

Vanessa Torres, PhD, MPH
Postdoctoral Fellow
1776 Main St., PO Box 2138
Santa Mónica, CA 90407
Office: (310) 393-0411 x7561
vtorres@rand.org | torresvn@ucla.edu

EDUCATION

- 2014-2019 **University of Washington**
Ph.D., Health Services
Dissertation Title: *Assessing alcohol-related consequences, participant satisfaction, and engagement strategies in the Vida PURA study of unhealthy alcohol use among Latino immigrant men.*
- 2012-2014 **San Diego State University**
M.P.H., Health Promotion and Behavioral Science
Thesis Title: *Personal, social, and physical environmental correlates of sedentary behavior in churchgoing Latinas.*
- 2005-2009 **University of California, Berkeley**
B.A., Environmental Economics and Policy
B.A., Spanish Literature
Study Abroad: Xalapa, Veracruz (Summer 2008)
Study Abroad: Madrid, Spain, University of California, Riverside (Summer 2007)

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2019-pres. Postdoctoral Fellow, University of California, Los Angeles, Dept. of Health Policy and Management
- 2019-pres. Adjunct Policy Researcher, RAND Corporation, Dept. of Behavioral and Policy Sciences
- 2019 Research Assistant, ALMA: a study that aims to prevent and reduce depression and anxiety among Latina immigrant women (R01MD012230) University of Washington, Seattle, WA.
- 2017-2019 Pre-Doctoral Fellow, Biobehavioral Cancer Prevention Training and Control Program (2T32CA092408) Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, WA
- 2017 Teaching Practicum, Health disparities seminar (HSERV 555), University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- 2015-2017 Research Assistant, Vida PURA: Using brief interventions to reduce unhealthy drinking among Latino day laborers (R34AA022696) University of Washington, Seattle, WA.
- 2012-2014 Project Coordinator, County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency- North Coastal/North Inland regions, San Diego, CA
- 2011-2012 Research Assistant, Faith in Action: Randomized Controlled Trial to reduce sedentary behavior, promote physical activity, and chronic disease prevention among Latinas (1R01CA138894-01) Institute for Behavioral and Community Health Studies, San Diego, CA
- 2010-2011 Mental Health Counselor, Seneca Non-Profit organization (Mental Health Services)

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019 Latino Caucus Outstanding Student Paper Award, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
- 2019 Meritorious Abstract Award, Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 2019 Latino Center for Health Travel Award (\$500)

**Vanessa Torres
Curriculum Vitae**

2018-2019 Graduate Opportunities and Minority Achievement Program Dissertation Fellowship
2017-2019 Biobehavioral Cancer Prevention Training and Control Program Pre-Doctoral Fellow
2017-2019 Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute on Hispanic Drug Abuse Fellowship
2018 National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse Scientific Development Travel Fellowship
2018 Society for Prevention Research Travel Award (\$500)
2017 Latino Caucus Outstanding Student Paper Award (nominee), American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
2016-2017 University of Washington Graduate School Latino/a Scholars Graduate School Fellowship
2015-2017 National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Diversity Supplement Award
2005-2017 Gates Millennium Scholarship

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Torres, VN., Williams EC., Ceballos, R., Donovan, DM., Ornelas, IJ., (2019). Participant Satisfaction and Acceptability of a Culturally Adapted Brief Intervention to Reduce Unhealthy Alcohol Use Among Latino Immigrant Men. *American Journal of Men's Health*.

Ornelas, IJ., Doyle, SR., **Torres, VN.**, Serrano, SE., Duran, BM., Donovan, DM., (2019). Vida PURA: Results from a pilot randomized trial of a culturally adapted screening and brief intervention to reduce unhealthy alcohol use among Latino day laborer. *Journal of Translational Behavioral Medicine*.

