Roberto (Robert) López Jr.

Curriculum Vitae

601 University Drive, THH 253
San Marcos, TX 78666

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Academic Appointments

2025 – Present **Texas State University** – San Marcos, TX
Assistant Professor (tenure-track)
Department of Psychology

2023 – 2025 **University of California, Los Angeles** – Los Angeles, CA
Postdoctoral Scholar
Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences

Education

2022 – 2023 **University of California, Davis** – Sacramento, CA
Predoctoral Intern (APA Accredited)
Department of Pediatrics

2017 – 2023 **George Mason University** – Fairfax, VA
Ph.D. – Clinical Psychology (Quantitative Track; APA Accredited)

2017 – 2019 M.A. – Clinical Psychology

2013 **University of Cambridge** – Cambridge, UK
Harvard Summer Study Abroad Program

2010 – 2014 **Harvard University** – Cambridge, MA
B.A. – Psychology (cum laude)
Minor – History of Science

Professional Licenses

2026 – Present **Licensed Psychologist**
TX License #41330 (active)

2025 – Present **Licensed Psychologist**
CA License # 36171 (active)

Grants

2026 **Texas State University Student Success Innovation Grant**
Role: Co-Principal Investigator
Status: Funded ($4,425.00)

2021 **American Psychological Foundation & Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology: Peter and Malina James & Dr. Louis P. James Legacy Scholarship**
Role: Principal Investigator
Status: Funded ($5,000)

2021 **Association for Psychological Science Student Grant Competition**
Role: Principal Investigator
Status: Funded ($500)

2021 **American Psychological Association of Graduate Students Psychological Science Research Grant – Diversity**
Role: Principal Investigator
Status: Funded ($1,000)

2019 **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program**
Role: Principal Investigator
Status: Honorable Mention

Honors & Awards

2026 Psi Chi Unrestricted Travel Grant (*Amount:* $1,500)

2024 Psi Chi Unrestricted Travel Grant ($1,368)

2023 American Psychological Association Research Grant for Psychology Students and Recently Graduated Psychologists of Color ($750)

2022 Beck Institute for Cognitive Behavior Therapy Training Scholarship ($300)

2022 George Mason University Dean's Challenge Award ($6,000)

2022 George Mason University Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) Finalist ($100)

2021 George Mason University Departmental Dissertation Award ($400)

2021 Association for Psychological Science Student Registration Award ($50)

2021 George Mason University Summer Research Fellowship ($7,000)

2021 Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology Travel Award ($300)

2019, '20, '21 Society for Multivariate Experimental Psychology Underrepresented Student Workshop Award ($2,495)

2019 George Mason University Diversity Advancement Award ($1,600)

2018 George Mason University Summer Research Grant ($2,000)

2017, '19, '21,'22 George Mason University Graduate Student Travel Award ($1,000)

2016	Northwestern University Travel Grant ($600)
2013	David Rockefeller International Experience Grant ($1,200)
2010 – 2014	Gates Millennium Scholarship ($11,000)
2010	Sam Walton Community Scholarship ($2,000)

Publications

† = mentee; * = joint first author

Peer-Reviewed (*N* = 27)

Asarnow, J. R., Goldston, D., Spirito, A., Keeshin, B., Miller, I., Belin, T., Ahmadi, N., Meza, J. I., Carlisle, C., Cheek, S., Chung, B., Comulada, W. S., Garcia, R. E., Garrett, C., Gaudiano, B., Giles, L., Jones, F., **López Jr**., **R**., Wells, K., & Zullo, L. (In press). Safe treatment for emergency presentation for suicidal ideation and behavior (SAFE STEPS): Protocol for randomized controlled trial. *Contemporary Clinical Trials*, *166*, 108325. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cct.2026.108325

Hindmarch, G. M., Meza, J., I., **López Jr**., **R**., Padilla-Frausto, I., Asarnow, J. R., & Eisenberg, D. (In press). Adolescent worry about experiencing firearm violence and its association with mental health. *Pediatrics.*

López Jr., **R**., Ellis, A. J., Henson, V., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (2026). The Mirror Tracing Persistence Task: An indicator of future adolescent suicide risk? *Psychiatry Research Communication*, *6*(3), https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psycom.2026.100265.

López Jr., **R**., Meza, J., Asarnow, L. D., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (2026). Implicit identification with death and adolescent self-injurious thoughts and behaviors: Sleep quality as a moderator. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, *55*(1), 150-162. https://doi.org/10.1080/15374416.2025.2541349

López Jr., **R**., Esposito-Smythers, C., Lee, P., Leichtweis, R. N., & Miller, I. W. (2025). Psychometric properties of the Modified Scale for Suicidal Ideation Self-Report-Revised with high-risk adolescents. *Behavior Therapy*, *56*(2), 409-421. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beth.2024.07.004

López Jr., **R**., & Asarnow, J. R. (2024). *Firearms and suicide risk: Implications for preventing mortality and morbidity among California's youth* [Policy brief]. UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/our-work/publications/youth-firearms-and-suicide-risk-2024

