

# **Riana Anderson**

**Assistant Professor Social Work Dept. of Children Youth and Families at USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work**

Los Angeles, CA, US

RIANA ELYSE ANDERSON is a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Culture of Health Leader.

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## **Biography**

RIANA ELYSE ANDERSON is an assistant professor at the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work in the department of Children, Youth and Families. She is also a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Culture of Health Leader. She earned her PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Virginia, completed her predoctoral internship in clinical and community psychology at Yale University, and was a Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania until 2017.

Anderson investigates how protective familial mechanisms such as parenting and racial socialization operate in the face of risks linked to poverty, discrimination and residential environment. She is particularly interested in how these factors predict familial functioning and subsequent child psychosocial well-being when people are enrolled in family-based interventions. She is the developer and director of the EMBRace (Engaging, Managing, and Bonding through Race) intervention and loves to translate her work for a variety of audiences, particularly those whom she serves in the community, via blogs, video and articles.

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## **Industry Expertise**

Childcare, Health and Wellness, Education/Learning, Mental Health Care

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Program Development, Research, Psychology

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## **Education**

**University of Virginia**

PhD Clinical Psychology

**University of Michigan**

BA Psychology and Political Science

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## **Accomplishments**

**Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Citation for Excellence in Leadership and Innovation**

University of Pennsylvania, Graduate School of Education (2017)

**Culture of Health Leaders Fellowship**  
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (2016)

**Making a Difference in Healthcare Award**  
University of Michigan Black Alumni Association (2016)

**Child Intervention, Prevention, & Services (CHIPS) Fellowship**  
National Institute of Mental Health (2016)

**Sage Student Research Award**  
Association of Black Psychologists (2015)

**Postdoctoral Award Recipient**  
Ford Foundation Fellowship Program (2015)

**A. Toy Caldwell-Colbert Student Contribution Service Award**  
American Psychological Association Division 45 (2014)

**Outstanding Graduate Student Award**  
University of Virginia, Office of Graduate Diversity (2014)

**Outstanding Graduate Student Award**  
University of Virginia, Black Leadership Institute/NAACP (2014)

**Robert J. Huskey Travel Fellowship**  
University of Virginia, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (2013)

**Graduate Service Award**  
University of Virginia, The Seven Society (2012)

**Interdisciplinary Research Fellowship**  
Institute of Education Sciences (IES), Virginia Education Science Training (VEST) (2012)

**LIFE Academy Fellowship**  
University of Virginia, Evolutionary and Ontogenetic Dynamics Course (2011)

**Buffett Fellowship**  
University of Virginia, Center for Children, Families, and the Law (2011)

**Diversity in Graduate Studies Fellowship**  
University of Virginia, Office of Graduate Student Diversity (2009)

**Dean's Office Fellowship**  
University of Virginia, Department of Psychology (2009)

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