## maria usacheva, phd

Senior Research Analyst

Applied Survey Research

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### KEY SKILLS

Dr. Maria Usacheva is a doctoral scholar in Human Development and Family Studies, she has over seven years of experience in applied translational research that directly informs child, youth, and family welfare policy. Maria’s research focused on development, implementation, and evaluation of universal supports, as well as prevention and intervention efforts that promote healthy child growth and development. She is well versed in all aspects of research, from study design and measures selection to testing and fidelity of implementation, data collection and management, advanced statistical analyses with primary and secondary data sources, and effective communication of study outcomes, from peer-reviewed publications to county and state level reports and presentations for community stakeholders.

Maria has extensive university teaching experience with courses on child development and family studies, research methods and statistical analyses, and positive youth development. Additionally, Maria has mentored and supervised students, research assistants, and exchange and prospective scholars.

### EDUCATION

2022 **PhD, Human Development & Family Studies**, University of California Davis, Davis, California.

2018 **MS, Child Development,** University of California Davis, Davis, California.

2007 **MA, Linguist. Teacher,** Tyumen State University. Tyumen, Russia.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| **Senior Research Analyst,**Applied Survey Research  |  | **Sacramento, CA, 2022- Present*** Supports multiple ongoing evaluation projects through selection and/or development of measures and facilitation of qualitative and quantitative data collection.
* Data management and analysis; outcomes summary.
* Drafts evaluation reports and presentations to stakeholders.
* Makes data-based recommendations for program improvement and scalability.
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| **Associate Instructor,**Department of Human Ecology, University of California, Davis |  | **Davis, CA, 2021 – 2022*** Taught lower and upper division in-person, remote-only, and hybrid courses as the sole instructor of *Thriving across the Lifespan*.
* Designed course syllabus and curriculum, assignments, and course exams.
* Graded students’ work and submitted class grades.
* Ensured accommodations for students with disabilities.
* Supervised teaching assistants, grading assignments.
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| **Associate Instructor,**Department of Russian and German Languages, University of California, Davis  |  | **Davis, CA, 2015 - 2017*** As a sole instructor, designed and taught course syllabus and curriculum, assignments, and course exams for *Russian 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6*.
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| **UC Researcher,**California Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission, Sacramento  |  | **Sacramento, CA, 2019 – 2020*** Conducted a literature review on evidence-based, promising, and community policies, practices, and programs.
* Compiled and organized a dataset of such policies, programs, and practices to inform fund allocation under the Mental Health Services Act of 2004.
* Collaborated on Early Psychosis and Self-Harm/Suicide prevention initiatives.
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| **Graduate Student Researcher and Community Outreach Specialist,**Department of Pediatrics, UC Davis Children’s Hospital, Sacramento |  | **Sacramento, CA, 2017 - 2019*** Worked with Dr. Susan Timmer (PI) on multiple research and community outreach projects, funded by SAHMSA, Cal-OES, VOCA, and DOJ.
* Directly worked with foster, homeless, and traumatized families and children, including children in the child welfare system.
* Conducted trauma assessments and facilitated linkage to services.
* Conducted child behavioral and mental health assessments and parent-child therapy sessions at the clinic and in family homes.
* Facilitated data management for DOJ Juvenile Hall trauma groups; analyzed and summarized monthly sessions data.
* Co-conducted a study at the Pediatrics clinic, using cutting-edge equipment and data analytical software for bio-measures.
* Worked with clinicians to draft protocols and materials for parent support groups for homeless parents with children.
* Worked with clinicians to test child participants, interacted with parents, conducted statistical analyses for publications.
* Worked with CAARE research staff on publications concerning design and developmental fit of a brief parent-child intervention, development of measures, fidelity protocols.
* Conducted meta-analytical review and co-published papers on the outcomes of several case-control studies; grant-writing.
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| **Research Consultant,** Office of Child Development, University of Pittsburg |  | **Sacramento, CA – Pittsburgh, PA, 2017 - 2018*** Worked on an international project facilitating education on child development and mental health, behavior management, and interventions with an orphanage in Kazakhstan.
* Worked with clinicians and CAARE Center researchers to create and culturally adapt staff training protocols and parent education groups for prospective adoptive parents.
* Ensured cultural adaptation of the brief parent-child intervention protocols for Eastern Europe.
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| **Graduate Teaching Assistant,**Department of Human Ecology, University of California, Davis |  | **Davis, CA, 2017-2021*** Taught sections of various lower and upper division courses on Child and Youth Development, Developmental Psychopathology, Families in Communities, Social and Personality Development, Young Children and Learning, Children in Families, Schools, and Communities, Adulthood and Aging, as well as Research Methods and Statistics, and others, as the sole instructor and/or as a support to the course instructor of record.
* Designed and implemented course curriculums and in-person and interactive online assignments,
* Developed exams; graded papers and exams.
* Ensured accommodations for students with disabilities.
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| **Graduate Student Researcher,**Department of Human Ecology, University of California, Davis |  | **Davis, CA, 2015 - 2016** * As part of the DESC Lab, facilitated development and implementation of a study on early childhood self-regulation.
* Supervised research assistants
* Drafted protocols for parental consent, study methods, data collection and management, and data analyses, including a technical manual on use of specialized data tracking program.
* Conducted literature review; drafted recommendations on measures; created and distributed surveys via Qualtrics.
* Collaborated on drafting and revisions of the IRB application; analyzed and presented study outcomes at a conference.
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| **Research Assistant,**Developmental Research Center, University of California, Davis |  | **Davis, CA, 2015 - 2016** * Interviewed adults with traumatic histories using Cognitive Interviewing.
* Drafted protocols and documentation on data management
* Analyzed and presented data using SPSS.
* Conducted case file reviews at the Sacramento Family Court.
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### PUBLICATIONS

