

**Heather M. Thompson, Ph.D., LCSW**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Phyllis and Harvey Sandler School of Social Work**  
**College of Social Work and Criminal Justice**  
**Florida Atlantic University**  
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**Education/Employment History**

*Doctorate of Philosophy in Marriage and Family Therapy*, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL  
*Dissertation Topic*: The associations between relationships with biological and foster parents, self-esteem and delinquency for adolescents in foster care  
*Major Professor*: Dr. Lenore McWey

*Master of Social Work*, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL  
*Certificate in Child Welfare*

*Bachelor of Science*, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL  
Major: *Psychology*. Minor: *Education, Mathematics*.  
*Magna Cum Laude*

*Jul 19- present*                    *Florida Atlantic University, School of Social Work, Associate Professor* –  
Responsible for implementing pedagogy practices in traditional contexts, development of lectures and assignments as well as new courses, facilitation of learning via in-class meetings and online guided responses, principal and co-principal investigator of multiple research projects, maintain consistent record of publications and other scholarly activities in research area

*Mar 21 –Jan 24*                    *Florida Atlantic University, School of Social Work, Director* – Responsible for annual assignments of faculty, facilitate community engagement of School-related activities, promote fundraising to support School’s mission and goals; support research infrastructure and funding for faculty, facilitate program development within School, oversee hiring of appropriate instructors and faculty, support faculty through promotion, tenure and awards

*Jul 19 –Mar 21*                    *Florida Atlantic University, School of Social Work, Interim Director* –  
Responsible for annual assignments of faculty, facilitate community engagement of School-related activities, promote fundraising to support School’s mission and goals; support research infrastructure and funding for faculty, facilitate program development within School, oversee hiring of appropriate instructors and faculty, support faculty through promotion, tenure and awards

*Aug 18 – Jun 19*                    *Florida Atlantic University, School of Social Work, BSW Program Coordinator* –  
Responsible for providing advisement and assistance to undergraduate students needing information or special permission, recommendations for improving undergraduate curriculum, assisting with scheduling of courses, providing annual

reports and preparing for accreditation, student recruitment, adjunct oversight and orientation

*Aug 13 – Jun 19*

Florida Atlantic University, School of Social Work, Assistant Professor – Responsible for implementing pedagogy practices in traditional contexts, development of lectures and assignments as well as new courses, facilitation of learning via in-class meetings and online guided responses, principal investigator of multiple research projects

*May 13 – Aug 13*

Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University, Department of Educational Leadership and Human Services, Adjunct Instructor– Responsible for implementing pedagogy practices in traditional contexts, development of lectures and exams, facilitation of learning via in-class for two graduate courses

*May 11 – Dec 12*

Florida State University, Big Bend Community Based Care Provider, Parent Education Group Project Manager – Responsible for coordinating and implementing empirically supported parent education groups with a child welfare population, and collecting qualitative and quantitative data.

*Jun 10 – Jul 13*

Generations Behavioral Healthcare, In-home Therapist – Responsible for gathering background and family history for biopsychosocial assessments, assessing for treatment needs and developing treatment plans, and administering individual and family interventions.

*Jan 10 – Aug 11*

Florida State University, HOPE Community Parent Education Group, Project Manager – Responsible for coordinating empirically supported parent education groups with residents and staff at a transitional housing facility, supervising undergraduate students, implementing parent education in group format, and collecting quantitative and qualitative data.

*Aug 09 – May 13*

Florida State University, Department of Family and Child Sciences, Instructor of Record/Teacher Assistant/Research Assistant – Responsible for implementing pedagogy practices in traditional and online course contexts, development of lectures and exams, facilitation of learning via in-class and discussion board prompts, launching of new online courses, conducting research on at-risk families involved in the child welfare system, manuscript development, and collaboration with other researchers to prepare a R34 federal grant proposal.

*Aug 09 – Dec 11*

Center for Couples and Family Therapy, Marriage and Family Therapist – Responsible for facilitating therapeutic sessions with couples, families and individuals, teaming cases and providing feedback to fellow therapists, and completing assessments as necessary.

*Dec 08 – Aug 09*

Big Bend Community Based Care, Intake/Placement Specialist – Assessed children's behaviors and history to determine most suitable placement to meet child's needs in out of home care, worked collaboratively with case managers and other professionals to maintain stable placements for children, tracked

missing children in Leon County as well as efforts to locate missing children, facilitated permanency staffings with case managers, supervisors, Guardian Ad Litem, and attorneys to ensure efforts were occurring to reach permanency within twelve months of removal, and participated in informative panel of child welfare experts for MAPP training of potential foster and adoptive parents.

