

Dr. Robert Anthony Hernandez

Assistant Teaching Professor of Social Work
Suzanne Dworak Peck School of Social Work
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, Ca. 90089

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EDUCATION

Institution Years Attended Degree Major Field

University of Southern California 2018 DSW Social Work
(Dean's Scholar)

University of Southern California 2007 MSW Social Work
(Dean's Scholar)

San Jose State University 1999 B.A. Sociology

Pasadena City College 1996 Liberal Arts Degree

TEACHING POSITIONS AND RANKS HELD

Institution Rank Date Major Subject

Univ. of Southern California Assistant Teaching Professor of Social Work July 2022 to present

Univ. of Southern California Full-Time Senior Lecturer Fall 2015 – to June 2022

Univ. of Southern California Adjunct Assistant Professor Fall 2013 – Spring 2015

Univ. of Southern California Part-Time Lecturer Fall 2008 – Spring 2013

Courses Teaching & Taught

Spring 2024

SOWK 324: Juvenile Justice in America

SOWK 350: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK 624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Fall 2023

SOWK 350: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK 424: Community Experience in Juvenile Justice Environments

SOWK 624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Spring 2023

SOWK 324: Juvenile Justice in America

SOWK-390: Special Problems

SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Fall 2022

SOWK 424: Community Experience in Juvenile Justice Environments
SOWK-627: Policy and Macro Practice in Child, Youth and Family Services
SOWK-627: Policy and Macro Practice in Child, Youth and Family Services
SOWK-630: Diversity, Social Justice, Culturally Humble Social Work Practice

Summer 2022

SOWK 536: Policy and Advocacy in Professional Social Work
SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Spring 2022

SOWK 324: Juvenile Justice in America
SOWK 390: Special Problems
SOWK 424: Community Experience in Juvenile Justice Environments
SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Fall 2021

SOWK 424: Community Experience in Juvenile Justice Environments
SOWK 536: Policy and Advocacy in Professional Social Work
SOWK 536: Policy and Advocacy in Professional Social Work
SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Summer 2021

SOWK 536: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations
SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Spring 2021

SOWK 324: Juvenile Justice in America
SOWK 536: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations
SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings
SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Fall 2020

SOWK 350: Adolescent Gang Intervention
SOWK 536: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations
SOWK-536: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations
SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Summer 2020

VAC-SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings
VAC-SOWK-627: Policy and Macro Practice in Child, Youth and Family Services

Spring 2020

SOWK 350: Adolescent Gang Intervention
SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings
VAC-SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

VAC-SOWK-627: Policy and Macro Practice in Child, Youth and Family Services

Fall 2019

SOWK 536: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations

SOWK-536: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations

SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

VAC-SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Summer 2019

VAC-SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Spring 2019

SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

VAC-SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Fall 2018

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Spring 2018

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

VAC-SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Fall 2017

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

VAC-SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

Summer 2017

VAC-SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

VAC-SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

VAC-SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

Spring 2017

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK-624: Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings

VAC-624-Course Conversion

Fall 2016

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK-536: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations

VAC-SOWK-536: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations

Summer 2016

VAC-SOWK 535: Social Welfare

VAC-SOWK 535: Social Welfare

VAC-SOWK 535: Social Welfare

Spring 2016

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

VAC-SOWK 535: Social Welfare

Fall 2015

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK-536: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations

VAC-SOWK-534: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations

Summer 2015

VAC-SOWK 545: Social Work Practice with Families and Groups

VAC-SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

Spring 2015

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

VAC-SOWK 535: Social Welfare

Fall 2014

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK-534: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations

VAC-SOWK-534: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations

Summer 2014

VAC-SOWK 545: Social Work Practice with Families and Groups

VAC-SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

Spring 2014

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

VAC-SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

Fall 2013

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

VAC-SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

Summer 2013

VAC-SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

Spring 2013

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention
SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations
SOWK 668: Social Work & the Law

Fall 2012

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention
VAC-SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations
VAC-SOWK-534: Policy and Practice in Social Service Organizations

Summer 2012

VAC-SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

Spring 2012

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention
SOWK 611: Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations

Fall 2011

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

Spring 2011

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

Fall 2010

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

Spring 2010

SOWK 350: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

Fall 2009

SOWK 499: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

Spring 2009

SOWK 499: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

Fall 2008

SOWK 499: Special Topics: Adolescent Gang Intervention

*Recipient of the Jane Adams award, 2024, 2014.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Institution/Agency

