

Last Updated: March 2024 Curriculum Vitae

Dahiany Zayas, MSPH

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Education

2022	MSPH	Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD	
		Department of International Health	
		Specialization: Nutrition, Food Systems and the Environment	

2020 BS University of South Florida, Tampa, FL Major in Health Science Minor in Nutrition

Professional Experience

Research Associate, Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition (GSCN) Omaha, NE | March 2024 – Present

- Assist with firm-level advising calls with grantees and partners for the development of survey tools, project deliverables and annual reports
- Prepare data for analysis and perform data analysis and visualization
- Support the development of deliverables, presentations and manuscripts by participating in storyboard sessions, writing report sections, presenting deliverables and supporting manuscript development

Nutrition Knowledge Management and Research Intern, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Washington, DC | July 2023 – January 2024

- Led knowledge management activities of an interagency coordination for nutrition activities across USAID, other US agencies, partners and civil society
- Provided technical assistance in nutrition and food systems development to support Global Health and Maternal and Child Health programs and activities
- Contributed to the division's technical competence through research and website updates

Program Associate, Chemonics International Washington, DC | November 2022 – August 2023

- Oversaw multi-million-dollar in the area of supply chain management funded by USAID in Nigeria
- Maintained collaborative relationships with donor organization for commodities and contributed to resource mobilization activities as part of integrated programming and service delivery
- Supported the development of donor reports and annual work plans, collaborating closely with regional offices to ensure quality submissions

Research Analyst, Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future Baltimore, MD | June 2021 – August 2022

- Led the data extraction of more than 14,600 research papers in collaboration with research team, for a scoping review for the Food & Agriculture Organization (FA) Global Assessment of COVID-19 on Fisheries and Aquaculture for the Committee on Fisheries
- Created a submodule of a survey for the FAO on COVID-19 impacts on fish retail across Analyzed 89 country-specific food-based dietary guidelines for key messaging on seafood consumption, sustainability and health messaging using a model on R and STATA software
- Submitted an abstract to the American Public Health Association (APHA) on the benefits of seafood consumption for health and recommended serving size based on sustainability factors

Nutrition Consultant, World Bank

Washington, DC | November 2021 – June 2022

- Led the technical assistance for country team leads by filling nutrition gaps, setting workflow timelines, providing graphic design and contributing to literature reviews with synthesized reports
- Managed a small team of peer consultants and coordinated strategic communication between highlevel nutrition experts, the country team leads and the internal team
- Proposed strategic approaches for implementation of large-scale agricultural projects such as those within the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) \$1B/year quality review by leading a benchmarking effort that included reaching out to key stakeholders, delivering evidence-based country profiles and discussing actionable steps for implementation

Research Project Coordinator, George Washington University Washington, DC | April 2021 – January 2022

- Organized 3 mid-sized convenings with high-level public health professionals, managed all logistics for meetings and focus group discussions and facilitated communication with external partners
- Performed quantitative data analysis as part of the WaterUp! Intervention, assessing attitudes and beliefs around sugary beverage consumption of 42 Central American children and parents residing in the Maryland, Virginia and DC areas
- Designed a focus group discussion script and photo sorting activity following the Community-Energy Balance Framework to derive insights on barriers and facilitators to sustained beverage replacement among Latinx parents and young children

Graduate Research Assistant, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Baltimore, MD | October 2020 – July 2021

- Analyzed quantitative and qualitative data using STATA to ensure quality control and develop indicators on socioeconomic factors to consider in resilience planning for food policy councils
- Developed a Store Impact Questionnaire to gather information on corner store sales of healthful foods, willingness to sell these, and outcome expectations of using the Baltimore Food Distribution (BUD) app to promote locally grown food sales
- Served as the logistical lead for drafting, performing research and disseminating multiple publications and abstracts to submit to the American Society for Nutrition (ASN)
- Led 2 stakeholder engagements, including of a non-profit organization (4MyCity) for food securityrelated projects based in Baltimore

Nutrition Program Evaluation Intern, Lawton and Rhea Chiles Center for Healthy Mothers and Babies Tampa, FL | February 2018 – May 2019

- Led the qualitative analysis of an interdisciplinary program to help children with ASD develop healthier eating habits (identified themes among survey respondents, created string variables and codes for new themes using SPSS and NVivo software)
- Coded interview transcripts in Spanish and English for interrater reliability
- Supported the documentation and classification of 50 participants' diets in a variety of healthful eating patterns alongside senior dietitian and principal investigator

August 2022 – Present GusNIP ARPA Project Enhancement

- Support the research and evaluation of produce prescription and nutrition incentive programs to improve nutrition and health status and improve best practices on a broad scale
- Role: Research Associate

Peer-Reviewed Publications (Continued)

- David C. Love, Lisa M. Weltzien, Andrew L. Thorne-Lyman, Natalie S. Armstrong, Elizabeth Chatpar, Marisa Koontz, Dahiany Zayas-Toro, Lionel Dabbadie, Jonathan Lansley, Felix Marttin, Stefania Vannuccini, Elizabeth M. Nussbaumer & Florence Poulain (2024) A Scoping Review of Aquatic Food Systems during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Reviews in Fisheries Science & Aquaculture, 32:2, 189-210, DOI: <u>10.1080/23308249.2023.2231096</u>
- 2. Zayas Toro, D., Treuth, M., Estrade, M., Pardilla, M., Wenniserí:iostha, B., Colón-Ramos, U., "Impact of a Multilevel Intervention on Energy Balance among Native American Adults". Journal of Human Nutrition and Dietetics (Currently under review)

Master's Capstone

Pathways to Health: Identifying barriers and facilitators to increasing Special Supplemental Nutrition for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) enrollment, usage and retention in Native American communities.

Professional Associations Membership

2024 – Present	International Society for Behavior Nutrition and Physical Activity (ISBNPA)
2023 – Present	Slow Food International
2022 – Present	USF Latino Alumni Society

Other Community Memberships

2022– Present	USF Latino Alumni Association
2020 - 2021	Leopold Schepp Foundation
2020 - 2021	National Puerto Rican Day Parade
2019 - 2020	USF Symphony Orchestra
2018 – Present	PCOS Challenge: The National Polycystic Ovary Syndrome Association
2016 - 2017	Maureen Krzanowski Community Roundtable Scholarship