

Myriam Elsa Torres
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Education

PhD (Epidemiology), Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, August 2001.

Master of Science in Public Health, MSPH (Epidemiology), Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, December 1991.

Magister en Salud Pública, MSP (Master in Public Health - MPH), Facultad Nacional de Salud Pública, Universidad de Antioquia, Medellín, Colombia, June 1987.

Enfermera (BS in Nursing), Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia, 1981.

Employment history

Epidemiology MPH Program Director, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, July 1, 2021 – present.

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, April 1, 2017 – present.

Director, Consortium for Latino Immigration Studies, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina. January 1, 2006 – present.

Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, July 16, 2007 – March 30, 2017.

Faculty and Scholar Advisor, CDC/ASPH Institute for HIV Prevention Leadership. Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, September 1, 2005 - 2009.

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, January 1, 2002 – July 15, 2007

Research Associate, South Carolina Rural Health Research Center, Department of Health Policy Services and Management, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, February 1, 2005 – August 31, 2007.

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, South Carolina Rural Health Research Center, Department of Health Policy Services and Management, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, January 16, 2004 – January 31, 2005.

Research Assistant Professor, Institute for Families in Society, University of South Carolina, September 1, 2001-2004.

Research Associate, Institute for Families in Society, University of South Carolina, July 1999 - August 31, 2001.

Graduate Research Assistant. Drs. Shirley J. Thompson and Caroline A. Macera. School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, January 1994 - August 1998.

Health Services Coordinator, Caja de Previsión Social de la Superintendencia Bancaria, Bogotá, Colombia, March 1992 - June 1993.

Professor, Javeriana University, Bogotá, Colombia. School of Nursing and Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, 1983-1993

Head Nurse in Outpatient Services, San Ignacio Hospital, Bogotá, Colombia, 1983

Head Nurse in OB/Gyn and Neonatal Intensive Care, Clínica del Country, Bogotá, Colombia, 1983

Head Nurse and *Director of Nursing*, San Rafael Hospital, Girardot, Colombia, 1981-1982.

Service

Community Service

Current

Advisor Women's Rights & Empowerment Network (WREN)

Good Samaritan Clinic Steering Committee

Board of Advisors, PASOs programs (Chair of the Strategic Visioning Committee)

Board of Directors, Vice-President and Past President, South Carolina/South Western Colombia Partners of the Americas

Past participation

Advisory Group, National Rural Health Association Border Health Initiative

Scale Down Evaluation and Action Team member

Children's Trust of SC – Program Committee member

SC School Improvement Council – Board of Trustees

South Carolina for Healthy Families – Board Member

Columbia March for Science Day speaker

Health Equity Workgroup Alliance for a Healthier SC

SC State Advisory Committee of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (2012 – 2018)

Dreher High School Improvement Council (2015 – 2016)

Healthy South Carolina Initiative – External Leadership Team

SC Mission (2011 - 2014) – Interpreter & Interpreter Coordination

SC DHEC Commissioner's Advisory Council on Elimination of Health Disparities

Board of Directors, Acercamiento Hispano de Carolina del Sur

Board of Directors, My Amigos Bilingual Education Center (MABEC)

Board of Directors, Past Chair, South Carolina Hispanic/Latino Health Coalition

Hispanic Advisory Committee, South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs

Communicating with Persons with LEP during Disasters (Convened by DHEC)

Diabetes Advisory Council of South Carolina

Human Trafficking Task Force

Professional Community

Peer Reviewer:

- 1) AIDS and Behavior
- 2) American Journal of Preventive Medicine
- 3) Annals of Epidemiology
- 4) Birth Defects Research Part A: Clinical and Molecular Teratology
- 5) BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making
- 6) California Journal of Health Promotion
- 7) Health Education & Behavior
- 8) Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health
- 9) International Journal of Obesity
- 10) Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice
- 11) Ethnicity and Health Journal
- 12) Ethnicity and Disease Journal
- 13) Journal of Racial and Ethnic Disparities
- 14) Revista Investigación en Enfermería: Imagen y Desarrollo (Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá)
- 15) Journal of Community Medicine & Health Education
- 16) Maternal and Child Health Journal
- 17) Revista Colombiana de Enfermería (Universidad del Bosque, Bogotá)