POSITION

Date

Office of Congressional District 29 Chair – Juvenile Justice Advisory Council 2019 – Present
Congressmember Cardenas
State of California

USC Forensic Social Work Caucus University Park Campus Los Angeles, CA	Co-Advisor	2016 – Present
Visionary Youth Center, Los Angeles, CA	Founder/Board Chair	2011 - Present
USC Troy Camp Student Union Building Los Angeles CA	Co-Advisor	2010 - Present
USC Latino Alumni Advisory Board Member At-Large Los Angeles, CA		2008 - Present
Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti's Gang Reduction Youth Development City of Los Angeles	Academic Advisor	2015 - 2022
USC Gould School of Law Post-Conviction Project Los Angeles, CA	USC- Field Instructor	2018 – 2019
USC Rotaract Club Trousdale Pkwy, Los Angeles, CA 90089	Co-Advisor	2014 - 2018
Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti's Gang Reduction Youth Development Los Angeles, CA	USC-Field Instructor	2014 - 2017
Anti-Recidivism Coalition Los Angeles, CA	USC-Field Instructor	2015 - 2016
USC Latinx Social Work Caucus University Park Campus Los Angeles, CA	Co-Advisor	2010 – 2015
Homeboy Industries, Los Angeles, CA	USC-Field Instructor	2014-2015
Hollywood Community Housing Corporation, Los Angeles, CA	Resident MSW	2011 - 2014
Communities In Schools, San Fernando Valley, CA	USC-Field Instructor	2010 - 2014

Youth Policy Institute Consultant, Pacoima & Hollywood, CA	Resident MSW	2008 - 2011
LAC+USC Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA	Program Manager	2009 - 2010
Communities In Schools, San Fernando Valley, CA	Director of Performance Mgmt.	2007 – 2009
Communities In Schools, San Fernando Valley, CA	Social Work (Intern)	2006 - 2007
LAMP Community Program Los Angeles, CA	Counselor/Intern (Stipend)	2005 - 2006
Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA	Social Work Associate	2001 - 2005
Hollygrove Residential Foster Care Facility, Los Angeles, CA	Recreation Therapist Assistant,	2000 - 2001
Prevention Education Program Center, Health Center San Jose State University San Jose, CA	Program Director,	1997 - 2000
National Council of Alcoholism & Drug Dependence, Silicon Valley, San Jose, CA	Life Skills Coach (Intern)	1998 - 1999

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, SERVICE & PUBLICATIONS

Chapters

Hernandez, R.A., Kim, S., and Karmakar, D. (2023). Smart Decarceration: A Multi-Prong Approach to Healing with the Incarcerated, Maiden, P.R., & Wiess, E.L., *Social Work Education And The Grand Challenges: Approaches to Curricula & Field Education*. London and New York, Routledge Taylor and Francis Group.

Hernandez, R.A., Garcia, L.M, and Tam, M. (2021). Youth Identified as Gang Involved in Schools: A Comprehensive Approach to Support, In Harris, M.B, & Fitzgerald, T., *The School Services Sourcebook: A Guide for School-Based Professionals*. New York, Oxford University Press. IN-PRESS.

Hernandez, R.A., (2020). Voices of the Formerly-Incarcerated - “The formerly incarcerated is my community, that’s my culture” In Finney, K. & Fitzgerald, T., *Diversity, Race and Skin Color: From the Living Room to the Class Room* (pps.283-298). San Diego, California: Cognella, Inc.

Hernandez, R.A., Estrada, J.N., Huerta, A., Hernandez, E., and Kim, S.W. (2017). Socio-ecological risk and protective factors for youth gang involvement.

Hernandez, R.A., Estrada, J.N., and Kim, S.W. (2016) Considering Definitional Issues, Cultural Components, and the Impact of Trauma When Counseling Vulnerable Youth Susceptible to Gang Involvement. In Casas, M.J., Suzuki, L.A., Alexander, C.M., and Jackson, M.A., *Handbook of Multicultural Counseling* (pps. 332-347). Thousand Oaks, California: Sage.

Hernandez, R.A., (2015). Working with Gang-Involved/Affiliated Youth. In Schott, E.M.R. & Weis, E.L., *Transformative Social Work Practice* (pps.283-298). Thousand Oaks, California: Sage.

