

**Gabriela Alvarado**  
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**EDUCATION**

**PhD. Policy Analysis** **Expected Jun 2023**  
**Pardee RAND Graduate School** **Santa Monica, CA**

**MA Anthropology** **Dec 2017**  
**Georgia State University** **Atlanta, GA**

**MSc Public Health** **Sep 2015**  
**London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine** **London, UK**

**Doctor of Medicine** **Dec 2012**  
**University of Costa Rica** **San Jose, Costa Rica**

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Assistant Policy Researcher** **September 2019 – Current**  
**RAND Corporation** **Santa Monica, CA**

Collaborated on the following projects:

- Evaluation of ACEs screening in California (July 2020 – Current)
  - Assisting with interview protocol design
  - Conducting telephone interviews with patients after they have received ACEs screening during their doctors' appointments
  - Thematic content analysis of qualitative data
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Culture of Health Evaluation (April 2020 – Current)
  - Assisting in research for indicators and measures
  - Producing summaries and categorizations of indicators and measures
  - Analysis of indicators and measures through the lens of the Theory of Change model
- Food Security Externship Program in Sitka, Alaska (Jan 2020 – current)
  - Communicated with point of contact in Sitka, Alaska to develop a list of potential partner organizations as part of the Community-Partnered Policy and Action externship program
  - Conducted scoping research on suggested organization to determine relevance and fit with Pardee RAND externship program
  - Reached out to organizations and identified key persons, provided information on Pardee RAND and Community-Partnered Policy and Action Stream
  - Scheduled meetings for the Dean's site visit with interested organizations
  - Created briefing document for site visit with background information on Sitka, Alaska, food security, and each organization on the itinerary
  - Took notes during site visit, wrote site visit report, and drafted thank you letters
  - Participated in the first externship program during the Summer of 2020
- Integration of primary care and behavioral health care (Feb 2020 – Sept 2020)
  - Conducted telephone interviews with health providers and administrators
  - Weekly meeting notes
  - Assisting with coding of interview data for causal loop diagramming

- Access to screening and treatment for Hepatitis C in people of color living with HIV (Oct 2019 – Sept 2020)
  - Assisted in organizing and facilitating focus groups with patients and health providers
  - Wrote site visit reports
  - Assisted with qualitative data analysis and report write-up
  - Summarized data from partner implementation activities
  - Bi-weekly meeting notes
  - Organized monthly learning network webinars for partners
- World Anthropology Day Panel Discussion (March 2020)
  - Organized and moderated a panel discussion for World Anthropology Day titled “You don’t have to be an anthropologist to use anthropological methods”
  - Reached out to RAND researchers to participate in panel, developed agenda, and facilitated panel discussion
  - Booked rooms, coordinated VTC, and arranged catering
  - Designed email invitation for event
- Various graphic design tasks for multiple projects across sectors (Ongoing)
  - Designed cards for pile sorting activity
  - Created posters for workshop
  - Assisted in the design of infographics for specific clients
  - Strong Adobe Illustrator skills
- Various translation tasks: English – Spanish (Ongoing)

**Independent Consultant**

**Mar 2019-Aug 2019**

**Public Health Consultant**

**International**

- Provided support to public health projects in the US and internationally in the form of data collection, monitoring and evaluation design, implementation analysis, strategic planning, strategic communication, grant writing, and meeting facilitation.
- Certified Fourth R (Healthy Relationships Education) Trainer.

**Department of Health and Social Services, State of Alaska**

**Jun 2018-Feb 2019**

**PREP Director**

**Anchorage, AK**

- Technical consultant and subject matter expert related to adolescent and young adult health issues and oversaw state-wide health communications projects.
- Researched, developed, evaluated, and communicated best practices regarding adolescent and young adult health.
- Designed and implemented program monitoring and evaluation strategies including data collection, analysis, and report writing related to adolescent health program needs and activities.

**CISG (InterAmerican Center for Global Health)**

**Jan 2017-Jun 2018**

**Program Manager**

**San Vito, Costa Rica**

- Taught, trained, implemented, and developed educational programs in global health, public health, health systems, health equity, interculturality and health.
- Developed CISG’s strategic planning and monitoring & evaluation plans.
- Managed the organization’s development portfolio: grant writing, proposal writing, event planning.

**Department of Anthropology**  
**Graduate Research Assistant**

**Jan 2016-Dec 2017**  
**Atlanta, GA**

- Conducted literature reviews, position papers, and grant writing.
- Assisted in cultural domain analysis, thematic content, and discourse analysis.
- Independently carried out data collection in Costa Rica.
- Supported the development of a study abroad program in Costa Rica.

**The Carter Center**  
**Intern – Mental Health Program**

**Aug 2015-Dec 2015**  
**Atlanta, GA**

- Wrote literature reviews, position papers, and grant proposals.
- Developed an evaluation proposal for rural mental health initiatives in NW Georgia.
- Assisted in program evaluation for the Mental Health Journalism Fellowship program and proposed qualitative methodologies for evaluation.

