

Monday, March 22
4:35 – 5:00 PM

Title: *A Qualitative Exploration of Rural Hispanic/Latino Community Mental Health Perceptions Through Photovoice: A Fotonovela Project*

Presenters: Erin McGuire, BS; Kayla Nembhard, MA, LMHC; Marina Martinez-Rivera, BPH & BS, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL; Margarita Romo, Honorary Doctorate, Farmworkers Self-Help Inc., Dade City, FL; Oliver Massey, PhD; Bruce Lubotsky Levin, DrPH, MPH; Donna Burton, PhD; Alexandra Albizu-Jacob, MPH, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida.

Abstract: Hispanic/Latino populations are less likely to identify mental health symptoms, seek help, or receive culturally relevant quality care. This study aims to explore the perceptions, attitudes, and beliefs of adolescents and young adults around mental health and substance use in rural Hispanic/Latino communities and determine culturally relevant themes among this population through photovoice and community-based participatory research (CBPR). Key findings will inform a community-driven fotonovela. The study also examines the limitations of CBPR research during the Covid-19 Pandemic.