
Debbye Lopez Ramos

License Marriage and Family Therapist and Qualified Supervisor

Cell phone: (407) 256-6595

Email: debbyejo2005@hotmail.com

SUMMARY

- License Marriage and Family Therapist with an emphatic caring demeanor
- Skilled counselor with discipline and integrity fluent in English and Spanish.
- Enthusiastic, goal-oriented, motivated teamwork focused.
- Qualified Supervisor and Clinical Director to train the counseling professionals

EDUCATION

Est. May 2025 **Counselor, Education, and Supervision (PhD)**

Doctorate Candidate

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia

Dissertation Chair: Joy Mwenda

May 2017 **Master of Science (M.S.)**

Marriage and Family Therapy

Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL

May 2015 **Bachelor of Science (B.S.)**

Ministerial Leadership with a minor Psychology

Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL

May 2012 **Theological Seminary (T.S.)**

Southern Spanish Theological Institute of the Assemblies of God, Orlando, FL

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE & CERTIFICATION

November 2024 **Qualifying Supervisor**

Florida Department of Health, MT#4182

July 2023 **Cross State Tele Mental Health & Guidelines Over State Builders**

Behavior Health Institute

January 2022 **HIPPA Certified**

Behavior Health Institute

April 2021 **Ethical Standards in Counseling Certified**

Behavior Health Institute

March 2021 **Substance Use Training**

Behavior Health Institute

October 2020 **Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist**

Florida Department of Health, MT #4182

January 2019 **Trauma and Crisis Interventions Certified**
US Agency for Christian Counseling Credentialing & Accreditation

October 2018 **Americans with Disabilities Act Certified**
Florida Department of Health

August 2018 **Spiritual Intelligence Certified**
US Agency for Christian Counseling Credentials & Accreditation

June 2018 **Suicide and Prevention Certified**
US Agency for Christian Counseling Credentials & Accreditation

September 2016 **Temperament Therapy Certified**
US Agency for Christian Counseling Credentials & Accreditation

April 2016 **Mindfulness Certified**
US Agency for Christian Counseling Credentials & Accreditation

October 2015 **Licensed Minister**
General Council Assemblies of God

August 2011 **Osceola County Teacher Certification**
Department of Education of Florida

August 2004 **Early Learning and Developmental Certification**
Early Learning Coalition Orange County

CLINICAL WORKSHOPS, PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

Lopez D., Romero O., (2025) *Disability Competency Inclusion for Counselor Educators when Working with Students with Disabilities*. Journal of Leadership Counseling. (Under-review)

Romero O., **Lopez D., (2025).** *Inclusive Counseling Education: Integrating Multicultural Competencies and Disability Awareness*. Association Counselor Education and Supervision. Under-review

Romero O., **Lopez D., (2025)** *Counseling Individuals with Disabilities*. Will be presented at American Counseling Association Conference.

Romero O., **Lopez D., (2025).** *Addressing the Gap in Disability Competency: Identifying Strategies for Counselor Educators when Working with Students with Disabilities*. Journal of Teaching and Supervision in Counseling. (Under-review)

Lopez D., Romero O., Smith J., (2025). *The Unseen: a case study of Visually Impaired students' interaction with qualitative research*. Journal Especial Edition of Teaching and Supervision in Counseling. (Under-review)

Romero, O., **Lopez, D., Beatty, S., Sears, V., Anyanwu, C., & Mwendwa, J.,** *An Academic Village: Dissertation Support Group*. Virginia Counselors Journal (Under Review)

