

# Julia LeFrancois, M.A.

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SCHOLAR ● CHANGE-MAKER ● STORYTELLER

She/Her/Ella

## SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- **Currently serve as researcher and evaluator at The Consultation Center, Inc.**  
Contributing to and leading evaluation projects across local, state, and federally funded initiatives, including working with community partners and within federal systems such as SAMHSA.
- **Over 7 years of experience**  
Conducting focus groups and key informant interviews, with formal evaluator roles since 2021.
- **Dual master's degrees:**  
One in Community Psychology with a concentration in Research and Evaluation, and another in progress in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.
- **Leadership in community collaboration, design, and implementation:**  
Co-developing evaluation plans, logic models, and data collection tools in partnership with service providers and community-based organizations; analyzing qualitative and quantitative data and sharing findings with stakeholders including funders, public agencies, and nonprofit leaders.
- **Advanced Data Proficiency**  
In Excel, SPSS, Qualtrics, REDCap, Canva, and Mendeley, with a strong foundation in human subjects protections and IRB protocol development.
- **Unique Qualifications**  
Trilingual in English, American Sign Language (ASL), and Spanish, with a background in culturally responsive evaluation and advocacy, and dual roles in clinical care and research.

## EDUCATION

<b>University of New Haven</b> M.A., Clinical Mental Health Counseling <i>CACREP Accredited</i>	West Haven, CT 2024 - 2026
<b>University of Hartford</b> Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program	West Hartford, CT 2023 - 2024
<b>University of New Haven</b> M.A., Community Psychology Concentration: Research and Evaluation	West Haven, CT May 2023
<b>California State Polytechnic University Pomona</b> B.A., Psychology McNair Scholar & President's Scholar	Pomona, CA June 2020

## PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION EXPERIENCE

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2023 – Present

**The Consultation Center at Yale (TCC)**

New Haven, CT

### **Evaluation Coordinator**

- Lead evaluation coordination for a portfolio of community-engaged, multi-level evaluation projects—spanning local, regional, state, and federal efforts—focused on mental health systems, care access, and health policy
- Facilitate community collaboration, working with agency partners, service providers, and state-funded initiatives to co-create evaluation tools, protocols, and reports that reflect both scientific rigor and community voice
- Contribute to SAMHSA-funded programs at multiple levels, including the CONNECT initiative and the APT Foundation SC-POWR study, building a unique dual perspective as both clinician and evaluator
- Design and implement data collection instruments (e.g., surveys, key informant interview guides) and manage data systems using Qualtrics, Excel, and SPSS
- Present findings through internal and external reports, data dashboards, and stakeholder-friendly visualizations, tailoring deliverables for community organizations, funders, and leadership teams
- Act as lead or co-lead for evaluation projects such as:
  - **Connecticut Dental Health Partnership (CDHP):** Designed and executed annual member survey and multi-year health equity report development; managed Spanish and English survey formatting, incentive coordination, and data cleaning
  - **emme Coalition:** Conducted evaluation of a reproductive and relationship health program in Bridgeport, CT, in collaboration with OPTIMUS Healthcare and Fairfield County’s Community Foundation
  - **CONNECTing to Care:** Supported training evaluations, qualitative coding, and reporting for care coordination services supporting children and families across Connecticut
- Serve as a liaison in community engagement and outreach efforts through the Social Equity and Inclusion Workgroup (Community Engagement & Partnerships Subcommittee), supporting event planning, internal newsletters, and pro bono evaluation capacity-building.
- Collaborate with Yale*EVAL*, providing evaluation services, training, and consultation to external partners and public agencies

Summer 2023

**National Resource Center on  
Domestic Violence (NRC DV)**

Harrisburg, PA

### **Research Consultant II**

- Coordinated and implemented evaluation activities for community-based research projects addressing housing access and systems change for Black immigrant and refugee survivors of gender-based violence
- Designed and conducted key informant interviews with participants across multiple agencies; analyzed findings to support development of policy recommendations
- Managed logistics and communication for the Linguistic Justice Workgroup, a coalition of researchers and practitioners focused on advancing language justice

- Provided technical assistance and capacity-building support to community partners, ensuring alignment with project goals and values
- Collaborated on qualitative report writing and contributed to dissemination of findings to stakeholders and national partners