Authored Legislative Policies

Hernandez, R.A., et al., HR 3526 Community Based Gang Intervention Act. 2009 (House of Representatives). Comprehensive Approach to Community Based Gang Intervention.

Hernandez, R.A., et al., Two Prong Approach to Community Based Gang Intervention. 2008 enacted into City Policy for the City of Los Angeles.

Significant Items

Hernandez, R.A., (2024). Recipient of the highly acclaimed, Jane Adams Award, which recognizes a faculty member whom the graduating students have nominated for their academic administrative and moral support to their studies as students.

Hernandez, R.A., (2019). Named as Chair to Congressional District 29 Advisory Council on Juvenile Justice for the Office of Congressman Cardenas, State of California.

Hernandez, R.A., (2014). Named as the academic advisor to current Mayor of Los Angeles, Eric Garcetti's Office of Gang Reduction Youth Development Department.

Hernandez, R.A., (2014). Recipient of the highly acclaimed, Jane Adams Award, which recognizes a faculty member whom the graduating students have nominated for their academic administrative and moral support to their studies as students.

Hernandez, R.A., (2014). Recipient of the 2014 Professor of Color Recognition Award at the University of Southern California, hosted by the Asian Pacific American Student Assembly (APASA) and the Academic Culture Assembly (ACA) of USC's Program Board which recognizes Professors for their outstanding leadership and commitment to the campus and to the greater community.

Lead the adoption of a community-based violence intervention program for USC. (2021-present)

The objective is for USC Department of Public Safety, in collaboration with the Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, to adopt evolving protocols and establish a triage call center to address non-violent, community related issues.

Lead the USC Community-Based Youth Violence Prevention Project: A UPC neighborhood youth diversion pilot program (2022-present)

A youth diversion pilot program has been launched in University Gardens near the University Park Campus. The project is a collaboration between the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, non-profit Inner-City Visions (ICV) and in partnership with USC's Department of Public Safety and local mental health organization Wellnest. This program takes a multi-pronged approach to provide services to the most vulnerable and marginalized youth in the neighborhood. Inner City Vision's community-based violence reduction specialists will be able to divert and direct youth in South Central Los Angeles to increased opportunities and engagement while assisting USC in implementing its ONE USC Safety Vision of community safety for students, staff, faculty, and the neighborhood. Services that will be administered include, but are not limited to job and career readiness, counseling, trauma informed care, afterschool programming, tutoring and mentorship.

Serving as a team member to evaluate the City of Los Angeles' 911 call diversion initiative. (2021- present)

The project aims to evaluate the effectiveness of a mental-health 911 call diversion initiative (titled "Call Direction to Ensure Suicide Safety") comprehensively. In collaboration with Didi Hirsch and LAPD. The program is designed to divert 9-1-1 calls to the Didi Hirsch Suicide Prevention Center rather than to law enforcement for persons in a mental health crisis. Working alongside a team of researchers from the USC Suzanne Dworak Peck School of Social Work our role is to broaden evaluation outcomes in collaboration with Didi Hirsch, Los Angeles Police Department, the LA mayor's office, and the LA city council. We aim to generate a rigorous report that can inform relevant criminal justice policies locally and nationally.

Co-Lead Organizer of the "Community Safety" Conference. (2024)

The 2024, Tri-County Collaborative which consist of Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego, counties hosted the "Community Safety" conference in partnership with USC's Public Safety Department, USC's Human Relations Department, and the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck, School of Social Work with support from SC-CSTI: Southern California Clinical and Translational Science Institute. This year's conference was held on the East side of town at USC's Health Science campus. The Tri-County Collaborative CSC hosted over 200 CBO's and their respective community members and leadership personnel. In commemorating the conference's inaugural decade in 2024, The Tri-County Collaborative- CSC reflected on the invaluable wisdom of their respective community elders, who possess valuable insights into community building and creating a safer environment for all. For this ten-year milestone, the conference actively endeavored to pass on wisdom to the younger generation. By examining the current community safety landscape and envisioning a future that amplifies the community's voice, the Tri-County Collaborative's overall arching goal is to empower and propel the collective voice of the community for years to come to make communities better and safer.

Served on President Folt's Department of Public Safety Implementation Committee for the University of Southern California. (2021 – 2023)

Worked with implementation committee composed of academics, and staff, to ensure the recommendations by the Community Advisory Board report to re-think public safety at USC is fully implemented.

