

478 SOUTH FAIR OAKS AVE • SUNNYVALE, CA 94086

PHONE 408-594-8518 • E-MAIL LMEDINAFLORES@PALOALTOU.EDU

# LAURA MEDINA FLORES, BA

## EDUCATION

---

**Palo Alto University** **August 2024 – Present**  
**Clinical Psychology PhD Program** (APA Accredited)  
**Palo Alto, CA**

- Emphases: Neuropsychology, Pediatric Behavioral Health
- PhD anticipated: August 2029
- MS anticipated: July 2027

**California State University, Bakersfield** **August 2020 – May 2023**  
**Psychology Department**  
**Bakersfield, CA**  
*BA, Psychology*

## HONORS

---

Magna Cum Laude, CSU, Bakersfield **May 2023**  
Dean's List, CSU, Bakersfield **December 2021– May 2023**

## LANGUAGES

---

Spanish: Spoken, fluent. Written, intermediate.

## CLINICAL TRAINING EXPERIENCE

---

**Hours to Date**

Intervention: 104 hr, Assessment: 2 hr, Integrated Reports: 2

**The Community Clinic @ PAU (Gronowski Center)** **July 2025 – Present**  
**Palo Alto University**  
**Palo Alto, CA**  
*Practicum Student*  
*Supervisor: Alicea Evans, PsyD*

- Provide individual therapy to diverse adult clients in an outpatient community mental health setting
- Conduct comprehensive intake evaluations and complete integrative reports for potential clients, consisting of the following: Clinical interview, substance use assessment, risk assessment, standardized assessments

- Create treatment plans and formulate diagnoses unique to the client's needs consisting of conceptualization of the clinical presentation, background, cultural and contextual factors, short term goals, and long-term goals
- Utilize an integrative theoretical orientation and culturally responsive treatment drawing from cognitive-behavioral, dialectical-behavioral, and acceptance and commitment therapy techniques, neurodiversity framework
- Conduct risk assessments, safety planning, and risk consultation with licensed clinical psychologists
- Effectively communicate and collaborate with supervisor and peers in individual and group supervision meetings weekly to receive support with client's, development of skills, and supporting peers
- Complete documentation of progress notes, treatment plans, and integrated reports on electronic health record system (Ensora) in a timely manner in compliance with training clinic and ethical standards
- Assessment measures used: Depression, Anxiety, Stress Scale (DASS-43), Outcome Questionnaire (QQ-45), Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA), Personality Assessment Screener (PAS)

## **OTHER CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

---

### **Intervention Center for Autism Needs Cupertino, CA**

**July 2023 - September 2024**

#### *Behavior Interventionist*

- Provided bilingual (English and Spanish) applied behavioral analysis therapy to children and adolescents with neurodevelopmental disorders and co-morbid genetic disorders to address challenges in social communication, independence in daily activities, externalizing and internalizing behaviors
- Effectively communicated with board certified behavior analysts to track progress, regression, and challenges with client goals depending on their individual needs
- Implemented a strengths-based approach in providing feedback and when debriefing with clients' caregivers after sessions to answer questions, changes in behavior observed at home, and address concerns regarding their child's treatment
- Supported caregivers with completion of caregiver-report standardized assessment (Vineland-3) as needed
- Documented progress notes in a timely manner on electronic health record system (Central Reach)

### **Contact Cares Bill Wilson Center San Jose, CA** *Telephone Counselor*

**June 2023 - July 2024**

- Actively and empathetically listened and provided support to adults experiencing emotional distress, internalizing symptoms, and serious mental illness (i.e. psychosis, mood episodes) via telephone
- Provided housing and mental health service linkage to individuals located within the Bay Area
- Documented summary notes of the phone call and resources provided on the Central Management System

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

---

**Affective Development Lab**  
**Palo Alto University**  
**Palo Alto, CA**

**May 2025 - Present**

*Research Assistant*

*Supervisor: Eleanor Palsler, PhD*

- Currently completing dissertation proposal and IRB application on a study focusing on better understanding potential contributors (i.e. executive functioning, alexithymia, interoception) to emotion granularity and its impact on mental health outcomes (i.e. internalizing symptoms, emotion regulation strategies) in autistic youth
- Perform literature reviews concerning the following: standardized diagnostic, cognitive, and self-report measures, emotion regulation, executive functioning, emotion differentiation, alexithymia, and internalizing psychopathology in children with autism spectrum disorder
- Supporting a peer in the lab with reviewing IRB materials and collecting data for a yoga intervention study for autistic youth anticipated to begin in summer 2026

**Behavioral Research & Assessment in Neuropsychology Lab** September 2024 - January 2025

**Palo Alto University**  
**Palo Alto, CA**

*Volunteer*

*Supervisor: Rayna Hirst, PhD*

- Assisted with completing the conclusion section for a poster of a research study examining the effects of familial substance abuse on cognitive functioning in youth
- Collaborated with lab members in proof reading sections for the poster including introduction, methods, results, conclusion, and references

**Social Psychology Academics, Research, & Knowledge Lab** October 2022 - July 2024  
**California State University, Bakersfield**  
**Bakersfield, CA**

*Research Assistant*

*Supervisor: Anne Duran, PhD*

- Assisted with completing a poster examining imposter phenomenon, informal and formal social support systems
- Performed a literature review concerning imposter phenomenon and social support systems
- Assisted with completing Institutional Review Board (IRB) materials including a literature review and consent forms for data collection
- Analyzed data for the results section of the study by conducting bivariate correlations, scatter plots, and descriptive statistics

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

---

Cometa L., **Medina Flores, L.**, Felix, B. L., Marcelo A. M., Ramirez L. Q., Carillo S., & Duran, A. (2023, March). *Imposter phenomenon and social support systems* [Poster Presentation]. Western Psychology Association (WPA), Annual Meeting, Riverside, California, United States.

