

## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Amy C. Vargo**

Child & Family Behavioral Health  
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### Academic Background

- 2015      **Ph.D.**, Applied Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, College of Arts & Sciences, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida  
External Concentration: Child Welfare/Mental Health Program Evaluation  
Dissertation: *“It Takes Time to Shift Historical Paradigms”: Changes in Structure, Governance, Perception, and Practice During a Decade of Child Welfare Policy Reform in Florida”*
- 2001      **M.A.**, Applied Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, College of Arts & Sciences, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida  
Thesis: *“Teen Pregnancy and Parenthood in Hillsborough County, Florida: An Evaluation of Prevention Efforts”*
- 1997      **B.A.**, Hope College, Holland, Michigan  
Study Abroad: The University of Adelaide, Adelaide, South Australia  
Senior Research: *“Living with Mental Illness: An Ethnographic Study of The Clubhouse Model and Case Management Services in Ottawa County”*

### Professional Experience

- 2016 – present      **DEPT. OF CHILD & FAMILY STUDIES, COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL & COMMUNITY SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA, TAMPA, FLORIDA.**  
Research Assistant Professor. Principal Investigator for the Evaluation of Implementation to Fidelity of Evidence-based Services within the Florida Department for Children and Families’ FFPSA initiative funded through the Administration for Children and Families, PI of Protecting our Future: Comprehensive Training Curriculum for Child Protection Professionals funded by OJJDP, PI of the Evaluation of C.A.R.E.S., and Co-Investigator for SAMHSA Project Aware (Advance Wellness & Resilience in Education) TISS (Trauma Informed support Services in Schools) via ICF, Inc. Provide team leadership, research design, data analysis, writing and presentation as requested for state and federal evaluations of mental health and child welfare services for children and families. Creation and writing of training materials specific to child welfare and mental health treatment services.

- 2000 - 2015 **DEPT. OF CHILD & FAMILY STUDIES, LOUIS DE LA PARTE FLORIDA MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE, TAMPA, FLORIDA.** Assistant in Research. Principal Investigator and Co- Principal Investigator roles specific to Florida's IV-E Waiver Demonstration, AHCA Medicaid-funded behavioral health services for children in Florida's child welfare system, Florida's System of Care Evaluation, Utah's IV-E Waiver Demonstration's Process Evaluation, and the evaluation of the Western and Pacific Implementation Center. Perform duties regarding team leadership, research design, data analysis, writing and presentation as requested for state and federal evaluations of mental health and child welfare services for children and families.
- 2000 to 2001 **DEPT. OF CHILD & FAMILY STUDIES, FLORIDA MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE, TAMPA, FLORIDA.** Graduate Research Assistant responsible for data collection, entry, analysis and writing as requested, for a local evaluation of school and community-based teenage pregnancy prevention and intervention programs. Assisted with grant applications. Developed in-depth interview protocols for teens and service providers.
- 1998 to 2000  
May 2000 **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT, TAMPA, FLORIDA.** Graduate research assistant. Graded an undergraduate web-based writing course on the Anthropological Perspective. Conducted literature searches and library research on historical topics.
- May 1999 to  
December 1999 **RYAN WHITE FOUNDATION / UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA, TAMPA, FLORIDA.** Research assistant on local project assessing quality of and access to HIV services for African-Americans. Developed in-depth interview protocol for service providers. Networked with community leaders. Conducted literature searches, qualitative data analysis, and report writing.
- February 1999 to  
May 1999 **DACCO (DRUG ABUSE COMPREHENSIVE COORDINATING OFFICE), TAMPA, FLORIDA.** Research intern. Program evaluation involving participant observation, community asset mapping, in-depth interviews, and focus groups to synthesize client and provider perspectives on substance abuse treatment services. Presented strengths / needs assessment and service delivery recommendations to administrative staff.
- January 1999 to  
April 1999 **HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HUNGER TASK FORCE / UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA, TAMPA, FLORIDA.** Rolling Store Feasibility Evaluation. Involved participant observation, in-depth interviews, and self-administered surveys evaluating the need for and feasibility of a mobile grocery store that would cater to multiple senior citizen communities in the Tampa Bay area. Presented preliminary results to the Hunger Task Force.

## **Funded Research**

### Protecting Our Future: Comprehensive Education for Child Protection Professionals

2024-2027 Role: PI \$399,626.00

Funded through OJJDP (Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention), this award allows for the design of a comprehensive curriculum for child protection professionals and mandated reporters. The project enhances workforce preparedness by integrating evidence-based, trauma-informed training into academic curricula and professional development programs. Utilizing a multidisciplinary approach, the initiative includes a review of existing programmatic content, and focus groups with different types of mandated reporters, aspiring students, and persons with lived experience in order to inform the creation of a series of online training modules, development of a certification track, and expert-led discussions to improve responses to children exposed to violence.

### Evaluation of C.A.R.E.S. Program

2024 Role: PI \$100,000.00

In partnership with the Brevard Family Partnership and the Department of Child and Family Studies, the University of South Florida will conduct an evaluation of the C.A.R.E.S. (Coordination, Advocacy, Resources, Education, and Support) model being implemented in Florida by Brevard Family Partnership. C.A.R.E.S. is family-centered, strength-based model for child abuse prevention and family preservation. The model is intended to increase protective factors, help families remain together in the community, and prevent situations or events that would result in a child being removed from their home. The purpose of the evaluation is to determine the effectiveness of the C.A.R.E.S. model for child welfare involved families by comparing child and family outcomes for families who received C.A.R.E.S. services to those of a comparison group who did not receive C.A.R.E.S. services. In addition, the study will describe the C.A.R.E.S. model and implemented process utilized by the C.A.R.E.S. staff.

### Evaluation of Implementation to Fidelity of Evidence-Based Services

2022-2024 Role: PI \$1,658,492.00; extended through 2024 \$499,522.00

Contracted through the Florida Department of Children and Families via funding from the Administration for Children and Families. The Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA, 2018) reforms child welfare financing streams to provide prevention services to families who are at risk of entering the child welfare system; allows for federal reimbursement for community mental health, substance use treatment, and in-home parenting skills training; and seeks to improve the well-being of children already in foster care by incentivizing states to reduce placement of children in congregate care. In order to meet these changes, states and local areas must be prepared to implement programs and practices that have been determined by the FFPSA Clearinghouse to be either well-supported, supported, or promising. Florida has selected nine evidence-based practices (EBPs) to implement during the initial transition to FFPSA: Motivational Interviewing, Multisystemic Therapy, Functional Family Therapy, Parent Child Interaction Therapy, Healthy Family Florida, Brief Strategic Family Therapy, Nurse Family

