

## LAURA EMILY WALLACE

Iowa State University  
Human Development and Family Studies  
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### EDUCATION

- 2020 Ph.D.  
School Psychology, College of Education  
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA  
Chair: Patricia Manz, Ph.D.
- Dissertation: Addressing the Needs of Infants and Toddlers Exposed to Maltreatment: Examining the Impact of an Integrated Early Head Start & Children and Youth Services Program*
- 2010 M.S.  
Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences  
Villanova University, Villanova, PA  
Chair: Rebecca Brand
- Master's Thesis: Leaving a Legacy: Does Mortality Salience Prime Pedagogy?*
- 2009 B.A. (*Cum laude*)  
Major: Psychology, Minor: Biology  
Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA

### CERTIFICATIONS

- 2019 Pennsylvania Certified School Psychologist

### HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2017 Early Care and Education Scholars: Head Start Graduate Student Research Program: Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation
- 2017 Leiser Scholar, Special Education Law Conference- Lehigh University
- 2015 Mountain Top Summer Project-Lehigh University
- 2014 Mountain Top Summer Project-Lehigh University
- 2011 Graduate Student Summer Fellowship-Villanova University
- 2007 Science Horizons Internship- Howard Hughes Medical Institute
- 2005-2009 Bryn Mawr College Presidential Scholarship

## PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

### 2020- Present **Postdoctoral Scholar**

Iowa State University, Human Development and Family Studies  
2222 Osborn Drive, Ames, IA

- Use Iowa state integrated data from multiple service systems for social policy research.
- Examine Iowa state integrated home visiting data for childhood biological, familial, and community risks associated with well-being.
- Develop provider survey, collect response, and analyze data to determine true cost and return on investment for childcare.
- Supervise undergraduate and graduate student researchers.

### 2017-2020 **Director of Early Learning**

Maternity Care Coalition  
2000 Hamilton Street, Suite 205, Philadelphia, PA

- Assess current and potential early learning and home visiting curriculum and assessment tools.
- Oversee development of recommendations and a final plan for enhancing MCC's early learning interventions.
- Develop new and innovate programs designed to increase the organization's service area.
- Responsible for resource development and linkages within the community to strengthen MCC's early learning programs.
- Provide direction on the evaluation of early learning initiatives to assure quality and efficiency.
- Take the lead on creating and maintaining a culture of early learning at MCC and in the larger community.
- Search and apply for city, state, and national funding grants and opportunities.
- Work closely with the Director of Advocacy on issues related to MIECHV funding and data collection.
- Represent the organization in early learning city and statewide advocacy and initiatives and at national international conferences.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### 2017-2020 **Dissertation Research** - *Addressing the Needs of Infants and Toddlers Exposed to Maltreatment: Examining the Impact of an Integrated Early Head Start & Children and Youth Services Program*

Chair: Patricia Manz, PH.D.

School Psychology Department, Lehigh University, Bethlehem PA

- Evaluate integrated Early Head Start and Children and Youth Services birth to three program.
- Analyze existing program data and data integrated between stakeholders.

- Utilize advanced statistics in evaluation.
- Develop and share policy brief based on results and implications.

2019-2020

**Graduate Intern**

Adversity in Development Laboratory

Supervisor: Jannette Herbers, Ph.D.

Psychology Department, Villanova University, Villanova PA

- Work on NHS multiyear grant to evaluate intervention for families with young children living in emergency housing.
- Supervise undergraduate and graduate student researchers.
- Recruit, assess, and follow up with families over 8 months.
- Coordinator with emergency housing staff to facilitate the My Babies First Teacher Intervention.
- Conduct local and national needs assessment to determine professional development early education needs for emergency housing staff.
- Create and pilot early education professional development modules designed to increase emergency housing staff's knowledge.
- Coordinate with other local organizations serving families in emergency housing.

