

Maternal and Digital Research for Equitable Solutions (MADRES) Lab*
Faculty Mentor: Alinne Barrera, PhD

Lab website: <http://www.barreralab.paloalto.edu/>

Overview

Dr. Barrera's research interests primarily focus on depression prevention and intervention development using simple technologies for underserved and marginalized communities. Her current research is on the use of technology-based tools to address mental health disparities among pregnant and postpartum individuals. Her initial work in this area was funded by NIMH and involved designing the first online prevention of postpartum depression (PPD) intervention that included Spanish-speaking and Latinx individuals.

Sample Ongoing Research

- Data analysis of a prevention of postpartum depression study using a text messaging adaptation of the Mothers and Babies Course
- Data collection of a pre/post online prevention of PPD intervention

Student Expectations

Students in their 2nd and 3rd years are expected to be actively involved in Dr. Barrera's research projects, including making significant contributions to the day-to-day activities, attending lab meetings, collaborating on manuscripts/presentations, etc. Each student is expected to co-author at least one manuscript for publication or for a conference presentation.

Dissertations

All members are expected to develop dissertation studies that align with their professional interests and training goals. Students will begin to discuss dissertation projects soon after joining the lab. A majority of students in this research lab conduct dissertations that are original data collection or choose to do the two-paper publication format. For current research by students, visit the lab website.

Apply

Accepted students are expected to start in the summer following their first year in the PhD program or sooner via lab meetings, if possible.

Submit all application materials electronically to Dr. Barrera [abarrera@paloalto.edu]:

1. Curriculum Vitae, including two references who can be contacted by phone
2. Unofficial transcripts
3. Describe your current research interests, and describe how it fits with Dr. Barrera's research program or how you envision integrating your research interests into the work being conducted by the lab.