), Member, 2014-present

National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), Member, 2014-present

Division 16 (School Psychology) of the APA, 2014-present

American Psychological Association, Student Affiliate, 2004-2006, 2014-present

University of South Florida School Psychology Student Association (USF-SPSA), 2014- present

Colorado Juvenile Council, Member, 2007

Colorado Child and Adolescent Mental Health Coalition, Member, 2007