Partnerships, HOMEBUILDERS, and Parents as Teachers. All nine of these practices have been reviewed by the FFPSA Clearinghouse and evaluated as ‘well-supported’ practices, however, the State must evaluate and document that these practices have been implemented with fidelity to their program models and are achieving their intended outcomes. Furthermore, the State has conducted a review of existing practices and identified two additional practices that are not currently on the Clearinghouse and will require a rigorous evaluation using a randomized controlled trial (RCT) or quasi-experimental design to meet Clearinghouse standards: C.A.R.E.S. and Modern Family. In response to the current and anticipated evaluation needs of the State, we have assembled a diverse team of researchers with extensive expertise in designing evaluation research studies, implementation science, and evaluation of evidence-based and promising practices, as well as a long history of relationships with organizations throughout Florida’s child welfare system. The USF team is located in the Department of Child and Family Studies (CFS) – Division of Child and Family Behavioral Health (CFBH), and the School of Social Work, both situated in the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences. USF will be subcontracting with the Health Services Research Institute (HSRI) to form a research-to-practice partnership. The team will build on their collective depth of experience in systems change efforts to provide comprehensive, mixed methods evaluation of fidelity to EBP’s (process, fidelity, and outcomes), create a CQI system for collection of data for analysis, and responsive technical assistance (TA) plan for meeting challenges identified. This partnership will actively collaborate with DCF, Regional and CBC leadership, Subject Matter Experts, Universities and providers responsible for the training and implementation of the selected EBP’s, and other key stakeholders in order to promote optimal development, implementation, and sustainability effort to support Florida’s Families First prevention plan.

#### Evaluation of STOP Program Grantee Perspectives on Violence Prevention and Mental Health Training Program Implementation

2021-2023 Role: PI \$478,553.00

Funded by the National Institute of Justice, the purpose of this study is to inform ongoing implementation and improve program effectiveness for violence prevention and mental health training programs funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) in response to the Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence Act. The study team will utilize the Active Implementation framework from the National Implementation Research Network (NIRN) to assess stages of implementation and determine what drivers of implementation are contributing to program success or are underutilized. This bi-level study will include a cross-site analysis targeting grantees across 128 sites from implementation years 1 (2018) and 2 (2019), and an in-depth case study analysis including 5 sites across diverse population categories for each implementation year (10 sites total). This evaluation is intended to support grantees in reaching full implementation through a rapid response feedback loop, providing strategic assessment and identification of common implementation factors and processes across sites, as well as specific recommendations for improvements. Additionally, the study will provide evidence to inform broader understandings of program implementation of violence prevention and mental health programs in schools through dissemination of findings to the school and practitioner communities as well as research communities.

#### SAMHSA Project Aware (Advance Wellness & Resilience in Education) TISS (Trauma Informed support Services in Schools)

2023-2027 Role: Co-I \$600,000.00

National evaluation contract with ICF as lead applicant and USF as subcontractor. The proposed Task Order (TO) is intended to support the design, implementation, and dissemination of the findings of a process and outcome evaluation of two grant programs administered by the

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): (1) Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education (Short Title: Project AWARE); and (2) Cooperative Agreements for School Based, Trauma-Informed Support Services and Mental Health Care for Children and Youth (Short Title: Trauma-Informed Services in Schools (TISS)) The process evaluation will identify and describe the crucial factors that may affect the fidelity and success of these programs. The outcome evaluation will address program specific questions and assess the extent to which these programs make schools safer by increasing access to mental health promotion and treatment services. SAMHSA expects that this evaluation will also assess the outcome of these grant programs specifically for school aged sub-population and under resourced communities. My specific involvement in 2023 included: weekly meetings, document review, and providing feedback on qualitative data collection protocols.

#### Center for Child Welfare

2019-2022 Role: Curriculum Developer

Funded by the Florida DCF, the Center for Child Welfare at the University of South Florida was founded in 2007 out of a need to communicate a consistent policy and practice message to child welfare professionals throughout Florida. The Center utilizes a knowledge management platform currently reaching 12,000 users who serve more than 34,000 children in out-of-home and in-home care. The Center's mission is to provide vital, up-to-date and research-based training, as well as critical resources and information to best prepare and support child welfare front-line staff to meet the needs of Florida's most vulnerable children and families. My specific involvement included curriculum development such as development of training curriculum on e-professionalism standards related to social media for child welfare case managers and investigators, and development of training curriculum on implicit racial bias for child welfare case managers and investigators.

#### Social Work Behavioral Consultant Training

2020-2021 Role: Curriculum Development and Technical Writing

Funded by the Veteran's Administration via USF School of Social Work; served as technical writer and liaison with faculty experts and production team to develop Social Work competency training and education programs. This includes the roll-out plan, all aspects of the curriculum, and implementation.

#### Child Welfare Pre-Service Training Evaluation

02/01/18 – 01/31/20 Role: PI

Through Senate Bill 1666, the Florida Legislature has prioritized the evaluation of the pre-service training for child protective investigators and case managers. This evaluation is funded by the Florida Institute for Child Welfare at Florida State University. The main objectives of the evaluation are perception, learning and performance. Using Kilpatrick's Level 3 training evaluation model, this evaluation will determine how much transfer of knowledge and skills has occurred following pre-service training curriculum. Specifically, what workplace behaviors are in place as a consequence of training, and if knowledge gain has occurred without the corresponding behavior change, and what environmental and systems level factors are hindering the desired application of knowledge. The skill transfer will be assessed in a variety of ways, such as, evaluating work tasks (assessment tools), performance checklists, supervisor assessments, peer reviews and observations.

#### Southern Region Behavioral Health Services Gap Analysis

May 10, 2019 – December 31, 2019 Role: Qualitative Analyst

Funded by the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) as a result of a legal settlement between DCF and Plaintiffs under the Counsel of Children Rights, Inc., USF is conducting a gap analysis in the Southern Region of Florida (Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties), specific to behavioral health services for children in Out-of-Home Care. My specific involvement includes participating in regular USF team meetings and conference calls with Florida DCF, protocol development for behavioral health service provider interviews, and data analysis and report writing for monthly reports to DCF.

Evaluation of Florida's Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration.

01/01/15 – 03/30/19 Role: Co-PI

Contracted through the Florida Department of Children and Families.

Evaluation of the Title IV-E Waiver in Florida, which enables federal funds to be more flexibly spent on preventing children who come into contact with Florida's child welfare system from being placed in out-of-home care. Funded through the Department of Children and Families for the evaluation of Florida's second Waiver term. The evaluation is comprised of four related components: (a) a process analysis containing an implementation analysis and services and practice analysis, (b) an outcome analysis, (c) a cost analysis, and (d) two sub-studies. The goal of the implementation analysis is to identify and describe implementation of the Demonstration extension. The services and practice analysis includes an examination of progress in expanding the array of community-based services, supports, and programs provided by CBC lead agencies or other contracted providers, as well as changes in practice to improve processes for identification of child and family needs and connections to appropriate services. The outcome analysis tests the relevant hypotheses listed in the amended Florida Demonstration Terms and Conditions by examining a variety of child-level outcomes that are expected to result from the extension of the Demonstration project. The cost analysis examines the relationship between Demonstration implementation and changes in the use of child welfare funding sources.