University of South Carolina (UofSC) Service

USC Connect Faculty Fellow

Fulbright Faculty Advisor

Hispanic Faculty Caucus – Founder and Chair (2015 – present)

USC Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee (DIAC)

Hispanic Advisory Committee, USC Office of Multicultural Student Affairs

Latin American Student Association (LASO) – Faculty Advisor

Arnold School of Public Health (ASPH), UofSC

Clyburn Lecture Planning Committee

Arnold School of Public Health Evaluation Committee

Arnold School of Public Health Diversity and Inclusion Committee (2017 – 2019)

Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, ASPH, UofSC

Curriculum Committee

CEPH and MPH Advisory Committee

Teaching and Mentoring

Courses Taught

PUBH 725: Quantitative Methods for Public Health Practice. Co-taught with J. Hussey and G. Scott (Face-to-Face and Online versions)

EPID 700: Introduction to Epidemiology as part of USC Global Health in Costa Rica (2016, 2017, and 2018)

EPID 700: Introduction to Epidemiology (for non-Epidemiology or Biostatistics majors)

EPID 410: Principles of Epidemiology (Undergraduate Students) & as part of the USC Global Health in Costa Rica (2016 - 2019)

EPID 794: Special Topics (Latino Health Epidemiology)

EPID 745: Seminar in Epidemiology

SCHC 364M Mexican Migration and Health (Study Abroad Course in Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico)

SCHC 364G: Service-Learning Course - Latino Health Advocacy (SC Honors College)

Fulbright Faculty Program Advisor (2017 – present)

Students

Graduate Students

Name	Year	Department	Role	Topic (if Committee member)
Dacia Lipkea	2020 - 2021	Genetic Counseling (UofSC Medical School)	Thesis Committee Member	Medical Interpreters in Genetic Counseling
Ubong James	2020 - present	College of Nursing	Dissertation Committee Member	Depression among Hispanic Adults in the US
Chloe Rodriguez Ramos	2019 – 2021	EPID & BIOS	MPH Academic Advisor	
Melek Yildiz Spinel	2018 – present	PhD Clinical Community Psychology	Doctoral Dissertation Committee Member	Gender and Intimate Partner Violence among Hispanics in the US
Shy'Davia Baxley	2018 – 2020	EPID & BIOS	MPH Academic Advisor	
Carlos Avalos	2018 – 2019	EPID & BIOS	MSPH Academic Advisor and Thesis Chair	Victimization Trends among Latino High School Students
Monica Mitteness	2019 – 2020	EPID & BIOS	MPH Practicum Faculty Advisor	Evaluation of outreach efforts in Hepatitis A. SC DHEC
Kinjal Panda	2017 – 2019	PhD Clinical Community Psychology	Doctoral Dissertation Committee Member	Development and Psychometric Validation of a Measure of Micro Aggression Exposure among Female Faculty of Color
Bryan Love	2014 – 2018	EPID & BIOS	MPH Academic Advisor	
Rebeca Castellanos	2016 – 2018	PhD Clinical Community Psychology	Doctoral Dissertation Committee Member	Cultural Adaptations of Mindfulness and Acceptance Based Therapies for Hispanic/Latino Populations
Henry Miller	2012 – 2018	EPID & BIOS	MPH Academic and Practicum Advisor	Data analysis SC DHEC Tobacco

				Prevention and Control Division
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**Undergraduate Students
In Progress**

Name	Year	Program	Topic
Maren East	2020 - 2021	SCHC (Thesis Chair)	Latino Health and Culture in the United States and Considerations for Physician Assistant Practice

Completed (last 3 years)

