



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH FLORIDA

A PREEMINENT RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

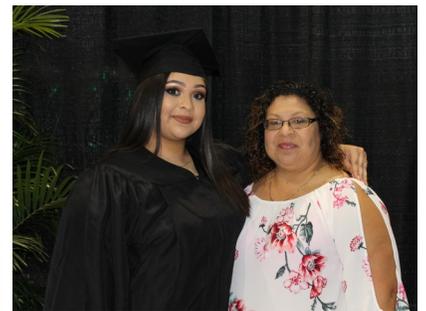
# HEP /CAMP Highlights

Center for Migrant Education

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

SUMMER 2019

## 2018-2019 HEP Graduates



USF is a high-impact, global research university dedicated to student success.

HEP (High School Equivalency Program) (PR#S141A140020) and CAMP (College Assistance Migrant Program) (PR#S149A140017) are federally funded grants through the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Migrant Education. They are administered through the Center for Migrant Education in the College of Education at USF. They are designed to assist eligible participants from migrant and seasonal farmworker backgrounds.

### THIS ISSUE

- CAMP Cohort. 2
- HEP Alumni Profile P. 6
- CAMP Spotlight P. 7
- Study Abroad Trips P. 11

# Annual HEP/CAMP Family Day



Every year the USF Riverfront Park gets a shock of energy from the usually tranquil and quiet surroundings during the [Annual HEP/CAMP Family Day](#). More than 160 attendees gathered together to enjoy the music and the traditional Mexican dishes available at the festivities. Parents and students spent the warm sunny day playing games and got an opportunity to meet other families who are also part of the CAMP & HEP programs. Thank you to all the HEP and CAMP student volunteers whose efforts made it all possible.

## 2018 - 2019 CAMP Students



*Left to Right: Henry Calderon, Bertina Vital, Eduardo Fox-Velazquez, Tammy Medrano, Angel Ramos, Mardochee Bellevue, Yisselle Mier, Diana Salazar, Ricardo Martinez, Elizabeth Vital, Rosalinda M. Jaramillo, Maria Haro, Janet Carranza-Zuniga, Andriase D. Octavius, Yvette Macedonio, Katie Escobedo, Gerardo Meza, Ruby Figueroa, Eppy Alvarez, Cristian J. Ramos, Jasmine Cardosa, Jennifer Gonzalez, Edith Vega, Miranda Garcia*

*Not Pictured: Viridiana Gonzalez, Marisol Resendiz, Alan Paniagua*

**Collier**

Michael L. Arevalo  
Alexandra Barajas  
Jose A. Carranza  
Evelyn Barajas Guerrero  
Isabel G. Hernandez  
Oscar Perez Morales  
Francisco Perez

**Gadsden**

Christian Jimenez  
Ricardo I. Perez

**Hendry**

Briana Martinez

**Highlands**

Jose A. Badillo  
Sagrario Salazar  
Lizbeth Morales Salvador

**Hillsborough**

Priscilla G. Aburto  
Adolfo Prudencio Albino  
Alex Antonio-Jose  
Jennifer Arredondo  
Cristina Gomez  
Aaliyah A. Hernandez  
Eric J. Hernandez  
Jose E. Hernandez  
William Jose  
Ariel Mendoza  
Katherine S. Olivares  
Isabel Arredondo Pelagio  
Angie S. Rangel  
Jesus M. Gonzaga Sanchez  
Carlos M. San-Juan  
Eric Santiago  
Sarah M. Solis  
Andrea E. Vargas  
Anita Velasco  
Miguel Angel Velazquez  
Rosemary J. Zamora

**Lee**

Megan A. Aguirre  
Abigail Cardona  
Diego A. Salazar Cruz  
Neri E. Cardona Jimenes

**Levy**

Christian L. Garcia

**Manatee**

Alexis J. Pesqueira

**Okeechobee**

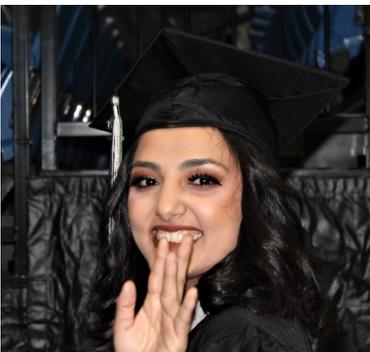
Kevin J. Alavez  
Luz M. Rivera  
Carmen O. Urvina  
Brian A. Salazar

**Orange**

Jonathan Molina-Sosa

**Polk**

Israel M. Benitez  
Luciano Santos Jr.