*Dec 06 – Nov 08*      *Children's Home Society, Dependency Case Manager* – Completed home visits and home studies in clients' homes, attending and participating in court hearings for clients, referred clients to various community resources, maintained accurate files of clients' history, participated in permanency and legal staffing, and worked collaboratively with various agencies to provide services.

### **Licensure/Certification**

*Obtained: Aug 07*    *Certified Dependency Case Manager*

*Obtained: Aug 08*    *Child Welfare Case Manager, Florida Certification Board*  
*Certification Number: 149*

*Obtained: May 13*    *Licensed Clinical Social Worker License No: 11424*

*Obtained: May 15*    *Qualified Supervisor for Registered Social Work and Marriage and Family Therapy*  
*Interns*

### **Scholarship/Research/Creative Activity**

#### **Peer Refereed Publications in print**

\*Indicates data-based publications

+ Indicates a graduate student

† Indicates a high school student

#### **Articles**

\*+Lopez, R, Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Newquist, J. (2023). Parenting behaviors and parental stress among foster parents. *The Family Journal*, 31(1), 95-102.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10664807221104119>

\*+Mihalec-Adkins, B. P., Day, E., Cooley, M. E., & **Thompson, H. M.** (2022). The emotional toll of juggling families: Adolescents' simultaneous relationships with biological parents and foster caregivers. *Child & Adolescent Social Work*, 39, 561-571. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10560-022-00835-7>

\* **Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M. L., Cooley, M. E., & Womack, B. (2022). Factors predicting service referrals for youth in the child welfare system. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 39, 261-277. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10560-021-00760-1>

\*Cooley, M. E., +Mihalec-Adkins, B. P., **Thompson, H. M.**, & †Mehrotra, A. (2021). Motivation to foster among single foster parents. *Child Welfare*, 99(2), 55-76.  
[https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/A675461426/HRCA?u=fau\\_main&sid=googleScholar&xid=026695e6](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/A675461426/HRCA?u=fau_main&sid=googleScholar&xid=026695e6)

- \*Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Wojciak, A. S., +Mihalec-Adkins, B. (2021). Parental monitoring by foster parents, youth behaviors, and the youth-foster parent relationship. *Child & Family Social Work*, 26(4), 629-641. <http://doi.org/10.1111/cfs.12844>
- \*Colvin, M., **Thompson, H. M.**, Cooley, M. E. (2021). The ‘cost’ of collaborating and other challenges in inter-organizational child welfare practice: A mixed-methods analysis. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*, 15(5), 617-651. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15548732.2020.1778597>
- \*Colvin, M. L., & **Thompson, H. M.** (2020). Exploring the experiences of child welfare-focused therapeutic service providers. *Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research*, 47, 86-101. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11414-019-09654-8>
- Cooley, M. E., Newquist, J., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Colvin, M. (2019). A systematic review of foster parent preservice training. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 107, Article 104552. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2019.104552>
- Thompson, H. M.**, Stevenson Wojciak, A., & Cooley, M. E. (2019). Family-based approach to the child welfare system: An integration of Bowen Family Theory concepts. *Journal of Family Social Work*, 22, 231-252. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10522158.2019.1584776>
- \*Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, & +Newell, E. (2019). Examining the influence of social support on the relationship between child behavior problems and foster parent challenges. *Child & Youth Care Forum*, 48, 289-303. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10566-018-9478-6>
- \*Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Colvin, M. L. (2019). A qualitative examination of recruitment and motivation to become a Guardian ad Litem in the child welfare system. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 99, 115-124. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2019.01.031>
- \*Colvin, M. L., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Miller, S. E. (2018). Comparing child maltreatment prevention and service delivery at the community-level of practice: A mixed-methods network analysis. *Human Service Organizations: Management, Leadership & Governance*, 42, 327-344. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23303131.2017.1392389>
- \*Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Murray, H., & Rodriguez, J.E. (2018). Health outcomes of medically and economically vulnerable adults: A comparison of former foster youth and non-foster youth. *Family & Community Health*, 41, 159-167. <https://doi.org/10.1097/FCH.0000000000000190>
- \* **Thompson, H. M.**, Stevenson Wojciak, A., & Cooley, M. E. (2018). The experience with independent living services for youth in care and those formerly in care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 84, 17-25. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2017.11.012>
- \***Thompson, H. M.**, & Colvin, M. L. (2017). Perceived needs of therapeutic service providers in their work with families in the child welfare system. *Child and Adolescent Social Work*, 35, 57-71. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10560-017-0506-4>
- \*Randolph, K., & **Thompson, H. M.** (2017). A systematic review of interventions to improve post-secondary educational outcomes among foster care alumni. *Children & Youth Services Review*, 79, 602 -611. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2017.07.013>