Serrano, SE., Serafini, K., Eller, N., **Torres, VN.**, Donovan, D., Ornelas, IJ., (2017). Vida PURA: An Assessment of the Fidelity of Promotor Delivered Screening and Brief Intervention to Reduce Unhealthy Alcohol Use among Latino Day Laborers. *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse*. DOI: 10.1080/15332640.2017.1300557

Ornelas, IJ., **Torres, VN.**, Serrano S., (2016) Patterns of Unhealthy Alcohol Use among Latino Day Laborers. *Journal of Health Behavior and Policy Review*. DOI: 10.14485/HBPR.3.4.7

Lopez, MJ., Mintle, RA., Smith, S., Garcia, A., **Torres, VN.**, Keough, A., Salgado, H., (2014). Risk Factors for Intimate Partner Violence in a Migrant Farmworker Community in Baja California, Mexico. *Journal of Immigrant Minority Health*. DOI 10.1007/s10903-014-9988-8

SUBMITTED MANUSCRIPTS

Torres, VN., Williams EC., Ceballos, R., Donovan, DM., Duran, BM., Ornelas, IJ. [under review]. Participant Engagement in a Community Based Participatory Research Study to Reduce Alcohol Use among Latino Immigrant Men. *Health Education Research*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Torres, VN., Williams EC., Ceballos, R., Donovan, DM., Ornelas, IJ. [in preparation]. Estimating the Association of Alcohol Use and Social Stressors to Alcohol-related Consequences among Latino Day Laborers. University of Washington, Seattle, WA.

Carey, C., Williams EC., **Torres, VN.**, Ornelas, IJ. [in preparation]. Help-Seeking Patterns and Barriers to Care among Latino Immigrant Men with Unhealthy Alcohol Use. *Journal of Ethnicity and Substance Abuse*.

**Vanessa Torres
Curriculum Vitae**

Torres, VN., Fulton, BR., Wong, EC., Derosé, KP. [in preparation]. Prevalence and Predictors of Substance Use Support Programming Among U.S. Religious Congregations. *American Journal of Health Promotion*.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Torres, VN., Casas, FR., Ornelas, IJ., *Assessing acceptability of a culturally adapted brief intervention to reduce unhealthy alcohol use among Latino immigrant men*. Oral presentation at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, 2019

Torres, VN., Casas, FR., Ornelas, IJ., *Assessing acceptability of a culturally adapted brief intervention to reduce unhealthy alcohol use among Latino immigrant men*. Oral presentation at the Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., 2019

Robles, EH., **Torres, VN.**, Bautista, T., Castro, FG., *Innovative Alcohol and Drug Health Disparities Research for Underserved Populations Drawing from Qualitative Methodologies*. Symposium presentation at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 2018

Torres, VN., Ornelas, IJ., Donovan, DM., Duran, BM., Serrano SE. *Recruitment and retention strategies for conducting community-based alcohol research with Latino immigrant men*. Oral presentation at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, 2017

Ornelas, IJ., **Torres, VN.**, Serrano S., *Patterns of Unhealthy Alcohol Use, Stress and Mental Health among Latino Day Laborers*. Oral presentation at the International Conference on Social Stress Research, San Diego, CA, 2015

Ornelas, IJ., Serrano S., **Torres, VN.** *Vida PURA: Training Promotores to do Screening and Brief Intervention to Reduce Unhealthy Drinking among Latino Day Laborers*. Oral presentation at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, 2015

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Torres, VN., Donovan, DM., Duran, BM., Ornelas, IJ. *Drinking Motives and Alcohol-related Consequences among Latino Day Laborers*. Poster presentation at the National Hispanic Science Network Conference, Rockville, MD, 2018

Torres, VN., Ornelas, IJ., Doyle, SR., Donovan, DM., *Vida Pura: Results from a Randomized Control Trial of Culturally Adapted Screening and Brief Intervention to Reduce Unhealthy Alcohol Use Among Latino Day Laborers*. Poster presentation at the Academy Health Annual Research Meeting, Seattle, WA, 2018

Torres, VN., Ceballos, R., Ornelas, IJ., Beresford, SA., *Patterns of Mental Health and Quality of Life among Latina Cancer Survivors in the SANA II Study*. Poster presentation at the Biobehavioral Cancer Prevention and Control Training Program Annual Research Symposium, Seattle, WA, 2018

Torres, VN., Ornelas, IJ., Donovan, DM., Duran, BM. *Drinking Motives and Alcohol-related Consequences among Latino Day Laborers*. Poster presentation at the Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, 2018

Torres, VN., Ornelas, IJ., Donovan, DM., Duran, BM., Serrano SE. *Recruitment and Retention Strategies for Conducting Community-based Alcohol Research with Latino Immigrant Men*. Poster presentation at the National Hispanic Science Network Conference, Phoenix, AZ, 2017