The Utah IV-E Waiver Demonstration Evaluation

10/01/13 – 3/1/18 Role: Co-PI of Implementation Study

Subcontract with the University of Utah, funded via the Administration for Children and Families. Funded through the Administration of Children and Families as a subcontract with the University of Utah, this six year contract focuses on process evaluation activities. The process portion of the evaluation is divided into three components: the Implementation Analysis, the Child Welfare Service Array Analysis, and the Fidelity Assessment. The Implementation Analysis includes the Waiver demonstration logic model development, as well as tracking of the Waiver implementation process in terms of key variables such as staff, training, role of the courts, and several contextual factors.

The Florida Children's Mental Health System of Care Expansion Project Evaluation

1/1/14 – 2/28/15 Role: Co-PI

Funded through the Department of Children and Families

This evaluation assesses achievement of all project objectives and activities including a focus on fidelity to implementation of the program components and child and family outcomes using a flexible and responsive approach that is driven by the project's logic model. The results of ongoing evaluation activities are used to provide continuous feedback to the project leadership and management team in order to enhance and improve the Florida Children's Mental Health System of Care Expansion Project during its implementation. The evaluation assesses the overall

effectiveness of the project including: 1) the achievement of project objectives, 2) the effectiveness of process objectives including changes in collaboration levels, policies and financing strategies and structures at the state and local pilot levels, and 3) the impact of the project on child and family outcomes.

#### Child-Welfare Specialty Plan Evaluation

7/1/14 – 6/30/15 Role: PI

Contracted through the Dean's Office with the Agency for Health Care Administration.

Funded through the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), the overall goal is to evaluate the implementation analysis of the CWSP to assess if the components of the Plan are being implemented as intended, and to understand if the organizational and system structures, role definitions and expectations, and level of physical and behavioral health service integration are in place that are necessary to achieve successful implementation.

#### Child Welfare Technical Assistance Implementation Center Evaluation

12/15/08 – 9/30/13 Role: Co-PI of Evaluation

Subcontract with American Institutes of Research (AIR) via award from Administration for Children and Families

The Western and Pacific Child Welfare Implementation Center is designed to assist States, Tribes, and Territories to institutionalize principles, policies, and proven or promising practices that they have adopted. The Implementation Center will support child welfare systems in moving from vision and values to changes in organizational culture and practice that are likely to result in sustainable improvements in outcomes for children and families.

#### Evaluation of Florida's Title IV-E Waiver.

07/01/06 – 03/30/12 Role: PI

Contracted through the Florida Department of Children and Families.

This five year study includes an implementation analysis that will track both the planning process for waiver implementation (Phase One) and the impact of waiver implementation on the state, Community-Based Care lead agencies, provider networks, and local communities (Phase Two), while addressing continual systemic change within Florida's child welfare system as Community-Based Care matures across the state. Additional study components include identification of innovative practices, assessment of caregiver engagement, a cost analysis, and an examination of child safety and permanency administrative data.

#### Child-Welfare Prepaid Mental Health Plan Evaluation

07/01/06 – 06/30/11 Role: PI

Contracted through the Dean's Office with the Agency for Health Care Administration.

The purpose of this project is to describe the structural, organizational and procedural aspects of the Child Welfare Prepaid Mental Health Plan, as well as to obtain data regarding service needs, access and service use of youth and families in the child welfare system who receive services through this recently implemented behavioral health plan..

#### National Child Welfare Leadership Institute (NCWLI) Evaluation.

09/30/07 – 05/30/09 Role: Co-PI

Subcontract with University of Utah via award from Administration for Children and Families.

This study involves a process and outcome evaluation of a training program designed to increase the leadership skills of public, private and tribal mid-level child welfare leaders across the country.

Evaluation of District 10/11 Pilot Program

07/01/06 – 06/30/09 Role: PI

Contracted through the Florida Department of Children and Families.

This legislatively mandated three-year study seeks to compare the community-based systems of care in Broward, Monroe, and Miami-Dade counties with the rest of state on lead agency/provider network agency performance and fiscal management, as well as providing a process study of the pilot program's implementation. The pilot program will allow for the transfer of fiscal, administrative, and programmatic oversight responsibilities held by the Department of Children and Families to independent entities.

Evaluation of Community-Based Care.

11/21/05 – 06/30/09 Role: PI

Contracted through the Florida Department of Children and Families.

The goal of this three-year study is to provide midcourse policy recommendations to key stakeholders and local communities in order to improve services for children in Florida's child welfare system. This evaluation incorporates a mixed-method approach to investigate the legislatively mandated areas of cost, quality, and outcomes, in addition an organizational analysis of lead agencies and implementation analyses of systemic reform efforts.

Evaluation of Florida's Residential Group Care Programs and Model Comprehensive Residential Services Programs.

11/21/05 – 06/30/09 Role: PI

Contracted through the Florida Department of Children and Families.

This three-year project examines Florida's Model *Comprehensive Residential Services Program and placement of children in licensed residential group care*. The Model is assessed on ten statutorily defined performance standards, as well as cost-effectiveness. Reporting on the group care includes a descriptive summary of children eligible for residential group care services and efforts made to assess children for these services.

A Study of the Quality of Children's Behavioral Health Services within Florida's Behavioral Health Managed Care Plans.

07/01/04 – 06/30/06 Role: PI

Contracted through the Dean's Office with the Agency for Health Care Administration.

The goal of this study is to provide an in-depth look at the quality of behavioral health services provided to children in Florida who are SED/at-risk of SED, and whose treatment is financed under Medicaid's Prepaid Mental Health Plan and Health Maintenance Organizations.

Foster Care Child Resiliency Study.

07/01/04 – 06/30/05 Role: PI

Contracted and funded through the University of South Florida Collaborative for Children,



Families & Communities Faculty Grant Program. The goal of this study is to examine protective factors and levels of resiliency among young children (0-8 years) and early adolescents (9-12 years) in Florida awaiting foster care placement and/or family reunification.

Behavioral Health Services Provided to Florida's Young Children: An Examination of Interagency Coordination.

09/01/02 – 02/28/03 Role: PI of subproject

Contracted through the Dean's Office with the Behavioral Health Services Integration Workgroup.

The goal of this study was to provide a descriptive inventory of the behavioral health services available to infants and toddlers within the State of Florida so as to determine the gaps and opportunities for linkages of services targeted to early intervention of at-risk children.

## Publications

**Vargo, A.,** Hardy-Jones, P., Newton-Curtis, L., Coy, L., Forehand, G., Sowell, C., Walker, C., Hervey, K., Isvan, N., Yampolskaya, L., Abella, A. (2024). Florida Child Welfare Evidence Based Services Policy Brief. University of South Florida.

**Vargo, A.,** Hardy-Jones, P., Walker, C., Coy, L., Forehand, G., Sowell, C., Hervey, K., Yampolskaya, S. (2024). National Implementation of Evidence-Based Practices Under the Family First Prevention Service Act Policy Brief. University of South Florida.

