

Heather Thompson earned her Ph.D. in Marriage and Family Therapy and MSW in Social Work from the Florida State University in Tallahassee. She taught as an Adjunct Professor at Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University after the completion of her Ph.D. She has several years of experience in the child welfare system in Florida, working in a range of roles from a front line staff to an administrator at the lead child welfare agency of North Florida. Additionally, as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Dr. Thompson has provided counseling services, including individual, couple and family counseling, as well as parenting interventions to at-risk families involved in the foster care and juvenile justice systems. She is also a Qualified Supervisor for registered interns in Social Work and Marriage and Family Therapy. Her area of research expertise is in child welfare, specifically identifying protective factors for adolescents and their families in long-term foster care. Her secondary area of research focuses on identifying best practices for child welfare professionals.