2021 – 2023

**Esperanza United**

New Haven, CT

**Graduate Assistant (GA)**

- Led and supported mixed-method evaluation studies centered on gender-based violence prevention, restorative practices, and culturally responsive programming within Latiné communities
- Designed and conducted key informant interviews, coordinated data collection, and trained undergraduate assistants in research procedures
- Co-developed interview protocols, facilitated qualitative and quantitative analyses, and collaborated on the development of peer-reviewed publications
- Co-authored multiple reports and publications; presented findings through national conferences and webinars to community stakeholders and academic audiences
- Served as project coordinator for culturally-specific research projects, including a multi-site study on restorative justice practices with youth and survivors

Summer 2021

**Fairfield University College Corps**

Fairfield, CT

**Lead Facilitator and Evaluator**

- Developed and delivered training on diversity, access, and inclusion for K–12 students transitioning back to classroom settings post-COVID-19
- Created original training curricula focused on belonging and resilience; led both individual and group sessions across multiple school sites
- Collaborated with program leadership to evaluate training effectiveness and refine materials based on participant feedback and classroom observations

**ACADEMIC ASSISTANTSHIPS**

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2023 – 2024

**University of Hartford**

West Hartford, CT

**Graduate Assistant (GA)**

- Developed and implemented a student needs assessment to inform GIPP program resources and accessibility improvements
- Supported program-related research and maintained academic materials and documentation

2021 – 2023

**University of New Haven**

West Haven, CT

**Dean of Students Graduate Assistant (GA)**

- Designed inclusive campus campaigns promoting anti-racism; managed cross-departmental data systems
- Supported Title IX initiatives, including training documentation and investigation data

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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2022 – 2023

**University of New Haven**

West Haven, CT

**Master’s Thesis**

Title: *Embodied youth narratives: A national photovoice project*

Thesis Committee: Alexandria Guzmán, Ph.D. (Chair), Lillie Macias, Ph.D., Shayda Kafai, Ph.D., Melissa Whitson, Ph.D.

- A participatory project that explored sources of stress reported by Latiné youth, cultural identity and body-image perceptions, and photovoice as a method to engage youth in social action. Themes included navigating Eurocentric body norms, strengths and challenges of cultural identity, and overall wellbeing

2019 – 2021

Cal Poly Pomona University

Pomona, CA

### McNair Research

Title: *Embodied narratives: Bodymind resistance through storytelling*

McNair Committee: Shayda Kafai, Ph.D. (McNair Committee – Winnie Dong, Ph.D., Alejandro Morales, Ph.D., & Wei Bidlack, Ph.D.)

- Qualitative study that examined the narratives of historically marginalized communities, specifically focusing on Black, Indigenous, People of Color, Disabled individuals, and those who identify as LGBTQIA+
- Conducted key informant interviews to assess how storytelling might empower individuals and drive social change. Findings indicated an increase in social responsibility and expressed reclamation of narrative ownership from marginalized community members

Presented findings and showcased at multiple symposia:

- University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) McNair Symposium
- Research Scholarship Creative Activities Conference (RSCA Conference)
- California State Polytechnic University Pomona (CPP) McNair Symposium
- Creative Activities and Research Symposium (CARS)

### Publications

**LeFrancois, J.,** Macias, R. L., & Serrata, J. V., 2025. *How to use the Community Centered Evidence-Based Practice (CCEBP) model*. Sage Research Methods: Data and Research Literacy. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781036217495>

**LeFrancois, J.,** (2025). *How to apply a social justice framework to your research: Insights from Disability Justice*. Sage Research Methods: Data and Research Literacy. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781036217334>

**LeFrancois, J.** (Host). (2023, February, 27). Breck School of Advanced Math research students discuss Teen Dating Violence [Audio podcast episode]. In *Conversations over Cafecito*. Esperanza United. [Link temporarily unavailable]

Macias, R. L., Grajo, K., & **LeFrancois, J.** (2022, June). *Gender-based violence prevention with Latin@ communities: A review of social indicators of need* (Report No. OVW-2022.1). Esperanza United Research Advisory Council.

**LeFrancois, J.** (2022). Reborn in crip kinship [review of *Crip Kinship: The Disability & Art Activism of Sins Invalid*, by S. K.] *Wordgathering: A Journal of Disability Poetry & Literature*, 16(1), <https://wordgathering.com/vol16/issue1/reviews/kafai/>

## In Preparation

**LeFrancois, J.**, Garcia, J., Nava, N., & Macias, R. L. [In preparation]. Embodied youth narratives: A national photovoice project. *Journal of Community Psychology*.