2018 - 2019 HEP Graduates to Date

## Life after HEP: First Year in College

Angel Valencia (Hillsborough), a 2018 recipient of a \$1,000 HEP/CAMP Association National Scholarship, successfully completed his first year at Hillsborough Community College (HCC) where he is majoring in criminal justice. Through a work-study placement, Angel tutored both elementary and college students. Since losing both his father and grandfather due to a car accident several years ago, Angel and his brother have been the main income providers in their large family. He has kept up with his coursework while working fulltime and serves as a role model for his younger siblings. After he graduates in May, 2020, Angel plans to work first as a correctional officer and then later as a police officer. Angel's goal is to earn the trust of the community by being an honest law enforcement officer who respects and protects everyone's rights.

*By Brigita Gabr*



*HEP Alumnus Angel Valencia (right), Patrick Doone (left)*

## From HEP Student to U.S Marine



*HEP Alumna Lizbeth Morales Salvador*

Lizbeth Morales Salvador (Highlands County) already knew that she wanted to serve her country back in middle school. On May 28, 2019, she reported to Paris Island, S.C. for training in the U.S. Marine Corps. Since enlisting, Lizbeth has been working out with other recruits to build up her endurance. Once Lizbeth sets a goal, there is no stopping her! She earned her high school diploma after only five weeks of GED exam preparation at the USF HEP. Lizbeth chose the Marines over other branches of the military because it was more of a challenge. She intends to serve as a Marine for four years and train in law enforcement to pursue a career in criminal justice. Although her family will worry about Lizbeth, they support her decision. By helping her family through agricultural work, Lizbeth knows the value of teamwork - an important skill in the military.

*By Brigita Gabr*

## HEP Student With A Sense Of Adventure

Jose "Joey" Carranza (Collier) started thinking about a military career back in the second grade. He has two uncles who retired from the U.S. Army and an aunt who served in the U.S. Air Force for twelve years. He was an active member of the JROTC. Joey reported to Fort Benning, GA on May 29, 2019 to train with the U.S. Army. He chose infantry as his job because he seeks excitement and that rush of adrenaline that is needed to effectively serve in a combat role. Joey also plans to go airborne; he certainly has a sense of adventure! Harvesting watermelons helped Joey build his physical strength as well as the ability to work well with other people. He will follow in his uncle's footsteps and serve in the Army through retirement. USF HEP is proud of our graduates who are serving our country in the U.S. Military.

*By Brigita Gabr*



*HEP Alumnus Jose Carranza*

# CAMP Spotlight

## Jessica Barron

*Jessica Barron is a former CAMP student and CAMP mentor with a dual degree in Mass Communications and International Studies.*

Seeing myself on the morning news has been my dream for as long as I can remember. I knew I wanted to keep the public informed as a broadcast journalist, so I decided to pursue a master's degree in media studies at the University of South Florida. As a first-generation student, I felt that grad school was already a huge accomplishment, but I knew that in order to be competitive, I would need to get experience outside of the classroom. While in school, I've taken part in a variety of media internships. This year, I began an internship with WUSF Public Media and Tampa Bay Arts & Education Network. At WUSF Public Media, I helped cover the Florida 2018 midterm elections. I got the chance to manage WUSF's social media during a "Get Out The Vote" rally where Andrew Gillum and Joe Biden spoke to students. While interning at TBAE Network, I was given the chance to be the host for the 2019 Gasparilla International Film Festival. As an intern at TBAE, I also helped cover the Tampa Mayoral Candidate debates as a camera operator.

I'm currently working with USF Housing and Residential Education as the anchor and producer for News in 90. As the anchor, I've learned how to live and breathe news by writing weekly scripts and editing footage for every episode. This spring, I also became the host for season five of USF Housing Live, a program that airs live episodes every week. The experience of filming live has taught me to always plan ahead but to be prepared for the unexpected.

Despite all the amazing work and internships I've had this year, I've never ignored my academics. I was honored when I received the invitation to be inducted into Kappa Tau Alpha, a national honor society for scholarship in journalism and mass communication. It reminded me that hard work may require sacrifice, but it always pays off.