Co-Lead Organizer of the “Community Safety” Conference. (2023)

The 2023, Tri-County Collaborative “Community Safety” conference in partnership with USC’s Public Safety Department, USC’s Human Relations Department, and the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck, School of Social Work hosted close to 400 community members at the USC’s Galen Founders Room. The theme of this year’s conference was Community Safety through the Lens of Women Leaders with a Healing-Centered Approach. The CSC builds off successful symposiums and forums held in the past. The CSC puts a strong emphasis on uplifting the community member’s voices with dignity, respect, and purpose. Cultivating awareness with community members in a respectful and peaceful manner the conference seeks to continue its partnership with “Community” by engaging in critical dialogue to bring about “Community Safety” for all through a shared process of kinship and care influencing practice, research, and policy on the issue of community safety.

Co-Lead Organizer of the “Community Safety” Conference. (2022)

The 2022, Tri-County Collaborative “Community Safety” conference in partnership with USC’s Public Safety Department, USC’s Human Relations Department, and the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck, School of Social Work hosted over 200 community members at the USC’s Galen Founders Room. The theme of this year’s conference was from Trauma to Transformation. The 2022 Community Safety Conference proactively ventures from trauma to transformation, highlighting the strengths of healing within and from community.

Serving on President Folt’s Department of Public Safety Community Advisory Board for the University of Southern California. (2020 – 2021)

Working with 19-member steering committee composed of academics, staff, students, and community members to re-think public safety for the university. Recommendations will inform President Folt’s redesign of the Department of Public Safety for the university.

Serving on Los Angeles County’s Steering Committee to Re-Imagine Youth Justice. (2020)

Working with shared stakeholders, government officials, and a team of researchers to re-imagine youth justice for the county of Los Angeles into a thoughtful, actionable recommendation effort for the County that centers on youth development and wellbeing.

Served on Search Committee for USC’s Public Safety Department. (2019-2020)

Hiring of Assistant Chief of Operations Bureau Personnel to service the University of Southern California and larger community. Position is second in command to the Executive Chief of USC.

Selected as member of a Criminal Justice Working Group - USC’s Sol Price School. (2019)

To establish and develop a Criminal Justice Program for the University led by USC’s Sol Price School of Public Policy.

Served on LA-County’s Design Team to Develop a Youth Diversion Model. (2017-2019)

Working with a multi-sector subcommittee composed of the Probation Department, District Attorney's Office, Juvenile Court, Public Defender's Office, Office of Diversion and Reentry, Department of Mental Health, Children and Family Services, Sheriff's Department, local police departments, school districts, community-based organizations, and Justice Involved youth to make recommendations for scaling up effective youth diversion throughout the County and

addressing the underlying needs of youth through systems of care that prioritize equity, advance well-being, support accountability, and promote public safety which was launched in 2019.

Co-Lead Organizer of the “Community Safety” Conference. (2019)

The 2019, Tri-County Collaborative “Community Safety” conference in partnership with USC’s Public Safety Department, USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck, School of Social Work, and USC Civic Engagement hosted over 200 community members at the USC Hotel. The theme of this year’s conference was celebrating “CommonUnity.” The emphasis was to provide a safe environment for the community’s voice to be uplifted with dignity and respect as we celebrated key “Change Agents” in the community and captured their voices to inform practice, research, and policies relative to the community members experiences.

Developed Formal Partnership with USC’s Gould School of Law. (2018)

Formalized an internship between the USC Suzanne Dworak Peck School of Social Work and USC’s Gould School of Law, Post-Conviction Project.

Community Immersion – USC Suzanne Dworak Peck School of Social Work (2008-2018)

Since 2008, I have been a course instructor assisting with the facilitation and implementation of community immersion for our newly admitted MSW graduate students on the ground and virtually as part of their orientation into the school. The week-long program consists of writing workshops and an in the community experience which segues into students first semester policy courses. Students are introduced to concepts related to community, and diversity, and challenges individuals and families interact with daily and the role social workers play within this process to better serve their constituents.

Hosted the Annual Youth Justice Coalition – FREE LA HIGH GRADUTION (2018)

Annually the Department of Education in collaboration with Los Angeles County Department of Education and Community Based Organization - Youth Justice Coalition, celebrate the successful completion of high school for justice involved youth within the County of Los Angeles. For the past five years I have hosted this event annually on the campus of USC to inspire further pursuit of their education beyond High School. The event is attended by elected-officials, community members, our MSW students, and most importantly the family and friends of the graduates.

