

## **BRIGIDA HERNANDEZ**

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### **EDUCATION:**

- PhD** Northwestern University Medical School, Clinical Psychology - Child Track  
December 1999
- MA** State University of New York (Plattsburgh), Applied Clinical Psychology  
May 1992
- BA** Rutgers University, Psychology  
May 1989

### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:**

#### **Assistant Professor**

DePaul University, Department of Psychology  
July 2002 - present

#### **Research Assistant Professor**

University of Illinois at Chicago, Department of Disability and Human Development  
September 2001 - present

#### **Postdoctoral Research Associate**

University of Illinois at Chicago, Department of Disability and Human Development  
August 1999 - August 2001

### **GRANTS and CONTRACTS:**

#### **Principal Investigator - The Psychological Assessment Study**

Project funding period: November 2004 - December 2009

Total funding: \$100,000

Subcontract through the Center for Capacity Building on Minorities with Disabilities Research at the University of Illinois at Chicago, which is funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (US Department of Education). The purpose of this project is to examine and address the appropriateness of psychological tests when assessing people with disabilities of ethnic minority background.

#### **Principal Investigator - The Economic Impact Study**

Project funding period: September 2004 - August 2007

Total funding: \$116,600

Grant funded by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunities to examine the costs and benefits associated with hiring people with disabilities.

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**Principal Investigator - Let's Roll: Understanding and Responding to the Needs of People with Disabilities and the Ticket to Work Program**

Project funding period: October 2003 - September 2007

Total funding: \$450,000

Grant funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (US Department of Education) to examine and address the vocational rehabilitation needs of working-age adults with disabilities.

**Principal Investigator - Back to Basics: Understanding the Vocational Rehabilitation and Ticket to Work Needs of Latinos with Disabilities**

Project funding period: August 2003 - July 2004

Total funding: \$25,000

Grant funded by the Disability Research Institute (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) to examine the vocational rehabilitation needs of Latino adults with disabilities.

**Principal Investigator - No Voice in the Chorus, No Seat at the Table: Perspectives of Young Men of Color on their Disabilities, Identities, and Peer-Mentors**

Project funding period: September 2001 - August 2002

Total funding: \$45,000

Research Switzer fellowship funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (US Department of Education) to examine the identity of ethnic minority men with spinal cord injuries as a result of gunshot trauma.

**SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS:**

***Refereed Publications:***

**Hernandez, B., Cometa, M.J., Velcoff, J., Rosen, J., Schober, D., & Luna, R.D. (in press).** Perspectives of People with Disabilities on Employment, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Ticket to Work. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation.*

**Hernandez, B., McCullough, S., Balcazar, F., & Keys, C. (in press).** Accessibility of public accommodations in three ethnic minority communities. *Journal of Disability Policy Studies.*

**Hernandez, B., Balcazar, F., Keys, C., Hidalgo, M., & Rosen, J. (2006).** Taking it to the streets: Ethnic minorities seek inclusion. *Community Development, 37, 13-25.*

**Hernandez, B., Cometa, M.J., Rosen, J., Velcoff, J., Schober, D., & Luna, R.D. (2006).** Employment, Vocational Rehabilitation, and the Ticket to Work Program: Perspectives of Latinos with Disabilities. *Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling, 37, 13-22.*

**Hernandez, B. (2005).** A voice in the chorus: Perspectives of young men of color on their disabilities, identities, and peer-mentors. *Disability and Society, 20, 117-133.*

**Hernandez, B., Keys, C., & Balcazar, F. (2004).** Disability rights: Attitudes of private and public sector representatives. *Journal of Rehabilitation, 70, 28-37.*

**Hernandez, B., Keys, C., & Balcazar, F. (2003).** The Americans with Disabilities Act Knowledge Survey: Strong psychometrics and weak knowledge. *Rehabilitation Psychology, 48, 93-99.*

Balcazar, F. E., & Hernandez, B. (2002). Violencia y discapacidad: Un modelo de intervención basado en la investigación-acción participativa. *Intervención Psicosocial, 11*, 183-199.

Hernandez, B., Hayes, E.A., Balcazar, F.E., & Keys, C.B. (2001). Responding to the needs of the underserved: A peer-mentor approach. *SCI Psychosocial Process, 14*, 142-149.

Kaplan, D.L., Hernandez, B., Balcazar, F.E., Keys, C.B., & McCullough, S. (2001). Assessing and improving accessibility of public accommodations in an urban Latino community. *Journal of Disability Policy Studies, 12*, 55-62.

Hernandez, B., Keys, C., & Balcazar, F. (2000). Employer attitudes toward workers with disabilities and their ADA employment rights: A literature review. *Journal of Rehabilitation, 66*, 4-16.