Balancing school, work, and internships was definitely a challenge, but all of these opportunities have been a blessing and inspired me to continue my career. I'm thankful for everyone who supported me up to this point, including the HEP and CAMP programs. They have been like a family to me since I was a freshman at USF. As someone who completed the CAMP program, I always remember my migrant farm-worker background and want to help similar students pursue their dreams as well. My last year of grad school is quickly approaching. I hope I can continue to do well so that pretty soon I'll be holding a microphone and introducing myself on the morning news.



*Jessica Barron interning at TBAE*



*Jessica Barron working for USF Housing and Residential Education as the anchor and producer for News in 90*



*Jessica Barron reporting for News in 90*

# Congratulations CAMP Graduates



**Diana Prieto**  
Dual Degree: Public Health & English  
Palm Beach County



**Blanca Flores**  
Major: Sociology & Mathematics Education  
Polk County



**Jennifer Carrasco**  
Major: Social Work  
Hillsborough County



**Mayra Espinosa**  
Major: Nursing  
Highlands County



**Nancy Garcia**  
Major: Elementary Education  
Palm Beach County



**Marlene Aboytes**  
Major: Social Work  
Palm Beach County



**Yessica Chavez Grimaldo with family**  
*Major: Integrative Animal Biology  
Hillsborough County*



**Nestor Perez Pereira**  
*Major: Health Science  
Hillsborough County*



**Magali Salinas**  
*Major: Biomedical Science  
Hendry County*



**Abimael Albiter**  
*Major: Business Analytics & Info Systems  
Hillsborough County*

**Marlene Aboytes**  
Social Work

**Abimael Albiter**  
Business Analytics & Info Systems

**Kevin Anglade**  
Public Health

**Yesica Boxtha**  
Elementary Education

**Jennifer Carrasco**  
Social Work

**Yoana Dominguez**  
Public Health

**Aldahir Espinosa**  
Interdisciplinary Social Science

**Mayra Espinosa**  
Nursing

**Blanca Flores**  
Sociology & Mathematics Education

**Nancy Garcia**  
Elementary Education

**Yessica Chaves Grimaldo**  
Integrative Animal Biology

**Jaime Landaverde**  
Health Science

**Yesenia Lopez-Vasquez**  
Behavioral Healthcare

**Nestor Perez Pereira**  
Health Science

**Amado Perez**  
Public Health

**Diana Prieto**  
Public Health & English

**Liliana Reyes-Munoz**  
Public Health

**Mario Reyes-Munoz**  
Mechanical Engineering

**Lynceee Romelus**  
Political Science & Sociology

**Alexia Salazar**  
Public Health

**Magali Salinas**  
Biomedical Science

2018 - 2019 CAMMP Graduates to Date

Alternative Spring Breaks are volunteer missions that send students across the country to assist in humanitarian causes. Bulls Service Breaks (BSB) are USF's particular Alternative Spring Break program, led by the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE). Created to increase awareness of social injustices and encourage cultural exchange, Bulls Service Breaks highlight problems in the community while showing students what can be done to improve their environment. Volunteers are partnered with local organizations to get hands-on experience with social causes. Several of our own CAMP students earned an opportunity with Bulls Service Breaks this spring and were sponsored by CAMP. Below, they share their reflections on the experience.

**Atlanta, Georgia: Equality Initiative**

During my spring break, I went to Atlanta, Georgia, with the Bulls Service Break Program. I was part of the equality initiative with seven other individuals. The whole week was devoted in service to the community. We got to participate with the Metro Facility, Snap Coalition, Lost-N-Found Youth, Charis Bookstore, LaGender, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Fire station and Out Front Theater. The Metro Facility is essentially a transitional facility for male inmates who have less than two years left of their sentence. They are able to learn skills to land a job once they have completed their sentence. At Lost-N-Found Youth, we got to volunteer our time organizing items and learning about the transgender community and what they go through. For example, a federally funded organization must assign someone a room based on the sex that they were given at birth and not the one that they identify with. We were able to talk to a transgender woman and learn what life is like for her there. The Metro Facility and Lost-N-Found Youth left an impact on me, and the whole week in Atlanta made me more aware of the oppression that the LGBTQ+ community is facing.