2015

**Independent Researcher**

Using National Datasets to Answer Key Questions about Early Child Development and Education

Advisors: Patricia Manz Ph.D., Brook Sawyer Ph.D., Amanda Brandone Ph.D., Ageliki Nicolopoulou Ph.D.

College of Education, Lehigh University, Bethlehem PA

- Learn how to use large national and longitudinal data sets to address emerging research questions.
- Develop an in-depth knowledge of datasets such as: the National Survey of Early Care and Education and the Early Childhood Longitudinal Program.
- Develop the statistical skills necessary to analyze these large data sets in SPSS.
- Mentor and supervise undergraduate research assistants working on the project.

2014

**Independent Researcher**

Office Children and Youth Services Engagement Project

Advisors: Patricia Manz Ph.D. & Brook Sawyer Ph.D.

School Psychology Department, Lehigh University, Bethlehem PA

- Collaborate with Children and Youth Services in Allentown, PA to develop survey to measure mandated families' experiences with Children and Youth Services.
- Develop interview questions centered on experiences of mandated families and the engagement of these families with Children and Youth Services.

- Administer individual and group interviews with families mandated to Children and Youth Services and Children and Youth Services Caseworkers and administrators.
- Provide design recommendation for a standardized questionnaire to investigate experiences of mandated families and the engagement of these families with Children and Youth Services.

2013-2016

**Research Assistant**

Little Talks Project

Advisor: Patricia Manz Ph.D.

School Psychology Department, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Participate in ongoing research investigation evaluating the role of an early intervention program designed to promote literacy in the home environment.
- Evaluate and monitor the integrity and delivery of the Little Talks early intervention program.
- Direct supervision of Early Head Start home visitors implementing the Little Talks intervention program.

2013-2014

**Research Project - *How Do Increased Perspective Shifts in Storybooks Impact Comprehension and Inference Making?***

The Narrative Lab

Advisor: Ageliki Nicolopoulou Ph.D.

Psychology Department, Lehigh University, Bethlehem PA

- Develop and implement new research project based on the amount of perspective shifts in children's books and children's resulting comprehension and inference making abilities.
- Mentor undergraduate lab member in project design, data collection, and data analysis.

2012- 2014

**Lab Manager / Research Assistant**

Cognitive Development Lab

Supervisor: Amanda Brandone Ph.D.

Psychology Department, Lehigh University, Bethlehem PA

- Develop new projects in the area of infant intention understanding, theory of mind and children's use of generalizations in language.
- Develop projects, run participants, and analyze data on Tobii Studio.
- Recruit parents and families at community events.

2011-2012

**Research Assistant**

Early Child Development Lab

Supervisor: Pamela Blewitt Ph.D.

Psychology Department, Villanova University, Villanova PA

- Participate in studies on the effect of executive function and teacher classroom management on preschool vocabulary development.
- Code transcripts from classroom observations.

- 2010-2012    **Master's Thesis** - *Leaving a Legacy: Does Mortality Salience Prime Pedagogy?*  
 Cognitive Development Project  
 Advisor: Rebecca Brand Ph.D.  
 Psychology Department, Villanova University, Villanova, PA
- Develop new study in the areas of natural pedagogy theory and terror management theory.
  - Design experimental materials and program in Qualtrics.
  - Conduct pilot study with undergraduates and utilize Amazon Mechanical's Turk to recruit experimental parent participants.
- 2010-2012    **Lab Manager & Research Assistant**  
 Cognitive Development Project  
 Supervisor: Rebecca Brand Ph.D.  
 Psychology Department, Villanova University, Villanova, PA
- Develop new studies in the areas of natural pedagogy theory, terror management theory, and overimitation.
  - Participate in current studies on infant directed action and infant vocabulary learning.
  - Recruit parents and families at community events, lecture to parents' groups.
  - Assist in mentoring and training undergraduate lab members.
- 2008-2009    **Senior Thesis** – *Effects of Cognitive Training on Healthy Older Adults' Cognition.*  
 Human Cognition Lab  
 Advisor: Anjali Thapar Ph.D.  
 Psychology Department, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA
- Deliver Mind Aerobics training program created by the New England Cognitive Center (NECC) to local senior citizens.
  - Deliver pre-test and post-test measures to participants.