Name	Year	Program	Topic
Sara Osborn	2019- 2020	SCHC (Thesis Chair)	Limited English Proficiency and access to mental health care
Alec Giakas	2018 – 2020	Magellan Mini-Grant, Honors College SURF Grant	Factors associated with foot lesions in older persons, <i>Hogar Carlos María Ulloa</i> , San José Costa Rica
Alvina Emran	2019 - 2020	SCHC (Thesis Chair)	Factors associated with e-cigarette use in youth
Quinn Alsheimer	2017 – 2020	Magellan Apprentice and Magellan Scholar Program	Access to Healthcare in Kisumu and Siaya Counties, Kenya
Madeline Magness	2018 – 2020	Magellan Apprentice	Contraceptive Use among LGBT Hispanic Youth
Emma Boswell	2018 – 2020	Magellan Apprentice	Sexual Violence Experiences and Suicide in Youth
Zachary Travis	2017 – 2019	Magellan Apprentice	BMI and weight self-perception among various racial/ethnic groups. 2015 YRBSS participants.
Hanson Cowan	2018 – 2019	SCHC (Thesis Chair)	E-cigarettes and concentration in school
Christina Nielsen	2017 – 2019	Magellan Apprentice	Mental health and behavioral diagnosis in Latinos using inpatient, outpatient and emergency room data in SC
Robert Patterson	2017 – 2019	Magellan Apprentice	Prescription Drug Use and Violent Behaviors among American High School Students
Monai Mitchell	2018 - 2019	SC-ADAR	Health status of older Hispanics
Abigail K. Watson	2019	SCHC (thesis Chair)	Chronic Kidney Disease in Central America
Maeve McQueen	2018	Independent Study	YRBSS 2015

Himabindu Vinnakota	2017 - 2018	SCHC (Thesis Chair)	Epidemiologic Profile of Residents of the <i>Hogar Carlos María Ulloa</i> , San José, Costa Rica
Charles Williamson	2018	SCHC (Thesis Chair)	YRBS 2015

**Participation in Research Projects
COMPLETED**

South Carolina Statewide Hispanic Health Needs Assessment (2000 – 2001).

Source: Office of Minority Health, SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (PI: Ana López-DeFede, PhD).

Medically Fragile Populations Project (2001- 2003).

Source: DHHS. (PI: Ana López-DeFede, PhD).

Rural Hospitals and Spanish Speaking Patients with Limited English Proficiency (2006).

Source: HRSA/ORHP (SC Rural health Research Center, PI: Janice Probst, PhD).

The Role of English Proficiency and Area of residence in the Use of Adult Preventive Health Services among Latino Subgroups (2007-2008).

Source: HRSA/ORHP (SC Rural Health Research Center, PI: Janice Probst, PhD.)

Study of the Economic Impact of Hispanic/Latino Immigration on the State of South Carolina (2007).

Source: SC Commission for Minority Affairs (PI: The Consortium for Latino Immigration Studies - Elaine Lacy, PhD and Douglas Woodward, PhD).

Institute for HIV Prevention Leadership (IHPL) (2005 - 2010).

Source: CDC/ASPH (PI: Donna Richter, PhD).

Juntas Podemos (Together We Can): Empowering Latinas to Shape Policy to Prevent Childhood Obesity (2009-2010)

Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Program *Salud America!* (PI: Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH).

Borderline Health: A Chartbook of U.S. Rural Health Indicators at the Mexico Border (2009-2012).

Source: South Carolina Rural Health Research Center through a grant from the Office of Rural Health Policy (PI: Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH).

Empowering Latinas to Lash Out Against AIDS/STIs (ELLAS) (2007-2012).

Source: National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STDS and TB Prevention/CDC (PI: Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH).

Evaluation of the Healthy Families/Familias Saludables Program (2009-2014).

Source: HRSA (PI: Scherrie Cogdill, Director, Coastal Plain Rural Health Network. Evaluator: Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH).

Study to Assess Beliefs and Evaluate Risks (SABER) among Latinos in SC (2013-2014)

Source: NIH Supplement (PI: Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH) to P20 (Institute for Partnerships to Eliminate Health Disparities – PI: Sandra Glover, PhD).

Mexican Immigrants in South Carolina: Responding to Social, Political and Economic Change (2009).