\*Cooley, M.E., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Stevenson Wojciak, A. (2017). Risk, resilience, and complexity: Experiences of foster parents. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 76, 34-41. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chidyouth.2017.02.030>

\***Thompson, H. M.**, Stevenson Wojciak, A., & Cooley, M. E. (2017). Through their lens: Case managers' experiences of the child welfare system. *Qualitative Social Work*, 16, 411-429. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1473325015619667>

\*Wojciak, A.S., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Cooley, M. E. (2017). The relationship between caregivers and youths in foster care: Examining the relationship for mediation and moderation effects on youths behaviors. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*, 25, 96-106. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1063426616628816>

\***Thompson, H. M.**, Stevenson Wojciak, A., & Cooley, M. E. (2016). Self-esteem: A mediator between peer relationships and behaviors of adolescents in foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 66, 109-116. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chidyouth.2016.05.003>

### **Non-Referred Articles & Reports**

Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M., Howard, H., & Jimenez-Bean, R. (2023). *A mixed methods examination of comfort call implementation in Florida*. Translational Research Award 2021-2022. Research Report for the Florida Institute for Child Welfare. [https://ficw.fsu.edu/assets/documents/Comfort%20Calls\\_1\\_19\\_23\\_FINAL.pdf](https://ficw.fsu.edu/assets/documents/Comfort%20Calls_1_19_23_FINAL.pdf)

Colvin, M., Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Howard, H. (2022). *A platform for social action: Engaging and supporting the voice of youth in foster care receiving independent living services*. Priority Research Award 2021. Research Report for the Florida Institute for Child Welfare. [https://ficw.fsu.edu/assets/documents/FR\\_A-Platform-for-Social-Action\\_113022.pdf](https://ficw.fsu.edu/assets/documents/FR_A-Platform-for-Social-Action_113022.pdf)

### **Book Reviews**

**Thompson, H. M.** (2017). A Review of the book *Parenting matters: Supporting parents of children ages 0-8* by The National Academies. *Child and Adolescent Social Work*, 34, 397-398. doi: 10.1007/s10560-017-0504-6

**Thompson, H. M.** (2016). A Review of the book *Children Behind Bars: Why the abuse of child imprisonment must end* by C. Willow. *Child and Adolescent Social Work*, 33, 195-196. doi: 10.1007/s10560-015-0434-0

### **Works currently under review**

\*Cooley, M. E., + Asbury, K., + Stahnke, B., + Marcus Wheeler, R., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Simpson, D. (Submitted). Vicarious trauma among therapeutic service providers: A mixed methods evaluation. Submitted to *Clinical Social Work Journal*.

Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Gillen, M., Colvin, M., & + Jimenez Bean, R. (under revision). Preservice training perspectives among Florida foster parents. Resubmitted to *Children and Youth Services Review*.

Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Gillen, M., Colvin, M., & + Jimenez Bean, R. (submitted). Preservice training perspectives among child welfare workers. Submitted to *Child Welfare*.

Cooley, M. E., Gillen, M., **Thompson, H.M.**, & Colvin, M. L. (submitted). Need for foster homes, foster parent recruitment, and licensure: Comparing foster parent and child welfare worker perspectives. Submitted to *Child & Adolescent Social Work Journal*.

Fowler, J., Cooley, M.E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Vanderwill, L., & Day, A., (submitted). An evaluation of training fidelity and resource parent knowledge for the National Training and Development Curriculum. Submitted to *Child & Family Social Work*.

Radlauer-Doerfler, J. Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Best, A., + Jimenez-Bean, R., & Randal, J. (submitted). A critical literature review of African American families' experiences with the behavioral health delivery system. Submitted to *Journal of Counseling Psychology*.

Radlauer-Doerfler, J. Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Earp Bowen, A., Caress, G., & Best, A., (submitted). A critical review on enhancing equity of mental health treatment of African American families through social support and social capital. Submitted to *Journal of Justice-Informed Social Work Practice and Research*.

Simpson, D., Adam, M., Cooley, M. E., Stahnke, B., & **Thompson, H.M.** (submitted). Locus of control and coping effects on the Professional Quality of Life of therapeutic service providers. Submitted to *Journal of Counseling & Development*.

Stahnke, B., Cooley, M., Tuttle, B.S., & **Thompson, H. M.** (under revision). Exploring locus of control and vicarious trauma in therapeutic service providers. Resubmitted to *Journal of Interprofessional Education & Practice*.

**Thompson, H. M.** Cooley, M. E., Cesar, G. T, Backstrom, L., Colvin, M (under revision). Forming relationships with youth in foster care: Perspectives of guardian ad litem. Resubmitted to *Journal of Child and Family Studies*.