Abella, A., **Vargo, A.,** Cruz, A., Coy, L. Johnson, M., Massey, O. & von der Embse, N. (February, 2023). STOP School Violence Prevention & Mental Health Training Program Implementation Policy Brief. [stop-research-brief0623.pdf \(usf.edu\)](https://stop-research-brief0623.pdf.usf.edu). University of South Florida.

**Vargo** (May 2015) *"It Takes Time to Shift Historical Paradigms": Changes in Structure, Governance, Perception, and Practice During a Decade of Child Welfare Policy Reform in Florida*. Doctoral Dissertation, University of South Florida.

Armstrong, M.I., **Vargo, A.C.,** Kip, S., Jordan, N., Sharrock, P., Sowell, C., & Yampolskaya, S. (2012). *Florida's IV-E waiver demonstration project: Evaluation summary brief*. Tampa, FL: University of South Florida, Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute.

Armstrong, M. I., **Vargo, A.,** Kip, S. Jordan, N., Sharrock, P., Sowell, C. et al. (2011). *Evaluation brief 3 – Evaluation brief on the status and activities related to Florida's IV-E waiver demonstration project: Two Years Post Implementation*. Tampa, FL: Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, University of South Florida.

Armstrong, M. I., **Vargo, A.,** Sowell, C., Jordan, N., Sharrock, P., et al. (2010). *Evaluation brief 2 – Evaluation brief on the status and activities related to Florida's IV-E waiver demonstration project: Two Years Post Implementation*. Tampa, FL: Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, University of South Florida.

King-Miller, T., Armstrong, M. I., Sowell, C., Jordan, N., Sharrock, P., **Vargo, A.,** et al. (2008). *Evaluation brief 1 – Evaluation brief on the status and activities related to Florida's IV-E waiver demonstration project: First 18 months*. Tampa, FL: Louis de la Parte Florida Mental

Health Institute, University of South Florida.

**Vargo, A.C.** & Sharrock, P. (2005, October) USF/FMHI Policy Brief #24: *A Study of the Quality of Children's Mental Health Services within Florida Mental Health Managed Care Plans* (AHCA Series).

Shern, D., Robinson, P., Giard, J., **Vargo, A.**, Sharrock, P. et al (2005, October) USF/FMHI Policy Brief #23: *Evaluation of Florida's Medicaid Managed Mental Health Plans* (AHCA Series).

Armstrong, M. I., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., **Vargo, A. C.**, Wallace, F., & Yampolskaya, S. (2005, February). *Highlights: 2003-2004 Community Based Care Evaluation*. Tampa, FL: University of South Florida, The Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute.

Armstrong, M. I., Kershaw, M. A., Sharrock, P., **Vargo, A. C.**, Wallace, F., & Yampolskaya, S. (2004, December). *Highlights: Study of Family Continuity Programs, Inc.* Tampa, FL: University of South Florida, The Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute.

Paulson, R., Armstrong, M., Brown, E., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., **Vargo, A. C.**, & Yampolskaya, S. (2004). *Evaluation of the Florida Department of Children and Families Community-Based Care Initiative in Manatee, Sarasota, Pinellas and Pasco Counties*. Policy Brief, Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

Berson, I.R., **Vargo, A.C.**, Roggenbaum, S., Baker, D. (2004). *Mental Health Care for Child Welfare Clients.* ." In J. Newman, C., Liberton, C. J., K. Kutash, & R. Friedman (Eds.). The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference Proceedings, A System of Care For Children's Mental Health: Expanding the Research Base (March 2 to March 5, 2003). Florida Mental Health Institute, Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health, Tampa, FL.

**Vargo, A. C.**, & Yampolskaya, S. (2004). *Welfare reform: Do we need to think about teen pregnancy prevention and intervention?* In J. Newman, C., Liberton, C. J., K. Kutash, & R. Friedman (Eds.). The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference Proceedings, A System of Care For Children's Mental Health: Expanding the Research Base (March 2 to March 5, 2003). Florida Mental Health Institute, Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health, Tampa, FL.

Armstrong, M., Paulson, R., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M.A., **Vargo, A.**, Yampolskaya, S., Fitzpatrick, J. & Reyes, F. (2003, November). *Highlights: 2002-2003 Statewide Evaluation of Community-Based Care*. Consortium for Child Welfare Studies, Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

Berson, I. R., **Vargo, A. C.**, Roggenbaum, S., & Baker, D. (2003, February). *Highlights: Mental Health Care for Child Welfare Clients*. Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

Armstrong, M., Brown, E., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., Paulson, R., **Vargo, A. C.**, Whitlock, R., & Yampolskaya, S. (2002, November). *Highlights: 2001-2002 Statewide Evaluation of Community Based Care*. Consortium for Child Welfare Studies, Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

## Refereed

- Abella, A., **Vargo, A.**, Johnson, M., Cruz, A., Massey, O. & von der Embse, N. (manuscript under revision). *Navigating the Pandemic: Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing Violence Prevention and Mental Health Programs in Schools*.
- Johnson, M., McNeish R. & **Vargo, A.** (2020) Exploring Ethnic Differences in Caregiver Perceptions of the Quality of Children's Mental Health Care. *Journal of Child and Family Studies* 29(9): 2552-25567.
- Armstrong, M., Johnson, M., Robst, J, Cruz, A., Landers, M. & **Vargo, A.** (2019) Services Received vs. Services Needed by Families in Child Welfare Systems. *International Journal on Child Maltreatment: Research, Policy and Practice*.
- Vargo, A.**, Sharrock, P., Armstrong, M. & Johnson, M. (2012). The Use of a Participatory Approach to Develop a Framework for Assessing Quality of Care in Children's Mental Health Services. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*.
- Jordan, N., Yampolskaya, S., Gustafson, M., Armstrong, M., McNeish, R. & **Vargo, A.** (2010). Comparing Protective Investigation Performance between Law Enforcement Agencies and Child Welfare Agencies. *Child Welfare*.
- Yampolskaya, S., Armstrong, M. & **Vargo, A.** (2007). Factors associated with permanency and reentry into out-of-home care under Community-Based Care in Florida. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 29(10).
- Barrow, F., Armstrong, M., **Vargo, A.** & Boothroyd, R. (2007). Understanding the Findings of Resilience-Related Research for Fostering the Development of African American Adolescents. *Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics of North America*.
- Yampolskaya, S., Paulson R. I., Armstrong, M., Jordan, N., & **Vargo, A. C.** (2004). Child welfare privatization: Quantitative indicators and policy issues. *Evaluation Review*, 28 (2).
- Yampolskaya, S., Brown, E., & **Vargo, A. C.** (2004). The assessment of teen pregnancy interventions among middle school youth. *Child & Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 21 (2).