Co-Lead Organizer of the “Community Safety” Conference. (2018)

The 2018, Tri-County Collaborative “Community Safety” conference in partnership with USC’s Public Safety Department hosted over 300 community members at USC’s Galen Center’s Founders Room. The theme of this year’s conference was exploring *violence related-trauma due to urbanization and the impacts of community trauma and the future of community policing*. The conference seeks to strengthen community healing with a cultural humility and resilience awareness lens with community members in a respectful, peaceful, manner. The mission of the conference is to increase relationships by engaging in dialogue to bring about “Community Safety” for all.

Selected to co-design programming for the new “LA Model” for probation. (2016-2017)

In partnership with the Los County Office of Probation, Department of Mental Health, and the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) we successfully opened the first L.A. Model

cottage at Campus Kilpatrick a juvenile rehabilitative service design that is therapeutic in nature from a trauma informed approach in July 2017.

Co-Lead Organizer of the “Community Safety” Conference. (2017)

The 2017, Tri-County Collaborative “Community Safety” conference in partnership with Project Days of Dialog and the USC Department of Public Safety provided support to the conference by facilitating respectful, purposeful conversations on the future of policing with over 400 community members most impacted by community violence. The conference aim was to strengthen community healing with a cultural humility and resilience awareness lens with community members in a respectful, peaceful, manner. The mission of the conference was to increase relationships by engaging in dialogue to bring about “Community Safety” for all. The conference took place at the Radisson Hotel at the USC, Grand Ballroom.

Selected as Subject Matter Expert in Gang-Related Violence-Obama Administration (2016)

I was identified and served as a national subject matter expert in gang-related violence prevention for the Obama Administration’s - Now Is The Time Initiative (NITT). Facilitated a training through Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education) with SAMSHA and the United States Department of Health and Human Services for the Department of Education in Des Moines, Iowa.

Served on Reentry Solutions Steering Committee – Ontario, CA. (2016)

Served on the Reentry Solutions Steering Committee hosted in Ontario, CA. A statewide re-entry conference. I was selected to facilitate a workshop on; Prevention, Intervention, and Reentry Approaches for Vulnerable Youth Populations Impacted by the Criminal Justice System.

Co-Lead Organizer of the “Community Safety” Conference. (2016)

The Tri-County Collaborative, in partnership with the USC, Suzanne Dworak-Peck, School of Social Work, and the Trauma Informed Care Task Force of Greater Los Angeles hosted the first of its kind community driven event, by the community and for the community. Over 400 Community members most impacted by community violence attended a daylong conference centered on community trauma at the Radisson Hotel at the USC, Grand Ballroom. The theme of the conference was “What is Community Trauma?” The mission of the conference was to elevate the voices of community members who have been largely affected by “community trauma” throughout Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego, Counties. The conference provided a platform that lifted the voices of the community with dignity and respect in a shared safe space. The conference serves as a vehicle to collectively effect change with the community member’s voices leading the way.

Served on Steering Committee for California’s first Reentry Conference. (2015)

I served on a state-wide steering committee for California’s first Re-entry conference held in Sacramento, CA. In addition, I was selected to facilitate various workshops and present on prevention, intervention, and re-entry approaches for working with justice involved youth.

Presenter: Los Angeles Gang Violence Prevention & Intervention Conference – “Historical Context of Gang Culture: Challenging Current Theories.” (2012)

Given that my focus concentrates on understanding youth street gangs, I have been invited to present at various professional conferences, events, and training workshops throughout the country. I have lectured on the issues that arise when trying to define a street youth gang for research purposes, about cross-cultural experiences explaining the youth street gang phenomenon, the cultural dynamics of Latino gangs within the community context, a socio-ecological approach to understanding street gangs, and school risk and protective factors associated with gang membership. My work has been recognized by elected officials, researchers, and practitioners from Los Angeles, which is known as the “gang capital of the world,” as I was invited to present alongside other gang experts at the 1st Annual Los Angeles Gang Violence Prevention & Intervention Conference. This is only one of the many workshops, lectures, and/or presentations I give back to the community to provide education about the youth street gang culture.