- Romero O., **Lopez D.**, Beatty, S., Sears V., Anyanwu, C., Mwenda, J. (2025) *Beyond Borders: Understanding the Acculturation Challenges of International Professionals*. Presented at Law and Ethics in the Counseling Conference 2025
- Romero O., **Lopez D.**, Beatty, S., Sears V., Anyanwu, C., Mwenda, J. (2025). *Immigration and Trauma: Counseling Implications for Immigrant Populations*. Presented at Law and Ethics in Counseling Conference 2025
- Smith J., **Lopez D.**, Romero, O. (2025) *Visually Impaired Case Study*. To be published at Journal for ACA in North Carolina
- Romero, O., **Lopez, D.** (2024) *Embracing Counseling Students with Disabilities*. Presented at the Florida Counseling Association Annual Conference. Orlando, FL.
- Romero, O., **Lopez, D.**, Woods, A. (2024) *Embracing Neurodivergence in Counseling*. Presented at the Florida Counseling Association Annual Conference. Orlando, FL.
- Romero, O., **Lopez, D.** (2024) *Student with Disability in Counseling CACREP program*. Presented at Florida American Association of Counseling Conference. Orlando, FL.
- Lopez, D.** Heron, K., Romero, O. (2024) *Support Groups for Marginalized Population in Counseling Education Program*. Presented at Liberty University.
- Lopez, D.** (2024). Ethics with Multicultural Competencies. Presented at Lucid Counseling Center. Orlando, Florida.
- Lopez, D.**, Smith J. (2024) *The Impact of Technology in Counseling Education: How to Adapt to a Changing*. Presented at Liberty University, Virginia.
- Lopez, D.** (2023). *Multiculture Awareness and Sensitivity*. Presented at Liberty University, Virginia.
- Lopez, D.** (2023). *Gottfredson Theory of Circumscription and Comprise*. Presented at Liberty University, Virginia.
- Lopez, D.** (2023). *Counselor Self Care*. Present at Liberty University, Virginia.
- Lopez, D.** (2023). *Self-Care in the Counseling Community*. Presented at Lucid Counseling Center. Orlando, Florida
- Lopez, D.** (2023). *Discrimination Supervision Model*. Presented at Liberty University, Virginia.
- Lopez, D.** (2022). *Mental Health in Church Communities*. Presented at Casa de Alfarero in Orlando, Florida.
- Lopez, D.** (2021). *Mental Health Awareness Among School Aged Children*. Presented at Changings Lives Ministries. Orlando, Florida.
- Lopez, D.** (2020). *Signs of Trauma and How to Recover*. Presented at USSACA Orlando, Florida.

- Lopez, D.** (2019). *Breaking Silence of Mental Health in the Church*. Presented at Changing Lives Ministries in Orlando, Florida.
- Lopez, D.** (2019). *Building Healthy Families with a Holistic Approach*. Presented at radio station in Kissimmee Florida
- Lopez, D.** (2018). *Building Healthy Families with a Holistic Approach*. Presented at radio station in Kissimmee Florida.
- Lopez, D.** (2017). *Faith and Spirituality*. Presented at radio station Kissimmee, Florida.
- Lopez, D** (2017). *Self-care & Wellness in the Church*. Presented at Life in Community Church, Kissimmee FL
- Lopez, D** (2017). *Blended Families*. Presented at the Family Night Conference Southeastern University, Lakeland, Florida.
- Lopez, D.** (2017). *Psychology vs Theology*. Presented at a class lecture in Lakeland, Florida.
- Lopez, D.** (2016). *Strengthening Unmarried Parents. Building Strong Families*. Presented at Community Action Family Fun Night, Orlando, Florida.
- Lopez, D.** (2016). *Health and Fitness Families: Building Strong Families*. Presented at Community Action Family Fun Night, Orlando, Florida.
- Lopez, D.** (2016). *Blended Families: Building Strong Families*. Presented at Community Action Family Fun Night, Orlando, Florida.
- Lopez, D.** (2016). *. Building Strong Families*. Presented at Community Action Family Fun Night, Orlando, Florida.
- Lopez, D.** (2015). *Harvest your Family. Building Strong Families*. Presented at Community Action Family Fun Night, Orlando, Florida
- Lopez, D** (2012). *Driven Purpose*. Presented at Living Word Church, Orlando, Florida
- Lopez D,** (2012). *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. Present at Liberty University.
- Lopez, D.** (2011). *The armor of God*, Presented in Living Word Church, Orlando, Florida.
- Lopez, D** (2010). *The Battle of the Mind*. Presented at Living Word Church, Orlando, Florida
- Lopez, D** (2009). *Discipleship Little mind*. Presented at Living Word Church, Orlando, Florida
- Lopez, D.** (2008). *Early Childhood Discipleship*. in Living Word Church, Orlando, Florida