*By Mardochee Bellevue*

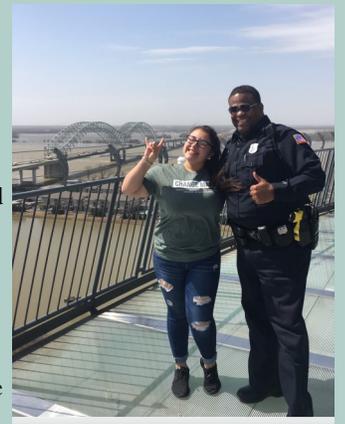


*CAMP Student: Mardochee Bellevue (third from left)*

**Memphis, Tennessee : Inner City Youth Outreach**

This spring break was one for the books! I was part of the Inner City Youth Outreach trip to Montgomery, Alabama, where we visited The Legacy Museum and The National Memorial for Peace and Justice. There we learned more about the history of slavery, and the obstacles people had to overcome. This was a very hard and heart wrenching learning experience. It makes you grateful for the freedom we have today. In Memphis we visited the Real Time Crime Center and worked with The 901 B.L.O.C. Squad (better lives, opportunities, and communities) which works with Memphis teenagers and children to prevent violence and raise awareness. During our time there we visited the Stax Museum and the Civil Rights Museum. It was such a compelling experience to witness all the history right where it took place. We also visited the hotel where Martin Luther King Jr. lost his life. The most memorable part of the trip would have to be when The Real Time Crime Center sergeant gave us the privilege to listen to the actual police dialogue of the day the incident happened. BSB has been one of the greatest experiences of my life.

*By Edith Vega*



*CAMP Student: Edith Vega (Left)*

**Ashville, North Carolina: Youth & Education**



*CAMP Student: Miranda Garcia (left)*

This spring break, I had the opportunity to go on a BSB trip to Asheville, North Carolina. The trip was Youth and Education based, but had some components of zero hunger, good health, and well being. My group and I worked with underprivileged students all week at a local elementary after school program: Boys & Girls Club. Being an elementary education major with previous volunteer experience with kids, I knew how to work and talk to them, but this time around I worked with other individuals who weren't education majors. This was a change for me because I was able to observe those individuals interacting with the children, and it evoked a sense of reassurance and solace that change could come from anywhere and anyone. There's a food bank in Asheville called Manna FoodBank that donates groceries to the students of local Title I schools. There, we helped sort tomatoes and packaged carrots and jalapenos to be sent off to the local grocery stores and schools. On this trip, I feel like I definitely made an impact to the community and students.

*By Miranda Garcia*

***Miami, Florida: Human Trafficking***



*CAMP Students: Janet Carranza-Zuniga (bottom left), Henry Calderon (top left)*

Going to Miami, Florida, with BSB to learn more about Human Trafficking this spring break was one of the best decisions I have made. On March 10th, we departed from Tampa, Florida and embarked on a journey that I will never forget. I left Tampa unsure of what I was about to encounter and learn. Our trip partnered with Sharing One Love Network, an organization that helps victims escape from human trafficking. We stayed at a church and learned about the severity of the issue. We had speakers from different areas of work come in and talk to us about what they do to help. One speaker who really stood out to me was Trent Steele, Director of Anti-Predator Project. He gave us the cold, hard facts about human trafficking. Jorge, the director of Sharing One Love, took us on a van tour of all the places human trafficking was taking place. We went to motels that offered rooms for \$31/hour, massage parlors, and strip clubs that were located across from hotels. Jorge also sent us on a street outreach, where we went to different stores to inform them about human trafficking. We also helped clean up and sort out clothes at Restored Masterpiece, a safe house for human trafficking victims. This opportunity is one I will never forget, and I want to thank CAMP for sponsoring it. I learned so much within a week, yet I still have much more to learn. *By Janet Carranza-Zuniga*

***Ashville, North Carolina: Youth & Education***

During my long drive back to Tampa from Ashville, North Carolina, I spent a large amount of time reflecting and mulling over my week-long volunteer experience with the Boys and Girls Club, Johnson Elementary, and the Manna Food Bank. My thoughts shifted from the individuals of my twelve-person group, the kids we dedicated our entire spring break to, and the institutions and community leaders gracious enough to give a window into the work they do every day. And while the feelings associated with detachment (both from my adopted family and the dozens of children I played with for days on end) saddened me, a deeper, richer chord resonated. Rather than soak in my melancholy, I was jubilant in the knowledge that I am now a more experienced, confident, and passionate about spreading a quality education to all. While I know I will cherish the many quality memories I made during my trip, I realized that the greatest gift I received from my BSB trip will be the benefit it provides me as I continue to an advocate for education.