López Jr., **R**., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024). Problem orientation as a moderator of the relation between discrimination and passive suicidal ideation. *Journal of Affective Disorders Reports*, *17*, 100792. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadr.2024.100792

López Jr., **R**., Esposito-Smythers, C., Defayette, A. B., Harris, K. D., Seibel, L., & Whitmyre, E. D. (2024). Relations between discrimination, rejection sensitivity, negative affect, and decrements in problem-solving ability following social rejection: An experimental investigation. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, *54*(2), 233-249. https://doi.org/10.1111/sltb.13036

López Jr., **R**., Harris, K. M., Seibel, L., Thomas, S. C., Leichtweis, R. N., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024). Trajectories of adolescent suicidal ideation and depressive symptom severity during a partial hospital program: Clinical and demographic characteristics as predictors of change. *Psychological Services*, *21*(3), 444-453. https://doi.org/10.1037/ser0000796

López Jr., **R**., Turnamian, M. R., & Liu, R. T. (2024). Prospective relations between life stress, emotional clarity, and suicidal ideation in an adolescent clinical sample. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, *53*(6), 944-957. https://doi.org/10.1080/15374416.2024.2344735

Seibel, L., Harris, K. M., **López Jr**., **R**., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024). Perceived burdensomeness and thwarted belongingness as mediators of the relation between anxiety and suicidal ideation among adolescents. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, *54*(6), 914-924. https://doi.org/10.1111/sltb.13094

Whitmyre, E. D., Esposito-Smythers, C., **López Jr**., **R**., Goldberg, D. G., Liu, F., & Defayette, A. B. (2024). Implementation of measurement-based care in mental health service settings for youth: A systematic review. *Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review*, *27*, 909-942. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10567-024-00498-z

Whitmyre, E. D., Esposito-Smythers, C., Goldberg, D. G., Defayette, A. B., & **López Jr**., **R**. (2024). Impact of a virtual suicide safety planning training on clinician knowledge, self-efficacy, and use of a safety plans in community mental health clinics. *Archives of Suicide Research*, *28*(1), 428-437. https://doi.org/10.1080/13811118.2023.2183163

Defayette, A. B., Esposito-Smythers, C., Cero, I., Kleiman, E. M., **López Jr**., **R**., Harris, K. M., & Whitmyre, E. D. (2023). Examination of proinflammatory activity as a moderator of the relation between momentary interpersonal stress and suicidal ideation. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, *53*(6), 922-939. http://doi.org/10.1111/sltb.12993

Defayette, A. B., Esposito-Smythers, C., Cero, I., Whitmyre, E. D., Harris, K. M., & **López Jr**., **R**. (2023). Interpersonal stress and proinflammatory activity in emerging adults with a history of suicide risk: A pilot study. *Journal of Mood & Anxiety Disorders*, *2*, 100016. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.xjmad.2023.100016

López Jr., **R**., Esposito-Smythers, C., Defayette, A. B., Harris, K. M., Seibel, L. F., & Whitmyre, E. D. (2023). Facets of social problem-solving as moderators of the real-time relation between social rejection and negative affect in an at-risk sample. *Behaviour Research and Therapy*, *169*, 104398. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.brat.2023.104398

López Jr., **R**., Maultsby, K., Seibel, L. F., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2023). Fluidity of sexual orientation and factors that influence suicide among youth and young adults: A narrative review of longitudinal studies. *the Behavior Therapist*, *46*(1), 16-23. http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.20913.66405/1

Maultsby, K., **López Jr**., **R**., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2023). Longitudinal relations between parenting practices and adolescent suicidal ideation in a high-risk clinical sample: A moderated mediation model. *Research on Child and Adolescent Psychopathology*, *51*, 613–623. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10802-022-01018-9

*Poon, J., ***López Jr**., **R**., Marie-Shae, L., & Liu, R. T. (2023). Longitudinal relations between childhood maltreatment, emotion regulation difficulties, and suicidal ideation and non-suicidal self-injury: An 18-month investigation of high-risk adolescents. *Research on Child and Adolescent Psychopathology, 51*, 1315–1326. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10802-023-01067-8

Whitmyre, E. D., Esposito-Smythers, C., Goldberg, D. G., Scalzo, G., Defayette, A. B., & **López Jr**., **R**. (2023). Implementation of an electronic safety plan within a measurement feedback system. *Evidence-Based Practice in Child & Adolescent Mental Health*, *8*(4), 541-548. https://doi.org/10.1080/23794925.2022.2081946

López Jr., **R**., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., Williams, C. A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022). Posttraumatic stress disorder symptom clusters, suicidal ideation, and social support in a clinical adolescent sample. *Death Studies*, *46*(8), 1814-1822. https://doi.org/10.1080/07481187.2020.1852629

***López Jr**., **R**., *Gonçalves, S. F., Poon, J. A., Ansell, E. B., Esposito-Smythers, C., & Chaplin, T. M. (2022). Sexual identity and its association with trajectories of depressive symptoms and emotion regulation difficulties from early to middle adolescence. *Child Psychiatry & Human Development*, *53*, 1062-1074. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10578-021-01188-5