Vang, L. S., Shah, D., Lakhani, A., Eve, H. S., Summers, K. C., Ruelas-Mora, A., Borg, R., **Medina Flores, L.**, & Hirst, R. B. (2025, February 12-15). *The effects of familial substance abuse on cognitive functioning in youth athletes* [Poster Presentation]. International Neuropsychological Society (INS) Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, United States.

## ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

---

**Parents Helping Parents (PHP)**  
**San Jose, CA**

**November 2022 - Present**

*Spanish Parent Support Groups Volunteer*

- Use active and empathetic listening to provide support for parents sharing distress and concerns related to their child's neurodevelopmental and genetic conditions
- Provide psychoeducation to parents regarding behavioral interventions, educational support services (i.e. IEP), internalizing and externalizing behaviors, emotion regulation, sensory differences that may arise for their child and practicing advocating for their child's care
- Provide service linkage for parents who require support with accessing mental health and educational services for their child

**Psychology Club**  
**CSU, Bakersfield**  
**Bakersfield, CA**

**February 2022 - May 2023**

*Student Member*

- Attended meetings via Zoom and in person to discuss the club's goals and on-campus events to advertise the club

- Attended guest speaker meetings to network and learn about professionals' experiences in the field of psychology such as professionals holding PhD, PsyD, LMFT degrees with various specializations including clinical, forensic, counseling, and social psychology

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

---

**Research Methods and Statistics II**  
**Palo Alto University Palo Alto University**  
**Palo Alto, CA**

**January 2026 - Present**

*Teaching Assistant*

- Conduct lab portion of the course lecture consisting of teaching and supporting students with using R studio to apply the following statistical analysis concepts from lectures: Normality tests (i.e., Shapiro Wilk), Pearson correlation, simple/multiple regression, moderation, mediation, ANOVA, ANCOVA, and Chi-Square
- Collaborate with the instructor and other teaching assistants to coordinate grading and student expectations
- Hold quiz review sessions with other teaching assistants to present important concepts from lecture material and practice application of such concepts
- Efficiently grade course assignments in a timely manner with specific feedback for students

**Research Methods and Statistics I**  
**Palo Alto University**  
**Palo Alto, CA**

**September 2025 - December 2025**

*Teaching Assistant*

- Conducted lab portion of the course lecture which consisted of assisting students with lab assignments related to lecture material, following APA format guidelines for writing assignments, and teaching students how to use SPSS and R Studio for statistical analyses (i.e. descriptive statistics, correlations)
- Collaborated with the instructor and other teaching assistants to coordinate grading, review student expectations, and ensure student success
- Supported students 1 on 1 to assist with understanding lecture material, lab assignments, and development of their research proposal assignment
- Held exam review sessions with other teaching assistants for students to ask questions regarding lecture material when studying for the midterm and final exam
- Efficiently graded course assignments (weekly lab assignments, APA format related assignments, and sections on the final research proposal) in a timely manner with specific feedback for students

**Scientific Inquiry in Psychology**  
**CSU Bakersfield**

**January 2023 - May 2023**

**Bakersfield, CA**

*Teaching Assistant*

- Efficiently graded assignments, exams, and provided detailed feedback
- Proctored quizzes, midterm, and final exam
- Answered students' questions, concerns, and provided students support via e-mail and in person during lecture

**TRAINING**

---

UCSF ADOS-2 Introductory/Clinical & Toddler Module Training **2026**

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

---

Psi Chi

The American Academy of Pediatric Neuropsychology, Student Member

**REFERENCES**

---

**Alicea Evans, PsyD**

Clinical Supervisor, Palo Alto University

Practicum Site Coordinator, Palo Alto University

The Community Clinic @ PAU (Gronowski Center)

[aevans@palou.edu](mailto:aevans@palou.edu)

**Anne Duran, PhD**

Professor, California State University Bakersfield

Director, Social Psychology Academics, Research, and Knowledge (SPARK) Lab

[aduran@csub.edu](mailto:aduran@csub.edu)

**Eleanor Palser, PhD**

Professor, Palo Alto University

Director, Pediatric Behavioral Health Program

Director, Affective Development Lab

[epalser@palou.edu](mailto:epalser@palou.edu)

**Maritza Heredia, BCBA**

Academy Director, Intervention Center for Autism Needs

[maritza@icanautism.com](mailto:maritza@icanautism.com)