Source: University of South Carolina (PI: Elaine Lacy, PhD and Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH).

Rural Border Health Chartbook II (2013 – 2014)

Source: South Carolina Rural Health Research Center through a grant from the Office of Rural Health Policy (PI: Amy Brock Martin, DrPH).

Community Health Worker and Cultural Competence Curriculums (2013-2015)

Source: CDC through SC DHEC (PI: Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH).

Mental Health and Wellbeing of Men and Boys in Five Counties in SC

Source: HopeHealth, Inc (2014-2016). USC Sub-contract PI: Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH).

Experiences of Latinos during the SC Floods

Source: University of South Carolina Office of the Vice President for Research (PI: Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH).

Latino/a Mental Health in South Carolina: An Assessment of Mental Health Needs, Existing Resources, and Current Challenges.

Source: SC Department of Mental Health (Co-PI: Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH).

Community Health Worker Patient-Centered Diabetes Management Program.

Source: South Carolina Rural Health Research Center through grants from the National Rural Health Association. PI: Jan Probst, PhD.

ONGOING

Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic among Latino Populations in SC (2020 – 2021)

Source: University of South Carolina's Office of the Vice President for Research. PI: Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH.

Rural Border Health Chartbook

Source: National Rural Health Association. PI: Jan Eberth, PhD.

EACH Mom & Baby Collaborative

Source: Blue Cross Blue Shield South Carolina Foundation. PI: Julie Smithwick, LMSW.

Evaluation of the PASOs Programs (ongoing)

Source: Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation, SC DHEC, and Duke Endowment (2004-present). Co-PIs: Julie Smithwick, Maria Martin, Mike Young. Evaluator: Myriam E. Torres, PhD, MSPH

Project LAUNCH

Source: NIH. PI: Russ Pate, PhD.

Publications

Nolan M.S., Murray K.O., Mejia R., Hotez, P.J., Villar M.J., Rodriguez, S., Palacios, R., Murcia, W.E., Lynn, M.K., **Torres, M.E.**, Monroy, M.C. Elevated pediatric Chagas disease burden

complicated by concomitant gastrointestinal parasites and malnutrition in El Salvador (submitted to Tropical Medicine and Infectious Disease)