## Technical Reports

- Vargo, A.**, Hardy-Jones, P., Coy, L., Forehand, G., Hervey, K., Johnon, M., Newton-Curtis, L., Sowell, C., Yampolskaya, S. and Walker, C. (December, 2024). Evaluation of Implementation to Fidelity of Evidence-Based Services: Final Statewide Process Briefing. University of South Florida.
- Vargo, A.**, Hardy-Jones, P., Coy, L., Forehand, G., Hervey, K., Johnon, M., Newton-Curtis, L., Sowell, C., Yampolskaya, S. and Walker, C. (November, 2024). Evaluation of Implementation to Fidelity of Evidence-Based Services: Final National Peer Learning Report. University of

South Florida.

**Vargo, A.,** Hardy-Jones, P., Coy, L., Newton-Curtis, L., Forehand, G., Sowell, C., Hervey, K., Yampolskaya, L. & Walker, C. (October, 2024). Evaluation of Implementation to Fidelity of Evidence-Based Services: Amended Final Evaluation Plan. University of South Florida.

**Vargo, A.,** Hardy-Jones, P., Newton-Curtis, L., Coy, L., Forehand, G., Sowell, C., Yampolskaya, S., Hervey, K., Thomas, C., Wheeler, C., Walker, C., Drobisz, J., Cichoki, B., Isvan, N., & Gerber, R. (June, 2024). Evaluation of Implementation to Fidelity of Evidence-Based Services: Activity Report #4 FY 2023-24. University of South Florida.

Yampolskaya, S., Isvan, N., Newton-Curtis, L., **Vargo, A.,** Hardy-Jones, P., Coy, L., Walker, C., Sowell, C., Hervey, K., Gerber, R., Forehand, G., Drobisz, J., Wheeler, C. & Cichoki, B. (June, 2024). Evaluation of Implementation to Fidelity of Evidence-Based Services: Final Outcome and Fidelity Evaluation Report. University of South Florida.

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**Vargo, A. C.,** Armstrong, M., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., Pedraza, J., Romney, S. & Yampolskaya, S. (2006, May). *Specifications for the Independent Evaluation of Florida's IV-E Demonstration Waiver*. Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

**Vargo, A. C.,** Armstrong, M., Romney, S., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., Yampolskaya, S., Pedraza, J., & Roggenbaum, S. (2006, June). *Florida's IV-E Demonstration Waiver Evaluation Plan*. Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

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**Vargo, A. C.,** Romney, S., Kershaw, M. A. (2005, December), *Placement of Children in Licensed Residential Group Care Report Fiscal Year 2005-2006*. Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

**Vargo, A. C.,** Armstrong, M. I., Barrow, F., Boothroyd, R., and Pedraza, J. (2005, September). *Foster Care Child Resiliency Study: USF Faculty Collaborative Final Report*. Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

**Vargo, A. C.,** Sharrock, P., Pedraza, J., Dhont, K., Ort, R., Reyes, F., Robinson, P. & Roggenbaum, S. (2005, June). *A Study of the Quality of Children's Mental Health Services within Florida's Mental Health Managed Care Plans*. Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

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- Vargo, A. C.**, Armstrong, M., Boothroyd, R., Dailey, K., Robinson, P., & Sharrock, P. (2004, October). *A Study of the Quality of Children's Behavioral Health Services within Florida's Prepaid Mental Health Plan: A Sub-Study of the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) Project*. Concept Paper, Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.
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- Berson, I. R., Dailey, K. A., **Vargo, A. C.** & Dhont, K. (2004, June). *A Study of the Integration of Part C and Medicaid-Funded Behavioral Health Services for Infants and Toddlers*. Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.
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- Paulson, R., Armstrong, M., Fitzpatrick, J., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., Reyes, F., **Vargo, A. C.**, Whitlock, R., & Yampolskaya, S. (2003, September). *Evaluation of the Florida Department of Children and Families Community-Based Care Initiative*. Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.
- Berson, I. R., **Vargo, A. C.**, Dailey, K., Zheng, Z., & Powell, D. (2003, June). *An Examination*

*of Medicaid and Part C Services Funding Mechanisms to Support Interventions for Young Children.* Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

Berson, I. R., **Vargo, A. C.**, & Roggenbaum, S. (2003, June). *Child Welfare Targeted Case Management: Current Practices and Implications for Statewide Dissemination and Implementation.* Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

**Vargo, A. C.**, Berson, I. R., & Whitlock, R. (2003, March). *Behavioral Health Services Provided to Florida's Young Children: An Examination of Interagency Coordination.* Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

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Berson, I. R., **Vargo, A. C.**, Powell, D., Dailey, K., Zheng, Z., & Armstrong, M. (2002, June). *Infant and Toddler Medicaid-Funded Mental Health Services.* Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

Berson, I. R., **Vargo, A. C.**, Roggenbaum, S., & Baker, D. (2002, June). *Mental Health Care for Child Welfare Clients: Final Report.* Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

Paulson, R., Armstrong, M., Brown, E., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., **Vargo, A. C.**, & Yampolskaya, S. (2002, June). *Submission to the Florida Legislature: Evaluation of the Florida Department of Children and Families Community-Based Care Initiative in Manatee, Sarasota, Pinellas and Pasco Counties.* Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

Kershaw, M. A., Armstrong, M., **Vargo, A. C.**, & Styles, M. (2002, April). *Quality Service Review (QSR) Implementation Plan.* Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

Berson, I. R., Kershaw, M. A., & **Vargo, A. C.** (2001, December). *Hillsborough Partners Final Report.* Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

Paulson, R., Armstrong, M., **Vargo, A.**, Brown, E., Jordan, N., & Kershaw, M.A. (2001, November). *Evaluation Plan of Community-Based Care.* Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

Yampolskaya, S., & **Vargo, A. C.** (2001, September). *Outcomes for female students enrolled in teen pregnancy prevention programs in Hillsborough County, Florida.* Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.

## International & National Presentations

**Vargo, A.**, Hardy-Jones, P. & Coy, L. (June, 2024). *Intentional Collaboration and Mindful Partnership: Working with State and Local Child Welfare Agencies.* Virtual poster presentation

for the Conference for Advancing Participatory Sciences (CAPS).

**Vargo, A.,** Hardy-Jones, P. & Coy, L. (March 2024). *Increasing Parents' Desire for Positive Growth and Change: Novel and Traditional Approaches to the Use of Motivational Interviewing with Child Welfare Involved Families*. Poster presentation at the 10th International Conference on New Findings in Humanities and Social Sciences (HSCONF), Oxford, United Kingdom.

Abella, A. & **Vargo, A.** (March, 2024). *School Resource Officers as Mental Health Supports: Transformational Collaboration or Convenient Solution?* Poster presentation at the Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Conference, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**Vargo, A.,** Hardy-Jones, P., Coy, L. & Walker, C. (January, 2024). *Improving Support Systems for Students and Families: Incorporating Evidence-Based Prevention Programs in Child Welfare and Their Relevance to Educators*. Virtual poster presentation for the 9th IAFOR International Conference on Education, Honolulu, Hawaii.

