

**IRENE C. VALDOVINOS, LCSW, MPH**  
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**Professional Interests**

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Enhancing substance use prevention, early intervention, and treatment services for youth and young adults, substance use disorder (SUD) treatment engagement, racial/ethnic health inequities, social determinants of health impact on substance use and SUDs, workforce development trainings

**Education**

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**University of California, Los Angeles** *In Progress*  
Doctoral Student in Social Welfare  
Advisor: Dr. Judith Perrigo

**University of California, Los Angeles** 2009 – 2012  
Master of Public Health  
Master of Social Welfare

**University of Southern California** 2005 – 2009  
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology  
Bachelor of Arts in Spanish

**Professional Experience**

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Research Associate (Temp-Part Time), Azusa Pacific University 6/2023 – 6/2025  
Department of Psychology

Assistant Professor, Azusa Pacific University 8/2020 – 8/2022  
Department of Psychology

Adjunct Professor, Azusa Pacific University 8/2018 – 12/2018  
Department of Social Work

Grant Specialist, Azusa Pacific University 1/2016 – 8/2020  
Department of Psychology

Mental Health Clinician (Floater) 9/2015 – 11/2015  
San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center

Mental Health Clinician, Family Centered Services of Connecticut 9/2014 – 7/2015

Mental Health Therapist, Tarzana Treatment Centers 8/2012 – 8/2014

Research Assistant, University of Southern California 8/2007 – 8/2009  
USC Center for Research on Crime and Social Control

## Professional Licensure

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Licensed Clinical Social Worker, LCSW#75940

2017 – 2026

## Scholarly Publications

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1. Keum, B.T., Perrigo, J.L., & **Valdovinos, I.C.** (2025). Online storytelling video on anti-Black racism to promote anti-racism advocacy among Latinx emerging adults. *Current Psychology*, 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-025-07573-w>
2. Keum, B.T., Wong, M.J., Xie, L., **Valdovinos, I.C.**, Na, J.Y., Morales, B., & Yung, J. (2025). Coping with COVID-19 related anti-Asian racism and depressive symptoms: The role of social support. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*. <https://psycnet.apa.org/doi/10.1037/ort0000835>
3. Keum, B.T., **Valdovinos, I.C.**, & Wong M.J. (2024). Problematic internet use, online racism, and mental health issues among racially minoritized emerging adults in the U.S. *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*, 22, 3958-3974. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11469-023-01093-z>
4. Keum, B.T.H., Cano, M.A., **Valdovinos, I.C.**, Boland, D. (2023). Impact of online and offline racism on tobacco use, marijuana use, and vaping via depressive/anxiety symptoms among racial minority emerging adults. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 93(5), 450-459. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1037/ort0000691>
5. Gonzales-Castaneda, R., McKay, J.R., Steinberg, J., Winters, K.C., Yu, C.H., **Valdovinos, I.C.**, Casillas, J.M., McCarthy, K.C. (2022). Testing mediational processes in a mobile texting aftercare project. *Substance Abuse*, 43(1), 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08897077.2019.1671941>
6. Rawlings, M.A., Gonzales-Castaneda, R., **Valdovinos, I.C.**, Payne, J.S., Yu, C.H. (2019). Spiritually responsive SBIRT in social work education. *Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions*, 19(1-2), 55-77. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1533256X.2019.1590702>

## Scholarly Presentations

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1. **Valdovinos, I.C.**, Abrams, L.S., Bondoc, C. & Barnert, E. (2026, January 18). "Instead of digging down...I'm getting a chance": A qualitative study on substance use among Black and Latinx young adults during reentry. [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work Research (SSWR) 2026 Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
2. Castaneda, R., Cooper, M., Larkins, S., Loya, C., Padwa, H., & **Valdovinos, I.C.** (2024, August 13). *New resources to advance evidence-based substance use prevention*. [Conference presentation]. Department of Health Care Services Substance Use Disorder Integrated Care Conference, Long Beach, CA, USA.
3. Castaneda, R., **Valdovinos, I.C.**, Farber, J., Padwa, H., & Larkins, S. (2021, August 24). *Contingency management for youth with substance use issues*. [Conference presentation]. Department of Health Care Services Substance Use Disorder Integrated Care Conference, ON24 Virtual Webinar, CA, USA.
4. Gonzales-Castaneda, R., McKay, J.A., Steinberg, J., Winters, K.C., Yu, C.H., McCarthy, K., **Valdovinos, I.C.**, Casillas, J. (2019, April 26-28). *Testing mediational processes of substance use*

*relapse among youth who participated in a mobile health aftercare pilot.* [Poster presentation]. 99th Western Psychological Association (WPA) Annual Convention, Pasadena, CA, USA.

5. Gonzales-Castaneda, R., **Valdovinos, I.C.**, Lee, H.S. (2017, March 17). *Youth substance use disorder and treatment outcomes: A snapshot of the Los Angeles County system of care.* [Poster presentation]. Common Day of Learning, Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA, USA.
6. **Campos, I.**, Lagos, V.I., Weitzel, J.N. (2008, August). *The impact of genetic cancer risk assessment and sociocultural variables on the preventive cancer screening behaviors of underserved Latinas.* [Poster presentation]. City of Hope, Eugene and Ruth Roberts Summer Student Academy, Duarte, CA, USA.

