

# **Stacy Kratz**

**Senior Lecturer of Social Work Dept. of Social Change and Innovation at USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work**

Los Angeles, CA, US

Stacy Kratz leads an interdisciplinary team of refugee-serving providers, expanding evidence-based mental health treatment options.

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## **Description**

Stacy Kratz joined in 2011 and became senior lecturer in the school's Virtual Academic Center in 2015. She specializes in policy practice and is a licensed clinical social worker, a certified addiction professional, a researcher, and a community advocate and organizer.

She started in social work as a family advocate and clinical therapist at MacDill Air Force Base, and has worked on multiple community-based program development projects throughout Florida. She currently serves as founding chair of the Tampa Bay, Florida, Refugee Task Force Mental Health Committee. Recent projects include leading an interdisciplinary team of refugee-serving providers to expand evidence-based mental health treatment options, especially for survivors of torture, and leading a research work team to coordinate with a national foundation on developing refugee mental health evaluation strategies. Kratz also serves as a member of the Tampa Bay Domestic Violence Task Force and Fatality Review Board, examining every intimate partner violence homicide to make improvements in the system that serves victims of domestic violence.

Impacted by her work with refugees and asylees, as a PhD candidate at the University of South Florida, Kratz investigates health promotion and disease prevention communication. Specifically, she utilizes a constructivist grounded theory approach in understanding how mother/daughter dyads communicate what constitutes health and sexual health to better understand the process, action and interaction of communication, specifically how it relates to disease prevention and HIV/AIDS. In addition to this research, she has presented papers and conducted trainings at numerous interdisciplinary conferences both in the United States and South Africa, regarding current and emerging web-based technology to support teaching and learning.

Kratz has been awarded numerous community-impact awards by organizations across disciplines. These include Tampa Bay Social Worker of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers; Community Partner of the Year by the University of South Florida College of Public Health; Nonprofit of the Year by the Tampa Bay Business Journal; Social Work Scholar by the Conn Family Foundation; Empowerment Award by Project Prosper, Inc.; and the annual Human Rights Award of the Tampa Bay Human Rights Council.

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## **Industry Expertise**

Social Services, Writing and Editing, Research, Education/Learning

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## **Topics**

Addiction Professional, Social Development/Policy, Behavioral Health, Hiv/Aids, Substance Abuse

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## **Affiliations**

## **Education**

**University of South Florida**  
Ph.D. Social Work

**University of South Florida**  
M.S.W.

**University of South Florida**  
B.S.W.

**Southern Illinois University**  
B.A.

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## **Accomplishments**

**Exceptional Community Partner Award**  
University of South Florida College of Public Health (2015)

**Empowerment Award recognizing Tampa Bay Refugee Task Force**  
Project Prosper (2015)

**Human Rights Award**  
Tampa Bay Human Rights Council (2014)

**Nonprofit of the Year**  
Tampa Bay Business Journal (2012)

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