*By Eduardo Fox-Velazquez*



*CAMP Student: Eduardo Fox-Velazquez (left)*

***Nashville, Tennessee: Women's Empowerment***

I was one of the 11 women who spent our spring break in Nashville, Tennessee in efforts to create equality for all while also empowering. Our cause was "Women Empowerment," where we focused on working with community partners to help create safe and welcoming environments for all women. My experience was honestly inspirational in terms of what I wish to achieve and conquer within my future career. I have established new academic and personal goals because of this Bulls Service Trip. We visited non-profit organizations that help women throughout rehabilitation and create opportunities for change within the community and state. I also learned many individuals are just as passionate about social causes and are willing to work in unison for a greater impact. I also learned how much I had in common with CAMP students who I had not previously taken the time to properly meet.

*By Diana Salazar*



*CAMP Students: Diana Salazar (third from center), Tammy Medrano (fourth from center), Ruby Figueroa (front left)*

### *Miami, Florida : Human Trafficking*

Spring break is usually a time when people decide to sit back, relax, enjoy the beach and have some fun. I was looking forward to a week full of relaxation. Little did I know that, instead, I would be having one of the most rewarding and insightful weeks of my life thanks to the Bulls Service Break Program. My group had the opportunity to travel to Miami, Florida to volunteer with the non-profit organization called Sharing One Love Network. Sharing One Love Network’s mission is to identify and serve human trafficking victims by providing them with resources that will help them recover. During my week with this organization, we had guest speakers including human trafficking investigators and law enforcement officers come and talk to us about how they help out victims. One guest speaker was a human trafficking survivor. She shared her tragic 7-year experience as a victim. Our last day, we drove around Miami and visited all the locations where human trafficking has been occurring. Throughout the week, and especially as I was listening to the experiences of these guest speakers, I realized how much I didn’t know about human trafficking. I learned that human trafficking is a 150 billion dollar industry that makes all its money by kidnapping and using helpless people. It is the 3rd largest and fastest growing organized criminal activity in the world with new people being recruited every single day. Although I didn’t experience a spring break full of beaches, parties and relaxation, it did give me an experience that I wouldn’t trade for anything in the world.

*By Henry Calderon*



*CAMP Students: Henry Calderon (fifth from top left), Janet Carranza-Zuniga (bottom left)*

### *Nashville, Tennessee: Women’s Empowerment*



*CAMP Students: (from left to right) Diana Salazar, Ruby Figueroa, and Tammy Medrano*

One of the most fulfilling days of the entire spring break had to be our first day volunteering at Mending Hearts. Mending Hearts is a non-profit rehabilitation center for women struggling with drug and alcohol addiction. Located in Nashville, Tennessee, this organization is much more than a women’s rehabilitation center, and I realized this fact after my first day was over. The significant detail that I was unaware of until the staff gave us a tour of the Mending Hearts Campus was that all of the staff and faculty who operate the facility went through the Mending Heart’s program. Given this information, I felt a massive sense of pride and honor to be able to volunteer at this place, a place full of strong, determined women motivating each other to make themselves and their families productive members of society. That was such a powerful message for me. I learned that drug and alcohol addiction can happen to absolutely anyone regardless of socioeconomic status, gender, race, and any identity. For this reason, we must take care of each other, branch out, educate, and be advocates for women dealing with mental health and drug abuse. I would like to thank BSB for this amazing spring break!

*By Tammy Medrano*

## CAMP Alumni Update: Mayra Espinosa

Mayra Espinosa, CAMP cohort of 2016-17, earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing this past May and has been recently accepted into the USF College of Nursing Doctorate Program to further pursue her dream of becoming a family nurse practitioner. We are extremely proud of the extraordinary accomplishments our CAMP students have achieved, and we are excited to see our students succeed and better their communities.

*By Mariana Maldonado*



*CAMP Alumna Mayra Espinosa*

# Seeking Adventure: Study Abroad Trips

*CAMP students Nestor Perez and Adela Lopez participated in USF study abroad trips.*



*(Top Picture)*

*Nestor at the Castel Sant'Angelo*

*(Bottom Picture)*

*Nestor and his brother Gabriel*



## Italy

Italy is a country with rich history and culture, a country I had always dreamed of visiting. In the month of June of 2018, I finally got the chance to realize my dream of studying abroad for a semester in the city of Florence, in Tuscany. With help from my parents, my brother Gabriel and I were able to spend six weeks with the USF Science in Florence. There, we were taught by faculty of the partner university and shadowed doctors in a hospital close to the facilities. Not only did I learn a lot from both USF and FUA instructors, but I also learned a lot about Italian culture, lifestyle, and history. Throughout the six weeks we got to befriend the locals, eat authentic foods, and watch the FIFA World Cup, all while learning a little bit of Italian as many did not speak English. My favorite part of the city was admiring the sunsets at the Piazzale Michelangelo, close to the Arno River. Throughout this six-week trip I got to visit many parts of Italy like Gubbio, Rome, Venice, Pisa and Pompeii. This was a life changing experience and a great one to share with my brother. I hope to come back one day to see the friends I made.