López Jr., **R**., Maultsby, K., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022). A prospective investigation of the relation between dysfunctional family communication and suicidal ideation severity in a clinical adolescent sample: A serial mediation model. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, *310*, 241-248. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2022.05.021

Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., **López Jr**., **R**., Brown, B., Wolff, J. C., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021). Adolescent depressed mood and difficulties with emotion regulation: Concurrent trajectories of change. *Journal of Adolescence*, *91*, 1-14. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adolescence.2021.07.001

Gonçalves, S. F., Chaplin, T. M., **López Jr**., **R**., Regalario, I. M., McKnight, P. E., Stults-Kolehmainen, M., Sinha, R., & Ansel, E. B. (2021). High frequency heart rate variability and emotion-driven impulse control difficulties during adolescence: Examining experienced and expressed negative emotion as moderators. *Journal of Early Adolescence*, *41*(8), 1151-1176. https://doi.org/10.1177/0272431620983453

López Jr., **R**., †Follet, L., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E.D., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021). Depression-related emotional problems mediate the relation between hopelessness and suicidal ideation severity. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, *77*(12), 2978-2993. https://doi.org/10.1002/jclp.23236

López Jr., **R**., Brick, L. A., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E.D., Wolff, J., Frazier, E., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2020). Depressive symptom severity mediates the association between avoidant problem-solving style and suicidal ideation. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, *274*, 662-670. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2020.05.120

Book Chapters (*N* = 1)

Esposito-Smythers. C., Whitmyre, E. D., Defayette, A. B., **López Jr**., **R**., Maultsby, K. D., & Spirito, A. (2022). Suicide and suicide attempts during adolescence. In G. Asmundson (Ed.), *Comprehensive clinical psychology* (2nd ed., Vol. 5, pp. 376-394). Elsevier. https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-818697-8.00059-5

Under Review and Invited Resubmissions (*N* = 2)

López Jr., **R**., Adams, L. M., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (Under review). Predictors and moderators of adolescent non-suicidal self-injury in a randomized trial of family-focused cognitive-behavioral treatment.

Prochazka, M., Rogers, M. L., & **López Jr**., **R**. (Under review). Momentary relationships between negative affect and meaning in life among young adults with and without self-injurious thoughts and behaviors.

In Preparation (*N* = 12)

Chodzen, G., Asarnow, J. R., **López Jr**., **R**., Cohen, J., McCauley, E., Berk, M., Adrian, M., & Gallop, R. (In preparation). Dialectical behavior therapy reduces posttraumatic stress disorder among suicidal adolescents: Results from the CARES randomized controlled trial.

Esposito-Smythers, C., Wolff, J., **López Jr**., **R**., Adams, L., & Spirito, A. (In preparation). Youth-specific predictors and moderators of adolescent suicidality in a randomized trial comparing a family-focused cognitive-behavioral intervention to enhanced treatment-as-usual.

Esposito-Smythers, C., Wolff, J., **López Jr**., **R**., Adams, L., & Spirito, A. (In preparation). Family-specific predictors and moderators of adolescent suicidality in a randomized trial comparing a family-focused cognitive-behavioral intervention to enhanced treatment-as-usual.

Keller, W., Rogers, M. L., Wolff, J., Esposito-Smythers, C., Spirito, A., & **López Jr**., **R**. (In preparation). Sleep difficulties differentially predict suicidal ideation characteristics among dually diagnosed adolescents.

López Jr., **R**., Asarnow, J. R., Chodzen, G., Alvarez, A. A., Henson, V., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Gallop, R. (In preparation). Parental psychopathology change mechanisms in a randomized controlled trial of dialectical behavior therapy for suicidal adolescents.

López Jr., **R**., Alvarez, A. A., Bai, S., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (In preparation). Assessing sleep among adolescents at high risk for suicide: What measure to use?

López Jr., **R**., Shepherd, B. F., & Brochu, P. (In preparation). Heterosexist discrimination and prospective self-harm among sexual minority men: A moderated mediation model.

López Jr., **R**., Tompson, M. C., Langer, D. A. & Asarnow, J. R., (In preparation). Childhood-onset depression: Treatment response as a protective mechanism for self-injurious thoughts and behaviors.

Neumann, K., Ceballos, N., Wolff, J., Esposito-Smythers, C., Spirito, A., & **López Jr**., **R**. (In preparation). Positive affect intensity moderates the association between lifetime emotional abuse severity and suicidal ideation trajectories among treatment-seeking adolescents.

Peeler, G., Wolff, J., Esposito-Smythers, C., Spirito, A., & **López Jr**., **R**. (In preparation). Positive parenting factors as moderators of the prospective association between negative urgency and adolescent marijuana use.

Roberts, H., Wolff, J., Esposito-Smythers, C., Spirito, A., & **López Jr**., **R**. (In preparation). Parental depressive symptoms and adolescent suicidal ideation: Positive affect intensity as a protective factor.