<b>CLINICAL EXPERIENCE</b>
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- 2019-2020    **Graduate Intern**  
 Villanova University, Adversity in Development Laboratory  
 Supervisor: Jannette Herbers, Ph.D.
- Work on NHS multiyear grant to evaluate intervention for families with young children living in emergency housing.
  - Supervise undergraduate and graduate student researchers.
  - Recruit, assess, and follow up with families over 8 months.
  - Coordinator with emergency housing staff to facilitate the My Babies First Teacher Intervention.
  - Conduct local and national needs assessment to determine professional development early education needs for emergency housing staff.

- Create and pilot early education professional development modules designed to increase emergency housing staff's knowledge.
- Coordinate with other local organizations serving families in emergency housing.

2019

**Psychology Intern**

CORA Services, Non-Public-School Services Division

Supervisor: Paul Haughton, PsyD

- Conduct multidisciplinary evaluations of students with academic, behavioral, and mental health concerns.
- Administer various cognitive, achievement, behavioral, adaptive, and observational assessments.
- Support families in the evaluation process through open communication and proactive collaboration with the multidisciplinary team.
- Engage in problem solving team processes in consultation and evaluation and provide recommendations to school administrators and caregivers

2017

**Psychology Trainee**

Norristown Area School District

Supervisor: Jules Riehs, Ph.D.

Paul V. Fly Elementary School & Eisenhower Middle School, Norristown, PA

- Design and implement social skills and emotional curriculum for counseling groups for elementary and middle school student in emotional support classrooms.
- Conduct multidisciplinary evaluations of students with academic, behavioral, and mental health concerns.
- Administer various cognitive, achievement, behavioral, adaptive, and observational assessments.
- Support families in the evaluation process through open communication and proactive collaboration with the multidisciplinary team.
- Participate in FBA data collection with district Behavioral Specialist.

2015-2016

**Psychology Trainee**

Allentown Area School District

Supervisor: Debra Cybuck, Ed.S.

Roosevelt Elementary School, Allentown, PA

- Conduct multidisciplinary evaluations of students with academic, behavioral, and mental health concerns.
- Administer various cognitive, achievement, behavioral, adaptive, and observational assessments.
- Support families in the evaluation process through open communication and proactive collaboration with the multidisciplinary team.
- Participate in FBA data collection with district Behavioral Specialist.

2015-2016

**Psychology Trainee**

Community Services for Children

Supervisor: Patricia Manz, Ph.D.

Safe Start, Allentown, PA

- Collaborate within a multidisciplinary team of social workers, teachers, home visitors, and child welfare workers to coordinate comprehensive care of enrolled children.
- Consult with and provide training to families to support the behavior and emotional concerns of children in the home.
- Consult with teachers to develop interventions and strategies to support behavior and emotional concerns in the home and school.
- Organize and lead parent support group to address increased book reading in the home.
- Provide comprehensive teacher training on increasing shared books reading with children age birth to three in the classroom.

<b>CLINICAL EXPERIENCE: COURSE BASED PRACTICA</b>
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Spring 2015

**Psychology Trainee**

Assessment & Intervention in Educational Consultation

Instructor: Edward Shapiro, Ph.D.

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Conduct interviews, observations, and direct assessments as part of a comprehensive assessment of reading, writing, spelling, and math skills.
- Evaluate and report assessment results of the direct assessment.
- Design, monitor, and evaluate a 4-week intervention to address outcomes of comprehensive assessment.

Spring 2015

**Psychology Trainee**

Assessment of Intelligence

Instructor: Kevin Kelly, Ph.D.