Invited Lectures, Workshops & Speeches

Hernandez, R.A., (2023, July). *Youth Development: Positive Youth Justice*. Workshop provided to Los Angeles County, Credible Messenger Program. Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., (2022, June). *Juvenile Injustice In Los Angeles*. Workshop provided to Los Angeles County, Credible Messenger Program. Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., (2022, April). Moderated a Youth Symposium for the USC Suzanne Dworak Peck School of Social Work. Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2022, February). “*Gangs myths, reality, and the best way to advocate for youth involved*” Workshop provided to Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for Children of Los Angeles. Edmund D. Edelman Children’s Court, Monterey Park, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., and Garcia, L.,M. (2021, July). *Trauma-Informed Safety Nets*. Provided a two-day training for Blue Shields, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2021, June). Served on a panel at the Project Kinship Trauma & Recovery Certificate Program, Santa Ana, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2021, February). *The Impact of Trauma on Vulnerable Youth Susceptible to Gang Involvement*. Workshop provided to Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for Children of Los Angeles. Edmund D. Edelman Children’s Court, Monterey Park, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2021, January). Served as a panelist for the USC Suzanne Dworak Peck School of Social Work’s *Latinx Our Community, Government and Schools Social Work Virtual Round Table*. Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., and Estrada, J.N. (2020, November). *The Impact of Trauma on Vulnerable Youth Susceptible to Gang Involvement*. Conducted a week-long training for the Los Angeles County Office of Education. Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2020, February). *A Socio-Ecological Approach to Street Youth Gangs, School Safety Theory, Practice, and Interventions*. Lecture provided to USC Suzanne Dworak Peck School of Social Work: School Violence Course-Witkin (SOWK 688). Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2020, October). Served as a panelist for the USC Suzanne Dworak Peck School of Social Work, Vote 2020: Social Work Virtual Round Table.

Hernandez, R.A. (2020, September). *Contemporary Gang Theory Considering Definitional Issues, Cultural Components, and Impact of Trauma When Working With Vulnerable Youth Susceptible to Gang-Involvement*. Presented to CHLA Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine Grand Rounds, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2020, August). Served as a moderator for the USC Suzanne Dworak Peck School of Social Work's *Community Based Approach to Social Justice and Community Healing*.

Hernandez, R.A. (2020, August). Served as a panelist for the University of Southern California's Racial Justice + Social Equity + Wellbeing Series. Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2020, July). Served as closing-speaker; Summit on Community Resilience, Intervention, Prevention, and Training (SCRIPT): Men's Survivors of Trauma Conference - The Chicago School of Psychology, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., and Estrada, J.N. (July 2020). *System-Induced Traumatization*. Provided a one-day training for Project Kinships Trauma & Recovery Certificate Program, Santa Ana, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2020, January). *Contemporary Gang Theory: Considering Definitional Issues, Cultural Components, and Impact of Trauma When Working with Vulnerable Youth Susceptible to Gang-Involvement*. Workshop provided to Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for Children of Los Angeles. Edmund D. Edelman Children's Court, Monterey Park, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2019, July). Served as panelist, workshop facilitator, closing-speaker; Summit on Community Resilience, Intervention, Prevention, and Training (SCRIPT): Men's Survivors of Trauma Conference - The Chicago School of Psychology, California Endowment, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2019, April). Panelist at the Urban Street Trauma Conference – *Global Efforts to Increase Public-Safety*. United States Consortium led by the Professional Community Intervention Institute, California Endowment, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2019, April). *A Socio-Ecological Approach to Street Youth Gangs, School Safety Theory, Practice, and Interventions*. Lecture provided to USC Suzanne Dworak Peck School of Social Work: School Violence Course-Astor (SOWK 688). Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2019, August). *Best Practices for Youth Development National Conference*. Webinar-Presentation to The Alliance for Positive Youth Development – SISGI GROUP.