Macias, R. L., **LeFrancois, J.**, Coker, K., & Cooper, D. [In preparation]. Restorative approaches for partner violence: Findings from a culturally-specific needs assessment. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.

## Peer-Reviewed Presentations

Madden, L. M., Eggert, K. F., Roehrich, T., Beitel, M., Schertzing, C., **LeFrancois, J.**, Gazzola, M. G., Hsaio, C., & Barry, D. T. (2025, June). Counselor terminological preferences among patients receiving methadone treatment. [Paper presentation]. In *87th Annual Scientific Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence*, New Orleans, LA.

Macias, R. L., Nava, N., Garcia, J., Mele, P. A., Ocasio, L, Herard, M., Mercado-Diaz, V., **LeFrancois, J.** (2024, June). *Culturally responsive gender-based violence research and prevention practice* [Symposium]. Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues, Philadelphia, PA.

**LeFrancois, J.**, Nava, N., & Macias R. L. (2023, October). *Embodied storytelling and youth empowerment through photovoice and community workshops* [Conference session]. American Evaluation Association Conference, Indianapolis, IN.

Clark, H., Nava, N., Macias R. L., **LeFrancois, J.**, Martinez-Paz, R. F., & Cardenas, A. (2023, June). *Fostering restorative practice and programs for men in the field of gender-based violence* [Symposium]. Society for Community Research and Action Biennial Conference, Atlanta, GA.

**LeFrancois, J.**, Lippa, M., & Macias, R. L. (2023, June). *Examining gender-based violence through the lens of disability justice* [Conference session]. Society for Community Research and Action Biennial Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Nava, N., **LeFrancois, J.**, & Macias, R. L. (2022, October). *Photovoice technology innovations and engagement with BIPOC youth* [Conference session]. National Photovoice Conference, Virtual.

**LeFrancois, J.**, Nava, N., Macias, R. L., & Kuperminc, G. (2022, October). *Storytelling as reclamation: Adapting photovoice in the name of equity and access* [Poster presentation]. National Photovoice Conference, Virtual.

Kafai, S., **LeFrancois, J.**, & Boyd, S. (2022, June). *Storytelling as transformation and revolution* [Conference session]. Cultural Studies Association Conference, Chicago, IL.

**LeFrancois, J.**, & Whitson, M. (2022, April). *New Haven body liberation: Body neutrality program proposal* [Poster presentation]. University of New Haven Graduate Showcase, West Haven, CT.

## Invited Lectures

- LeFrancois, J.** (2024, September). *Logic models vs. theories of change* [Lecture]. Program Evaluation master's course, University of New Haven, West Haven, CT.
- LeFrancois, J.** (2023, April). *Ability & bodies: Disability Justice vs. disability awareness* [Lecture]. Social Inequalities master's course, University of New Haven, West Haven, CT.
- LeFrancois, J.** (2021, September). *Graduate school preparation and introduction to research* [Lecture]. Ethnic & Women's Studies undergraduate course, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA.
- LeFrancois, J.** (2021, July). *Remote learning, research organization, and preparation* [Lecture]. McNair Research Experience for Undergraduates, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA.

## Invited Workshops

- LeFrancois, J.** (2023, November). *Canva training and tutorial: Your shortcut to evaluative success* [Training]. The Consultation Center, Inc., Yale University, New Haven, CT
- LeFrancois, J.** (2023, April). *Disable the label: Deaf culture and Disability Justice* [Workshop]. University of New Haven, West Haven, CT.
- LeFrancois, J.**, Van Buren, P. Chagnon, M., Clark, H., McGray, G., & Alani, H. (2023, February- May). *Career-building series* [Workshop]. University of New Haven Community Psychology Clinical Mental Health Club, West Haven, CT.
- LeFrancois, J.**, & Imbriale, A. (2022, September-December). *Body talks: Conversations about body-neutrality* [Group Session]. Counseling and Psychological Services, University of New Haven, West Haven, CT.
- Dunn, A., & **LeFrancois, J.** (2022, September-October). *Step up: Moving from bystander to upstander* [Training]. University of New Haven Sexual Violence and Safety Training, New Haven, CT.
- LeFrancois, J.**, Van Buren, P., & Macias, R. L. (2022, July) *Using art and storytelling to engage youth in social change* [Workshop]. Tow Youth Justice Institute and the Office of Youth, Family, & Engagement Social Justice Summer Program, New Haven, CT.
- Macias, R. L., **LeFrancois, J.**, & Nava, N. (2022, July) *Cultural competence and program adaptation* [Workshop]. Esperanza United, Research and Evaluation Center, Virtual.
- Macias, R. L., Grajo, K. M., O'Connor, R., Beschel, J., **LeFrancois, J.**, Nava, N. (2022, June). *Leveraging technology to center marginalized communities in evaluation practice* [Workshop]. American Evaluation Association Summer Institute, Atlanta, GA.
- LeFrancois, J.**, Lippa, M. Whitson, M., Dunn, A., & Macias, R. L. (2022, April). *Transforming rape culture into resilience culture: Deconstructing gender norms & harmful messaging* [Workshop]. ResilienceCon, Virtual.