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2024 Fall	Assistant Professor	Liberty University
691 Substance Abuse: Diagnosis Treatment and Prevention		

2024 Fall	Assistant Professor	Liberty University
692 Counseling Practicum		
This course offers supervision of counseling students on their site while reviewing the basic counseling skills.		
Teach * supervision * correct paper * weekly memos		

2023 Spring	Co-Teach	Liberty University
505 Counseling Techniques and the Helping Relationship		
Facilitate the lecture of multicultural counseling		

2019- Present	Adjunct Faculty	Florida Christian University
Psychosocial Theories		
<p>This course examines the various theoretical approaches and techniques utilized in the practice of counseling and psychotherapy. Attention was given to a comprehensive understanding of each theoretical approach. Teach * supervision * correct paper * weekly memos</p>		

2015 Spring	Co-Teacher	Southeastern University
Family systems Theories		
Foundational course towards exploring dynamics and interaction within systems counseling theory such as Family System Therapy, Minuchin/Structural Family Theory, Virginia Satir/Transformational.		

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Living Word Church

Starting Point

Taught by creating a safe place to bring questions and doubts into a small group where you can explore faith, free from pressure and judgment. This is a discipleship curriculum towards spiritual formation and fellowship

Florida Multicultural District

Pandamania

Taught Bible study and share the message of God through activities such as: Bible verses, Bible points, memory buddies, singing songs, building an altar and acting out stories from the Bible,

Living Word Church

Discipleship 101,201,301,401

Taught the discipleship program created by Rick Warren, which proves a pathway to grow the people of the church spiritually.

Living Word Church

Taught various children's ministry curriculum to disciple children ages 3-13 years old.

Royal Rangers

Royal Rangers is an activity-based, small-group church ministry for boys and young men in grades K-12 with a mission to evangelize, equip and empower the next generation of Christlike men and lifelong servant leaders with cross-generational, hands-on, Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered bible study memorization, devotionals, and Christian role models. Boys are strengthened mentally by an advanced awards-based weekly program.

Mpact/ Missionettes Girls Club

Created to allow girls an opportunity to discuss issues that matter to them and learn how to live according to Biblical principles given by Jesus. Girls Ministries Clubs are driven by a 5-fold Purpose. To win girls to Jesus Christ through love and acceptance. To teach them to obey everything Jesus commanded us—developing girls spiritually and mentally. To provide encouragement, support and accountability through lasting Christian relationships. To provide an environment for girls to develop their gifts and abilities. To acquaint them with the Great Commission of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mission Possible

Taught children to become curious about the mission God has given them to tell the world about Jesus. Kids will learn that we are on a mission – to share the good news of Jesus.

MEGA Sports Camp

Taught kids to discover who Jesus has made them to be. Taught kids to excel in the strengths God has given them. *Engage* with the science that supports sports. This can help kids understand what it takes to be a better athlete and to grow as a follower of Jesus. Taught kids about faith and sports in a focused setting.

Bible Hero

Taught Bible Heroes 12-Week Children's Ministry curriculum where kids learned Biblical virtues of courage, commitment, loyalty, and honor. These are some of the virtues that the heroes of faith possessed in a fun creative lessons.

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Taught children spiritual growth through Bible study, activities, and worship. Provided a place for children to connect with the Bible and each other, and to experience community and faith.

Mission Possible Sunday

I taught children about the great commission, missions, and evangelizing with skits, worship, and arts and craft.

