**EDUCATION**

Ciara Collins

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**University of Connecticut**, Storrs, Connecticut

Doctorate of Philosophy in Human Development and Family Studies, Emphasis in Prevention and Early Intervention, Expected: Aug 2019

Advisor: Preston Britner, Ph.D.

**Quantitative Research Methods Certificate**

Advisor: Stephanie Milan, Ph.D.

**University of Connecticut**, Storrs, Connecticut

Master of Arts in Human Development and Family Studies, Emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy, May 2015

Advisor: Preston Britner, Ph.D.

**Biola University**, La Mirada, California

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Minor in Biblical & Theological Studies, Dec 2010

**Honors:** Dean’s List, Magna Cum Laude, Epsilon Kappa Epsilon Honors Society, Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, Psi Chi National Honor Society

**Honors Thesis:** Authenticity and Emotion Suppression

**University of Oxford**, Oxford, United Kingdom

Semester Abroad, Jan 2010 – Apr 2010

**Tutorials:** Philosophy of Science and Philosophy of Psychology and Neuroscience, Theology of Pauline Literature

**BOOK CHAPTERS**

Britner, P. A., & **Collins, C. M.** (2018). Permanent and formal connections: Mentors, community services, and connectedness. In E. Trejos-Castillo & N. Trevino-Schafer (Eds.), *Handbook of foster youth* (pp. 473-487). New York: Routledge.

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

**Collins, C. M.**, Csizmadia, A., & Hynes, K. C. (2018, November). Ethnic racial identity development in transracial foster placements: Building on what we know. In K. M. Hrapczynski (Chair), *Transracial adoption, foster care, and socialization*. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, San Diego, CA.

**Collins, C. M.**, & Russell, B. (2017, November). *Using Collaborative Language Systems to engage high-risk adolescent fathers.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.

**Collins, C. M.**, Forcier, P., Russell, B., & Snyder, M. (2017, May). *Engaging high-risk adolescent fathers: A qualitative examination of motivation to change in fatherhood programs*. Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Science’s Annual Convention, Boston, MA.

Robinson, J., Gozemba, D., & **Collins, C. M.** (2017, April). *Serving families: How well are you assessing it? Who is better off?* Workshop presented at the National Head Start Conference and Expo, Chicago, IL.

**Collins, C. M.**, Theriault, K., Altamura, V., & Britner, P. A. (2016, November). *Improving academic and socioemotional outcomes for youth in foster care*. Lightning paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

Gozemba, D., **Collins, C. M.**, & Ellsworth, A. (2016, May). *Translating staff and family voices into data-based program planning*. Workshop presented at the National Head Start Conference and Expo: The next Generation of Opportunity, Nashville, TN.

**Collins, C. M.**, Britner, P. A., Theriault, K., & Altamura, V. (2015, June). *Resiliency in foster youth and perceived social support: A mixed methods program evaluation*. Poster presented at the Resilience Research Centre’s Pathways to Resilience III: Beyond Nature vs. Nurture Conference, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

**Collins, C. M.** (2011, April). *Authenticity and emotion suppression.* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Western Psychological Association, Los Angeles, CA.

**AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS**

**Summer Fellowship for Advanced Graduate Students,** University of Connecticut, Jun 2017, May 2018

**CLAS Dean’s Fund Fellowship,** University of Connecticut, May 2016

**Graduate School Fellowship,** University of Connecticut, May 2016

**Tuition Assistance Award,** University of Connecticut, Aug 2013 - May 2014

**Gilman International Scholarship,** Biola University, Dec 2009

**George Mayr Scholarship,** Biola University, Aug 2008 – Aug 2010

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Evaluation Coordinator,** University of Connecticut & EASTCONN Head Start, CT, Aug 2014 – Present

* Collaborate with EASTCONN Head Start management
* Create reports that inform continuous quality improvement, staff development, and family outcomes
* Provide trainings to Head Start staff
* Coordinate and oversee undergraduate and master’s student researchers

**Supervisor:** JoAnn Robinson, Ph.D.

**Evaluation Coordinator,** University of Connecticut & UConn First Star Academy, CT, Sep 2013 – Present

* Collaborate with UConn and national First Star directors
* Assist in designing program evaluation assessment protocols
* Analyze mixed methods data and provide feedback to program directors

**Supervisor:** Preston Britner, Ph.D.

**Evaluation Coordinator,** University of Connecticut & The Village, CT, Aug 2016 – May 2018

* Coordinate with The Village for Children and Families’ managers, program staff, and data analysts for the Aspire, Connect, Thrive (ACT) program
* Conduct interviews with teacher participants
* Analyze data and create reports for program evaluation
* Coordinate and oversee PhD student researchers

