

ELENA HONTORIA TUERK, PH.D.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Medical University of South Carolina** Charleston, SC
2007-2008 Post-Doctoral Scholar, Family Services Research Center, Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
- University of Medicine and Dentistry New Jersey (UMDNJ)** Newark, NJ
2006-2007 Pre-Doctoral Psychology Internship (APA accredited)
- University of Virginia** Charlottesville, VA
2003-2007 Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, Curry Programs in Clinical and School Psychology (APA accredited)
2002-2003 M.Ed., Curry Programs in Clinical and School Psychology
- Columbia University** New York, NY
1998-2002 B.A. in Psychology, cum laude

POSITIONS

- 2019-Pres. Lecturer, Curry Programs in Clinical and School Psychology, University of Virginia
2007-Pres. Clinical Child Psychologist (VA License # 0810005951, SC License # 1120)
2008-2014 Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Medical University of South Carolina

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2002-2005 Curry School of Education Graduate Studies Fellowship (\$20,000/year)
2003-2005 Buffett Fellowship for Applied Clinical Work in the Area of Children and Families (\$1,000/year)
2005 Richard A. Abidin Award for Excellence in Research (\$500)
2006 Curry School of Education Scholarship for Leadership, Professional-Community Activities and Academic Achievement (\$5,600)
2006 Clinical Research Conference Travel Award (\$400)
2006 Girl Scouts of America Initiative Development Award (\$7000)
2011 Recipient, Georgia E. Smith Neighborhood Award (\$100)
2011 Fish Family Foundation Award (\$50,000)
2014 Coastal Community Foundation NEW Fund Community Dev. Award (\$3000)

PREVIOUS RESEARCH SUPPORT

- 2010-2011 Co-Investigator (Project Coordinator), *Family-Based Treatment for Parental Substance Abuse and Child Maltreatment*. National Institute on Drug Abuse, R01DA029726-01. Cindy M. Schaeffer, Ph.D. and Cynthia C. Swenson, Ph.D., Co-Principal Investigators
- 2007-2011 Project Coordinator and Data Analyst, *Building Stronger Families Program*. Connecticut Department of Child and Families. Cindy M. Schaeffer, Ph.D. and Cynthia C. Swenson, Ph.D., Co-Principal Investigators
- 2008-2009 Research Director, *Synthesizing Intervention Effectiveness Project*. National Institute of Mental Health, R01MH071204-01. Michael D. Sweat, Ph.D., Principal Investigator

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Loper, A. B., & Tuerk, E. H. (2006). Parenting programs for incarcerated parents: Current research and future directions. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, 17, 407-427
- Tuerk, E. H. & Loper, A. B. (2006). Contact between incarcerated mothers and their children: Assessing parenting stress. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 43(1), 23-43.

- Swenson, C. C., Schaeffer, C. M., Tuerk, E., Henggeler, S. W., Tuten, M., Panzarella, P., ... & Guillorn, A. (2009). Adapting multisystemic therapy for co-occurring child maltreatment and parental substance abuse: The Building Stronger Families project. *Emotional and Behavioral Disorders in Youth, 9*(1), 3-8.
- Loper, A. B., & Tuerk, E. H. (2011). Improving the emotional adjustment and communication patterns of incarcerated mothers: Effectiveness of a prison parenting intervention. *Journal of Child and Family Studies, 20*(1), 89-101.
- Tuerk, E. H., McCart, M. R., & Henggeler, S. W. (2012). Collaboration in family therapy. *Journal of clinical psychology, 68*(2), 168-178.
- Schaeffer, C. M., Swenson, C. C., Tuerk, E. H., & Henggeler, S. W. (2013). Comprehensive treatment for co-occurring child maltreatment and parental substance abuse: Outcomes from a 24-month pilot study of the MST-Building Stronger Families program. *Child Abuse & Neglect, 37*(8), 596-607.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

- Henggeler, S. W., & Tuerk, E.H. (2009). Clinical foundations. In S. W. Henggeler, S. K. Schoenwald, C. M. Borduin, M. D. Rowland, & P. B. Cunningham (Eds.), *Multisystemic treatment of antisocial behavior in children and adolescents* (pp. 12-50). Guilford Press.