Popular Media (*N* = 3)

López Jr., **R**. (2026, June 17). The algorithm was wrong and right. *The New York Times*. https://www.nytimes.com/2026/06/17/style/tiny-modern-love-stories-why-dont-you-both-get-in.html

López Jr., **R**. (2024, April 23). Parallel paths. *The New York Times*. https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/23/style/tiny-modern-love-stories-the-problem-was-he-smelled-really-good.html

López Jr., **R**. (2023, December 26). A new view from the shore. *The New York Times*. https://www.nytimes.com/2023/12/26/style/tiny-modern-love-stories-my-first-post-divorce-christmas.html

Conference Presentations

† = mentee; ‡ = discussant; * = sponsored by the ABCT Suicide and Self-Injury Special Interest Group

Symposia & Oral Presentations (*N* = 24)

Prochazka, M., Rogers, M. L., & **López Jr**., **R**. (2026, November 12-15). Momentary relationships between negative affect and meaning in life among young adults with and without self-injurious thoughts and behaviors. In Prochazka, M., & **López Jr**., **R**. (Chairs), *Advanced modeling of real-time risk for self-injurious thoughts and behaviors across adolescence and adulthood*. Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT) 60th Annual Convention, Baltimore, MD.

López Jr., **R**., Adams, L., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2026, June 25-26). Predictors and moderators of non-suicidal self-injury in a randomized trial of family-focused cognitive-behavioral treatment for depressed adolescents in suicidal crisis. The International Society for the Study of Self-Injury (ISSS) 21st Annual Conference, Stockholm, Sweden.

López Jr., **R**., Berk, M., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (2026, April 15-17). Parent-youth borderline personality symptom associations in a randomized trial of dialectical behavior therapy. In *Family processes and intergenerational risk*. Suicide Research Symposium (SRS) 2025. Virtual conference.

Chodzen, G. N., & Bowers, G. (2025, November 20-23). ‡*Socio-ecological perspectives on assessing and intervening on barriers to psychological treatment among diverse adolescents and young adults*. ABCT 59th Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.

López Jr., **R**., & Shepherd, B. F. (2025, November 20-23). Heterosexist discrimination and prospective self-harm among sexual minority men: A moderated mediation model*. In **López Jr**., **R**. (Moderator), *Minority stress mechanisms and psychological outcomes*. ABCT 59th Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.

López Jr., **R**., Meza, J. I., Asarnow, L. D., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (2025, November 8-11). Implicit identification with death and adolescent self-injurious thoughts and behaviors: Sleep quality as a moderator. In *Suicide risk, resilience, and support strategies*. International Academy of Suicide Research (IASR)/American Foundation of Suicide Prevention (AFSP) 2025 International Summit on Suicide Research, Boston, MA, United States.

López Jr., **R**., & Asarnow, J. R. (2025, May 17). Firearms and youth suicide: Identifying and addressing risk. UCLA Interdisciplinary Conference on Gun Violence Reduction. Los Angeles, CA.

López Jr., **R**., Ellis, A. J., Berk, M. S., McCauley, E., & Asarnow, J. R. (2025, April 23-25). A laboratory-based assessment of emotion regulation and prospective risk for adolescent self-injurious thoughts and behaviors. SRS 2025. Virtual conference.

López Jr., **R**. (Chair) (2024, November 14-17). *Identifying, and addressing, suicide risk across adolescence and adulthood* *. ABCT 58th Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

López Jr., **R**., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024, November 14-17). Relations between sexual orientation, depressive symptom severity, and suicidal ideation: Preliminary results from an ecological momentary assessment study. In Shepherd, B. F. & Tang, M. (Chairs), *Minority stress and mental health among LGBTQ+ persons across the lifespan: A longitudinal, developmentally informed approach.* ABCT 58th Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

Shepherd, B. F., **López Jr**., **R**., Mensinger, J. L., & Brochu, P. M. (2024, November 14-17). Fearing judgement from outside and within: Increases in heterosexist stigma and intraminority stigma predict increases in social anxiety symptom severity over time among gay and bi+ men. In Shepherd, B. F. & Tang, M. (Chairs), *Minority stress and mental health among LGBTQ+ persons across the lifespan: A longitudinal, developmentally informed approach.* ABCT 58th Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

Shepherd, B. F., **López Jr**., **R**., Mensinger, J. L., & Brochu, P. M. (2024, November 14-17). A strengths-based, intersectional analysis of general belongingness and status as moderators of the association between community-specific belongingness and perceived stress among gay and bi+ men. In Shepherd, B. F. (Chair). *Diverse pathways to stigma resistance among LGBTQ+ persons: A strengths-based approach to addressing mental health inequities*. ABCT 58th Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

López Jr., **R**., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024, April 17-19). Predictors and moderators of real-time social rejection severity among a diverse, young adult sample. SRS 2024. Virtual conference.

López Jr., **R**., & Liu, R. T. (2023, November 16-19). Relations between negative urgency, interpersonal problems, and non-suicidal self-injury: An 18-month investigation with high-risk youth. In **López Jr**., **R**. (Chair), *Longitudinal predictors of self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among clinical populations across the lifespan* *. ABCT 57th Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.