- Hernandez, R.A.** (2018, April). Panelist at the *Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice Conference*. Sacramento, CA.
- Hernandez, R.A.** (2017, August). *Community Violence-Related Trauma & Youth Development*. Lecture provided to Cal State University Los Angeles Child Development Department, and USC School of Dentistry Collaborative Community Project, Los Angeles, CA.
- Hernandez, R.A.** (2017, July). *Community Violence* – Panelist, and closing speaker on the topic of “Violence-Related Trauma” at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Summit on Community Resilience, Intervention, Prevention, and Training conference. California Endowment, Los Angeles, CA.
- Hernandez, R.A.** (2017, May). *Community Violence and Its Impact on Latino Communities: Practice, Research, and Policy*. Presentation at the 15th Annual Social Services in the Latino/a Community Conference held at the University of California Los Angeles, Luskin School of Public Affairs, Social Welfare Department. Los Angeles, CA.
- Hernandez, R.A.** (2017, April). *A Comprehensive Multi-Prong Approach to Community Based-Violence Reduction*. Presentation to California State University Los Angeles Department of Social Work., Los Angeles, CA.
- Hernandez, R.A., & Estrada, J.N.** (2017, April). *Considering Definitional Issues, Cultural Components, and Impact of Trauma When Working with Vulnerable Youth Susceptible to Gang-Involvement*. Presentation to San Diego State University Department of Counseling and School Psychology. San Diego, CA.
- Hernandez, R.A.** (2017, March). *Working with Vulnerable Youth Populations*. Workshop to Soledad Enrichment Action – Community Based Organization working with Justice Involved Youth. Los Angeles, CA.
- Hernandez, R.A.** (2017, February). *Historical Trauma* Presentation to California State University of Los Angeles Master in Social Work faculty and students. Los Angeles, CA.
- Hernandez, R.A.** (2016, October). Panel-Facilitator at the *Ontario Reentry Solutions Conference: Keys to Reentry*. Ontario, CA.
- Hernandez, R.A.** (2016, September). Trainer at *SEA Project AWARE Iowa NITT Technical Assistance Center Grant Training Violence Prevention*. Des Moines, Iowa.
- Hernandez, R.A., & Valdez, A.** (2016, May). Co-Trainer and Facilitator at *National Hispanic and Latino ATTC Latino Youth Street Gangs in the United States: Practical Tools for Service Providers*. Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Hernandez, R.A., & Valdez, A.** (2016, March). Co-Trainer and Facilitator at *National Hispanic and Latino ATTC Latino Youth Street Gangs in the United States: Practical Tools for Service Providers*. Charleston, South Carolina.
- Hernandez, R.A.** (2015, November). Key Note Speaker and Co-Facilitator at *Sacramento Reentry Conference: Health Disparities & Juvenile Justice*. Sacramento, CA

Hernandez, R.A. (2015, August). *Community Violence-Related Trauma & Youth Development*. Lecture provided to Cal State University Los Angeles Child Development Department, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2015, July). *Stop the Stigma: Male Trauma & Violence* Presented at the Summit on Community Resilience, Intervention, Prevention, and Training (SCRIPT) Conference, California Endowment, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2015, June). *Contemporary Gang Theory & Cultural Considerations*. Presented to the University of Southern California, School of Social Work field practicum, (SOWK 686) Virtual Academic Center.

Hernandez, R.A., & Paco, R. (2015, May). *Working with Vulnerable Youth Populations in their Community, What is Happening with Our Youth of Color?* Workshop provided to Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic clinicians, Los Angeles, CA

Hernandez, R.A., Estrada, J.N. & Fuentes, C. (2015, March). *Working with Formerly Incarcerated Individuals*. Workshop presentation given to the Orange County Public Safety and Re-Entry Conference, University of Southern California School of Social Work, Orange County, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Rodriguez, F. (2015, March). A Social-Ecological Approach to Community Trauma and Optimal Wellness: Practical Tools to Heal from Complex Trauma for Youth and Young Adults, Presented to the Forensic Mental Health Association of California 40th Annual Conference, Monterey, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Fuentes, C. (2014, November). *Working with Formerly Incarcerated Individuals*. Workshop presentation given to the Black Brown Summit on Re-Entry, Solano County, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2014, September). *Community Violence & Gang Theory*. Workshop presentation given to Tessie Cleveland Mental Health Agency, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2014, June). *Contemporary Gang Theory*. Workshop presentation given to Tessie Cleveland Mental Health Agency, Compton, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2014, June) *Community Violence-Related Trauma & Youth Development*. Lecture provided to Cal State University Los Angeles Child Development Department, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Estrada, J.N. (2014, May). *Contemporary Gang Theory*. Workshop presentation given to the Orange County Public Safety and Re-Entry Conference, University of Southern California School of Social Work, Orange County, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Estrada, J.N. (2014, May). *Working with Formerly Incarcerated Individuals*. Workshop presentation given to the San Diego Re-Entry Conference, San Diego County, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., Estrada, J.N., & Kim S., (2014, March). *A Socio-Ecological Approach to Street Youth Gangs, School Safety Theory, Practice, and Interventions*. Workshop presentation provided to the City of San Diego at San Diego State University. San Diego, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., (2014, February). *Contemporary Gang Theory*. Workshop presentation given to California State University Los Angeles, Department of Psychology and Child Development, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2013, April). *Criminalization of our Youth*. Panelist at the University of Southern California Latina/o Social Work Caucus event entitled – No Mas at El Centro Chicano University Park Campus, Los Angeles.