NON-PEER REVIEWED

- Tuerk, E. H., Cunningham, P. B., McCart, M. R., Henggeler, S. W. (2008). *Engaging families in treatment*. Charleston, SC: Family Services Research Center.
- Tuerk, E. H., (2007). *Parenting from the inside: Assessing a curriculum for incarcerated mothers*. ProQuest.
- Schaeffer, C. M., Swenson, C. C., Tuerk, E. H., & Henggeler, S. W. (2004). *Adherence Rating for Therapists – Revised (ART-R)*. Unpublished instrument. Charleston: Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Medical University of South Carolina.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- Carlson, L. W., Tuerk, E. H., Loper, A. B. (2007, November). *Cognitive-behavioral therapy: Interventions for incarcerated mothers*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia, PA.
- Tuerk, E. H., & Loper, A. B. (2006, August). Demographic and personal characteristics of incarcerated mothers and their children. In R. A. Abidin (Chair), *Mothers Behind Bars, Children Left Behind – Connection, Resilience, and Change*. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Tuerk, P. W., Yoder, M., Rauch, S.A.M., Tuerk, E. H. (2012). PTSD in Later Life: An invited post-conference workshop, presented at the Joint Annual Conference of Home-Based Medicine and the Academy of Home Care on March 18, 2012, Tokyo, Japan
- Tuerk, P. W., Tuerk, E. H., Rauch, S.A.M, Hall, B., Yoder, M., Nagae, N. (May, 2013). *Collaborative International Mental Health Response to Disasters: Establishing Community Programming & Evidence-Based Therapy Training*. A lecture presented at 26th Annual Update in Psychiatry: Disaster, Trauma & Recovery, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, S.C.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Curry Programs in Clinical and School Psychology, University of Virginia

1/19 - Pres.

Lecturer

EDHS 9761 – Child Therapy (Spring 2019)

- Instructor for doctoral-level course focused on evidence-based interventions for children

Clinical Supervisor

EDHS 8700 – Clinical Psychology Practicum (Summer/Fall 2019)

- Provide individual and group supervision for doctoral students in Clinical Psychology

Evidence-Based Practice Institute

1/19 - 6/19

Consultant (10 hrs. per week)

- Engage referral sources in short-term study integrating mobile technology into interventions for youth with behavior problems
- Develop direct-to-consumer referral stream through social media advertising and public engagement
- Manage development and operations of 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to deploy evidence-based treatment for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in post-disaster settings

Japan-US Evidence-Based Mental Health Response Initiative (JEMRI)

5/11 - 4/18

Executive Director (1 hr. per week)

- Manage development and operations of 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to deploy evidence-based treatment for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in post-disaster settings
- Maintain budget and financial records, develop reports for funders and regulatory agencies
- Ensure compliance with non-profit status requirements

Medical University of South Carolina

Clinical Psychologist, Psychiatry Associates (5 hrs. per week)

3/11 - 9/14

- Provide evidence-based psychological treatment for children, adolescents, and multi-problem families

Project Coordinator, Building Stronger Families Program (Connecticut)

8/07 - 5/11

- Supervise research activities for a multi-site clinical outcome study assessing effectiveness of Multisystemic Therapy (MST) in treatment of families referred for parental substance abuse and child maltreatment
- Provide clinical consultation to treatment supervisors and therapists during weekly consultation calls and as needed for staff development
- Conduct quarterly “booster” trainings on-site for staff
- Ensure model adherence by reviewing and updating supervisor development plans, providing feedback to staff on performance measures, and facilitating supervisor development meetings to evaluate progress
- Provide updates as needed to Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) at MUSC and the Connecticut Dept. of Children and Families (DCF) to ensure compliance with ethical requirements for research
- Conduct statistical analyses of outcome data for quarterly reports to funding sources and local stakeholders
- Collaborate with state-level stakeholders regarding program implementation issues and to create statistical procedures for ongoing program assessment