2000-2002	Teacher	Early Learning Coalition Kissimmee
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Parent skills education

Taught families from social economic status and diverse background with developmental stages across life span and family affairs.

1998-2002	Teacher	Tabernacle of Life Church
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Taught, develop and create curriculum where children can have spiritual formation through the Jesus Christ Sunday service and Wednesday midweek service

1992-1998	Teacher	Love Gospel Church
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Taught, develop and create curriculum where children can become disciples of Jesus Christ during Sunday service and Wednesday midweek service,

PROFESSIONAL CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

2023-PRESENT	Discover the Journey LLC	Orlando, FL
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CEO and Owner

- Marriage and Family Therapist
- Clinical Director and supervisor
- Counsel and supervise interns
- Asses, create, and execute treatment plan for clients
- Identify psychological, emotional or behavior patterns and diagnose disorders
- Manage caseload and documentation
- Provided referrals and community resources

2023-PRESENT	Lucid Counseling Center LLC	Clermont, FL
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Supervisor & Marriage and Family Therapist

- Supervisor for interns
- Marriage and Family Therapist
- Counsel individuals, groups or families
- Asses, create, and execute treatment plan for clients
- Identify psychological, emotional or behavior patterns and diagnose disorders
- Manage caseload and documentation
- Provided referrals and community resources

2015-PRESENT	Alpha Christian Counseling	Orlando, FL
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Marriage and Family Counselor

- Counsel individuals, groups or families
- Asses, create, and execute treatment plan for clients
- Identify psychological, emotional or behavior patterns and diagnose disorders

- Manage caseload and documentation
- Provided referrals and community resources
- Teach and mentor counselors
- Chair Board Member

WORK EXPERIENCE

2012-2015 **School Board Osceola County** **Kissimmee, FL**

Substitute Teacher

- Deliver curriculum content and nurture understanding
- Facilitate critical thinking and interactive learning
- Demonstrate and model behavior and attitudes for students
- Manage classroom logistics and paperwork

2008-2012 **Optical Elegance** **Orlando, FL**

Assistant Manager

- Customer service with inquiries, resolve issues, and provides product of service information
- Oversee the customer team, ensuring high standards
- Managerial of cash inflow & outflows
- Overseeing equipment, maintenance, and ensuring the office environment is in good shape.
- Receiving, order supplies, stock, and inventory

2006-2008 **Coordinating Care for Children** **Orlando, FL**

Customer Services

- Managing scheduling emails and correspondence
- Customer service with inquiries, resolve issues, and provides product of service information
- Ensure high standards of service maintained
- Create and design templates for the program
- Acting as a point of contact between staff, clients, and staff

1996-1998 **1,2,3 Dollar Store** **Vega Baja, PR**

Customer Service

- Customer service with inquiries, resolve issues, and provides product of service information
- Oversee the customer team, ensuring high standards
- Cashier and managerial cash inflow & outflows
- Receiving, order supplies, stock, and inventory

1990-1996 **Imprenta Ramos** **Dorado, PR**

Line Operator

- Use various types of printing presses
- Address issues like paper jam, or color inconsistency, restock printing press
- Pack, stock, and box merchandise
- Managing scheduling emails and correspondence

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND INVOLVMENT

2016-2020 Community Action

Marriage and Family Partner (Volunteer) Taft Community Center Orlando, FL

- Develop and implement community outreach events for low-income populations
- Provide family friendly group counseling to empower parents in:
 - Normative stages of development, positive reinforcement, and promoting improved quality of life for families
 - Behavior modification and time management, structure family dynamics, and nutrition
- Board Member of Adult Advisory

2016-2018 Life in Community Church Kissimmee, FL

Associate Pastor, Christian Counselor and Secretary (Volunteer)