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Implement various intelligence and achievement assessments.
- Present results from intelligence and achievement assessments in formal written reports.

Fall 2014

**Psychology Trainee**

Consultation Procedures

Instructor: Patricia Manz, Ph.D.

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Implement behavioral consultation and conjoint behavioral consultation.
- Applied consultation and conjoint behavioral consultation with Head Start teacher to develop appropriate and feasible intervention to increase a preschool child's socially appropriate behaviors.

- Create data collection methods and integrity checks to monitor behavior and intervention progress.

Fall 2014

**Psychology Trainee**

Behavioral Assessment

Instructor: Robin Hojnoski, Ph.D.

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Conduct clinical assessment interviews with teachers, parents, and child to evaluate and elementary school student's behavioral concerns.
- Develop and use appropriate observation systems and administered rating scales.
- Present complete behavioral assessment in a formal written report to the school and parent team.
- Design intervention and collaborated with school and parent team to provide recommendations.

<b>SUPERVISION &amp; GRADUATE TEACHING EXPERIENCE</b>
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Fall 2016

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

Children in Context: Families, Schools, & Communities, Graduate Class

Instructor: Patricia Manz, Ph.D.

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Plan and present lectures on child maltreatment and neighborhoods.

Spring 2014-  
Spring 2016

**Home Visitor Supervisor**

Project Little Talks

Supervisor: Patricia Manz, Ph.D.

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Supervise Early Head Start home visitors working with low-income, primarily Latino families with children ages 0 to 3.
- Utilize performance feedback and home visitors' reflections of concerns to improve quality home visiting.

Spring 2014

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

Introductory Psychology, Undergraduate Class

Instructor: Diane Hyland Ph.D.

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Provide academic support and office hours for undergraduate students enrolled in course.

Fall 2013

**Lab Instructor & Graduate Teaching Assistant**

Developmental Psychology, Undergraduate Class

Instructor: Amanda Brandone Ph.D.

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Provide academic support and office hours for undergraduate students enrolled in course.

- Grade open ended and essay student exams.
- Develop curriculum for students enrolled in lab section.
- Independently teach lab section and grade all student work

Spring 2013 **Lab Instructor & Graduate Teaching Assistant**

Developmental Psychology, Undergraduate Class

Susan Barrett Ph.D.

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Provide academic support and office hours for undergraduate students enrolled in course.
- Develop curriculum for students enrolled in lab section.
- Independently teach lab section and grade all student work.

Fall 2012 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**

Introductory Psychology, Undergraduate Class

Jesseca Marsh Ph.D.

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Provide academic support and office hours for undergraduate students enrolled in course.

Spring 2009 **Undergraduate Teaching Assistant**

Experimental Methods & Statistics, Undergraduate Class

Anjali Thapar Ph.D.

Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA

- Lead undergraduate lab section with graduate student.
- Teach enrolled students how to enter and analyze data in SPSS.
- Supervise student in the creation and implementation of a lab-based research project.

## PUBLICATIONS

Manz, P.H., Power, T., Roggman, L., Eisenberg, R., Gernhart, A., Faison, J., Ridgard, T., **Wallace, L.E.**, & Whitenack, J. (2017). Integrating the Little Talks Intervention into Early Head Start: An Experimental Examination of Implementation Supports Involving Fidelity Monitoring and Performance Feedback. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 79, 87-96.

## CONFERENCE POSTERS & PRESENTATIONS

**Wallace, L.E.** (2019). Addressing the Needs of Infants and Toddlers Exposed to Maltreatment: Examining the Impact of an Integrated Early Head Start & Children and Youth Services Program. A conference talk at the 2018 Early Care and Education Scholars Grantee Meeting, Washington, DC.