- Lee, J.S., Humphrey, M., Adams, M., **Torres, M.**, Crawford, T.N., Hall, J. (2020) Characteristics of Patients with Hypertension at a Nicaraguan Clinic. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*. 31:1281-1290.
- Pate, R., Frongillo, E., Cordan, K., Dowda, M., McLain, A., **Torres, M.**, Brown, W., Bucko, A., Shull, E. (2020) Linking Activity, Nutrition, and Child Health (LAUNCH): protocol for a longitudinal cohort study of children as they develop from infancy to preschool age. *BMC Public Health*. 20:931. <https://bmcpublihealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-020-09023-7>
- Khan, S., McLain, A., Olatosi, B., **Torres, M.**, Eberth, J. (2020) Small Area Estimation of County-Level U.S. HIV Prevalent Cases. *Annals of Epidemiology*. Vol 48:30-35.
- Moore de Peralta, Arelis; Smithwick, Julie; and **Torres, Myriam E.** (2020). Perceptions and determinants of partnership trust in the context of Community-Based Participatory Research, *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*: Vol. 13: Iss. 1, Article 4.
- Lawrence JA, White K, Cummings JL, Hardin J, **Torres ME.** (2019) Socially assigned race and diabetes: Findings from the Arizona Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2013-2014. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*. 6:926-934
- Meetze EG, **Torres ME**, Messias DK. (2016-2017). Prenatal Care Providers' Perspectives and Practices: Informed Consent for HIV Screening among Latinas with Limited English Proficiency in South Carolina. *Journal of Health Disparities*. Vol 10, Issue 1, Article 10.
- Torres ME**, Murray A, Meetze EG, Gaul Z, Sutton MY. HIV Knowledge Among Pregnant Latinas in Rural South Carolina. *J Immigrant Minority Health*. 2016. DOI 10.1007/s10903-016-0455-6.
- Liu J, Gallagher A, Carta CM, **Torres ME**, Moran R, Wilcox S. Racial differences in gestational weight gain and pregnancy-related hypertension. 2014. *Annals of Epidemiology*. Doi:10.1016/j.annepidem.2014.02.009.
- Torres ME**, Meetze E, Smithwick J. Latina Voices in Childhood Obesity: A Pilot Study Using Photovoice in South Carolina. *Am J Prev Medicine* 2013;44(3S3):S225-S231.
- Torres ME**, Smithwick J, Willms L, Franco Margarita M, McCandless R, Lohman M. Developing a Culturally Appropriate Preconception Health Promotion Strategy for Newly Immigrated Latinos Through a Community-Based Program in South Carolina. *American Journal of Health Promotion* 2013;27 No. 3 Supplement:pp. S7-S9.
- McMahon DM, Liu J, Zhang H, **Torres ME**, and Best RG. Maternal obesity, folate intake, and neural tube defects in offspring. (2013) *Birth Defects Res A Clin Mol Teratol*.97(2): 115-22. doi: 10.1002/bdra.23113.
- Torres ME**, Smithwick J, Luchok KJ, Rodman-Rice G. Reducing Maternal And Child Health Disparities Among Latino Immigrants In South Carolina Through A Tailored, Culturally Appropriate And Participant-Driven Initiative. *Cal J Health Promotion*, 2012;10: Special Issue: Health Disparities in Latino Communities, 1-14.
- Thomas TT, Owens OL, Friedman DB, **Torres ME**, Hebert JR. (2013) Written and Spoken Narratives about Health and Cancer Decision Making: A Novel Application of Photovoice. *Health promotion Practice*. 14(6), 833-840 (2012 Nov 20 Epub, DOI: 10.1177/1524839912465749).
- Oglesby WH, Corwin SJ, Saunders RP, **Torres ME**, Richter DL. Associations Between School Perceptions and Tobacco Use in a Sample of Southern Middle School Students. *Journal of Child & Adolescent Substance Abuse*, 21:1-13, 2012.
- Wigfall L, Richter D, **Torres M**, Annang L, Lindley L, Swayampakala K, Neethu S, Glover S, Duffus W. HIV testing among midlife women in the Deep South: an analysis of the 2008 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System survey data. *J Womens Health* (Larchmt). 2011 Jun;20(6):933-41.

- Youmans E, **Torres M**, O'Donnell N, Stephens T, Duffus WA. Successful Linkage of Newly Diagnosed HIV-Infected Individuals to Medical Care. *The Journal of the South Carolina Medical Association*. Vol 6. June 2010, pg 117-122.
- Mann JR, Mannan J, Quiñones LA, Palmer AA, **Torres M**. Religion, Spirituality, Social Support and Perceived Stress in Pregnant and Postpartum Hispanic Women. *Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic and Neonatal Nursing* 2010 Nov; 39(6): 645-57.
- Liu, Jihong, Probst, Janice C., Harun, Nusrat, Bennett, Kevin J. and **Torres, Myriam E.** (2009) Acculturation, physical activity, and obesity among Hispanic adolescents, *Ethnicity & Health*, 14:5,509-525
- Lisa Wigfall, Wayne A. Duffus, Lucy Annang, Donna L. Richter, **Myriam E. Torres**, Edith M. Williams, Sandra H. Glover. (2009) Pap Test and HIV Testing Behaviors of South Carolina Women 18-64 Years Old, *Journal of the SC Medical Association*, 105:274-280
- Torres ME**, Parra-Medina D, Johnson A, Bellinger J, Probst JA. Rural Hospitals and Spanish Speaking Patients with Limited English Proficiency. *J Healthc Manag.* 2008 Mar-Apr;53(2):107-19.
- Ogbuanu IU, **Torres ME**, Kettinger L, Albrecht H, Duffus WA. Epidemiologic Characterization of Individuals with Newly Reported HIV-Infection in South Carolina, May 2004 to April 2005. *Am J Public Health* 2007, Nov 29.
- Li Y, Dai Q, **Torres ME**, Zhang J. Gender-specific association between iron status and the history of attempted suicide: Implications for gender paradox of suicide behaviors. *Neuro-Psychopharmacology & Biological Psychiatry*. 1;31:1429-35. 2007.
- Zhang J, Li Y, **Torres ME**. How does a suicide attempter eat differently from others? Comparison of macronutrient intakes. *Nutrition*. Vol 21. Number 6. pp 711-717. 2005.
- Thompson SJ, **Torres ME**, Stevenson RE, Dean JH, Best RG. Periconceptional Multivitamin Folic Acid Use, Dietary Folate and Risk of Occurrent Neural Tube Defects in a high risk Population. *Annals of Epidemiology*. Vol. 13. Pp. 412-418. 2003.
- Scott WK, Huang Y, Cornman C, Neff L, **Torres ME**, Otterness C, Eleazer P, and Macera CA. Alzheimer's Disease in South Carolina, 1994. *The Journal of the South Carolina Medical Association*. Vol. 91. Number 6. Pp 257-259. 1995.
- Gutiérrez ML, and **Torres ME**. Comparative Analysis of the Health Diagnosis of School Aged Children from Nurses, Physicians, and Dentists. *First Pan-American Conference in Nursing Research: Memories*. Colombian Association of Nursing Schools. Bogotá, Colombia. Sept 20-23, 1988.

