

CURRICULUM VITAE

Mario A. Sacasa, LMFT

msacasa@nds.edu

Professional License

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT1109), Louisiana

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (MT2423), Florida

Education

Doctor of Philosophy in Counselor Education and Supervision

Our Lady of Holy Cross College

Anticipated, May 2017

Specialist in Education in Marriage and Family Counseling

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

December 2006

Master of Science in Marriage and Family Counseling

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

December 2006

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Florida State University

August 2002

Languages

Proficient in English and Spanish

Relevant Experience

7/2014 – present

Notre Dame Seminary (New Orleans, LA)

Director of Counseling Services and Assistant Director of Human Formation

Provide counseling services to the seminarians, review their psychological evaluations, offer lectures on topics pertaining to Human Formation, aid with PT504: Introduction to Pastoral Counseling, serve on various leadership committees in the seminary.

7/2012 – 7/2014

Archdiocese of New Orleans (New Orleans, LA)

Director of Catholic Counseling Service

Provide overall direction to the clinic, particularly in the area of integrating Catholic values with clinical practice. Train counseling interns in professional practice. Serve as liaison to local universities. Promote Catholic Counseling Service in the Archdiocese.

Assistant Director of Family Life Apostolate

Coordinate services offered through the office, including marriage preparation and marital enrichment activities. Serve as link between parishes and Family Life Apostolate. Assist parish leaders to establish and maintain family ministry perspectives in respective parishes. Coordinate events for Year of the Family.

7/2007 – 7/2012

Marriage and Family Therapy Practice (Tallahassee, FL)

Marriage & Family Therapist and Speaker

Lead and manage a private practice; direct all administrative and marketing duties; practice psychotherapy that approaches the person from a Christian anthropology, utilize Emotionally Focused Therapy; deliver lectures at conferences; develop material for marriage retreats and workshops; consult with organizations; network with other therapists. Provided logistical support to a start-up organization.

7/2009 - 7/2010

Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee (Tallahassee, FL)

Director of Marriage and Family Life

Managed the marriage preparation and marriage enrichment ministries for the diocese; trained clergy on new FOCCUS online scoring system; built and balanced departmental budget; wrote on issues related to marriage; lectured at marriage preparation workshops

7/2007 - 7/ 2009

Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More (Tallahassee, FL)

Director of Marriage Preparation

Created and developed new marriage preparation program; delivered lectures on topics surrounding marriage, love and sexuality; organized events and conferences; networked with other community facilitators of marriage programs; served as a support for local Catholic campus ministry; mentored college students about dating and marriage.

8/2007 - 12/2009

Center for Biblical Studies (Tallahassee, FL)

Instructor

Co-taught the following courses: Love, Sex and Marriage Restoring the Glory, Experiencing the Father's Embrace, Sexual Wholeness, Inner Healing, and Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

1/2006 - 7/2007

Catholic Social Services of Diocese of Charlotte (Winston-Salem, NC)

Bilingual Therapist (1/2007 - 7/2007)

Hired post-graduation to provide psychotherapy to the Spanish-speaking clientele; coordinated services with Forsyth County Department of Social Services for clients who had children removed from their home; conducted agency intakes in both Spanish and English; displayed the ability to make appropriate referrals to other community agencies; provided consultation to other mental health providers.

Marriage Preparation Workshop Presenter (3/2006 - 7/2007)

Presented at monthly single day pre-marriage workshops, specific topics included: Communication & Conflict Resolution, Family of Origin Issues, and Marriage as a Sacrament.

Clinical Internship (1/2006 - 5/2006, 8/2006 - 12/2006)

Provided therapeutic counseling services to a predominately Spanish-speaking clientele; coordinated services with Forsyth County Department of Social Services for clients who had children removed from their home; conducted agency intakes in both Spanish and English; displayed the ability to make appropriate referrals to other community agencies; provided consultation with other mental health providers.

8/2004 - 12/2006

**University of North Carolina at Greensboro,
Counseling Education Department**

Graduate Assistant (8/2004 - 7/2005, 1/2006 - 12/2006)

Provided counseling services to young adults and couples at the Nicholas A Vacc Counseling and Consulting Clinic; managed room scheduling and problems brought forth by graduate students; maintained privacy laws according to HIPPA; handled the maintenance and security of counseling video tapes; used organizational and interpersonal skills in communication of clinic policies and procedures to users of clinic rooms.

Research Assistant (5/2006 - 8/2006)

Research assistant on counseling study: Villalba, J. A. (2011). The impressions of school nurses and school counselors related to health disparities of Latina/o students in rural, emerging Latino communities. *Hispanic Healthcare International*, 9, 32-40., which included evaluating the assimilation and organization of raw data through a content analysis and other qualitative procedures.