- Wallace, L.E.** (2019). *Designing Book Sharing Programming for Infants and Toddlers*. A training presentation at the First Up Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Wallace, L.E.** & Manz, P.H. (2018). *Addressing the Needs of Infants and Toddlers Exposed to Maltreatment: Examining the Impact of an Integrated Early Head Start & Children and Youth Services Program*. A poster presentation at the Administration for Children and Families National Research Conference on Early Childhood, Arlington, VA.
- Wallace, L.E.** & Manz, P.H. (2018). *Providing for Providers: Teacher Perspectives on Transitions from Birth to Three Programs*. A poster presentation at the Administration for Children and Families National Research Conference on Early Childhood, Arlington, VA.
- Wallace, L.E.** (2018). *Addressing the Needs of Infants and Toddlers Exposed to Maltreatment: Examining the Impact of an Integrated Early Head Start & Children and Youth Services Program*. A conference talk at the 2018 Early Care and Education Scholars Grantee Meeting, Washington, DC.
- Manz, P. H., Whitenack, J., **Wallace, L.E.**, Ventresco, N. (2017). *Examining the relationships among video-based observation and self-reported home visiting fidelity with children's vocabulary*. A poster presentation at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Austin, TX.
- Patrick, A., O'Gorman, E., **Wallace, L.E.**, Brand, R. J. (2017). *Hurry up and Teach! Mortality Salience Primes Teaching-Related Thoughts in Parents but not Non-Parents*. A poster presentation at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Austin, TX.
- Manz, P.H., Ridgard, T., Whitenack, J., **Wallace, L. E.**, Ventresco, N., Peek, D., Harrington, J., & Faison, J. (2017). *Implementation Science in Early Intervention: Collaborative Development and Application*. A paper presentation at the National Association of School Psychologists annual convention, San Antonio, TX.
- Manz, P. H., Roggman, L., Power, T., Ridgard, T., **Wallace, L.E.**, & Whitenack, J., (2016). *Little Talks: Bolstering Children's Vocabulary through Evidenced-Based Home Visiting*. A poster presentation at the National Research Conference on Early Childhood, Washington, D.C.
- Manz, P. H., Eisenberg, R. A., Manzo, J. C., Power, T. J., Faison, J., Gernhart, A., & **Wallace, L. E.** (2016). *Applying Integrity Monitoring and Performance Feedback in Evidenced-Based Home Visiting*. A paper presentation at the National Association of School Psychologists annual convention, New Orleans, LA.
- Manzo, J.C., Ridgard, T., Manz, P.H., Eisenberg, R.A., Gernhart, A.L., Faison, J., Whitenack, J., & **Wallace, L.E.** (2015). *Enhancing child language development through a home book sharing intervention*. A paper presentation at the National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention, Orlando, FL.
- Eisenberg, R., Faison, J., Whitenack, J., Manz, P., Gernhart, A., Manzo, J., **Wallace, L.E.**, Ridgard, T. (2015). *Evidence-based decision-making in practice: Performance feedback in practitioner supervision*. A paper presentation at the annual convention of the National Association of School Psychologists, Orlando, FL.
- Manzo, J. C., Manz, P. H., Eisenberg, R. A., Gernart, A., Faison, J., Ridgard, T., Whitenack, J., **Spearot, L.E.**, Roggman, L., & Power, T. J. (2015). *Enhancing Child Language Development through a Home Book Sharing Intervention*. A paper presentation at the annual convention of the National Association of School Psychologists, Orlando, FL.

- Wallace, L.E., & Faison, J.D.,** (2015) *Bridging the Gap Between Child Protective Services and School Psychologists*. A poster presentation at the National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention, Orlando, FL.
- Faison, J.D., & **Wallace, L.E.** (2015) *Stuck in the Middle: Child Welfare Services, Families, and Schools*. A poster presentation at the National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention, Orlando, FL.
- Spearot, L.E.,** & Nicolopoulou, A., & Hough, L. (2014) *Books as Meaningful Contexts for Understanding Theory of Mind Concepts*. A poster presentation at the 13<sup>th</sup> International Congress for the Study of Language, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Manzo, J., Manz, P., Eisenberg, R., Gernhart, A., Faison, J., Ridgard, T., Whitenack, J., & **Spearot, L.E.** (2014) *Little Talks: A Partnership with Early Head Start Home Visitors to Enhance Parent-Child Book Sharing*. A poster presentation at Head Start's 12th National Research Conference, Washington DC.
- Spearot, L.E.,** & Brand, R.J. (2013) *Do thoughts of mortality prime pedagogical concepts?* A poster presentation at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle, WA.