Note: Underlined names are students I worked with as part of their dissertation or master's thesis.

Reports

- Lorenzo-Blanco E, **Torres ME**, Smithwick J, Wilton A. Mental Health Access and the Latino Communities of South Carolina: An Assessment of Needs, Existing Resources, and Current Challenges. University of South Carolina, August 2016.
- Mesa A, **Torres ME**, Smithwick J, Sides K. The Current State of Young Hispanic Children in South Carolina: Projections and Implications for the Future. Institute for Child Success. March 2016.
- Bhavsar GP, Brock Martin A, Probst JC, **Torres ME**, Iyer M, Hardin, J. Rural Border Health Chartbook II. South Carolina Rural Health Research Center, University of South Carolina, October 2014.
- Brock Martin A, **Torres ME**, Vyavaharkar M, Chen Z, Towne S, Probst JC. Rural Border Health Chartbook. South Carolina Rural Health Research Center, University of South Carolina, January 2013.

- Torres ME**, Smithwick-Leone J. The PASOs Program in South Carolina. 2009-2010 Progress Report. University of South Carolina, August 2010.
- Consortium for Latino Immigration Studies**. The Economic and Social Implications of the Growing Latino Population in South Carolina. University of South Carolina. August 2007.
- Torres ME**, Bellinger JD, Probst JC, Harun N, Johnson AO. Use of Preventive Services Among Hispanic Sub-groups: Does One Size Fit All? SC Rural Health Research Center, University of South Carolina. 2007.
- Torres ME**, Parra-Medina D, Brock-Martin A, Johnson AO, Bellinger JD, Probst JC. Rural Hospitals and Spanish Speaking Patients with Limited English Proficiency. SC Rural Health Research Center, University of South Carolina. 2005.
- López-DeFede A, **Torres ME**, Hirshorn B, Stewart J, Payne T, Mensack, CM. South Carolina Hispanic Needs Assessment: Final report. Columbia, SC University of South Carolina, Institute for Families in Society. 2001.

Papers Presented at Professional Meetings (2005-present)