- **Student Journal Peer-Reviewer**
  - *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*
  - *Journal of Family Violence*
  - *Feral Feminisms*
- **Community Psychology Club Public Relations Chair (2022 – 2023)**
  - Developed promotional materials to advertise club events and community networking opportunities
  - Managed and maintained the club’s social media accounts
- **Community Psychology Club Community Service Liaison (2021 – 2022)**
  - Orchestrated on-and-off campus community service contributions and connections
  - Forged partnerships with community-based organizations to create volunteer opportunities for students and club members
- **MLK Jr. Vision Award Committee Member and Nominee (2021-2022)**
  - Served as a student committee member for the award selection process, contributing to discussions and candidate evaluations
  - Recused myself from decision-making upon receiving a nomination

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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American Psychological Association (APA), Graduate Student Affiliate, 2018 – Present

American Evaluation Association (AEA), Graduate Student Affiliate, 2021 – Present

Association for Size Diversity and Health (ASDAH/HAES), Member, 2022 – Present

Eastern Psychological Association (EPA), Graduate Student Affiliate, 2021 – Present

Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services, Volunteer, 2021 – Present

National Register of Health Service Psychologists (NRHSP), Associate member, 2023 – Present

PSI CHI, National Honor Society in Psychology, Member, 2019 – Present

Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program, Member, 2019 – Present

Society for Community Research and Action (SCRA), Graduate Student Affiliate, 2021 – Present

Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI), Graduate Student, 2024 – Present

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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Diversity Fellow, University of Hartford, 2023

Excellence in Graduate Community Psychology Research Award, University of New Haven, 2023

Phenomenal Women Award, University of New Haven, 2023

Inclusive Excellence Award, University of New Haven, 2023

Dean’s Scholar, University of New Haven, 2022, 2021

Martin Luther King Jr. Vision Award Nominee, University of New Haven, 2021

Michael A. Morris Community Psychology Endowed Scholar, University of New Haven, 2021

Ronald E. McNair Scholar (and Summer REU Scholar), Cal Poly Pomona University, 2020, 2019

Research Distinction Award, Cal Poly Pomona University, 2020

President’s Scholar, Cal Poly Pomona University, 2019

Access DisABILITY Scholar, Cal Poly Pomona University, 2018

Staff Council Scholar, Cal Pomona University, 2018

## SPECIALIZED SKILLS

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Category	Skills and Tools
<b>Language Proficiency</b>	<b>American Sign Language (ASL)</b> – Fluent
	<b>Spanish</b> – Conversationally Proficient
<b>Clinical &amp; Research Systems</b>	<b>SMART System</b> – Clinical Coordination
	<b>REDCap</b> – Clinical Research Data Management
	<b>SPSS • Excel • Nvivo • Delve</b> – Data Analysis
	<b>SPARS</b> – SAMHSA Data Entry & Reporting
	<b>Mendeley</b> – Reference & Data Management
	<b>Qualtrics</b> – Survey Design & Data Analysis
<b>Software &amp; Digital Tools</b>	<b>Microsoft Suite • Adobe Suite</b> – Advanced Proficiency
	<b>Canva Pro</b> – Data Visualization & Design
	<b>WordPress</b> – Web Design & Management

## PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

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Organization	Type of Certification	Date
<i>National Register of Health Service Psychologists</i>	Doctoral Student and Trainee Certificate of Clinical Excellence in Clinical Suicidology	3/15/24
<i>Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence</i>	IPV: Screening & Interventions for Health Professionals (1 CEU)	12/12/24
<i>Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI)</i>	Research Ethics, Human Subjects Research, Responsible Conduct of Research	01/05/25