## RESEARCH TALKS & PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- Wallace, L.E. (May, 2019). *Book Sharing in Ages 0 to 3*. Conference presentation for First Up Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Wallace, L.E. (May, 2016). *Transitions in Early Childhood*. Guest lecture for Advanced School and Family Interventions Graduate Course at Lehigh University.
- Wallace, L.E. (April, 2016). *Safe Start: An Example of Trauma Informed Care*. Guest lecture for Advanced School and Family Interventions Graduate Course at Lehigh University.
- Spearot, L.E. (January, 2014). *Neuroscience and Behavior*.  
Guest lecture for Introductory Psychology Course at Lehigh University
- Spearot, L.E. (November, 2013). *How Do Increased Perspective Shifts in Storybooks Impact Comprehension and Inference Making?*  
Talk presented at Developmental Area Meeting, Lehigh University
- Spearot, L.E. (April, 2013). *Leaving a Legacy: Does Mortality Salience Prime Pedagogy?*  
Talk presented at Brown Bag Meeting, Lehigh University
- Spearot, L.E. (November, 2012). *Origins of Attention Understanding in Infancy*.  
Talk presented at Developmental Area Meeting, Lehigh University
- Spearot, L.E. (November, 2011). *An Introduction to Therapeutic Approaches*.  
Guest lecture for Introductory Psychology Course at Villanova University
- Spearot, L.E. (July, 2011). *Stress, Coping, and Health*.  
Guest lecture for Introductory Psychology Course at Villanova University

## LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2016                    **Graduate Student Reviewer**  
Society for Research in Child Development  
2017 Biennial Meeting Austin TX

- Review abstracts for conference poster, presentation, and special sessions under the guidance of graduate advisor Patricia Manz, Ph.D.

2016

**Graduate Attendee**

Graduate Teacher Development Program for Graduate Students  
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Attend Fall section of Teacher Development Program.
- Topics included: presentation and communications, classroom management and participation, crafting a lecture, engaging student, strategies for active learning in the classroom, and course design.

2015

**Program Representative**

The Association of School Psychologists of Pennsylvania

- Help with student recruitment and retention and disseminate relevant information to student members.
- Network with board members and other graduate student leaders from programs throughout the state.
- Develop the Program Representative role, plan projects and activities.
- Contribute to ongoing Student Committee projects, including development of a statewide internship database and social media sites.

2015

**Student Representative**

Cross University Collaborative Mentoring Conference  
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA

- Assist graduate student planning committee in planning, fundraising, and coordinating annual student led conference for regional graduate students.
- Volunteer at conference where participants gain mentoring on personal research from top faculty from nine leading universities.

<b>RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES</b>
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2010-2011

**Behavioral Therapist**

Keppley Behavioral Consulting, Inc  
Collegeville, PA

- Work in school and at home to implement behavioral program and collect behavioral data.
- Active collaboration with supervisor to discuss outcomes of behavioral program.

2009- 2010

**Toddler Teacher**

Kinder Care Learning Center  
Bryn Mawr, PA

- Develop lesson plans that match curriculum set by Kinder Care Corporation.

- Conduct biyearly assessment on student's progress toward curriculum standards.
- Responsible for all aspects of classroom management.

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- National Association of School Psychologists
- Society for Research in Child Development, Graduate Student Affiliate
- Military Child Education Association
- Association for Psychological Science
- Psi Chi, Villanova University Chapter