Vanessa Torres Curriculum Vitae

Ornelas, IJ., **Torres, VN.**, Serrano, SE., *Vida PURA: Feasibility of Screening and Brief Intervention to Reduce Unhealthy Alcohol Use among Latino Day Laborers*. Poster presentation at the Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, 2017

Torres, VN., Serrano S., Ornelas, IJ., *Feasibility and Acceptability of the Vida PURA Intervention to Reduce Unhealthy Alcohol Use among Latino Day Laborers*. Poster presentation at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, 2016

Torres, VN., Serrano S., Ornelas, IJ., *Patterns of Unhealthy Alcohol Use among Latino Day Laborers*. Poster presentation at the Research Society on Alcoholism Scientific Meeting, New Orleans, LA, 2016

Torres, VN., Serrano S., Ornelas, IJ., *Patterns of Unhealthy Alcohol Use among Latino Day Laborers*. Poster presentation at National Hispanic Science Network Conference, Palm Springs, CA, 2016

Torres, VN., Serrano S., Ornelas, IJ., *Patterns of Unhealthy Alcohol Use among Latino Day Laborers*. Poster presentation at the Biobehavioral Cancer Prevention and Control Training Program Annual Research Symposium, Seattle, WA, 2016

Ornelas, IJ., Duran, B., Donovan, D., Serrano, SE., **Torres, VN.**, *Vida PURA: Screening and Brief Intervention to Reduce Unhealthy Alcohol Use among Latino Day Laborers*. Poster presentation at the Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Seattle, WA, 2016

Serrano, SE., Eller, NM., Serafini, K., **Torres, VN.**, Ornelas, IJ., *Vida PURA: Training Promotores to Deliver Brief Interventions to Reduce Unhealthy Alcohol Use among Latino Day Laborers*. Poster presentation at the Addiction Health Services Research Conference, Seattle, WA, 2016

INVITED PRESENTATIONS/ GUEST LECTURER

Torres, VN. (Scheduled: June 2020) *Getting in and getting through a doctoral program: Exito! alumni tell their stories*. Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training, EXITO Summer Institute. San Antonio, TX

Torres, VN. (November 2019). *What is Mental Health—mente sana, espíritu sano y cuerpo sano*. Office of Marriage and Family Life Ministry, Diocese of San Bernardino. San Bernardino, CA

Torres, VN. (November 2018). *Assessing alcohol-related consequences, participant satisfaction, and engagement strategies in the Vida PURA study of unhealthy alcohol use among Latino day laborers*. Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Indiana, PA

Torres, VN. (July 2018) *Health disparities*. University of Washington Upward Bound Introduction to Public Health. Seattle, WA

Torres, VN., Aceves, B., Garcia, ML., Figueroa, R. (June 2018) *Getting in and getting through a doctoral program: Exito! alumni tell their stories*. Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training, EXITO Summer Institute. San Antonio, TX

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

March 2019 Harm Reduction Training, Seattle, WA

March 2018 NIDA-NIAAA Diversity Scholars Workshop, Bethesda, MD

**Vanessa Torres
Curriculum Vitae**

- June 2017 Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute on Hispanic Drug Abuse Summer Training Program, LA, CA
- 2015-2016 Biobehavioral Cancer Prevention and Control Training Program (Affiliate) Seattle, WA
- Oct. 2015 Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, Atlanta, GA
- July 2014 Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training, EXITO Summer Institute, San Antonio, TX

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2018-pres. Board Member, *Exitó!* Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training Collaborative Group, Institute for Health Promotion at UT Health San Antonio, San Antonio, TX
- 2017-2018 Student Representative, Health Disparities Search Committee, Department of Health Services, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- 2017-2018 Student Representative, PhD Admissions Committee Member, Department of Health Services, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

MENTORSHIP

- 2018-pres. Cathea Carey, Master student, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, Thesis committee mentor (unofficial)
- 2018-pres. Erica Chavez, PhD student, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, Peer mentor
- 2015-pres. Meagan Brown, PhD student, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, Peer mentor
- 2015-pres. Janeth Sanchez, PhD student, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, Peer mentor
- 2015-pres. Benjamin Aceves, PhD student, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, Exitó Leadership training program mentor
- 2015-pres. Paulina Monteón, Master student, California State University, Long Beach, CA, Exitó Leadership training program mentor
- 2016-2017 Arturo Sanchez Diaz, Undergrad student, Gates Millennium Scholarship Alumni Mentorship Program, Mentor