**Thompson, H. M.** Cooley, M. E., Backstrom, L., Colvin, M. L., & Cesar, G. T (under revision). Guardian ad litem's perception of working with youth in the Florida child welfare system. Submitted to *Child Abuse and Neglect*.

**Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, L.M., Cooley, M. E., Dowdy-Hazlett, T., & Pasarariu, A. (submitted). Foster parent inclusion and collaboration in case planning and implementation: Perspective of Florida foster parents and child welfare workers. Submitted to *Child & Family Social Work*.

### **Refereed Presentations and Proceedings**

#### **National**

Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M., Cesar, G., & Best, C. (2025, January). Exploring parents' perspectives of their rights within the context of the child welfare system: A photovoice study. Oral presentation at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, Seattle, WA.

- Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M., Cesar, G., & Best, C. (2024, November). Fathers' rights: A photovoice study of parents impacted by the child welfare system. Research symposium presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Bellevue, WA.
- Cooley, M. E., Pasarariu, A. **Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M., Almazan, R. (2024, June). *Comparing foster parents' and child welfare workers' perspectives of the occurrence of trauma training*. Poster presentation at the annual conference of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, New Orleans, LA.
- Cooley, M. E., Zweben, D., **Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M. (2024, June). *A mixed method examination of foster parents experiences with child behavior and their satisfaction, challenges and intent to continue fostering*. Presentation at the annual conference of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, New Orleans, LA.
- Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M. C., Howard, H. (2024, January). *Comfort call implementation in Florida: Perceptions of foster parents*. Poster presentation at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, D.C.
- Colvin, M., Cooley, M., Howard, H., **Thompson, H.M.** (2024, January). *A platform for social action: Self-advocacy of youth in foster care receiving independent living services*. Poster presentation at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, D.C.
- Cooley, M. E., Colvin, M., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Howard, H. (2023, November). *The importance of connection: A photovoice study of youth in residential foster care*. Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.
- Cooley, M. E., Newquist, J., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Betances, A. (2023, November). *Child welfare workers' perspectives on successful placements for children in foster care*. Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.
- Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M., & Howard, H. (2023, November). *Birth family roles and experiences in the context of adoption and foster care systems*. Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.
- Colvin, M., Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Howard, H. (2023, May). *A photovoice study of youth in residential foster care: Youths' perceptions of self-determination*. Presentation at the annual conference of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, Denver, CO.
- Cooley, M. E., Jimenez-Bean, R., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Colvin, M. (2023, May). *Perceptions of posttraumatic growth among adults with lived experience in foster care*. Presentation at the annual conference of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, Denver, CO.
- Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M., & Howard, H. (2023, May). *Implementing policy related to shared parenting: Perspectives of child welfare administrators and frontline workers*. Presentation at the annual conference of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, Denver, CO.
- Cooley, M. E., Newquist, J., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Sharda, E. (2022, November). *A qualitative examination of foster parenting and adverse childhood experiences*. A Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

- Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M., Gillen, M., & †Jimenez Bean, R. (2022, June). *Foster parent preservice training: Perspectives of foster parents and child welfare workers in Florida*. Poster presentation at the annual conference of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, New Orleans, LA
- Cooley, M. E., «Mihalec-Adkins, **Thompson, H. M.**, †Black, S., & †Bean, R. (2021, November). *Examining the associations between foster caregiver well-being on youth behaviors*. Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, online conference.
- Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, McClellan, J., & «Mihalec-Adkins, B. P. (2021, January). *Single foster parenting: Reflecting on dichotomies and needs*. Presentation at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, online conference.
- \*Resulted in publication
- Cooley, M. E., Backstrom, L., Colvin, M., & **Thompson, H. M.** (2021, January). *Foster parents' experiences and reflections on working with child advocates within the foster care system*. Presentation at the annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, online conference.
- Cooley, M. E., Wojciak, A. S., «Mihalec-Adkins, B. P., & **Thompson, H. M.** (2020, November). *Foster parenting and youth-caregiver relationships: Comparing outcomes of youth in transracial and inracial foster families*. Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, online conference.
- Cooley, M. E., Gillen, M., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Colvin, M. (2020, November). *Multiple perspectives of need for foster homes, foster parent recruitment, and licensure of foster parents for children in foster care*. Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, online conference.
- Cooley, M. E., Backstrom, L., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Colvin, M. (2020, November). *Child advocates' perspectives of working with foster parents*. Poster presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, online conference.
- López, R., Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Newquist, J. (2020, November). *Parenting behaviors and parental stress among foster parents*. Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, online conference.
- \*Resulted in publication
- Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, Backstrom, L., & Colvin, M. L. (2019, November). *The experiences of child advocates for youth in the foster care system*. Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Ft. Worth, TX.
- Cooley, M. E., Colvin, M. L., & **Thompson, H. M.** (2019, November). *A quantitative examination of foster parent experiences and organizational culture*. Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Ft. Worth, TX.
- \*Resulted in publication
- Mihalec-Adkins, B. P., Cooley, M. E., & **Thompson, H. M.** (2019, November). *How do adolescent foster*



*youth juggle relationships with both biological and foster families - Now and into the future?*  
Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Ft. Worth, TX.