**Supervisor:** Beth Russell, Ph.D.

**Graduate Research Assistant,** University of Connecticut & The Village, CT, Aug 2016 – Dec 2016

* Conducted interviews with fathers who participated in a fatherhood program through The Village for Children and Families

**Supervisor:** Beth Russell, Ph.D.

**Evaluation Coordinator,** University of Connecticut, Center for Applied Research in Human Development (CARHD), Storrs, CT, May 2015 – May 2016

* Collaborated with and promote data sharing between: The Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Child Protection Division of the Superior Court for Juvenile Matters, the Court Support Services Division of the Juvenile Branch (CSSD), the Office of Policy Management (OPM), the Department of Education (CSDE), the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) within the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and Social Venture Partners (SVP)

**Supervisors:** Anne Farrell, Ph.D. and Ronald Sabatelli, Ph.D.

**Graduate Research Assistant,** University of Connecticut & EASTCONN Head Start, CT, Nov 2013 – Jul 2014

* Manage and input data
* Create reports that inform continuous quality improvement, staff development, and family outcomes

**Supervisor:** JoAnn Robinson, Ph.D.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Teaching Assistant,** University of Connecticut, Human Development and Family Studies, Family Resource Management, Aug 2018-Present

* Assist with online resource management
* Grade discussion boards, quizzes, and application activities

**Supervisor:** Shannon Weaver, Ph.D.

**Teaching Assistant,** University of Connecticut, Human Development and Family Studies, Family Life Education, Aug 2018-Present

* Guest Lecture
* Exam Proctor

**Supervisor:** Shannon Weaver, Ph.D.

**Guest Lecturer,** Individual and Family Interventions, University of Connecticut, Nov 2014; Nov 2016; Apr 2017

* Lectured on Postmodernism and Collaborative Language Systems in a class of 45 undergraduate students

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Wheeler Clinic,** Clinician, Plainville, CT, May 2015 – Present

* Manage small caseload comprised of children 3-17 and their families
* Participate in staff meetings, individual supervision, and attend trainings

**The Humphrey Clinic,** Clinician, Storrs, CT, May 2015 – Aug 2018

* Manage small caseload comprised of young adults, couples, co-parenting dyads, and families
* Participate in staff meetings, group supervision, and attend trainings

**University of Connecticut,** Instructor, First Star Academy, Storrs, CT, Jul 2015; Jul 2016; July 2017; July 2018

* Taught two life skills courses for foster youth in First Star Academy during month-long summer program. Lesson topics included: effective communication, cognitive triangle, perspective-taking, and current issues.

**Nightlight Christian Adoptions,** Snowflakes Client Services, Anaheim, CA, May 2011 – Aug 2013

* Maintained client files and databases
* Assisted families with paperwork and inquiries throughout adoption/donation process
* Prepared legal contracts and coordinated embryo shipments
* Corresponded and established partnerships with adoption agencies and IVF clinics
* Spoke at seminars
* Implemented feedback-based program improvement

**PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS OFFERED**

**Data Documentation,** Willimantic, CT, Nov 2017

* Assisted EASTCONN Head Start in continuous quality improvement by training Head Start staff on new processes for data documentation

**Infant Toddler Conference,** Hampton, CT, Mar 2017

* Co-led a presentation on serving families with complex needs, looking at individual and aggregate data

**Goal Setting,** Hampton, CT, Oct 2016

* Led a training for Head Start staff on goal setting and connecting family goals with agency family functioning framework

**Dialectical Behavior Therapy,** Storrs, CT, Mar 2016

* Trained students enrolled in the Marriage and Family Therapy program at the University of Connecticut on Dialectical Behavior Therapy

**Social Support for Caregivers and Foster/Adoptive Children,** Storrs, CT, Jan 2016

* Led workshop for caregivers of foster/adoptive children in UConn’s First Star Academy related to building support networks for themselves and their children

**Goal Setting,** Willimantic, CT, Jan 2016

* Led two trainings for Head Start staff on goal setting and connecting family goals with agency family functioning framework

**Embryo Adoption Summit,** Loveland, CO, Oct 2012

* Led trainings for adoption agency staff on the process of embryo adoption

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**Conference Proposals Reviewer:**

* 2018 National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) Annual Conference

**Ad HocReviews:**

* *Journal of Child and Family Studies*

**PROFESSIONAL LICENSES**

**Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT),** Connecticut, License #002013

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

**National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)**, Jun 2016 – Present

**American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT)**,Sep 2013 – Present