

VIVIAN MILLS, PHD, MSW

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EDUCATION

- PhD** University of South Florida, December 2022
Specialization: Behavioral and Community Sciences
- M.S.** University of South Florida, May 2019
Specialization: Social Work
- B.S.** University of South Florida, May 2001
Specialization: Elementary Education

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

November 2022 – current

Florida State University
College of Social Work
Institute of Child Welfare
296 Champions Way
Tallahassee, FL 32306

Postdoctoral Fellow

Supporting an evaluation of the Institute of Child Welfare's Advanced Certifications (AdCerts) for the child welfare workforce, which are part of the ALIGN initiative at the Institute's GROW Center. Assisting with and leading ongoing quantitative and qualitative research, writing and reviewing reports, and translating research findings into policy recommendations for state legislators.

January 2020 – current

University of South Florida
College of Behavioral and
Community Sciences
School of Social Work
13301 Bruce B Downs Blvd
Tampa, FL 33612

Adjunct Professor

Teaching graduate-level courses in the School of Social Work master's program both in person and through virtual platforms. Engage students in discussions for learning and provide appropriate support to facilitate student success.

August 2019 – December 2021

University of South Florida
College of Behavioral and
Community Sciences

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Instructor of record for Mental Health and Addictions Disorder and Foundations of Social Welfare Policy courses. Conducted in-person and online lectures and

Department of Mental Health, Law,
and Policy
13301 Bruce B Downs Blvd
Tampa, FL 33612

support students in their learning. Assisted faculty in developing online course, grading assignments, and providing feedback to students. Collaborated with faculty regarding course content.

July 2019 – May 2020

Families First of Florida
4202 Eisenhower Blvd. Ste 315
Tampa, FL 33634

Outpatient Mental Health Therapist

Provided in-home psychotherapy services and counseling for children and adults. Completed assessments to identify goals for client services and develop treatment plans. Collaborated with other health professionals to coordinate care for clients.

January 2018 – December 2019

University of South Florida
College of Behavioral and
Community Sciences
School of Social Work
13301 Bruce B Downs Blvd
Tampa, FL 33612

Graduate Research Assistant

Project manager for study of the cost and benefits of permanent, supportive housing for chronically homeless population. Interviewed participants and collaborated with agency staff to identify community needs. Presented data to stakeholders at quarterly meetings. Recognized need for new assessment tool based on feedback from participants. Prepared literature reviews for reports, presentations, and article submissions.

January 2017 – May 2019

USF St. Petersburg
Family Study Center
100 5th Ave S
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Master of Social Work Intern

Provided therapeutic services for children birth to five and their caregivers. Participated in dependency court meetings to assess and address issues pertaining to Early Childhood Court. Piloted Guided Interaction Family Time visitation program with families involved in Early Childhood Court. Co-facilitated Circle of Security psycho-education parenting group throughout Pinellas county. Headed Coparenting subcommittee group within Pinellas Foster and Adoptive Parent Task Force.

May 2013 – August 2017

Eckerd Connects
8550 Ulmerton Rd. Ste. 130
Largo, FL 33771

Professional Parenting Trainer

Trained potential foster and adoptive parents regarding the foster care system, trauma-based parenting, and dependency court system. Provided support and mentorship to new foster parents with new placements. Participated in Foster and Adoptive Association to build fostering community in Pinellas county.

August 2007 – November 2012

Pinellas County School Board
 Palm Harbor Middle School
 1800 Tampa Rd.
 Palm Harbor, FL 34683

Classroom Teacher

Developed and implemented differentiated lessons for diverse students in grades 6-8. Created mentorship program for students in drop-out prevention program. Provided extended learning opportunities for students in gifted program. Designed a school-wide field day to encourage collaboration between different subject areas and grade levels. Held math department chair position for two years.

August 2001 – May 2003

Academie Da Vinci
 1060 Keene Rd.
 Dunedin, FL 34698

Classroom Teacher

Facilitated student learning by establishing clear classroom plans, group objectives, and actionable strategies to achieve individual student goals. Assessed student learning progress with hands-on assessments and standardized examinations. Encouraged growth of new charter school by creating and participating in family-based activities.

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS**PRIMARY RESEARCH INTEREST**

Child welfare policy, in particular as it relates and impacts biological parents who are involved with the system.

RESEARCH SUPPORT

Primary Investigators: Fogel, S., & Dion C.
 Florida Housing High Cost/High Needs Evaluation

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Bell, V. (2019, May). *What is Coparenting and Why it is important*. Lecture presentation at the Florida State Foster and Adoptive Parent Association conference, Daytona Beach, FL.

Fogel, S. J., Bell, V., & Duffus, S. (2018, May). *Preparing future social work learners to end homelessness: Activation of the Florida Work group*. Poster presented at the NASW-FL conference, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

PUBLICATIONS

Fogel, S. J. & Bell, V. (manuscript in progress). The first year of permanent supportive housing: Costs and social benefits to those in the community. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*.

LICENSURES & CERTIFICATIONS

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| August 2019 | Registered Clinical Social Worker Intern |
| August 2018 | Guided Interaction for Family Time |
| July 2018 | Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools |
| July 2018 | Circle of Security Parenting |
| June 2018 | Nurturing Parenting |

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS

National Association of Social Work, 2018 - present