\*Resulted in publication

Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Colvin, M. (2019). *Training needs of volunteer and employed Guardians ad Litem*. Presentation at American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children in Salt Lake City, UT.

**Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M., & Cooley, M. E. (2019). *Organizational culture and child welfare caseworkers: Perceptions of needed services for parents and youth*. Presentation at American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children in Salt Lake City, UT.

\*Resulted in publication

Mihalec-Adkins, B. P+. **Thompson, H. M.**, & Cooley, M E. (2018). *Parental visitation and foster youth adjustment: A secondary data analysis*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Council of Family Relations, San Diego, CA.

Colvin, M. L., **Thompson, H.**, & Miller, S. E. (2018). *Prevention and service delivery in child maltreatment practice: An inter-organizational network comparison*. Oral presentation at the 22nd Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference. Washington D.C.

\*Resulted in publication

Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Wojciak A. S. (2017). *Parental monitoring, child behaviors, and foster parent-child relationship*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Council of Family Relations, Orlando, FL.

\*Resulted in publication

Killian, M., Schuman, D. L.+ , **Thompson, H.**, & Randolph, K. (2016). *Showcasing software to make systematic reviews more systematic*. Workshop presented at the Council on Social Work Education, Atlanta, GA.

**Thompson, H.**, Colvin, M., & McClellan, J. (2016). *Closing knowledge gaps among therapists serving child welfare clients: A University-agency Collaboration*. Presentation at the Council on Social Work Education, Atlanta, GA.

Newell, E., Cooley, M. E., & **Thompson, H. M.** (2016). *Meeting the basic needs of foster parents: The importance of social support*. Presentation at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

\*Resulted in publication

Cooley, M. E., **Thompson, H. M.**, & Stevenson Wojciak, A. (2016). *The mediating role of self-esteem for adolescents in foster care*. Presentation at the annual conference of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, New Orleans, LA.

\*Resulted in publication

## State

**Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M., & McClellan, J. (2016). Building a needs-based curriculum for child welfare therapist: Preliminary findings. Advanced Training: Florida Institute for Child Welfare at the annual Florida Child Protection Summit, Orlando, FL.

## Non-Refereed Publications, Presentations and Proceedings

### Invited Presentations

**Thompson, H.** (2019). Social work solutions from Florida's Schools of Social Work. Plenary panel presented at annual conference for National Association of Social Workers, Florida Chapter. Orlando, FL.

**Thompson, H.** Cooley, M. & Colvin, M. (2019). Engaging mandated clients. Invited workshop presented at annual conference for National Association of Social Workers, Florida Chapter. Orlando, FL.

Killian, M. O., Schuman, D., **Thompson, H.**, & Randolph, K. (2017, January). Showcasing software to make systematic reviews more systematic. Children's Social Care Research and Development Centre, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University, Cardiff, Wales, United Kingdom.

### Grants

#### External

##### Funded

*The Academy: Evaluating the Effectiveness of Preservice Training for Child Welfare Professionals in Florida.* Submitted to Florida Institute for Child Welfare. **Amount: \$646,148.** Cooley, M.E. (Principal Investigator), Colvin, M. (Co-Principal Investigator); **Thompson, H. M.**, Clark, S. Gillen, M, Simpson, D., Cesar, G., Dario, L, Steen, A. (Co-Investigators); Cui, M. (Statistician). (Jan 24-Dec 25).

The primary purpose of this research study will be to develop and test the initial acceptability and feasibility of a novel preservice training for new child welfare professionals in the process of becoming certified child protective investigators (CPIs) and case managers (CMs). The secondary purpose is to conduct exploratory research on the training and support needs of new child welfare professionals to better understand the context and ecological factors associated with early child welfare worker preparation and support, as this is understudied area of research.

*Parent, Child, and Family Rights within the Florida Child Welfare System.* Florida Institute for Child Welfare, Photovoice Research in Child Welfare. Sept 2023-June 2024. **Amount: \$74,704.** Cooley, M.E. (Principal Investigator), **Thompson, H. M.**, Colvin, M., Cesar, G. T Co-Investigators).

The purpose of this project is to create an education-oriented photodocumentary project could be used to foster a better understanding of the rights and views of family integrity from families impacted by the child welfare system for the general public and families impacted by child welfare systems, and child welfare and legal professionals.