Keys, C., Horner-Johnson, A., Hernandez, B., Weslock, K., & Vasiliauskas, L. (1999). Learning science for social good: Dynamic tensions in developing undergraduate community researchers. *Journal of Prevention and Intervention in the Community, 18*, 141-156.

Hernandez, B., Keys, C., Balcazar, F., & Drum, C. (1998). Construction and validation of the Disability Rights Attitude Scale: Assessing attitudes toward the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). *Rehabilitation Psychology, 43*, 203-218.

#### **Other publications:**

Hernandez, B., & Hayes, E. (2005). Violence. In G. Albrecht (Ed.), *The Encyclopedia of Disability*. CA: Sage Publications.

Hayes, E., & Hernandez, B. (2005). Peer support. In G. Albrecht (Ed.), *The Encyclopedia of Disability*. CA: Sage Publications.

Hernandez, B., Keys, C., & Balcazar, F. (2000). Promoting disability rights in minority communities: An empowerment approach. *The Community Psychologist, 32*, 28-30.

Kaplan, D., Balcazar, F., Keys, C., Suarez-Balcazar, Y., Hernandez, B., Gomez, Y., & Mendez, J. (1997). Community capacity building for disability rights: The Latino ADA Project. *The Community Psychologist, 30*, 13-14.

#### **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS:**

McDonald, K.E., Taylor-Ritzler, T., Kelly, E., Reyerson-Espino, S., Bloodworth, M., Hernandez, B., Horin, E.V., Velcoff, J., Donoso, O., Divilbiss, & Kushnir, A. (June, 2007) *Is that a finding? Approaches to coding to bolster credibility*. Symposium presented at the Biennial Society for Community Research Action Conference, Pasadena, CA.

McDonald, K., E., Hernandez, B., Horin, E.V., Donoso, O., & Velcoff, J., Divilbiss, & Kushnir, A. (June, 2007). *University-government-business partnerships for addressing unemployment among individuals with disabilities*. Symposium presented at the Biennial Society for Community Research Action Conference, Pasadena, CA.

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- Donoso, O., Bothne, N., **Hernandez, B.**, Horin, E., McDonald, K., Velcoff, J., Kushnir, A., & Divilbiss, M. (2007, May). *Research involving sensitive information: Lessons learned*. Roundtable discussion presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Divilbiss, M., **Hernandez, B.**, & Horin, E. (2007, May). *Perspectives of the healthcare, hospitality, and retail sectors on the disabled workforce*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Kaufman, C., Hidalgo, M., & **Hernandez, B.** (2007, May). *Psychological assessment and people with disabilities*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Hernandez, B.**, Horin, E., & Donoso, O. A. (2007, January). *Psychological testing of diverse individuals*. Poster session presented at the National Multicultural Conference and Summit, Seattle, WA.
- Hernandez, B.** (2006, October). *Creating community change and accessibility*. Symposium presented at the Life After a Spinal Cord Injury Conference, West Orange, NJ.
- Taylor, J., Youngberg, C., **Hernandez, B.**, & McCulloh, K. (2006, September). *Reaping the benefits of accessibility*. Panel discussion presented at the Making the ADA Work for Business Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Hernandez, B.**, Velcoff, J., Rosen, J., Cometa, M. J., Schober, D., & Luna, R. (2006, August). *PAR in Action: Perspectives of People With Disabilities on Employment*. Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of the American Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Curtis, C., Harper, G., Jason, L., & **Hernandez, B.** (2006, August). *Psychosocial Aspects of Quality of Life for Inflammatory Bowel Disease*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the American Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- McDonald, K., & **Hernandez, B.** (2006, July). *Two Goals at Once? Creating Social Change and Protecting Research Participants*. Case study presented at the Journal of Empirical Research and Human Research Ethics Conference, Oakland, CA.
- Hernandez, B.**, Rosen, J., Cometa, J., Schober, D., Velcoff, J., & Luna, R. (2006, June). *The disability perspective*. In B. Hernandez (Chair), *Including the voices of marginalized communities in research*. Symposium presented at the First International Community Psychology Conference, Rio Piedras, PR.
- Bates, C., Keys, C., & **Hernandez, B.** (2006, June). *Peer mentorship and violently-acquired spinal cord injuries: Changes in disability identity, social support, and community reintegration in urban men*. Poster presented at the First International Community Psychology Conference, Rio Piedras, PR.
- Hernandez, B.**, Rosen, J., Cometa, J., Velcoff, J., Schober, D., & Luna, R. (2006, May). *Innovative efforts to disseminate research findings*. Roundtable discussion presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Velcoff, J., Rosen, J., Schober, D., Lara, J., Cometa, M.J., & **Hernandez, B.** (2005, October). *Including the voices of participants in research on policies that affect them*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Ecological-Community Psychology Conference, Saugatuck, MI.