- Provide Spiritual guidance and counseling to congregation and staff
- Provide referrals and allocate community resources for congregation and staff
- Preach, teach and facilitate discipleship lessons
- Recruit, manage, motivate and retain staff
- Execute transaction processes necessary to maintain records and databases
- Assist in maintenance, back-up, and security of organization data
- Chair Board Member
- Outreach/Evangelizing in the community
- Case management towards community services
- Help plan and create fundraisers and events for the ministry

2013-2016 Living Word Church Orlando FL

Starting Point Ministry Assistant Director

- Provide Spiritual guidance and counsel to students
- Provide Spiritual guidance and mentor staff
- Provide referrals and allocate community resources for students and staff
- Teach and facilitate discipleship lessons
- Recruit, manage, motivate and retain staff
- Manage staff, students, and events
- Help plan and create fundraisers and events for the ministry
- Outreach/Evangelizing in the community

2004- 2015 Living Word Church Orlando FL

Children's Ministry Director

- Developed, created & planned programs for activities, and curriculum for children's ministry
- Preach, teach and facilitate discipleship lessons
- Develop mission program for children
- Understand and enforced policies for children and staff
- Supported staff by providing training, certifications, and guidance
- Created a code of conduct for staff, parents, and children
- Accountable for financial inflows and outflows reports
- Leading summer camps with over 200 kids and 40 staff
- Help plan and create fundraisers and events for the ministry
- Outreach/Evangelizing in the community
- Promoted, recruited and launched multiple programs for the children's ministry

2002-2002 Early Learning Coalition Kissimmee, FL

Parent Committee President

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| 1998-2002 | Tabernacle of Life | Kissimmee, FL |
| Kid's Ministry Director/Coordinator | | |

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| 1992-1998 | Love Gospel | Bayamon, 4554444PR |
| Children and Youth Ministry Co-Director/Coordinator55r | | |

- ## LEADERSHIP

RESEARCH INTERESTS AND SCHOLARLY PRODUCTIVITY

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CURRENT EMPIRICAL RESEARCH INVESTIGATIONS

Lopez, D. (2024) *Disabilities Students in Higher education*

Lopez, D. (2024) *Supervising Students with Disabilities in a CACREP program*

Lopez, D. Starr L, McNeal B, & Anyanwu C. (2024) *Relationship Between Sexual Incongruence and Loneliness Among a Religious and Spiritual Population*

Lopez, D. (2023) *Disabilities in Higher Education*

Lopez, D. (2023) *Religious Trauma: Guilt and Shame*

Lopez, D. (2022) *Minorities in Higher Education: Second Language Learners*

Lopez, D. (2017) *Spiritual Practice Contributes to the Overall Health of Individuals with Mental Health Diagnosis.*

Lopez, D. (2016) *Blended Families Dynamics*

Lopez, D. (2014) *Psychology vs Theology*

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Florida American Counseling Association	2024-Present
American Counseling Association	2023-Present
Florida Association Marriage and Family Counselors	2021-Present
American Association of Christian Counselors	2015-Present

HONORS AND AWARDS

2017	Servant Leadership Award “Community Action Orlando”
2014	Sigma Chi Pi “Diligent Christian Leader,” Southeastern
2012	Teacher of the year “Living Word Church”
2011	Teacher of the year “Assemblies of God Florida Multicultural District”
2009	Billie Davidson, Teacher Award
2004	VPK Excellence Award
2001	Outstanding Leadership
1997	Outstanding
1996	Honor Society of Puerto Rico

TECHNOLOGICAL EXPERIENCE

Telehealth Platforms

Doxy.me

Electronic Medical Records (HER)

Thereness

Simple Practice

Apex

Lucid

Additional Technology

Adobe

Canvas/Blackboard

Google Workplace

Google Suite (Docs, Slides, Meet, Sheets, Classroom)

Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Office Suite/365 (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Publisher)

Skype

WebEx

LANGUAGE

Spanish

- Speak: Fluent
- Listening: Fluent
- Read: Fluent
- Write: Fluent