López Jr., **R**., Maultsby, K., Seibel, L., Esposito-Smythers, C., & Leichtweis, R. N. (2023, November 16-19). Trajectories of adolescent suicidal ideation and depressive symptom severity during a partial hospital program: Clinical and demographic characteristics as predictors of change. In **López Jr**., **R**. (Chair), *Longitudinal predictors of self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among clinical populations across the lifespan* *. ABCT 57th Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.

Seibel, L., Maultsby, K., **López Jr**., **R**., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2023, November 16-19). Adolescent social and generalized anxiety disorder symptoms as predictors of suicidal ideation: Longitudinal mediation modeling. In **López Jr**., **R**. (Chair), *Longitudinal predictors of self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among clinical populations across the lifespan**. ABCT 57th Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.

Esposito-Smythers, C., Wolff, J., **López Jr**., **R**., Adams, L., Fischer, S., & Spirito, A. (2023, October 15-18). Moderators of adolescent suicidal ideation severity in a randomized controlled trial comparing a cognitive-behavioral intervention to enhanced treatment-as-usual. In *Changing the Mind of a Person at Risk*. IASR/AFSP 2023 International Summit on Suicide Research, Barcelona, Spain.

Defayette, A. B., Esposito-Smythers, C., Cero, I., Maultsby, K. D., Whitmyre, E., & **López Jr**., R. (2023, April 26-28). Interpersonal stress and the proinflammatory response in emerging adults with a history of suicide risk: A pilot study. SRS 2023. Virtual conference.

López Jr., **R**., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2023, April 26-28). Social problem-solving deficits as moderators of the real-time relation between social rejection and negative affect. SRS 2023. Virtual conference.

López Jr., **R**., Maultsby, K., Seibel, L., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022, November 17-20). Observer rated family problem-solving moderates the relation between adolescent depressive symptoms and suicidal ideation. In **López Jr**., **R**., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (Chairs), *Prospective risk for self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among vulnerable populations across the lifespan*. ABCT 56th Annual Convention, New York, NY.

Poon, J., **López Jr**., **R**., Shea, L., & Liu, R. T. (2022, November 17-20). Relations between trauma, emotion regulation difficulties, and self-injurious thoughts and behaviors: An 18-month prospective study of high-risk adolescents. In **López Jr**., **R**., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (Chairs), *Prospective risk for self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among vulnerable populations across the lifespan*. ABCT 56th Annual Convention, New York, NY.

López Jr., **R**., Seibel, L., Maultsby, K., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers. (2022, June 3). The protective role of positive recognition in the relation between NSSI versatility and suicidal ideation. In Hamilton, J. (Chair), *Strengths-based approaches in youth suicide research*. Youth Suicide Research Consortium (YSRC) Third National Virtual Conference.

López Jr., **R**., Brick, L. A., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E.D., Wolff, J., Frazier, E., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2020, November 19–22). Depressive symptom severity mediates the association between avoidant problem-solving style and suicidal ideation. In **R**. **López Jr**., & C. Esposito-Smythers (Chairs), *The impact of social factors on the onset and maintenance of self-injurious thoughts and behaviors*[*]. ABCT 54th Annual Virtual Convention.

López Jr., **R**., Gonçalves, S. F., Esposito-Smythers, C., & Chaplin, T. M. (2020, November 19–22). Associations between self-identified sexual orientation and trajectories of emotion dysregulation and depressive symptoms from early to middle adolescence. In **R**. **López Jr**., & C. Esposito-Smythers (Chairs), *An examination of the psychological mediation framework and its relation to self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among LGBTQ individuals from early adolescence to adulthood.* ABCT 54th Annual Virtual Convention.

Select Poster Presentations (*N* = 54)

[†]Keller, W., McField, A., Rogers, M., & **López Jr**., **R**. (2026, April 9). Longitudinal associations between aggression subtypes and suicidal ideation in adolescents with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. 2026 Graduate Student Research Conference. San Marcos, TX.

[†]Neumann, K., Ceballos, N., & **López Jr**., **R**. (2026, April 24). *Positive emotion intensity moderates the association between emotional abuse and suicidal ideation trajectories in treatment-seeking adolescents.* Texas State University Psychology Research Showcase 2026. San Marcos, TX.

Shepherd, B. F., **López Jr**., **R**., & Pachankis, J. (2025, November 20-23). *Too this, too that: A longitudinal exploration of dating app use, intraminority stigma, and HIV/STI-transmission-risk behavior among gay and bi+ men across the lifespan*. ABCT 59th Annual Convention. New Orleans, LA.

[†]Alvarez, A., Qi, R., Nguyen. P. T., **López Jr**., **R**., Meza, J. I. (2025, April 23-25). *Emotional resilience moderates the association between financial stress and suicide outcomes in college students*. SRS 2025. Virtual conference.