**Caja Costarricense del Seguro Social (Costa Rican National Health Service)**      **Jan 2013-Mar 2014**  
**Primary Care Physician**      **Puntarenas, Costa Rica**

- Worked as a physician in a mobile clinic in a rural area; moved daily to different health posts and provided basic health services, health promotion, and disease prevention activities.

**RESEARCH PAPERS**

Steven P. Black and Gabriela Alvarado (2020) Global Health Education and Mediatization of Care in Costa Rica. *Medical Anthropology* DOI: 10.1080/01459740.2020.1722123

Maria Gabriela Alvarado and Jorge Benavides-Rawson (2018) From Dengue to Zika: Environmental and Structural Risk Factors for Child and Maternal Health in Costa Rica. In *Maternal Health, Pregnancy-Related Morbidity and Death Among Indigenous Women of Mexico & Central America: An Anthropological, Epidemiological and Biomedical Approach*, edited by David A. Schwartz: Springer.

Maria Gabriela Alvarado and David A. Schwartz (2017) Zika Virus Infection in Pregnancy, Microcephaly, and Maternal and Fetal Health: What We Think, What We Know, and What We Think We Know. *Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine*: January 2017, Vol. 141, No. 1, pp. 2632.

**PRESENTATIONS AND NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

*Presentations*

School-based sex-ed: Beyond the curriculum. Lessons learned from Costa Rica and Alaska.  
National Sex Ed Conference Annual Meeting 2019, Newark NJ

Words Matter: The importance of language and communication in mental health  
Alaska Public Health Association Annual Meeting 2019, Anchorage AK

Healthy Relationships Education in Schools  
School Health & Wellness Conference 2018, Anchorage AK

Feelings in the Field: The Potential Role of Emotion in Anthropological Methodology and Theory  
American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting 2018, San Jose CA

Value, Care, and Verbal Art: Mediatizing Global Health in Costa Rica  
American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting 2017, Washington DC

## *Publications*

Alvarado, Gabriela. "Health service users' and providers' knowledge and attitudes to cervical cancer screening in Costa Rica : a qualitative study." Thesis, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 2015.

[https://discover.lshtm.ac.uk/permalink/44HYG\\_INST/uc2k9l/alma991000745835603736](https://discover.lshtm.ac.uk/permalink/44HYG_INST/uc2k9l/alma991000745835603736)

Alvarado, Gabriela. "Medical Volunteering Abroad" Blog post on AAA Ethics Forum, 2016.

<http://ethics.americananthro.org/2016/03/>

Alvarado, Maria G., "Sexual Education Among Indigenous Ngöbe Costa Ricans: A Tale of Two Schools." Thesis, Georgia State University, 2017.

[https://scholarworks.gsu.edu/anthro\\_theses/127](https://scholarworks.gsu.edu/anthro_theses/127)

Alvarado, Gabriela. "Cuándo será el aborto terapéutico una prioridad?" (When will therapeutic abortion become a priority?) La Nación, 2018.

<https://www.nacion.com/opinion/foros/cuando-sera-el-aborto-terapeutico-una-prioridad/4GHC3WTSTNC7DNKPJRR5LGG45M/story/>

Alvarado, Gabriela. "Ahora hablamos más de sexo" (Let's talk about sex) La Nación, 2018.

<https://www.nacion.com/opinion/foros/ahora-hablamos-mas-de-sexo/FXGOWVYLHNHUDMIWMNNYL2H2BY/story/>

Alvarado, Gabriela. "Los programas de afectividad del MEP: lo bueno, lo malo y lo feo" (The Ministry of Education's healthy relationships programs: the good, the bad, and the ugly) Delfino, 2018.

<https://delfino.cr/2018/02/los-programas-afectivdad-del-mep-lo-bueno-lo-malo-lo-feo>

Alvarado, Gabriela. "El día del aborigen costarricense: la verdad incómoda" (Costa Rican Indigenous Peoples Day: the uncomfortable truth) Delfino, 2018.

<https://delfino.cr/2018/04/dia-del-aborigen-costarricense-la-verdad-incomoda>

## **DISTINCTIONS AND AWARDS**

Spotlight Award, 2020, RAND

Fellow Research Showcase Award Winner, 2020, Pardee RAND Graduate School

International Student of the Year, 2017, Georgia State University

Outstanding Graduate Paper Prize, 2016, Department of Anthropology – Georgia State University

Chevening Scholar, 2014, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Highschool

Valedictorian, 2005, British School of Costa Rica

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

Experience in designing and conducting qualitative data collection (interviewing, focus groups, ethnography)

Strong analytical skills

STATA, SPSS, R, NVivo, Dedoose, MS Office, MS Access

Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop

Financial management and budgeting experience

Logic Models, Theory of Change, grants and proposal writing

Languages: fully bilingual English and Spanish, French (intermediate)