*Community Partnership Schools Needs Assessment: Lake Worth Community High School.* Children's Home Society. April-June 2023. **Amount: \$5000** (Principal Investigator: Morgan Cooley, PhD, LCSW; Co-Investigators: Marianna Colvin, PhD, **Heather Thompson, PhD, LCSW**)

The purpose of this project is to conduct a needs assessment of students, parents, school teachers, and staff, and relevant community members that will aid in the development of a community partnership school at Lake Worth Community High School.

*Community Partnership Schools Needs Assessment: John F. Kennedy Middle School.* Children's Home Society. April-June 2023. **Amount: \$5000** (Principal Investigator: Marianna Colvin, PhD; Co-Investigators: Morgan Cooley, PhD, LCSW, **Heather Thompson, PhD, LCSW**)

The purpose of this project is to conduct a needs assessment of students, parents, school teachers, and staff, and relevant community members that will aid in the development of a community partnership school at John F. Kennedy Middle School.

*Sexual Safety Programming and Evaluation for youth and foster families in Florida.* Florida Institute for Child Welfare May 2023-June 2024. **Amount: \$149,998.** (Principal Investigator: Morgan Cooley, PhD, LCSW; Co-Investigators: Martie Gillen, PhD, **Heather Thompson, PhD**, Marianna Colvin, PhD)

The purpose of this project is to examine evidence-based programming and strategies for promoting sexual safety among youth in foster care and evaluate the existence of current sexual safety programming for youth and foster families in the state of Florida.

*A Mixed Methods Examination of Comfort Call Implementation in South Florida.* Florida Institute for Child Welfare, Affiliate Award for Translational Research June 2021- Sept 2022. **Amount: \$9,999.** (Principal Investigator: Morgan Cooley, PhD, LCSW; Co-Investigators: **Heather Thompson, PhD, LCSW**, Marianna Colvin, PhD, and Heather Howard, PhD, LCSW)

The purpose of this mixed methods research proposal is to examine the initial effectiveness and implementation of comfort calls in the Southeast region of Florida, as reported by birth parents, foster parent/kin/fictive kin caregivers, and child welfare professionals.

*A Platform for Social Action: Engaging and Supporting the Voice of Youth in Foster Care Receiving Independent Living Services.* Florida Institute for Child Welfare, Priority Research Award June 2021-Aug 2022. **Amount: \$49,999.** (Principal Investigators: Marianna Colvin, PhD and Morgan Cooley, PhD, LCSW; Co-Investigators: **Heather Thompson, PhD, LCSW** and Heather Howard, PhD, LCSW)

This research project applies a participatory action research design utilizing photovoice methodology to explore the experiences and perceptions of youth receiving independent living services. The research questions place emphasis on understanding youths' (1) self-advocacy, (2) self-determination, and (3) connectedness to others.

*Pilot Implementation of a Child Welfare and behavioral health needs-based curriculum,* Florida Institute for Child Welfare, 2018-2019. **Amount: \$29,357** (Principal Investigator: Marianna Colvin, PhD; Co-Principal Investigators: **Heather Thompson, PhD, LCSW & Morgan Cooley, PhD, LCSW**)

The purpose of this grant was to develop and conduct a pilot evaluation of two competency-based trainings for child welfare case managers and therapeutic service providers in the state of Florida. This grant submission was a result of a request from the Sponsor for the PI and co-PIs to develop trainings to (a) improve mandated parent and child engagement in services and (b) strengthen coordination and collaborative capacity among frontline child welfare professionals. This grant also provides for additional funding opportunities related to online development of training curriculum.

*Child Welfare and behavioral health needs-based curriculum – Planning Grant,* Florida Institute for Child Welfare, 2017-2018. **Amount: \$55,027** (Principal Investigator: **Heather Thompson, PhD, LCSW**, Co-Principal Investigator: Marianna Colvin, PhD, Morgan)

The purpose of this grant involved the planning stage for a future grant-funded project related to curriculum development for the child welfare and behavioral health workforce in Florida, overseen by PI Dr. Heather Thompson and Co-PI Dr. Marianna Colvin. The deliverables for this project are to: 1) identify the overall scope and clear project objectives for curriculum development, pilot implementation, and evaluation; 2) define the curriculum design and strategy to be developed and implemented; and 3) determine the structure and cost of the methodology for creating the curriculum, as well as its pilot implementation, data analysis, revision, and full evaluation. This planning stage will lay the foundation

for an evaluation project, in which the PI and Co-PI will seek additional funding, as part of curriculum developed for investigators and case managers providing services to families in the child welfare system.