Research Director, Synthesizing Intervention Effectiveness Project

6/08 - 12/09

- Supervise research activities on NIMH-funded systematic review project evaluating effectiveness of behavioral interventions for HIV prevention in developing countries
- Provide ongoing training to staff on research methodology and statistical techniques
- Coordinate research activities with collaborators located at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland
- Conduct meta-analyses of systematic review articles for publication in peer-reviewed journals

University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ)

Child Psychology Intern

7/06 - 6/07

Outpatient Rotation (12 months)

- Provide individual and family therapy for children, adolescents, and families with diverse presenting problems
- Conduct comprehensive intake interviews; synthesize case conceptualization and diagnostic findings in intake assessment reports; develop treatment plans with goals and measurable objectives
- Provide case management for clients, including identifying needed services and coordinating treatment with community agencies
- Participate in multi-disciplinary treatment team

Partial Hospitalization Rotation (6 months)

- Provide weekly individual and family therapy to clients in a 6-month after-school treatment program for children with severe mental illness
- Participate in milieu treatment, including mediated therapeutic play, group therapy, and crisis intervention
- Provide on-call support during program hours to help clients manage emotional reactions under stress
- Participate in multi-disciplinary treatment team providing intensive case management and psychiatric monitoring

Psychological Assessment Rotation (12 months)

- Conduct comprehensive assessments of children and adolescents using cognitive and personality measures, including the WISC-IV, MMPI-A, Rorschach, RATC, Vineland, behavior rating scales, and clinical interviews
- Create integrative psychological reports that include diagnostic findings and treatment recommendations

Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) Rotation (12 months)

- Co-facilitate weekly psychoeducational group for adolescent clients at-risk for emotional dysregulation and harmful behaviors using treatment modality developed for adults with Borderline Personality Disorder (*6 months*)
- Participate in multi-disciplinary treatment team

Children of Violence Rotation (12 months)

- Conduct weekly individual treatment using play therapy techniques with children who have been exposed to trauma

Program Development Rotation (6 months)

- Provide grant-writing consultation to department leadership

Emergency Department Rotation (1 month)

- Conduct clinical interviews with patients in emergency room setting; provide consultation to hospital staff

Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention

Staff Psychologist (Practicum, 16 hours per week)

7/05 - 6/06

- Perform intake assessments of detainees with evidence of suicidal ideation and/or psychosis
- Conduct weekly psychotherapy for residents in a 6-month post-disposition program
- Design treatment and transition plans for post-disposition residents; coordinate post-release treatment with local agencies and families
- Conduct group therapy for post-disposition residents using empathy development and anger management curricula
- Train staff on suicide assessment and mental health referral procedures
- Developed stress reduction handbook for newly detained youths in order to enhance emotional and behavioral adjustment
- Collaborated with local community service board to obtain a \$100,000 grant for additional mental health services

Albemarle County Schools

School Psychology Intern (Practicum, 16 hours per week)

8/04 - 6/05

- Conduct comprehensive psychological assessments using cognitive and personality measures, including the WISC-IV, VMI, Bender Gestalt, WJTCA-III, Rorschach, and clinical interviews
- Provide individual and group counseling for children with social, emotional, and behavioral difficulties
- Provide consultation to teachers, staff, and administration at elementary and middle school levels
- Conduct Functional Behavior Assessments (FBAs) and develop Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs) for students receiving Special Education services
- Develop counseling and behavior goals for Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)
- Facilitate Special Education eligibility meetings
- Facilitate parent training group using COPE curriculum