Hernandez, R.A. (2013, April). *Gang Culture*. Workshop presented to Kaiser Permanente faculty, staff, and graduate social work interns at their Baldwin Park Community Center, Los Angeles County.

Hernandez, R.A. (2013, February). *Gang Prevention*. Workshop presented to Cal State University's Department of Child and Family Studies, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Estrada, J.N. (2013, April). *Contemporary Gang Theory*. Presentation provided to the University of Southern California Forensic Social Work Caucus Summit titled – Shifting the Lens: A Holistic Approach to Juvenile Delinquency at the Ronald Tutor Center, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Estrada, J.N. (2013, February). *A socio-ecological approach to street youth gangs, school safety theory, practice, and interventions*. Workshop presentation given at The 4th Annual Symposium on Street Gangs and School Safety. Los Angeles County Office of Education, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Estrada, J.N. (2013, March). *A Socio-Ecological Approach to Street Youth Gangs, School Safety Theory, Practice, and Interventions*. Workshop provided to the City of San Diego at San Diego State University, San Diego, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2012, November). *Panel Moderator* at the University of Southern California School of Social Work, Latina/o Social Work Caucus Latinos in Research panel event entitled – Meet the Leading Latino's and Latina's in Social Work Research at Levy Library, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2012, November). *Youth Gang Involvement*. Workshop presentation given at the University of Southern California Clinical Social Work Caucus Brown Bag entitled – And Still We Rise at the Orange County Academic Center, Orange, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2012, August). *Street Socialized Youth Groups and Addictive Behaviors*. Guest lecture for the Social Work Substance Abuse with Consideration of other Addictive Disorders (SOWK 617) course at the University of Southern California, School of Social Work Orange County Academic Center, Orange, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2012, May) *Historical context of gang culture: Challenging current gang theories*. Workshop given to Cal State University Los Angeles Forensic Social Work Department, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2012, May). *Working with Vulnerable Youth Populations*. Workshop given to the University of Southern California Troy Camp, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Estrada, J.N. (2012, May). *Historical context of gang culture: Challenging current theories*. Workshop presentation given at the 1st Annual Los Angeles Gang Violence Prevention and Intervention Conference – Beyond Turf Wars: How Effective Collaboration is Stemming the Tide of Gang Violence in Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A. (2012, April). *Practice Based Approach when working with Street Socialized Youth Groups*. Workshop given to Day Reporting Center Los Angeles County Probation Department, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Estrada, J.N. (2012, April). *Understanding the historical context of gang culture: A social-ecological approach challenging current gang theory and intervention*. Workshop presentation given at the 10th Annual Social Services in the Latino/a Community Conference at the University of California, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Estrada, J.N. (2012, February). *Understanding the historical context of gang culture: A socio-ecological approach challenging current gang theory and intervention practices*. Continuing education (CEU) workshop presentation given at the University of Southern California Latino Alumni Community Advisory Committee & Casa Cardenas Senior and Family Counseling Center, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Garcia-Echeveria. (2012, January). *Practice driven informed approaches when engaging with Street Socializing Youth Groups*. Workshop given to Children's Hospital Los Angeles Health Providers Networking Council at Children's Hospital Los Angeles - Division of Adolescent Medicine, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., & Estrada, J.N. (2011, May). *Understanding the historical context of gang culture: A social-ecological approach challenging current gang theory and intervention practices*. Workshop presentation given at the 9th Annual Social Services in the Latino/a Community Conference at the University of California, Los Angeles, CA.

Hernandez, R.A., Wood, J., & Arkova, S. (2010, December). *Empowering Vulnerable Youth Group Populations – We are all Brilliant and can be Successful in School*. Workshop given to Homeboy Industries, faculty, staff, and students at Homeboy Industries, Los Angeles, CA