**Vargo, A.,** Hardy-Jones, P., Coy, L. & Walker, C. (January, 2024). *Unlocking the Desire for Positive Growth and Change: Motivational Interviewing's Diverse Applications and Implications for Educators*. Virtual poster presentation for the 9th IAFOR International Conference on Education, Honolulu, Hawaii.

**Vargo, A.** (July, 2023). *It Takes time to Shift Historical Paradigms: Changes in Structure, Governance, Perception, and Practice During a Decade of Child Welfare Reform in the United States*. Paper presentation at the 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, England.

**Vargo, A.,** Abella, A., Cruz, A., Johnson, M., Massey, O. & von der Embse, N. (June, 2023). *Implementing School Safety and Mental Health Initiatives During Covid 19: Insights on Trauma and Perseverance*. Poster presentation at the 17<sup>th</sup> European Society for Traumatic Stress Studies conference, Belfast, Ireland.

Abella, A., **Vargo, A.** (June, 2023). *Cross Site Analysis of STOP Program Grantee Perspectives on Violence Prevention and Mental Health Training Program Implementation*. Virtual presentation for Grantees via the National Center for School Safety at the University of Michigan School of Public Health.

Abella, A., **Vargo, A.,** Cruz, A., Coy, L. Johnson, M., Massey, O. & von der Embse, N. (September, 2023). *The Students, Teachers and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence Act of 2018: A Narrated Presentation of Findings*. [Research Report | Review 360 articulate.com](#). University of South Florida.

Abella, A., **Vargo, A.** Johnson, M, Cruz, A., Massey, O. & von der Embse, N. (2022, June). *STOP Program Cross-Site Study Year 1 Survey Results*. Virtual presentation for Grantees via the National Center for School Safety at the University of Michigan School of Public Health.

Abella, A. & Vargo, A. (2021, June). *Cross-site Analysis of STOP Program Grantee Perspectives on Violence Prevention and Mental Health Training Program Implementation*. Virtual presentation for Grantees via the National Center for School Safety at the University of Michigan School of Public Health.



- Sharrock, P. & Vargo, A. (2010, June). *Meeting the Mental Health Needs of Youth in Foster Care: Lessons Learned from Foster Parents and Providers*. Paper presentation at APSAC 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquium, New Orleans, LA.
- Vargo, A. & Sharrock, P. (2009, June). *Coordinating and Integrating Behavioral Health with Child Welfare in Florida: Process and Impact*. Poster presentation at the Academy Health Annual National Research Meeting, Chicago, IL
- Sowell, C. & Vargo, A. (2009, May). *Overcoming Evaluation Challenges Posed by the Child Welfare System*. Discussion Panel at the National Child Welfare Evaluation Summit, Washington, D.C.
- Armstrong, M., Vargo, A. & Sowell, C. (2009, May). *Findings From Florida's IV-E Waiver Evaluation – Two Years Post-Implementation*. Poster presentation at the National Child Welfare Evaluation Summit, Washington, D.C.
- Yampolskaya, S., Greenbaum, P. E., Armstrong, M. I., Guo, J., & Vargo, A. C. (2009, May). *Relationship Between Perpetrator Characteristics and Patterns of Service Use for Maltreated Adolescents: A Latent Class Analysis*. Poster presentation at the Society for Prevention Research 17<sup>th</sup> annual meeting: Power of Relationships: Implications for Prevention Science, Washington, DC.
- Armstrong, M., Sharrock, P. & Vargo, A. (2009, April). *A Synthesis of a Decade of Research on Service Quality and Outcomes of Managed Mental Health Care for Children*. Paper presentation at the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors Research Institute 19<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference, Washington, DC.
- Harris, N., Armstrong, M. & Vargo, A. (2009, April). *Developing the Workforce: Enhancing the Leadership Skills of Child Welfare Managers*. Paper presentation at the 17<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, Atlanta, GA.
- Sowell, C. & Vargo, A. (2009, February). *Pockets of Practice Excellence: Florida's IV-E Demonstration Project*. Poster presentation at the Child Welfare League of America National Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Vargo, A. & Sharrock, P. (2008, November). *A Participatory Approach to Developing Quality of Care Indicators for the Evaluation of Children's Mental Health Services*. Paper presentation at the American Evaluation Association National Conference, Denver, C.O.
- Vargo, A., Sharrock, P., Robinson, P., Boothroyd, R. & Armstrong, M. (2008, November). *Evaluating the Partnership of Child Welfare and Mental Health Systems in Florida*. Poster presentation at the American Evaluation Association National Conference, Denver, C.O.
- Vargo, A., King-Miller, T. & Armstrong, M. (2008, June). *Implementation and Evaluation of a Title IV-E Waiver in Florida's Privatized Child Welfare System*. Poster presentation at the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquium, Phoenix, A. Z.
- Vargo, A. & Sharrock, P. (2008, June). *Managed Care Meets Child Welfare: Florida's Child Welfare Prepaid Mental Health Plan*. Poster presentation at the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquium, Phoenix, A. Z.

- Vargo, A. & Sharrock, P. (2008, June). *The Quality of Medicaid-Funded Children's Mental Health Services*. Poster presentation at the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquium, Phoenix, A. Z.
- Yampolskaya, S., Greenbaum, P. E., Vargo, A., & Armstrong, M. (2008, May). *Contextual and individual-level predictors of abused children's reentry into out-of-home care: A multilevel mixture survival analysis*. Paper presentation at the Society for Prevention Research 16<sup>th</sup> annual meeting: Advancing Science-Based Prevention: Context and Prevention Science, San Francisco, California.
- Vargo, A., Sharrock, P., Robinson, P., Boothroyd, R., Reyes, F., Lardieri, S., Ort, R. & Armstrong, M. (2008, February). *Evaluation of Florida's Child Welfare Prepaid Mental Health Plan: Rationale, Implementation and Initial Findings*. Poster presentation at 21<sup>st</sup> Annual FMHI Research and Training National Conference, Tampa, FL.
- Vargo, A., Armstrong, M. & King-Miller, T. (2007, July). *Implementation and Evaluation of a Title IV-E Waiver in Florida's Privatized Child Welfare System*. Presentation for the 9<sup>th</sup> International Family Violence Research Conference, Portsmouth, N. H.
- Yampolskaya, S., Greenbaum, P. E., Armstrong, M., & Vargo, A. (2007, May-June). *Recurrence of child maltreatment: A two-part latent growth curve model*. Poster presented at the Society for Prevention Research 15<sup>th</sup> annual meeting: Advancing Science-Based Prevention: Creating Real World Solutions, Washington, DC.
- Vargo, A. C. (2006, August). *Evaluation of the Privatization of Child Welfare in Florida: An Organizational Analysis*. Presentation for the Council on Accreditation (COA) National Conference, New York, N. Y.
- Yampolskaya, S., Armstrong, M., & Vargo, A. C. (2006, June). *Improving Child Well-Being in Florida: Outcomes of Community-Based Care*. Presentation for 14th Annual Meeting of the Society for Prevention Research, San Antonio, TX.
- Armstrong, M. I., Yampolskaya, Y., Vargo, A. C. & Wallace, F. (2005, April). *Not Just Privatization: Florida's Child Welfare System & Community-Based Care*. Presentation for the 15<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, Boston, MA.
- Vargo, A. C. & Wallace, F. (2005, March). *Evaluation of the Privatization of Child Welfare in Florida: An Organizational Analysis*. Presentation for 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference, A System of Care for Children's Mental Health: Expanding the Research Base, Tampa, FL.
- Armstrong, M., Wallace, F., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., Vargo, A. C., & Yampolskaya, S. (2004, August). *Privatizing Child Welfare: An Examination of Organizations and Outcomes*. Presentation for the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquium, Hollywood, C. A.
- Vargo, A. C. & Yampolskaya, S. (2004, July). *Privatizing Child Welfare: An Examination of Organizations and Outcomes*. Presentation for the 9<sup>th</sup> International Family Violence Research Conference, Portsmouth, N. H.