1/2003 - 8/2004

Missionary Cenacle Volunteers (Ft. Mitchell, AL)

Youth Minister/Service Trip Coordinator

Built relationships with teenagers, their families, and their friends; helped them grow spiritually, mentally, and emotionally by conducting weekly meetings, directing retreats, mentoring, and visiting them at home and at school; planned educational and recreational trips; coordinated many weekend or week-long service projects, in which groups from different states came to help the people of Russell County, AL through housing repair, home visits, and many other projects; guided nightly reflection time.

Articles

Sacasa, M. (2013, October 1). There Should Be No “White” Flags in Marriage. *Clarion Herald*.

Sacasa, M. (2013, May 1). Faith and Peace in the Face of Tragedy. *Clarion Herald*.

Sacasa, M. (2013, February 25). Can You Hear Me Now? Silence Truly Is Golden. *Clarion Herald*.

Sacasa, M. (2012, November 14). Grace Awakened in Parenting My Three Sons. *Clarion Herald*.

Sacasa, M. (2010, January/February). Why Marriage? *Catholic Compass*, 9.

Sacasa, M. (2010, March). A Greater Mystery. *Catholic Compass*, 13.

Sacasa, M. (2010, May). The Marital Oscars. *Catholic Compass*, 7.

Programs Developed & Implemented

Sacasa, M. *Living the Gift of Marriage*. Tallahassee, FL, December 2010, May 2011; Gulfport, MS, April 2011; Mandeville, LA, 2013; Covington, LA, 2014; Stuart, FL, October, 2014

Wehner, J., **Sacasa, M.**, Butler, B., & Denny, S. *Human Sexuality Workshop*. October, 2012; February, 2014; October 2014.

Sacasa, M. *Faith, Family and the New Evangelization Parish Mission*. Harahan, LA, February 2014

Sacasa, M. & Molina, S. *Preparing for the Gift of Marriage*. Tallahassee, FL, September 2007, February 2008, September 2008, February 2009, September 2009, February 2010, September 2010, February 2011.

Harper, B., Shuchts, R., Kniepmann, K., Schuchts, B., & **Sacasa, M.** *Return to Glory Men's Retreat*. Live Oak, FL, April 2009; Marianna, FL, October 2009, April 2010, October 2010, April 2011.

Ballard, M. & **Sacasa, M.** *Teaching Your Kids about Sex*. Tallahassee, FL, February 2008, August 2008.

Presentations

Sacasa M. (September 26, 2014). *Metas de Formación Humana*, Notre Dame Seminary, LA

Sacasa, M. (March 18, 2014). *Human Formation and Pornography*, St Joseph Abbey and Seminary College, Covington, LA.

Sacasa, M (April 12, 2013). *It is About Love: Same Sex Attraction as Understood by the Catholic Church*, Visitation of Our Lady Parish, Marrero, LA

Sacasa, M (February 26, 2012). *Family: The Key to the New Evangelization and The Work and Leisure Challenge*. Families Following Christ Marriage Retreat, Jacksonville, FL

Sacasa, M (November 20, 2011) *Autoestima y Agresion*. Reencuentro con Cristo, Grena, FL.

Sacasa, M. (August 6, 2011). *Forming Holy Marriages through the Theology of the Body*. National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers Conference, Milwaukee, WI.

Sacasa, M. (February 23, 2011). *Charismatic Sacraments*. Catholic Student Union at Florida State

University, Tallahassee, FL.

Sacasa, M. (January 2011, February 17, 2011, March 17, 2011). *Wild at Heart*. John Paul II Catholic High School, Tallahassee, FL.

Sacasa, M. (February 17, 2010). *The Body is a Gift*. Theology on Tap, Tallahassee, FL.

Sacasa, M. (October 11, 2010). *Introduction to the Theology of the Body*. Catholic Student Union at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, FL.

Sacasa, M. (February 13, 2010). *God in the Silence*. Catholic Student Union at Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.

Sacasa, M. (October 15, 2008). *Addictions*. Catholic Student Union at Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.

Sacasa, M. (December 1-5, 2008). *Theology of the Body for Teens*. John Paul II Catholic High School, Tallahassee, FL.

Sacasa, M. & Sacasa, K. (October 17, 2007). *Marriage and the Theology of the Body*. Catholic Student Union at Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.

MacDonald, C., **Sacasa, M.**, & Ivers, N. N. (October, 2006). *Using Interpreters in Counseling*. Poster presented at the Licensed Professional Counselor Association of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC.

Specialized Training

Attended courses through the Theology of the Body Institute:

Theology of the Body Immersion Course I: Head and Heart

Theology of the Body Immersion Course II: Into the Deep

Trained administrator of FOCCUS marriage preparation inventory

Trained administrator of Start Smart marriage preparation inventory

Trained advocate for annulments handled through Pensacola-Tallahassee Catholic Diocese Tribunal

References

Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond

Archbishop of New Orleans

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New Orleans, LA 70125

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Very Reverend James A. Wehner, S.T.D.

Rector-President

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