Qi, R., [†]Alvarez, A., Nguyen. P. T., **López Jr**., **R**., Meza, J. I. (2025, April 23-25). *Regional variations in self-injurious thoughts and behaviors among sexual and gender minorities*. SRS 2025. Virtual conference.

†Alvarez, A., **López Jr**., **R**., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2024, November 14-17). *Problem-solving deficits moderate the association between current and future suicidal ideation.* ABCT 58thAnnual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

López Jr., **R**., & CARES Team (2024, November 14-17). *Longitudinal relations between perceived stress, emotion reactivity, and adolescent self-injurious thoughts and behaviors*. ABCT 58th Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

López Jr., **R**., Turnamian, M. R., & Liu, R. T. (2023, November 16-19). *Prospective relations between life stress, emotional clarity, and suicidal ideation in an adolescent clinical sample*. 2023 ABCT Suicide and Self-Injury Special Interest Group Exposition.

López Jr., **R**., Esposito-Smythers, C., Lee, P., Leichtweis, R. N., & Miller, I. W. (2023, November 16-19). *Psychometric properties of the Modified Scale for Suicidal Ideation-Self-Report with high-risk adolescents*. ABCT 57th Annual Convention, Seattle, WA.

López Jr., **R**., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2023, October 15-18). *Real-time relations between social rejection, meaning in life, and suicidal ideation severity among at-risk sexual minority and heterosexual young adults: A moderated mediation model*. IASR/AFSP 2023 International Summit on Suicide Research, Barcelona, Spain.

López Jr., **R**., & Liu, R. T. (2023, October 15-18). *Proxies of acquired capability as predictors of recurrent suicide attempts among high-risk adolescents: An 18-month investigation*. IASR/AFSP 2023 International Summit on Suicide Research, Barcelona, Spain.

López Jr., **R**., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022, November 17-20). *Relations between discrimination, rejection sensitivity, and decrements in problem-solving ability following social rejection: An experimental investigation.* 2022 ABCT Suicide and Self-Injury Special Interest Group Poster Exposition, New York, NY.

López Jr., **R**., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022, November 17-20). *The influence of social problem-solving orientation on the relation between lifetime discrimination and past month passive suicidal ideation in a diverse, young adult sample.* ABCT 56th Annual Convention, New York, NY.

López Jr., **R**., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022, November 17-20). *Preliminary evidence for a psychosocial model of the relation between discrimination and passive suicidal ideation in a diverse, nonclinical sample*. ABCT 56th Annual Convention, New York, NY.

López Jr., **R**., Maultsby, K., Seibel, L. F., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2022, August). *The prospective relation between childhood emotional maltreatment and adolescent suicidal ideation severity: A moderated mediation model*. 6th Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology (JCCAP) Virtual Future Directions Forum.

López Jr., **R**., Maultsby, K., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021, November 18–21). *A prospective investigation of the relation between dysfunctional family communication and suicidal ideation severity in a clinical adolescent sample: A serial mediation model*. 2021 ABCT Suicide and Self-Injury Special Interest Group Virtual Exposition.

López Jr., **R**., Maultsby, K., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021, October 24–27). *A longitudinal, multi-informant study of the relation between family affective responsiveness, sexual identity, and suicidal ideation in an adolescent clinical sample*. IASR/AFSP International Virtual Summit on Suicide Research.

López Jr., **R**., Maultsby, K., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021, June 17–19). *Past month engagement in non-suicidal self-injury predicts changes in suicidal ideation severity over 18 months following psychiatric hospitalization in a treatment-seeking adolescent sample.* 5th JCCAP Virtual Future Directions Forum.

López Jr., **R**., Defayette, A. B., Maultsby, K., Whitmyre, E. D., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2021, May 26–27). *A multimethod investigation of the relation between minority stress and suicide risk among sexual minority youth.* Association for Psychological Science (APS) 2021 Virtual Convention.

López Jr., **R**., Gonçalves, S., & Chaplin, T. M. (2020, November 19–22). *Differences in physiological and psychological indices of emotion regulation between sexual minority and heterosexual youth*. ABCT 54th Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

López Jr., **R**., †Follet, L., Whitmyre, E. D., Defayette, A. B., Wolff, J., Spirito, A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2020, June 12–13). *Depression-related emotional problems mediate the association between hopelessness and suicidal ideation severity*. JCCAP 4th Future Directions Forum, Washington, D.C.

López Jr., **R**., Williams, C. A., †Franks, H., Leichtweis, R., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2019, June 28–29). *The impact of measurement-based care on key clinical outcomes within a partial hospital setting*. JCCAP 3rd Future Directions Forum, Washington, D.C.

López Jr., **R**., Williams, C. A., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., †Franks, H., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2019, May 24–25). *Concurrent relationships between childhood maltreatment, suicidality, and social problem-solving abilities in a clinical adolescent sample.* APS 31st Annual Convention, Washington, D.C.

López Jr., **R**., Defayette, A. B., Whitmyre, E. D., Williams, C. A., & Esposito-Smythers, C. (2018, November 15–18). *PTSD symptom clusters, suicidal ideation, and social support in a clinical adolescent sample.* ABCT 52nd Annual Convention, Washington, D.C.

