

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Blythe Berger

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### Education

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Graduate Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA  
**Doctor of Science in Maternal and Child Health, 1999**  
Dissertation title: Residential Mobility in Early Childhood: Implications for Cognition, Behavior and Health in Young Children

Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA  
**Master of Science in Maternal and Child Health, 1995**

Undergraduate University of Maryland, College park, MD  
**Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, 1990**

### Professional Experience

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#### **Team Lead, Perinatal and Early Childhood Health,**

*Rhode Island Department of Health, Providence RI 1998-Present*

Responsible for oversight of all activities relevant to Perinatal and Early Childhood Health for the Rhode Island State Health Department, including Home Visiting, RI LAUNCH, Early Care and Education, Women, Infants, and Children Special Supplemental Nutrition Program, and Newborn Screening. Oversee program development, supervise contracts and budgets; and oversee quality assurance related to programs. Represent the Department on Advisory Boards and other state level and community partnerships. Provide leadership for programs serving children birth to age eight and their families. Act as principal investigator for grants related to early childhood. Coordinate research efforts related to early childhood with academic partners, such as Brown University and the University of Rhode Island.

#### **Public Health Consultant,**

*Children's Friend and Service, Providence, RI 1996-1998*

Direct the Healthy Child Care American Campaign, for the state of Rhode Island. Manage the Advisory Board to plan and implement project activities, oversee the work of healthy and safety committee, coordinate with community and state agencies to provide training and resources to the child care provider community, manage budgets and all grant deliverables.

### **Program Planner,**

*Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Boston, MA 1994-96*

Conducted needs assessment for Massachusetts Bright Futures Program, a campaign to improve and promote awareness of children's health status.

Worked as a member of the team that developed the Child Health Diary. A tool designed as a portable child health record and parent information guide. Conducted focus groups with physicians and parents to complete needs assessment for the diary. Carried out planning and research project for the Primary Care Systems Unit.

### **Honors and Awards**

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Executive Branch Employee Award for Outstanding Government Service, recipient 2017

### **Publications**

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Silver, S.B., Newland, R. P., Hartz, K., Barbara Jandasek, B., Leandra Godoy, L.,<sup>4</sup> Katherine A. Lingras, K.A., Low, C.M., Dickstein, S. Campagna, K., **Berger, B.** & Seifer, R. Integrating Early Childhood Screening in Pediatrics: A Longitudinal Qualitative Study of Barriers and Facilitators (Accepted for publication 9/06/2017), *Clinical Practice in Pediatric Psychology*.

R. Christopher Sheldrick, Lauren E. Schlichting, Blythe Berger, Ailis Clyne, Pesheng Ni, Ellen C. Perrin and Patrick M. Vivier. Establishing New Norms for Developmental Milestones. *Pediatrics* December 2019, 144 (6) e20190374; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2019-0374>

### **Abstracts and Presentations**

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**Berger, B.** (1988) Mental Health in Child Care Settings. Poster presented at the Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA.

**Berger, B.** (2006, November) Watch Me Grow RI: Developmental Screening & Services for Young Children in Community Settings. Presentation workshop, American Public Health Association, Boston, MA.

Silver, R., Godoy, L., Seifer, R., Parade, S. H., Dickstein, S., Low, C., Campagna, K., & **Berger, B.** (2013, May). Implementing Early Childhood Screening and Mental Health Consultation in Community

Settings: Barriers, Facilitators, and Promising Approaches. Poster presented at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Seifer, R., Dickstein, S., **Berger, B.**, Campagna, K., Low, C., Silver, R., & Parade, S. H. (2013, May). Early Identification of Developmental and Social Problems: Screening in Pediatric Primary Care Settings. Poster presented at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA.

Rodriguez, R., Hartz-Mandell, K., Parade, S. H., Shepard-Umaschi, S., Campagna, K., **Berger, B.**, Bowman, S., Remington, S., & Seifer, R. (2016, March). Outcomes of a Family Visiting Program: Do they Differ by Ethnic Group? Poster presented at Brown University Mind Brain Research Day, Providence, RI.

Rabemananjara, K., Newland, R., Seifer, R., **Berger, B.**, Campagna, K., Barone, A., & Parade, S. H. (2016, March). The Effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Maternal Health in the Prenatal Period. Poster presented at Brown University Mind Brain Research Day, Providence, RI.

Seifer, R., **Berger, B.**, & Clyne, A. (2016, October) *Addressing Toxic Stress in Young Children in Rhode Island*. Poster Presented to the American Academy of Pediatrics Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

Aguiar, N., **Berger, B.**, Clyne, A., High, P., Low, C. Lowell, S., Pallant, A., Parade, S. H., & Seifer, R. (2016). Toxic Stress Toolkit: For Primary Care Providers Caring for Young Children. Available online at: <http://www.health.ri.gov/publications/toolkits/ToxicStress.pdf>

Rodriguez, J., Parade, S. H., Shepard Umaschi, S., **Berger, B.**, Campagna, K., Bowman, S., Remington, S., & Seifer, R. (2017, April). Maternal education, the quality of the home environment, and infant social-emotional health. Poster presented at the Brown University Mind/Brain Research Day. Providence, RI.

Parade, S. H., Josefson, B., Hermann, M., **Berger, B.**, Campagna, K., Barone, A., & Seifer, R. (2017, April). *Pathways linking maternal adverse childhood experiences to maternal depressive symptoms in pregnancy*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Rabemananjara, K. Newland, R., Seifer, R., **Berger, B.**, Campagna, K., Barone, A., Parade, S. H. (2017, April). *The effects of adverse childhood experiences on maternal health in the prenatal period*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Rodriguez, J., Parade, S. H., Shepard Umaschi, S., **Berger, B.**, Campagna, K., Bowman, S., Remington, S., & Seifer, R. (2017, April). *Maternal education, the quality of the home environment, and infant social-emotional health*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.