Stanford



Maira Tafolla

Postdoctoral Scholar, Psychiatry

Bio

BIO

Maira Tafolla, Ph.D., is a postdoctoral scholar working under the supervision of Dr. Somer Bishop in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. She received her Ph.D. in Human Development and Psychology from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2025. Her research interests span several areas related to individuals with developmental conditions, including assessment, treatment of individuals with autism and intellectual disabilities, caregiver mental health and well-being, and facilitators and barriers to service access among underserved families. Dr. Tafolla is bilingual and is a certified ADOS-2 trainer in both Spanish and English.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Arts, University of California, Los Angeles , Psychology, Minor: Disability Studies (2018)
- Master of Arts, University of California, Los Angeles , Human Development and Psychology (2023)
- Doctor of Philosophy, University of California, Los Angeles , Human Development and Psychology (2025)

STANFORD ADVISORS

- Antonio Hardan, Postdoctoral Faculty Sponsor

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Language Adaptation of Young Bilingual Autistic Children During Semi-Naturalistic Interactions With Their Caregivers.** *Autism research : official journal of the International Society for Autism Research*
  Maes, P., Tafolla, M., Benrey, N., Rosen, N., Tager-Flusberg, H., Lord, C.
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- **Expanding the autism evidence base: Strategies to increase participant representation.** *Autism : the international journal of research and practice*
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- **Bridging Languages, Broadening Access: Examining an Observation-Based Autism Assessment with a Latinx Sample.** *Journal of autism and developmental disorders*
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- **Respite Support From Adolescence to Adulthood in Families of People With Neurodevelopmental Disorders.** *Intellectual and developmental disabilities*
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- **Autism Assessment with English-Spanish Bilingual Individuals in the United States.** *Journal of autism and developmental disorders*
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- **Autism Spectrum Disorder Across the Lifespan.** *Annual review of clinical psychology*
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- **Longitudinal Analyses of Mental Health in Autistic Individuals: A Systematic Review.** *Brain sciences*
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- **Barriers, motivators and strategies to increase participation in genetic research among Asian and Black families of autistic individuals.** *Journal of community genetics*
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- **Predictors of Attrition in a Randomized Trial of a Social Communication Intervention for Infant-Toddlers at Risk for Autism.** *Journal of autism and developmental disorders*
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- **Perceived negative impact of caregiving demands in parents of individuals with autism spectrum disorders from 9 to 25 years of age** *RESEARCH IN AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS*
  Christopher, K., Tafolla, M., Sterrett, K., Elias, R., Lord, C.
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- **Integrating de novo and inherited variants in 42,607 autism cases identifies mutations in new moderate-risk genes.** *Nature genetics*
  Zhou, X., Feliciano, P., Shu, C., Wang, T., Astrovskaya, I., Hall, J. B., Obiajulu, J. U., Wright, J. R., Murali, S. C., Xu, S. X., Brueggeman, L., Thomas, T. R., Marchenko, et al
  2022
- **Brief Report: Impact of COVID-19 on Individuals with ASD and Their Caregivers: A Perspective from the SPARK Cohort.** *Journal of autism and developmental disorders*
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- **Psychiatric and Medical Profiles of Autistic Adults in the SPARK Cohort.** *Journal of autism and developmental disorders*
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