- Restructuration of the MPH and Creation of the PUBH 725 Course in the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina. Invited speaker to *Congreso Internacional de Salud Pública* (Public Health International Conference). Universidad de Antioquia, Medellín, Colombia. November 21 – 23, 2019.
- Experiences of Latinos during the 2015 Floods in SC. Hispanic/Latino Voices in Academia. Clemson University, October 13, 2018.
- Immigration Laws in South Carolina: How are Latinos Experiencing Them? The 5th Conference in Immigration to the US South. Immigration Reform and Beyond? October 23-25, 2014. University of Florida, Gainesville.
- Routine HIV Testing among Pregnant Latinas in Rural South Carolina, 2012. 141st APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition, November 2-6, 2013
- Prevalence of Alzheimer's disease in South Carolina: An Exploration into the Growing Latino Population. 140th APHA Annual Meeting, October 27 - October 31, 2012. San Francisco, CA.
- Latinos en Carolina del Sur: Retos y Oportunidades. Coloquio Internacional de Migración: Miradas desde lo Social. August 15, 16, y 17, 2012. Poza Rica, Veracruz, Mexico.
- MARI: Black and Hispanic HIV Prevention Researchers Working in Black and Hispanic Communities. 2011 National HIV Prevention Conference: The Urgency of Now: Reduce Incidence. Improve Access. Promote Equity. August 14-17, 2011. Atlanta, Georgia.
- Implementing an Effective National HIV/AIDS Strategy: Recommendations from Black and Hispanic/Latino HIV/AIDS Investigators Working in Highly Affected Black and Hispanic/Latino Communities, 2010 APHA 138th Annual Meeting and Exposition, November 6-10, Denver, CO.
- Juntas Podemos!* (Together We Can): Empowering Latinas to Influence Policy to Prevent Childhood Obesity. *Salud America!* Scientific Summit. San Antonio September 9 – 11, 2009
- Minority HIV/AIDS Research Initiative (MARI): Progress and Challenges for Black and Hispanic Researchers, 2009 National HIV Prevention Conference. August 23-28, 2009. Atlanta, Georgia.
- Place of Residence, Acculturation, and the use of Preventive Health Services among Hispanic Subgroups. 2007 APHA Annual Meeting & Exposition in Washington, D.C. November 3-7, 2007
- How are rural hospitals accommodating the needs of Limited English Proficient patients? National Leadership Summit on Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health. The Office of Minority Health. Washington, DC, January 9-11, 2006

Honors

- 2020 James A. Keith Faculty Teaching Award, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina
- 2018 Certificate of Appreciation. Asociación Hispano-Americana de Mujeres.
- 2017 Faculty Service Award, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina
- 2015 James E. Clyburn Health Disparities Leadership Award. Institute for Partnerships to Eliminate Health Disparities, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina.
- 2014 Certificate of Appreciation. St. Matthews K-8 School. St. Matthews, South Carolina.
- 2014 Certificate of Appreciation. Federal Correctional Institute. Bennettsville, South Carolina
- 2013 & 2018 Certificate of Appreciation. PASOs Programs.
- 2011 & 2013 Nomination: Distinguished Undergraduate Research Mentor Award.
- 2010 South Carolina Diversity Leaders Initiative. The Riley Institute at Furman University.
- 2010 Certificate of Appreciation. South Carolina/SW Colombia Partners of the Americas.
- 2010 Certificate of Appreciation. Perinatal Awareness for Successful Outcomes Program (PASOs).
- 2008 Certificate of Appreciation. South Carolina/SW Colombia Partners of the Americas.
- 2006 & 2007 Partners Count Program. Partners of the Americas.
- 2005 Nomination: The Most Influential Latina. L.E.E.R.
- 2005 Certificate of Appreciation. SisterCare, Inc.
- 2002 Certificate of Appreciation. The South Carolina Hispanic/Latino Health Coalition.
- 2002 Distinguished Service Award. South Carolina/SW Colombia Partners of the Americas.
- 2000 Delta Omega Society, Mu Chapter (Honorary Society in Public Health).
- 1986 1st place in the category: "Research project". Paper: Health Care Model for School Aged Children presented at the Third Conference of Javeriana Nurses Alumni.
- 1981 Thesis Honorary Mention. Nursing School, Javeriana University, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 1981 Academic Achievement Award. Nursing School, Javeriana University, Bogotá, Colombia.

Policy, Awareness, and Advocacy Activities

- 1) Invited Speaker: The SC March for Science Day – SC State House – April 22, 2017
- 2) Invited Speaker: The Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children, SC Legislature – November 20, 2017