†Clark, J., Esposito-Smythers, C., **López Jr**., **R**., Whitmyre, E. D., Defayette, A. B., & Williams, C. A. (2018, April 27). *The role of peer-relationship trauma in the association between exposure to domestic violence and suicidality.* George Mason University's Undergraduate Honors Research Symposium, Fairfax, VA.

Teaching Experience

2025 – Present **Instructor of Record**
Department of Psychology
Texas State University (San Marcos, TX)
Term: Spring 2026
Course 1: Psychological Therapies (PSY 5352)
Student population: Masters level
Overall rating: *M* = 4.95 (range = 1-5) *

Term: Fall 2025
Course 1: Psychological Therapies (PSY 5352)
Student population: Masters level
Overall rating: *M* = 4.61 (range = 1-5) *
* Composite score derived from ratings of instructor effectiveness & course quality

2023 – 2025 **Clinical Instructor**
David Geffen School of Medicine
University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)
Didactic: Dialectical Behavior Therapy in Outpatient Settings
Student population: Medical residents & fellows
Overall rating: *M* = 6.83 (range = 1-7) *
*Question: How does this teacher compare with other clinical teachers you have had at UCLA (1 = "Among the very worst" to 7 = "Among the very best")?

2021 **Psychology Extern**
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Children's National Hospital (Washington, D.C.)
Didactic: Dialectical Behavior Therapy for Adolescents
Student population: Medical students/residents/fellows & unit staff
Overall rating: *M* = 4.00 (range = 0-4) *
*Competency domain (as assessed by supervisor): Providing instruction, disseminating knowledge, and evaluating acquisition of knowledge/skills in professional psychology (0 = "Not at all/slightly ready for internship" to 4 = "Very ready for internship")

2017 – 2018 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
College of Humanities and Social Sciences
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)
Term: Spring 2018
Course 1: Statistics in Psychology – Laboratory Section 203
Student population: Undergraduate level
Overall rating: *M* = 5.00 (range = 1-5) *
Course 2: Statistics in Psychology – Laboratory Section 204
Student population: Undergraduate level
Overall rating: *M* = 5.00 (range = 1-5) *

Term: Fall 2017
Course 1: Statistics in Psychology – Laboratory Section 204
Student population: Undergraduate level
Overall rating: *M* = 4.91 (range = 1-5) *
Course 2: Statistics in Psychology – Laboratory Section 210
Student population: Undergraduate level
Overall rating: *M* = 5.00 (range = 1-5) *
*Question: My overall rating of the teaching (1 = "Poor" to 5 = "Excellent")

2012 – 2020 **Private Tutor**
WyzAnt, Inc. (Chicago, IL)
Topics: Statistics, Clinical/General Psychology, English, etc.
Student population: Middle school to graduate level students
Overall rating: *M* = 4.90 (range = 1-5 stars)

Pre-Doctoral Research Experience

2017 – 2023 **Graduate Research Assistant**
Laboratory for Adolescent Mental Health Promotion
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)
Supervisor: Christianne Esposito-Smythers, Ph.D.

2018 **Field Interviewer**
Data Science, Surveys, & Enabling Technologies (DSET)
ABT Global (Rockville, MD)
Supervisors: Karen Jarvis, Ana Socarras, & Christopher Hansen, Ph.D.

2015 – 2017 **Research Assistant**
Psychosocial Research Program
Butler Hospital & Brown University (Providence, RI)
Supervisors: Michael Armey, Ph.D., & Heather Schatten, Ph.D.

2014 – 2015 **Volunteer Research Assistant**
Multicultural Clinical Laboratory
University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley (Edinburg, TX)
Supervisor: Alfonso Mercado, Ph.D.

2012 – 2014 **Volunteer Research Assistant**
Nock Laboratory
Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)
Supervisors: Alexander Miller, Ph.D., & Catherine R. Glenn, Ph.D.

Specialized Research Methods Training

2022 **Intensive Longitudinal Data: A Dynamic Structural Equation Modeling Perspective**
American Psychological Association (Webinar)

2022 **Concepts and Considerations in EMA Research for Suicide Prevention**
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention & International Academy of Suicide Research (Webinar)

2022 **Analyzing Intensive Longitudinal Data**
The Center for Statistical Training (Webinar)

2022 **Recent Advances in Modeling Short and Long Longitudinal Data**
American Statistical Association (Webinar)

2021 **Analysis of Intensive Longitudinal Data: Experience Sampling and Ecological Momentary Assessment**
APA's Advanced Training Institute (Webinar)

2021 **Multilevel Modeling: A Secondary Course**
Statistical Horizons (Webinar)

2020 **Applied Latent Class Analysis & Finite Mixture Modeling**
Stats Camp (Webinar)

2019 **SEM with Mplus**
Stats Camp (Albuquerque, NM)

Clinical Experience

2025 – Present **Psychologist**
University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)
Setting: Outpatient Clinic/Academic Health Center