- Youngberg, C., Berg, P., **Hernandez, B.**, & Rosenblum, H. (2005, September). *Best practices for reasonable accommodations: Low cost and no cost solutions*. Panel discussion presented at the Making the ADA Work for Business Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Hernandez, B.**, Velcoff, J., Cometa, J., Rosen, J., Bailey, K., & Luna, R. (2005, August). *From qualitative data to a quantitative survey: Examining the employment needs of people with disabilities*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.
- Hernandez, B.**, Balcazar, F., & Keys, C. (2005, August). *Ethnic minorities with disabilities creating changes in their communities*. In B. Hernandez and D. Tulsy (Chairs), *Accessibility and community inclusion: The role of the rehabilitation psychologist*. Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.
- Luna, R., & **Hernandez, B.** (2005, July). *What's wrong with the employment picture?* Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Independent Living, Washington, DC.
- Nary, D., & **Hernandez, B.** (2005, July). *New advocacy tools that you can use*. Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Independent Living, Washington, DC.
- Hernandez, B.** (2005, June). *A voice in the chorus: Perspectives of young men of color on their disabilities, identities, and peer-mentors*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for Disability Studies, San Francisco, CA.
- Hernandez, B.**, Velcoff, J., Cometa, J., Rosen, J., Bailey, K., & Luna, R. (2005, June). *Employment needs among Latinos with disabilities*. In K. Vertiz (Chair), *Confronting multiple oppressions: Examining the needs of Hispanics with disabilities*. Symposium presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society of Community Research and Action, Urbana-Champaign, IL.
- Hernandez, B.**, Rosen, J., Cometa, M.J., Velcoff, J., Bailey, K., Luna, R.D., Jamil, O., Rodriguez, A., Hidalgo, M., Torres, R.S., Wilson, B., Harper, G., Johnson, V., Wesley, N., & Smith, C. (2005, May). *Partnering with community-based organizations: Mutually or exclusively beneficial*. Roundtable discussion presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Hernandez, B.** (2005, April). *Understanding the vocational rehabilitation and Ticket to Work needs of Latinos with disabilities*. Poster presented at the Disability Research Institute Symposium, Washington, DC.
- Rosen, J., Cometa, M.J., Bailey, K., **Hernandez, B.**, & Luna, R.D. (2004, October). *Listening to the voices of Latinos with disabilities as they seek inclusion in the workforce*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Ecological-Community Psychology Conference, Saugatuck, MI.
- Harper, G., **Hernandez, B.**, Sanchez, B., & Balfanz-Vertiz, K. (2004, October). *Latino adolescents and Risky behaviors: Putting a new spin on an old problem*. Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of International Hispanic/Latino Mental Health.
- Banji, A., Harper, G., Doll, M., Neubauer, L.C., **Hernandez, B.**, & Sharma, A. (2004, July). *Listening to your community partners' voice*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI.

- Hernandez, B., Balcazar, F., Keys, C., & Rosen, J.** (2004, July). *Taking it to the Streets: Minorities with disabilities seek inclusion*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI.
- Hernandez, B., Coburn, J., & Canellada, R.** (2004, July). *Understanding and addressing the barriers to employment*. Symposium presented at the Annual Bridges to Employment Conference of Proyecto Vision, Chicago, IL.
- Hernandez, B., & Balcazar, F.** (2004, June). *Taking it to the Streets: Ethnic minorities seeking Community inclusion*. In E. Hayes (Chair), *Community-based resources for people with disabilities: Issues of knowledge, access, and barriers*. Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for Disability Studies, St. Louis, MO.
- Hernandez, B., & Luna, R.D.** (2004, May). *Shifting our thinking: Collaboration with disability organizations*. In G. Iwamasa (Chair), *Conducting community-based research with culturally diverse populations*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Hernandez, B., Balcazar, F., Keys, C.B., & Rosen, J.** (2003, October). *Taking it to the streets: Ethnic minorities with disabilities seeking to improve accessibility in their communities*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Ecological-Community Psychology Conference, Donaldson, IN.
- McDonald, K.E., Keys, C.B., **Hernandez, B.**, Sharma, A., & Suarez-Balcazar, Y. (2003, October). *The good, the bad, and the ugly: Exploring the rewards and punishments of being a community psychologist*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Ecological-Community Psychology Conference, Donaldson, IN.
- Jason, L.A., Torres-Harding, S.R., London, L., Belour, M., Corradi, K., Donalek, J., Jurgens, A., Schlotman, E., Mason-Shutter, J., Njoku, M., & Williams, S., & **Hernandez, B.** (2003, May). *Addressing needs of persons with disabilities and chronic medical conditions*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Hernandez, B.** (2002, September). *Perspectives of minority men on their disabilities, identities, and peer-mentors*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the American Association of Spinal Cord Injury Psychologists and Social Workers, Las Vegas, NE.
- Dijkers, M., Balcazar, F., Keys, C., Hayes, E., **Hernandez, B.**, Engstrom, M., Sanabria, J., & Balfanz-Vertiz, K. (2002, August). *Violently-acquired spinal cord injuries: Scope and Interventions*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Engstrom, Mark, Keys, C., & Balcazar, F., & **Hernandez, B.** (2002, August). *Hope and violently-acquired spinal cord injuries*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Balfanz-Vertiz, K., Hayes, E., **Hernandez, B.**, Sims, A., & Thigpen, K. (2002, August). *Using a peer mentor approach for persons with violently acquired spinal cord injuries*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Abilities Expo, Chicago, IL.