**Usacheva, M.,** Choe, D., E., Liu, S., Timmer, S., G., & Belsky, J. (2022). Testing the Empirical Integration of Threat-Deprivation and Harshness-Unpredictability Dimensional Models of Adversity. *Development & Psychopathology,* 1-14*.* <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0954579422000013>.

Timmer, S. G., Hawk, B., **Usacheva, M.,** Armendariz, L., Boys, D. K., & Urquiza, A. J. (2021). The Long and the Short of It: A Comparison of the Effectiveness of Parent–Child Care (PC–CARE) and Parent–Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT). *Child Psychiatry & Human Development*, 1-11.

**Usacheva, M.,** Timmer, S., Choe, D., Liu, S., Thurston, H., & Urquiza, A. (2020). Long-term mental health services use in children referred to a clinical intervention. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 104763.

Usacheva, M., Smalley, C., Hafer, N., & Brooks, S. (2021). Ending the Game®: A New Psychoeducational Curriculum for Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation. *Women & Criminal Justice*, 1-20.

Timmer, S. G., **Usacheva, M.,** Maise, A. A., Hutchison, S. L., Armendariz, L. F., & Herschell, A. D. (2021). Psychometric Properties of the Weekly Assessment of Child Behavior–Positive Form (WACB-P). *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*, 10634266211000618.

**Usacheva, M.** (2019). Mental Health Prevention and Early Intervention: Recommendations for Evidence-Based, Evidence-Informed, and Community Practices for California Counties. MHSA Report.

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2019 Peer Reviewer: *Child Abuse & Neglect, Child & Family Studies,* *Children & Youth Services*

2019 Research advisor/mentor for graduate and undergraduate students

2019 PC-CARE Annual Advisory Committee

2018–2019 National Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) Child Welfare Committee work groups

2017–2019 Community advocate for unserved and underserved populations

2017 Student representative for Human Development Graduate Group Committee

2016 Peer mentor for a student from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU)

2013–2016 Community lead organizer for Sacramento Million March Against Child Abuse (MACA)

2013–2016 Yolo County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for foster children

2013–2015 Policy Council, Enrollment Committee & Interview Board, Yolo County Head Start.