

CHRISTINE HUGH, M.S.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Director (Aspire to be Executive Director and Project PI)
LAUNCH USF
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Professional and Research Interests

Autism, developmental disabilities, transition, employment outcomes, and interventions.

Education

Projected 2027	Ph.D. Behavioral and Community Sciences Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tammy Smith	University of South Florida Tampa, FL
M.S. 2018	Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health Specialization: Development Disabilities	University of South Florida Tampa, FL
B.A. 2012	Sociology	Manhattanville College, Purchase, NY

Honors

2012 Manhattanville College Castle Pin Leadership Award

Professional Credentials

2016	Customized Employment Certification
2015	Discovery Certification
2015	Certified Business and Technical Assistance Consultant (CBTAC), (inactive)

Professional Experience

2023-- Program Director, LAUNCH, Department of Child and Family Studies, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, University of South Florida.

Responsible for overseeing day-to-day operations, planning, and budget development.

- 2019-2023 Assistant Director, LAUNCH, Department of Child and Family Studies, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, University of South Florida.
Provided leadership and monitored the program's daily operations.
- 2014-2019 Employment Specialist, LAUNCH, Department of Child and Family Studies, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, University of South Florida
Responsible for delivery of direct employment services to autistic adults.
- 2012-2014 Vocational Case Manager, Assistive Competitive Employment Program
Center for Behavioral Health Services
Responsible for delivery of direct employment services and counseling to adults with behavioral health conditions.

RESEARCH AND ORIGINAL CREATIVE WORK

Publications

Book Chapters

Jorgensen Smith, T., Hugh, C., Fontechia, S. (2023). Unemployment and underemployment of people with disabilities: An untapped resource within the global economy. In (no author) *Unemployment - Nature, Challenges and Policy Responses [Working title]*. IntechOpen. DOI: 10.5772/intechopen.1003706

Conference Presentations (Referred and Invited)

Hugh, C., Fontechia, S. (2024, January 12). *Prepare to LAUNCH: Transition and employment services for the autistic community*. Presented at the CARD Conference, Orlando, FL. United States

Hugh, C. (2019, January). *Strategies for preparing students to transition into adulthood*. Presented at the CARD Conference, Orlando, FL. United States

Hugh, C. (2018, April). *Addressing comorbid mental illness among adults with autism: Strategies for promoting positive employment outcomes*. Presented at the Making Wellness a Priority: Healthy Minds & Healthy Futures Conference, Orlando, FL. United States.

Other Invited Presentations

Hugh, C. (2023, August 4). *Transition overview, Encouraging informed choice-making, self-advocacy, and positive social interactions, Preparing for college and employment*. Staff training provided to Pinellas County School's District Wide Training, St. Petersburg, FL. United States.

Hugh, C. (2022, July). *Navigating the cliff: Strategies and resources for successful postsecondary and employment outcomes*. Presented to school district staff at the Autism Summer Institute. Delivered virtually.

Updated 04/15/2024

Hugh, C. (2017, July). *Strategies for preparing students to transition into adulthood*. Presented to school district staff at the Autism Summer Institute, Wesley Chapel, FL. United States

SERVICE

College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, Planning Committee Member,
Florida Center for Inclusive Communities, Talent Actualized Conference Committee, October 2022-

College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, Committee Member,
RSA Scholar Grant Advisory Committee, September 2019---