- Hernandez, B.** (2002, May). *Investigating disability identity among young men with violently-acquired spinal cord injuries*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Balcazar, F., **Hernandez, B.**, Balfanz-Vertiz, K., & Irizarry, J. (2001, September). *Empowering young people with violently-acquired spinal cord injuries: A peer-mentor approach*. Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of the American Association of Spinal Cord Injury Psychologists and Social Workers, Las Vegas, NE.
- Hernandez, B.**, Balcazar, F.; Hayes, E.; & Vertiz, K. (2000, November). *The Disabling Bullet Project: Meeting the needs of young men with violently-acquired spinal cord injuries*. Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of Illinois TASH, Springfield, IL.
- Block, P., Balcazar, F., **Hernandez, B.**, Hayes, E., Vertiz, K., & Harden, T. (2000, June). *Race, poverty, and disability: Three strikes and you're out...or not?* Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for Disability Studies, Chicago, IL.
- Adames, S.B., Hayes, E., Hall, K., & **Hernandez, B.** (2000, May). *Societal and cultural factors as emergent themes in community research: The Disabling Bullet Project*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Keys, C., Vasiliauskas, L., Weslock, K., & **Hernandez, B.** (1998, May). *Construction and psychometric analysis of the Americans with Disabilities Act Knowledge Survey*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Keys, C., **Hernandez, B.**, Johnson, W., Weslock, K., & Vasiliauskas, L. (1997, October). *How can societal attitudes determine individual rights? The Disability Example*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Ecological-Community Psychology Conference, Dowagiac, MI.
- Keys, C., **Hernandez, B.**, Johnson, W., Weslock, K., Vasiliauskas, L., Bicok, T., & Shizas, N. (1997, May). *Turning undergraduate students on to community research: An innovative approach*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Hernandez, B.**, Keys, C., & Balcazar, F. (1996, August). *Construction and psychometric analysis of the Disability Rights Attitude Scale*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Canada.
- Hernandez, B.**, Balcazar, F., Keys, C., Contreras, R., & Kaplan, D. (1996, May). *The Americans with Disabilities Act and local businesses: Preliminary findings of their physical accessibility*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Hernandez, B.**, Recio, J., Balcazar, F., & Keys, C. (1995, November). *Promoting awareness and education of the Americans with Disabilities Act: Reactions from representatives of the community*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Ecological-Community Conference, Hickory Corners, MI.
- Hernandez, B.**, Balcazar, F., Keys, C., Contreras, R., & Nava, M. (1995, June). *The Americans with Disabilities Act: An assessment of compliance in Hispanic communities*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society of Community Research and Action, Chicago, IL.

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**MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

- American Psychological Association - Divisions 22 and 27
- Midwestern Psychological Association

**SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY:**

***Board Member & Secretary:*** Progress Center for Independent Living (Oak Park, IL)  
*July 2004 - June 2007*

***Member*** Access Living (Chicago, IL)  
*October 2005 - present* Program Committee  
*July 2002- October 2005* Committee for the Integration of Latinos with Disabilities

***Member*** Equip for Equality (Chicago, IL)  
*September 2006 - present* Illinois ADA Project Steering Committee

***Editorial Board Member*** Rehabilitation Psychology  
*January 2007 - present*

***Ad Hoc Reviewer***

Disability Studies Quarterly (January 2005; April 2005; January 2006)  
Rehabilitation Psychology (March 2005; June 2005; October 2006)  
Journal of Contemporary Ethnography (November 2004)  
Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology (February 2004)  
Journal of Applied Social Psychology (2003; 2004)  
Academic Press (2002)  
Journal of Prevention and Intervention in the Community (2002)