- Vargo, A. C., Berson, I. R., Roggenbaum, S., & Baker, D. (2004, April). *America's Foster Children: An Examination of Behavioral Health Needs, Social Supports and Adoption Outcomes*. Presentation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Australian Conference on Adoption, Adelaide, Australia.
- Vargo, A. C., Armstrong, M., Paulson, R., Kershaw, M. A., Jordan, N., & Yampolskaya, S. (2004, April). *Adoption in the United States: The Privatizing of Child Welfare and Community-Based Systems of Care*. Presentation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Australian Conference on Adoption, Adelaide, Australia.
- Armstrong, M., Kershaw, M. A., Vargo, A. C., Paulson, R., Jordan, N., & Yampolskaya, S. (2004, February). *Not Just Privatization: Florida's Child Welfare System and Community-Based Care*. Presentation for the Child Welfare League of America National Conference: Children 2004: Vision, Action, Results, Washington, DC.
- Vargo, A. C., Paulson, R., Armstrong, M., Kershaw, M. A., Jordan, N., & Yampolskaya, S. (2004, January). *Privatizing Child Welfare: Florida's Experience with Community-Based Care*. Presentation for the Chadwick Center for Children and Families 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment: Building a Safer World for Children, San Diego, C. A.
- Vargo, A. C., Berson, I. R., Roggenbaum, S., & Baker, D. (2003, July). *Mental Health Care for Child Welfare Clients*. Poster Presentation for the 8<sup>th</sup> International Family Violence Research Conference, Portsmouth, N. H.
- Vargo, A. C., Armstrong, M., Paulson, R., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., & Yampolskaya, S. (2003, July). *Evaluation of the Privatization of Child Welfare in Florida: The Community-Based Care Initiative*. Poster presentation for the 8<sup>th</sup> International Family Violence Research Conference, Portsmouth, N. H.
- Vargo, A. C., Armstrong, M., Overstreet, D., Kershaw, M. A., Paulson, R., Jordan, N., Yampolskaya, S., & Fairbanks, D. (2003, April). *Evaluation of the Privatization of Child Welfare in Florida: The Community-Based Care Initiative*. Presentation for the 14<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, St. Louis, M. O.
- Vargo, A. C., Berson, I. R., Roggenbaum, S., & Baker, D. (2003, March). *Mental Health Care for Child Welfare Clients*. Presentation for The Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Portland, O. R.
- Armstrong, M., Paulson, R., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., Vargo, A. C., & Yampolskaya, S. (2003, January). *The Privatization of Child Welfare in Florida: A Mixed-Method Evaluation of Initial Sites*. Presentation for the Society for Social Work Research 2003 Annual Conference, Washington, D. C.

## State & Local Presentations

- Hardy-Jones, P., **Vargo, A.** & Coy, L. (April, 2024). *Intentional Collaboration and Mindful Partnership: Assessing the Implementation of Evidence-Based Prevention and Early Intervention Programs with State and Local Child Welfare Agencies*. Presentation for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Translational Research in Adolescent Substance Use Conference.

- Vargo, A.,** Johnson, M. & Armstrong, M. (October 2016). *Implementation Analysis Findings from Utah's Title IV-E Waiver Pilot Program: Utah's Salt Lake Valley Region*. Presentation for Utah's Salt Lake Valley Regional Administration, Tampa, FL.
- Armstrong, M. & **Vargo, A.** (September 2016). *Implementation Analysis Findings from Utah's Title IV-E Waiver Pilot Program: Utah's Northwest Region*. Presentation for Utah's Northwest Regional Administration, Tampa, FL.
- Cruz, A., Johnson, M., Armstrong, M. & **Vargo, A.** (August 2016). *Use of In-Home and Out-of-Home Services for Child Welfare Families: IV-E Waiver Evaluation Findings*. Presentation at Child Protection Summit, Orlando, FL.
- Vargo, A.** & Armstrong, M. (July 2016). *Implementation Analysis Findings from Utah's Title IV-E Waiver Pilot Program: Utah's Southwest Region*. Presentation for Utah's Southwest Regional Administration, Tampa, FL.
- Armstrong, M. & **Vargo, A.** (June 2016). *Implementation Analysis Findings from Utah's Title IV-E Waiver Pilot Program*. Presentation for State of Utah Waiver Leadership Team, Tampa, FL.
- Vargo, A. (March 2015). "It Takes Time to Shift Historical Paradigms": Changes in Structure, Governance, Perception, and Practice During a Decade of Child Welfare Policy Reform in Florida. Doctoral Defense, University of South Florida.
- Vargo, A. (May 2015). Florida's IV-E Waiver Evaluation. Presentation for the Stakeholder Statewide Planning Group: Ocala, FL.
- Vargo, A., Sharrock, P., Robinson, P. & Boothroyd, R. (2009, September). *Evaluation of Florida's Child Welfare Prepaid Mental Health Plan: Year 3 Findings*. Presentation at Annual Agency for Health Care Briefing Session, Tallahassee, FL.
- Yampolskaya, S., Jordan, N., Vargo, A., Armstrong, M., Sowell, C., Kip, S. & Sharrock, P. (2009, August). *IV-E Waiver Demonstration Evaluation: Outcomes, Fiscal Issues and Changes in Practice*. Paper presentation at the Dependency Court Improvement Summit, Orlando, FL.
- Vargo, A., Sharrock, P., Robinson, P., Boothroyd, R., Reyes, F., Lardieri, S., Ort, R. & Armstrong, M. (2008, November). *Evaluation of Florida's Child Welfare Prepaid Mental Health Plan: Rationale, Implementation and Initial Findings*. Poster presentation USF Research One Symposium, Tampa, FL.
- Vargo, A., Sharrock, P., Robinson, P. & Boothroyd, R. (2008, September). *Evaluation of Florida's Child Welfare Prepaid Mental Health Plan: Year 2 Findings*. Presentation at Annual Agency for Health Care Briefing Session, Tallahassee, FL.
- Romney, S., King- Miller, T., Vargo, A., Armstrong, M., Jordan, N. & Yampolskaya, S. (2007, January). *Implementation and Evaluation of the IV-E Waiver: A Participatory Approach*. Presentation for the Southeastern Evaluators Association (SEA), Tallahassee, FL.
- Yampolskaya, S., King-Miller-T., Romney, S., Vargo, A., Armstrong, M., & Jordan, N. (2007,

