

Marleen Wong

David Lawrence Stein/Violet Goldberg Sachs Professor of Mental Health Senior Vice Dean of Field Education Clinical Professor of Social Work Department of Children Youth and Families at USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

Los Angeles, CA, US

Clinical Professor focused on children, youth, and families and specializing in behavioral health, mental health, and military social work.

Biography

MARLEEN WONG, senior vice dean and clinical professor, serves as director of field education, overseeing the field placements of all Master of Social Work students studying at five academic centers, including the Virtual Academic Center with students based all over the United States.

In addition to her work in field education, Wong is an internationally recognized mental health expert. Called one of the "pre-eminent experts in school crisis and recovery" by the White House and the "architect of school-safety programs" by the Wall Street Journal, Wong has developed mental health recovery programs, crisis and disaster training for school districts and law enforcement in the United States, Canada, Israel and Asia.

Formerly director of mental health services, crisis intervention, and suicide prevention for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), and director of school crisis and intervention at the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress at the UCLA David Geffen Medical Center, Wong is one of the original developers of the Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools, an evidence-based program using skill-based group intervention to relieve symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and general anxiety among children traumatized by violence, bullying and trauma. She is also one of the developers of Psychological First Aid/Listen, Protect, Connect (PFA/LPC) – a school-based universal prevention intervention for educators and school staffs (non-mental health professionals) to use in supporting students after crises or disasters – that is now being implemented across the United States.

Industry Expertise

Mental Health Care, Public Policy, Education/Learning, Health Care - Providers, Health and Wellness, Health Care - Services, Training and Development, Military

Areas of Expertise

Crisis Intervention, Crisis and Disaster , Military Social Work, Behavioral Health, Social Work, Social Work Education, Children & Families, Schools, Suicide Prevention

Affiliations

National Advisory Council on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Member, Fellow, American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare

Event Appearances

Keynote: "People, Place and Purpose: The Role of Case-Based Law and Trauma Informed Schools"

School of Social Work Annual Conference

Education

The Sanville Institute

Ph.D.

University of Southern California

M.S.W.

California State University, Fresno

B.A.

Accomplishments

Los Angeles School Safety Blue Ribbon Panel

Marleen Wong was appointed by City Attorney Mike Feuer to the Los Angeles School Safety Blue Ribbon Panel. The panel was formed by Mr. Feuer in response to incidents of gun-related violence across schools locally and nationally. The panel will gather input from students, parents, teachers, administrators and experts to develop a comprehensive approach that will improve safety on school campuses.

Principal Investigator

USC Trauma Treatment and Services Adaptation Center for Resilience, Hope and Wellness in Schools, of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network/SAMHSA, with RAND Health, UCLA Health Services Research Center, and LAUSD Mental Health Service (2012-2016)

George D. Nickel Award for Outstanding Professional Services by a Social Worker

California Social Welfare Archives, USC School of Social Work

Co-Principal Investigator, Department of Defense Grant

"Building Capacity to Create Highly Supportive Military-Connected School Districts: The Integration of Local School Data, Community Supports, Evidence-based Programs, and Empowerment Strategies"

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