*Building a needs-based-curriculum for child welfare therapists*, Florida Institute for Child Welfare, 2016-2017. **Amount: \$60,000** (Principal Investigator: **Heather Thompson, PhD, LCSW** Co-Principal Investigator: Marianna Colvin, PhD)

In September of 2015, The Florida Institute for Child Welfare released a request for funding on research proposals. These proposals were intended to reflect the purpose of building collaborative research projects with community based agencies. Dr. Thompson submitted a proposal to for a needs assessment of mental health professionals in working with children and families involved in the child welfare system. The primary goal is to create a curriculum that will assist therapeutic service providers in delivering evidence-based therapeutic services. Specifically, child welfare therapists will feel more prepared to work with clients in addressing areas of concern to the Department of Children and Families, such as safety, permanency, and well-being.

#### Submitted and under review

Colvin, M. L. (Principal Investigator); Capone, R. & Fuentes, L. (Co-Principal Investigators; Cooley, M. E., Kunz-Lomelin, A., **Thompson, H.** (Jan 25-Dec 25). The use of realist evaluation and process mapping to enhance parental support and engagement: A collaborative community-university partnership. Submitted to the Florida Institute for Child Welfare. 2025 Community-University Partnership Award. Amount requested: \$140,000.

This project is the culmination of extensive collaboration between FAU and the Palm Beach County (PBC) Community Alliance – a diverse group of public, non-profit, and for-profit organizations—together with parents and family members impacted by the child welfare system to develop a research-practice partnership. Project outcomes of this proposal include (1) advancing a community-university research partnership co-designed with families, (2) identifying the role of time and system timing factors on engagement from parental and professional perspectives, (3) generating actionable research-supported recommendations for local planning and decision-making, and (4) informing a valid time study design or measurement tool for understanding time as a factor of family engagement in ongoing stages of research.

#### Non-research Grant Support

**Thompson, H. M.** (Consultant). (Jul 23 – Jun 28). *Florida Youth Experience Study (FL YES)*, Principal Investigator: Martie Gillen, University of Florida. Florida Institute for Child Welfare. Amount received: \$45,000.

The purpose of this project is to provide a comprehensive view of youth who are aging out of the foster care system. Through this five-year longitudinal study, it is hoped that the research team will gain an understanding of youths' experiences of self-sufficiency as they transition into adulthood. Dr. Thompson's specific role will be to serve as an advocate for study participants. Participants can contact Dr. Thompson to discuss their participation/experience in the study as needed.

#### Courses Taught at FAU

##### Academic Courses Taught

SOW6324, General Social Work Practice with Groups and Families

SOW6348, Advanced Social Work Practice with Adults and Families

SOW6349 Case Management

SOW6353, Couple Therapy in Social Work Practice

SOW6536, Advanced Year Field Seminar II

SOW6535, Advanced Year Field Seminar I

SOW6655, Advanced Social Work Practice with Children, Adolescents, and Families

SOW7368, Advanced Clinical Social Work Evidence-Based Practice with Families & Couples

### Supervision of Graduate Students

Capstone Chair, Doctoral Student: Joy McClellan, Capstone title: *Through the Lens of Resilience Theory: Is Level of Functioning Across Behavioral, Emotional, and Academic Domains Predictive of Long Term Foster Care?*, Fall 2017-Spring 2021

Capstone Chair, Doctoral Student: Karen Baldwin, Capstone Title: *An Examination of Adolescent Maternal-Infant Attachment Relationship Outcomes Following a FirstPlay® Therapy Infant Storytelling-Massage Intervention: A Pilot Study*, Spring 2017-Spring 2021

Committee Member, Doctoral Student: Heather Sandala, Capstone Title: *A Qualitative Study of Case Manager Perspectives and Attitudes Regarding the Use of Housing First with Older Adults*, Fall 2017-Spring 2020

### Service and Professional Development

#### Service to the Institution

##### *- Department/School service*

Office of Professional Development Committee, Florida Atlantic University, 2024-present

DSW Admissions Committee, Florida Atlantic University, 2024-present

Online MSW Committee, Florida Atlantic University, 2024-present

Scholarship Committee, Florida Atlantic University, 2018-present

Exception to Policy Committee, Florida Atlantic University, 2018-2019

Adjunct Oversight, Florida Atlantic University, 2018-2019

BSW Orientations, Facilitator, Florida Atlantic University, 2018-2019

Child Welfare Institute, Faculty Member, 2018-present

Title IV-E stipend University Contact, Florida Atlantic University, 2017-2019

Online Education Committee, Florida Atlantic University, 2016-present

Clinic Development Committee, Florida Atlantic University, Committee Chair, 2016

Master of Social Work Induction Ceremony, Florida Atlantic University, Committee Chair, 2015-2018