- January). *Report to the Legislature: Evaluation of the Department of Children and Families: Community-Based Care Initiative Fiscal Year 2005-2006*. Presentation for the Southeastern Evaluators Association (SEA), Tallahassee, FL
- Vargo, A. C., Armstrong, M., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., Pedraza, J. & Yampolskaya, S. (2006, January). *Report to the Legislature Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Evaluation of the Department of Children and Families Community-Based Care Initiative*. Presentation for Department of Children and Families and Legislative stakeholders, Tallahassee, FL.
- Vargo, A. C. & Sharrock, P. (2006, September). 2005-2006 Children's Quality of Care Study Briefing. Presentation for Agency for Health Care Administration, Tallahassee, FL
- Armstrong, M. I., Vargo, A. C., Kershaw, M. A., Sharrock, P., Wallace, F. & Yampolskaya, S. (2005, February). *Looking Back and Moving Forward: Critical Factors in Community-Based Care*. Presentation for Juvenile Welfare Board, Clearwater, FL.
- Vargo, A. C. (2005, February). *Foster Care Child Resiliency Study Update*. Presentation for USF Collaborative and local community, Florida Mental Health Institute, Tampa, FL.
- Vargo, A. C. & Sharrock, P. (2005, February). *Children's Quality of Care Study*. Presentation for AHCA Area One stakeholder group, Pensacola, FL.
- Armstrong, M. I., Vargo, A. C., Kershaw, M. A., Sharrock, P., Wallace, F. & Yampolskaya, S. (2005, January). *Looking Back and Moving Forward: Critical Factors in Community-Based Care*. Presentation for Allegany Franciscan Foundation, Clearwater, FL.
- Kershaw, M. A., Vargo, A. C., Wallace, F., Yampolskaya, S., Armstrong, M., & Jordan, N. (2004, November). *Privatizing Child Welfare: An Examination of Organizations and Outcomes*. Presentation for the Dependency Court Summit, Orlando, F. L.
- Kershaw, M. A., Yampolskaya, S., Armstrong, M., Paulson, R., Jordan, N., & Vargo, A. C. (2004, January). *Not Just Privatization: Florida's Child Welfare System and Community-Based Care*. Presentation for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Southeast Evaluation Association, Tallahassee, FL.
- Armstrong, M., Kershaw, M. A., Vargo, A. C., Yampolskaya, S., Paulson, R., & Jordan, N. (2003, November). *Evaluation of the Privatization of Child Welfare in Florida: The Community-Based Care Initiative*. Presentation for the Educational Foundation for the Advancement of Child Welfare Annual Conference: It's in Our Hands: Shaping the Future for Florida's Children, Orlando, FL.
- Paulson, R., Armstrong, M., Jordan, N., Yampolskaya, S., Kershaw, M. A., & Vargo, A. C. (2003, November). *Evaluation of the Privatization of Child Welfare in Florida: The Community-Based Care Initiative*. Presentation for the Walker National Center for Professional Development and the National Council on Research in Child Welfare Annual Conference: Tools That Work: Improving Child Welfare Services Through Research, Performance Measurement, and Information Technology, Miami, FL.
- Paulson, R., Armstrong, M., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., Vargo, A., & Yampolskaya, S. (2003, October). *Evaluation of the Florida Department of Children and Families Community-Based Care Initiative*. CBC Stakeholder presentation at the Department of Children & Families,

Tallahassee, FL.

- Kershaw, M. A., Jordan, N., Yampolskaya, S., Paulson, R., Armstrong, M., & Vargo, A. C. (2003, September). *Evaluation of the Privatization of Child Welfare in Florida: The Community-Based Care Initiative*. Presentation for the Florida Council for Community Mental Health, Inc., Annual Conference: Reaching for Quality in Challenging Times, Clearwater, FL.
- Berson, I. R., Vargo, A. C., & Roggenbaum, S. (2003, July). *Medicaid Targeted Case Management for Children in the Child Welfare System*. Presentation to the Agency for Health Care Administration, Tallahassee, FL.
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- Berson, I. R., Vargo, A. C., & Roggenbaum, S. (2003, June). *Targeted Case Management for Child Welfare Clients in Medicaid*. Presentation to the Medicaid Advisory Group, Tampa, FL.
- Berson, I. R., Vargo, A. C., & Dailey, K. (2003, June). *Infant and Toddler Medicaid Part C Study*. Presentation to the Medicaid Advisory Group, Tampa, FL.
- Vargo, A. C., Berson, I. R., Roggenbaum, S., & Baker, D. (2003, April). *Mental Health Care for Child Welfare Clients*. Poster Presentation for the Graduate Student Research Symposium, Tampa, FL.
- Berson, I. R., Vargo, A. C., Dailey, K., Zheng, Z., & Powell, D. (2003, March). *Medicaid and Part C Services: Funding Mechanisms to Support Interventions for Young Children*. Presentation for the 16th Annual Research Conference: A System of Care for Children's Mental Health: Expanding the Research Base, Tampa, FL.
- Berson, I. R., Vargo, A. C., Roggenbaum, S., & Baker, D. (2003, March). *Mental Health Care for Child Welfare Clients*. Poster Presentation for the 16th Annual Research Conference: A System of Care for Children's Mental Health: Expanding the Research Base, Tampa, FL.
- Paulson, R., Armstrong, M., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., Vargo, A. C., & Yampolskaya, S. (2003, March). *Evaluation of the Privatization of Child Welfare in Florida: The Community-Based Care Initiative*. Presentation for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference: A System of Care for Children's Mental Health: Expanding the Research Base, Tampa, FL.
- Vargo, A. C., & Yampolskaya, S. (2003, March). *Welfare reform: Do we need to think about teen pregnancy prevention and intervention?* Presentation for the 16th Annual Research Conference: A System of Care for Children's Mental Health: Expanding the Research Base, Tampa, FL.

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Paulson, R., Armstrong, M., Brown, E., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., Vargo, A. C., & Yampolskaya, S. (2002, April). *Submission to the Florida Legislature: Evaluation of the Florida Department of Children and Families Community-Based Care Initiative in Manatee, Sarasota, Pinellas and Pasco Counties*. CBC Stakeholder presentation at the Department of Children & Families, Tallahassee, FL.

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## Service

### Editorial Activities/Scholarly Review

#### **Manuscript Review**

2024 Health Research Policy and Systems

#### **Conference/Panel Review**

2025 Peer Reviewer, IAFOR European Conference on Education

2024 Peer Reviewer, IAFOR International Conference on Education

### University Service

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