UVA Center for Clinical Psychology Services

Assessment Case Manager

6/03 - 9/05

- Organize assessment team meetings and provide team with background information for assessment planning
- Conduct comprehensive psychological assessments using cognitive and personality measures, including the WISC-IV, VMI, JJTCA-III, WJTA-III, Rorschach, DAP, RATC, and clinical interviews
- Synthesize test results and case conceptualization in a detailed report
- Provide feedback, including recommendations for intervention, to parents, schools and community agencies

UVA Center for Clinical Psychology Services

Staff Psychologist (3 hours per week)

6/03 - 7/05

- Conduct individual and family therapy with adult, adolescent, and child clients
- Provide behavior management consultation to parents

Agnor-Hurt Elementary School

School Psychologist Intern (Practicum, 8 hours per week)

1/03 - 6/03

- Provide individual counseling for children identified for Special Education Services
- Conduct cognitive assessments and child observations
- Provide feedback to educators and parents during eligibility meetings for Special Education services

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Virginia

Child Team Therapist

Fall 2003

EDHS 869 – Clinical/School Psychology Practicum

- Conduct child therapy using psychodynamic play techniques while observed by clinical psychology graduate students
- Provide background information, case conceptualization, and diagnostic updates to team in weekly meetings
- Coordinate didactic materials and course logistics with team supervisor

CBT Team Therapist

Spring 2004

EDHS 869 – Clinical/School Psychology Practicum

- Conduct child therapy using cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) techniques while observed by clinical psychology graduate students

- Provide background information, case conceptualization, and diagnostic updates to team in weekly meetings
- Coordinate logistics and materials with team supervisor

Teaching Assistant

Summer 2004

EDHS 870 – Clinical Psychology Practicum

- Assist doctoral students learning psychological assessment, scoring, and interpretation
- Coordinate materials and assist with other course logistics
- Assist course instructor with grading

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2004

EDHS 866 – Personality Assessment I

- Assist doctoral students learning MMPI-II, Rorschach, Millon tests, TAT, RATC, projective drawings, and behavior rating scales for use in assessment
- Provide individual and group assistance with Rorschach scoring and interpretation
- Coordinate materials and assist with other course logistics
- Assist course instructor with grading

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2005

EDHS 867 - Personality Assessment I

- Assist doctoral students in application of theory and current research to personality assessment
- Edit students' weekly assessment reports
- Coordinate materials and assist with other course logistics
- Assist course instructor with grading

Fluvanna Women's Correctional Facility

Group Leader

Fall 2002 - Spring 2006

“Parenting From the Inside”

- Teach 9-week cognitive-behavioral and attachment-focused parenting curriculum to incarcerated mothers
- Facilitate small- and large-group discussion among mothers in course
- Supervise graduate student small-group facilitators
- Coordinate materials and organize course logistics
- Assist selected inmates during enhanced visitation with children

Trainer

Spring 2006

Inmate Group Facilitation Workshop

- Designed 6-week course to train selected inmates to act as group co-facilitators for parenting course
- Teach skills such as relaxation training, empathic listening, managing group dynamics, and therapeutic responding
- Supervise graduate student co-facilitator
- Coordinate materials and organize course logistics

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Member, Clinical Executive Committee, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Medical University of South Carolina
- Student Representative, Curry Programs in Clinical and School Psychology, University of Virginia
- Student Representative – Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology (CUDCP)

COMMUNITY SERVICE (PAST 5 YEARS)

- Troop Co-Leader, Girl Scout Troop #2164 (2018-present)
- Literacy Volunteer, Virginia L. Murray Elementary School (2018-present)

- Appointed Member, City of Charleston Short-Term Rental Task Force (2017)
- Member, Buist Academy School Improvement Council (2016-2017)
- Member, Buist Academy Foundation (2016-2017)
- President, Westside Neighborhood Association, City of Charleston (2015-2016)
- Member, Mitchell Elementary School Improvement Council (2014-2017)
- Member, Burke High School School Improvement Council (2015-2017)
- Volunteer Sunday School Teacher, Circular Congregational Church (2015-2017)