*By Nestor Perez-Pereira*

## London

This past summer I had the wonderful opportunity to study abroad in the United Kingdom! I stayed 4 weeks in London: from June 23-July 24. The trip was a spontaneous decision. Like many students, I wanted to cross “studying abroad” off my bucket list. I decided to go with one of my best friends, Sofia, before she graduated. We completed all the steps necessary, bought our plane tickets, and took off on a 9-hour flight. Lucky for me I, was in London during the World Cup, so every day of the summer there was something to do! England made it to the semifinals for the first time in 28 years, so that week in London was the best part. To live in the culture with the people and celebrate the joy in the streets of London because their team made it to the semifinals was one of the most memorable events of my trip. We also had a chance to explore all of London’s must see places, from museums to castles with iconic architectures. Within our first week there, we took a yacht and traveled the River Thames. Overall, this trip opened my eyes; I got a taste of the best parts of the world, and I am eager for more. I learned that I can most definitely be on my own, and I don’t have to be afraid to expand my horizon. I made some wonderful friends who I will always share these wonderful memories with. I enjoyed my classes as University of South Florida professors included lots of excursions around the City of London while relating these experiences to our class. My trip to London is something I will always take with me. I left London with some wonderful advice from faculty who told us to explore and live in London not as if it was our last time there, but as if we are going to be back.

*By Adela Lopez*



*(Top Picture) Visiting Buckingham Palace*

*(Bottom Picture, on the right) Adela Lopez*



## Interested in Visiting the USF Campus?

Tours are available Monday through Friday and are approximately 90 minutes.

To schedule a campus visit, make a request at least 45 days in advance online: [www.usf.edu/admissions/freshman/cve/groupvisit.aspx](http://www.usf.edu/admissions/freshman/cve/groupvisit.aspx). Groups will be provided an informational session given by one of the admissions representatives. In the event that the slots are at capacity and additional tours cannot be accommodated, groups can request tours by CAMP Ambassadors. Contact Marlene Aboytes to schedule tours with CAMP Ambassadors.



### HOW TO REACH THE CENTER FOR MIGRANT EDUCATION:

Mail: University of South Florida  
Center for Migrant Education  
4202 E Fowler Ave, EDU 105  
Tampa, FL 33620

Phone: 813-974-5806  
Fax: 813-974-0485

Visiting the campus:  
Human Services/Architecture Building (HMS) 206



### HEP / CAMP STAFF

**Dr. Ann Cranston-Gingras**  
HEP/CAMP Principal Investigator  
[cranston@usf.edu](mailto:cranston@usf.edu)  
813-974-1387

**Patrick Doone**  
HEP/CAMP Director  
[doone@usf.edu](mailto:doone@usf.edu)  
813-974-0915

**Virginia Flores**  
CAMP Student Services Advisor  
[vflores@usf.edu](mailto:vflores@usf.edu)

**Ruby Luis**  
CAMP Admissions Recruiter  
[rluis@usf.edu](mailto:rluis@usf.edu)

**Rosa Mendez**  
HEP Outreach Specialist  
[rmendez@usf.edu](mailto:rmendez@usf.edu)

**Maria Diaz-Vega**  
HEP Lead Instructor  
[mdiazveg@usf.edu](mailto:mdiazveg@usf.edu)

**Mariana Maldonado**  
HEP/CAMP Secretary

**Brigita Gahr**  
HEP Instructor  
[brigita@usf.edu](mailto:brigita@usf.edu)

**Kristen Lehman**  
HEP Instructor  
[klehman2@usf.edu](mailto:klehman2@usf.edu)

**Student Assistant**  
Abigail Nunez  
Miranda Garcia

**HEP Residential Assistant**  
Yessica Chavez Grimaldo  
Abigail Nunez

**CAMP Mentor Facilitators**  
Marlene Aboytes  
Karina Sandoval

**HEP/CAMP Tutors**  
Pascual Jahuey  
Justin Jimenez  
Mario Leon-Espinoza  
Magali Salinas