## Grants & Contracts

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1. Research Associate: *Evidence Based Practice for Substance Use Youth Prevention for the California Department of Health Care Services with the UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Prevention (UCLA ISAP) - Evaluation and Technical Assistance* (PI: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). 2023-2025.
2. Evaluation Director: *Project TREE: Enhancement and Expansion of Treatment and Recovery Services for Adolescents, Transitional Aged Youth, and their Families* (PD: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. 1H79TI083583. 2023-2025.
3. Project Coordinator: *Integrating Substance Use Education Training into Mainstream Behavioral and Applied Science Disciplines* (PD: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. 1H79FG000048. 2020-2022.
4. Project Coordinator: *Provider Clinical Support System-PCSS Training Focused on MAT Preparedness for Nurse Practitioner Students and Field Preceptor Community Health Sites to Address Opioid Use Issues: Enhancing a Faith-Based SBIRT Practice Model* (PD: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. 1H79TI082546. 2019-2022.
5. Evaluator: *Substance Abuse and HIV Prevention Navigator Program for Racial/Ethnic Minorities Ages 13-24 Cooperative Agreement* (PD: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. 5H79SP080234. 2019-2024. 2019-2022.
6. Project Coordinator: *External Evaluation of Real-World Medication Assisted Treatment Program Outcomes* (PI: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). California Health Care Foundation & Groups Recover Together. 2019-2020.
7. Project Director: *Increasing Awareness to Mental and Behavioral Health Services among Adolescents and Transitional Aged Youth in Los Angeles County* (PI: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). California Community Foundation (UCLA Subaward). 2000 G YA889. 2020-2021.
8. Project Director: *Los Angeles County Youth System Landscape and Design Planning* (PI: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). California Community Foundation (UCLA Subaward). 2000 G XE011. 2019-2020.

9. Project Coordinator: *Training and Workforce Development for the Youth System of Care* (PI: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (multiple annual contracts). 2017-2024.
10. Project Coordinator: *California Community Reinvestment Grant (CalGRG) Program Evaluation* (PI: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control subcontract). 2020-2021.
11. Project Coordinator: *Marijuana and Substance Use Prevention Trainings* (Vendor: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. PO-MH-18995119-1. 2018-2020.
12. Project Coordinator: *Training and Technical Assistance for Shasta County's Children Behavioral Health System of Care* (PI: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency, Children's Services. 2017-2019.
13. Project Coordinator: *Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Pilot* (PI: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority. 2017-2020.
14. Project Coordinator: *SBIRT-Student Training Initiative among Allied Health Professional Disciplines at Faith-Based Universities* (PD: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. 1H79TI026021. 2016-2019.
15. Evaluation Coordinator: Adolescent SBIRT Evaluation among Community Antidrug Coalitions of America (CADCA) Coalitions. Conrad N. Hilton (UCLA Subaward). 2016-2019.
16. Project Coordinator: *Evaluation of the Adolescent SUD System of Care in Los Angeles County*. (PI: Rachel Castaneda, PhD, MPH). Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (UCLA Sub-Contract). 2000-R-TD590. 2016-2017.

### **Training & Guest Lectures**

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1. Valdovinos, I.C., Castaneda, R., & Richter, L. (May 2025). Data-driven approaches to substance use prevention among adolescents. 4th Annual Southern California Substance Addiction Research Training Retreat, The California Endowment, Los Angeles, CA.
2. Valdovinos, I.C. (February 2025). Building responsive systems for youth and young adults with substance use needs. Guest lecturer for PA114: People Organizations & Systems, Luskin School of Public Affairs, University of California, Los Angeles, CA.
3. Valdovinos, I.C., & Castaneda, R. Early intervention programming: Best practices in working with youth in community settings. Training for the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC), Virtual webinar, Los Angeles, CA.
4. Valdovinos, I.C. (November 2023). Community efforts to address youth substance use risk. Guest lecturer for PA 80: How Social Environments Shape Development, Luskin School of Public Affairs, University of California, Los Angeles, CA.
5. Castaneda, R., Margossian, P., Serna, T., & Valdovinos, I.C. (November 2023). Elevate Youth California: Peer leader training. In-Person Training, Helpline Youth Counseling.

6. Valdovinos, I.C. (October 2023). Addressing substance use in primary care settings: SBIRT practice. Guest lecturer for PPSY 788: Integrated Health Psychology, Department of Clinical Psychology, Azusa Pacific University. Azusa, CA.
7. Valdovinos, I.C. (August 2021). Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT): Didactic Training. Training webinar, Azusa Pacific University, Community Counseling Center.
8. Valdovinos, I.C. (May 2020). SBIRT booster: Focus on referral to treatment & care coordination. Training webinar, Los Angeles Housing Services Authority, SBIRT Pilot Training.
9. Castaneda, R. & Valdovinos, I.C. (November 2019). Clinical supervision: Enhancing clinician/counselor competence in addressing co-occurring disorders among youth. Training webinar, Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency.
10. Valdovinos, I.C. (September 2016). Social work practice with children and families: Parental Substance Use. Guest lecturer for SOWK 613: Social Work Practice with Children & Families in Early/Middle Childhood, School of Social Work, University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA.

### **Awards & Honors**

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California Wellness Foundation Fellowship	2011-2012
UCLA Graduate Opportunity Fellowship Program	2009-2010
Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society	2009
USC's Latino Honor Society	2009
USC's Mexican American Alumni Association Scholar	2007-2009
Psi Chi Psychology National Honor Society	2007