Faculty Mentor to Adjunct Faculty Members, Florida Atlantic University, 2014-2019

Lobby Day and SOS, Florida Atlantic University, Assistant Faculty Advisor, 2013-2015

Child Welfare Institute, Florida Atlantic University, Director, 2013 – 2018

##### *- College service*

Search Committee for Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Student Services, Member, 2022-2023

Community Conversation, Faculty Coordinator, *The Frontline Approach to Authentic Family*

*Engagement: Confronting Racism and Bias to Build Healthy Relationships with Families*, Spring 2021

College Awards Committee, College of Design and Social Inquiry, Florida Atlantic University, Co-Chair, 2017-2018

College Awards Committee, College of Design and Social Inquiry, Florida Atlantic University, Committee Member, 2015-2017

*- University service*

Interprofessional Education Series, Do No Pharm, 2024

Undergraduate Studies Faculty Committee, 2022 – present

FAU First Year Connections Mentor, 2022-present

Graduate College Fellowship Reviewer, 2019-present

Undergraduate Programs Committee, Florida Atlantic University, Committee Member, 2018-2019

Interprofessional Education Series, Florida Atlantic University, Facilitator, October 2016

Child Abuse Training, Summer Ambassadors, May 2016

Interprofessional Education Series, Florida Atlantic University, Facilitator, October 2015

Training for Chi Sigma Iota, Presenter, 2014

Interprofessional Education Series, Florida Atlantic University, Facilitator, October 2014

Interprofessional Education Series, Florida Atlantic University, Facilitator, October 2013

Service to the Discipline/Profession

Florida Institute for Child Welfare, Child Welfare Professionals Award Committee Reviewer, 2023-2024

Journal of Public Child Welfare, Invited Ad hoc reviewer, 2024

Journal of Marital and Family Therapy, Ad Hoc Reviewer, 2024

Child Abuse & Neglect, Ad Hoc Reviewer, 2023

Florida Association of Deans and Directors of Social Work, Treasurer, Jul 2022-Jan 2024

Journal of Child and Adolescent Behaviour, Editorial Board Member, Sept 2016-present

Child and Adolescent Social Work, Editorial Board Member, Nov 2014 - present

World Journal of Social Service Research, Editorial Board Member, Mar 2014-present

Florida REACH, Taskforce Member, 2014-2017

Journal of Research on Adolescence, Ad Hoc Reviewer, 2016

Team Member, Fostering Achievement Fellowship Program Evaluation, 2013-2015

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Conference Volunteer, 2011-2012

Child and Family Social Work, Ad Hoc Reviewer, 2012

Tallahassee Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Elections Committee- Committee Chair, 2011-2012

Children and Youth Services Review, Ad Hoc Reviewer, Oct 2011-present

Tallahassee Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Board Member – Student Representative, 2010-2012

Service to the Community/Public

Guest Presenter, FAU Upward Bound Program, Focus on your Mental Health, June 2020

Guest Speaker, University of Ft. Lauderdale, Stand Up and Fight for your Life, Oct 2019

Team Member, Academic Faith & Purpose Scholarship Committee, The Faith Center, 2017-2020

Training for Therapeutic Foster Parents, Presenter, Feb 2013

Member, Order of the Eastern Star, Chapter Umoja #530, Sept 08 – present

Member, Association of Student Social Workers, Aug 05 – May 07

Member, Psi Chi Honor Society, May 04-May 05

Honors and Awards

2021 Journal of Public Child Welfare; Best Article of the Year Award

2018 Florida State University, College of Social Work, Distinguished Alumni in Social Work Education

2017 Florida Atlantic University Alumni Association; Faculty Talon Award Recipient  
2017 Florida Atlantic University Scholar of the Year, Assistant Professor  
2017 Florida Atlantic University Distinguished Teacher of the Year, College of Design  
and Social Inquiry Nominee  
2016 Presidential Faculty Community-Engaged Research Award Nominee  
2012 Dissertation Award Recipient, Florida State University College of  
Human Sciences  
2012 Andres J. Nazario Diversity Award, The Florida Association for Marriage  
and Family Therapy  
2012 Glenn Society, The Florida State University  
2012 Mary W. Hicks Scholarship, The Florida State University  
2012 Hallie Deaton Choate Scholarship, The Florida State University  
2012 Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society  
2011 President Obama's Volunteer Service Award  
2011 Cora Ross Evans Scholarship, The Florida State University  
2010 Cora Ross Evans Scholarship, The Florida State University  
2007 Title IV-E Child Welfare Education Stipend Recipient, Department of  
Children and Families  
2006 Title IV-E Child Welfare Education Stipend Recipient, Department of  
Children and Families