

Kayla N. Palazzo

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EDUCATION

North Carolina State University

December 2020 *B.A. in Psychology, minor in Sociology, 3.14 GPA*

Relevant Coursework:

Sociology of the Family, Juvenile Delinquency, Gender and Sociology, Sociological Research Methods with STATA lab, Psychology Research Methods, Psychology Independent Study, Meredith Autism Practicum, Statistics

Wake Technical Community College

May 2018 *A.A focus on Psychology, 3.4 GPA*

Highlighted Honors:

Sigma Delta Mu Spanish Honor Society January 2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Fostering Advocacy, Communication, Empowerment, and Support (FACES) Program **August 2021 - Present**

Research Assistant, NC State University

Mentor: Dr. Jamie Pearson, Assistant Professor of Special Education

- Collaborated with a team of graduate and undergraduate students to conduct community outreach events to support historically underserved families raising autistic children
- Partnered with students to manage FACES Program social media platforms.
- Assisted with research papers
- Written, prepared, and submitted manuscripts for publication
- School-based data collection
- GIST research project
 - Completed written observations of autistic high school students learning to fly drones
 - Coded social validity interviews
 - Oriented and supported students with surveys
 - Wrote results section of qualitative research paper

Skills Developed: Community outreach, research collaboration, involvement in an active research study, preparing and submitting a manuscript.

Minority College Cohort Study **August 2020 - December 2020**

Research Assistant, NC State University

Mentor: Dr. Elan Hope, Associate Professor of Psychology

- Collaborated on a team of undergraduate students to develop community outreach
- Conducted community outreach for participants in study
- Collected data for comparative studies
- Implemented fair, ethical, and effective evaluation skills
- Facilitated discussions and reflections in social issues related to the project

Skills Developed: SPSS coding, data collection, survey outreach

Black Families Project **August 2019 –May 2020**

Research Assistant, NC State University

Mentor: Dr. Qiana R. Cryer-Coupet, Assistant Professor of Social Work

- Collaborated on a team of graduate and undergraduate students to develop questions for research topics using provided codebook
- Conducted extensive research and requirements gathering to create a research question
- Partnered with a mentor to develop a full model research paper
- Graphed and contributed to codebooks and datasets in Microsoft Excel
- Examined and evaluated data in SPSS
- Submitted a professional abstract

Skills Developed: Professional writing, presenting and documenting skills, SPSS coding

Foster Parent Bill of Rights **January 2019 - May 2019**

Research Assistant, NC State University

Mentor: Dr. Kate Norwalk, Assistant Professor of Psychology

Assisted with the creation of an NC Foster Parent Bill of Rights, which passed unanimously in the NC House of Representatives (HB 769) and was signed into law in August 2021..

- Collaborated on a team of graduate and undergraduate student to code interviews and evaluate data
- Conducted research to obtain qualitative data
- Assessed and coded data in Dedoose
- Implemented fair, ethical, and effective evaluation skills

Skills Developed: Proficiency in Dedoose, collaborative skills, experience assessing qualitative data

MANUSCRIPTS

Malone, K.M., Pearson J.N., **Palazzo, K.M.**, Martin, D.M. Short report: Exploring the impact of stereotype threat in research with Black autistic students.*(in review)*.

Malone, K.M., Pearson, J.N., **Palazzo, K.N.**, Mann, L., Rivera, A., and Martin, D.M. (2022) The scholarly neglect of Black autistic adults in autism research. *Autism in Adulthood*, 4(4), 271-280.

IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCE

Child Find ACCESS **April 2022- Present**

Communications Liaison, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC Chapel Hill

Supervisor: Sherra Lawrence, Implementation Specialist Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute

- Facilitated meetings
- Provide Technical Support
- Supplemental note taking
- Managed workgroup website
- Communication coordination

Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center **April 2022- Present**

Social Research Assistant, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC Chapel Hill

Supervisor: Laura Curtis, Technical Assistance Specialist

- Facilitated workgroup meetings
- Delegate travel requests
- Supplemental note taking
- Provided technical support

PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE

Meredith Autism Program Practicum

Meredith College

Supervisors: Lindsay Lewis , BCBA January 2019 - May 2019 • Conducted 10 hours per week of one-on-one intervention with a preschool child with autism using the basic concepts of ABA and DTT

- Incorporated basic behavioral principles such as reinforcement, extinction, and prompting in a one-on-one setting
- Used the basic principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and Discrete Trial Teaching (DTT) to assist a preschool child with autism in an inclusive preschool setting
- Worked to advance social skill development by encouraging interactive play and use of appropriate language between a neurotypical child and a child with autism
- Assisted in the maintenance and generalization of learned skills utilizing DTT principles • Shared collaboratively and professionally within a teaching team, including the client and their parent(s)

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Carolina Converge, Communications Liaison, Chapel Hill, NC

April 2022 - August 2022

Mentor: Dr. Julie Austen

- Facilitated meetings for Neurodivergent Professional Collective

Autism in Motion Clinics, Registered Behavior Technician, Apex/Chapel Hill, NC

August 2021 - December 2021

- Adhered to the ethical guidelines of the BACB to serve autistic children and their families
- Extensive training in Applied Behavior Analysis therapy in a clinical setting
- Provide clinical support for staff and clients
- Provide 1:1 clinical behavior-analytic services for school-aged autistic clients
- Observe, monitor and record target behaviors through accurate data collection, graphs and anecdotal notes via CentralReach
- Presented anti-ableism procedures to clinical team of AIM Clinics

Autism Learning Partners, Behavioral Technician, Raleigh, NC

June 2019 - August 2021

- Developed proficient skills in observing behavior
- Extensive experience in Applied Behavioral Analysis Therapy
- Safety Care Trained
- CPR certification
- Team building and collaborative skills
- Rapport building skills with clients and their families
- 1:1 work with autistic clients
- Accurate observation and data taking skills

Skills developed: ABA therapy, CPR certification, Safety Care Training, CentralReach data software proficiency.

AFFILIATIONS AND INVOLVEMENT

FACES Program, Research assistant, social Media Coordinator and Community Outreach Coordinator August 2021 - Present

Club Sport: Fusion Dance Crew, General Member August 2018 – December 2020

Psychology Club, General Member August 2018 – December 2020

Sigma Delta Mu Spanish Honor Society, Inducted Member August 2017 - May 2018

VOLUNTEERING

FACES Program, Volunteer Research Assistant and Community Outreach Coordination August 2021 - Present