2023 – 2025 **Clinical Instructor**
University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)
Setting: Outpatient Clinic/Academic Health Center

2021 – 2022 **Psychology Extern**
Pediatric Specialists of Virginia (Fairfax, VA)
Setting: Outpatient Medical Clinic

2020 – 2021 **Psychology Extern**
Children's National Hospital (Washington, D.C.)
Setting: Inpatient Psychiatric Unit/Academic Health Center

2018 – 2022 **Psychodiagnostic Examiner**
George Mason University Center for Psychological Services & Cognitive Assessment Program (Fairfax, VA)
Setting: Outpatient Community Mental Health Clinic

2018 – 2020 **Graduate Student Psychotherapist**
George Mason University Center for Psychological Services (Fairfax, VA)
Setting: Outpatient Community Mental Health Clinic

2014 – 2015 **Case Manager**
Tropical Texas Behavioral Health (Edinburg, TX)
Setting: Outpatient Community Mental Health Clinic

Specialized Clinical Training

2022 **CBT for Depression and Suicide**
Beck Institute for Cognitive Behavior Therapy (Webinar)

2022 **Mini-Structured Interview for Psychosis Risk Syndromes Training**
PRIME Research Clinic (Webinar)

2022 **Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: Introductory Training**
UC Davis CAARE Center (Sacramento, CA)

2021 **Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) Certification Training**
MoCA Test, Inc. (Webinar)

2021 **Diabetes Psychology 101**
APA Division 54 Society of Pediatric Psychology (Webinar)

2021 **Brief Assessment-Informed Intervention for COVID-19**
Institute for Mental Health Research's Anxiety & Stress Clinic (Webinar)

2021 **Understanding Suicide Risk Among Children and Pre-Teens: A Synthesis Workshop**
National Institute of Mental Health (Webinar)

2021 **Dialectical Behavior Therapy with Sexual & Gender Minority People**
Association of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (Webinar)

2020 **Telepsychology Best Practice 101 Series**
American Psychological Association (Webinar)

2019 **Dialectical Behavior Therapy Bootcamp**
George Mason University Center for Psychological Services (Fairfax, VA)

2019 **Supporting Transgender and Non-Binary Clients Workshop**
George Mason University Center for Psychological Services (Fairfax, VA)

2019 **Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Training**
TF-CBT Web 2.0 (Webinar)

2017 **Best Practices with LGBTQ+ Youth**
Fairfax Consortium for Evidence-Based Practice (Fairfax, VA)

2017 **Screening, Brief Interventions, and Referral to Treatment Training**
HealtheKnowledge Online Learning Portal (Webinar)

2017 **Safe Zone Training**
George Mason University LGBTQ Resource Center (Fairfax, VA)

2015 **Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale Training**
The Columbia Lighthouse Project (Webinar)

Supervision & Consultation Experience

2023 – 2025 **Clinical Instructor**
Youth Stress and Mood Program
University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)

2020 **Peer Supervisor**
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Youth
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)

2020 **Consultant**
ServingTogether
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)

2018 - 2022 **Undergraduate Research Assistant Supervisor**
Adolescent Mental Health Promotion Lab
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)

Invited & Departmental Presentations

2022 & 2024	**College Career Panel** Road to Hire (Charlotte, NC)
2020	**Multicultural Considerations in Suicide Risk Assessment** VA-SBIRT TeleECHO (Fairfax, VA)
2018	**Psychology: College to Career** George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)

Service to the Profession

Ad hoc Reviewer (Peer-Reviewed Journals)

Archives of Suicide Research
Behaviour Research and Therapy
BMC Psychiatry
Child Abuse & Neglect
Child Psychiatry & Human Development
Children and Youth Services Review
Comprehensive Psychiatry
Cultural Diversity & Ethnic Minority Psychology
European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
Family Process
Journal of Affective Disorders
Journal of Clinical Psychology
Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry
Journal of Homosexuality
Journal of Psychiatric Research
Journal of Psychopathology and Behavioral Assessment
Journal of Traumatic Stress
Personality and Individual Difference
PLoS One
Psychiatry Research
Psychiatry Research Communications

Ad hoc Reviewer (Grants & Scholarships)

American Psychological Foundation

Professional Affiliations

2021 – Present	**Society for Science of Clinical Psychology**
2020 – Present	**Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology**
2017 – Present	**Association for Psychological Science**
2017 – Present	**American Psychological Association**
2015 – Present	**Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies**

Departmental & Community Service

2014 – Present	**Volunteer Interviewer** Harvard Alumni Association – Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)
2018 – 2022	**Safe Zone Facilitator** George Mason University LGBTQ Resource Center (Fairfax, VA)
2017 – 2020	**Undergraduate Academic Advisor** Department of Psychology – George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)

Select Skills

Software

Microsoft Office	ΩNYX	AcqKnowledge	OWL
Mplus	R	QRSTool	Epic
SPSS	SocialSci	Tobii Studio	Cerner
HLM	E-Prime	Qualtrics	Windows
	mEMA	REDCap	macOS

Languages

English & Spanish – Native proficiency