

SARA CHAGANTI

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Heller School for Social Policy and Management

Brandeis University | MS 035 | PO Box 549110 | Waltham, MA, 02454

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Social Policy and Sociology

ABD, expected completion May 2017

Brandeis University, Waltham, MA

Dissertation: "Ready for Work: Preparing Low-Income Adults for Work through Job Readiness Training"

Committee: Carmen Sirianni (Chair), Thomas Shapiro, Janet Boguslaw, Laura Miller, Steven Vallas

M.A., Social Policy

2011

Heller School for Social Policy and Management

Brandeis University, Waltham, MA

M.S., Law, Policy and Society

2009

Northeastern University, Boston, MA

B.A., Anthropology

2006

Yale University, New Haven, CT

AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Emerging Scholar, Research and Evaluation Conference on Self-Sufficiency,

2016

Office of Planning, Research & Evaluation, Administration for Children & Families, US Department of Health and Human Services

University Prize Instructorship, Brandeis GSAS (\$6000)

2015

Heller Annual Fund Dissertation Grant, Brandeis Heller School (\$2994.56)

2015

Wyatt Jones Fellowship, Brandeis Heller School

2009-11

Distinction in the Major (Anthropology), Yale

2006

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

Meschede, Tatjana & **Chaganti, Sara**. 2015. "Home for Now: A Mixed-Methods Evaluation of a Short-Term Housing Support Program for Homeless Families." *Evaluation and Program Planning* 52: 85-95.

Chaganti, Sara & Waddell, Jasmine. 2015. "Employment Change among Hurricane Katrina Evacuees: The Impacts of Race and Place." *Journal of Public Management and Social Policy*.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Chaganti, Sara, Meschede, Tatjana & Routhier, Giselle. "Families at Work: A Cross-Systems Workforce Model for Addressing Family Homelessness."

Reports

- Meschede, Tatjana, **Chaganti, Sara** & Krajcovicova Erika. 2015. Planning for a new Community Center for Homeless Individuals: Stakeholders Reflect on Services and the Need for System Change. Institute on Assets and Social Policy, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University.
- Routhier, Giselle, **Chaganti, Sara** & Meschede, Tatjana. 2015. *Systems Change in Service Delivery for Homeless Families: Building and Leveraging Networks to Improve Service Provision*. Institute on Assets and Social Policy, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University.
- Chaganti, Sara** & Meschede, Tatjana. 2015. *Job Readiness Training for Homeless Families: Preparing for Work to Achieve Housing Stability*. Institute on Assets and Social Policy, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University.
- Meschede, Tatjana, **Chaganti, Sara**, & Routhier, Giselle. 2015. *Secure Jobs, Secure Homes, Secure Families: Expanding an Integrated Service Model*. Institute on Assets and Social Policy, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University.
- Meschede, Tatjana, **Chaganti, Sara**, & Routhier, Giselle. 2014. *Secure Jobs, Secure Homes, Secure Families: Summary Report of Massachusetts' Secure Jobs Initiative Phase One*. Institute on Assets and Social Policy, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University.
- Thomas, Hannah, Boguslaw, Janet, **Chaganti, Sara** & Shapiro, Thomas. 2014. *Keeping Dreams Alive: The Lane-Changer Costs of Financial Disruptions*. Institute on Assets and Social Policy, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University.
- Thomas, Hannah, Boguslaw, Janet, **Chaganti, Sara**, Sullivan, Laura, & Shapiro, Thomas. 2013. *Employment Capital: How Work Builds and Protects Family Wealth and Security*. Retrieved IASP website: <http://iasp.brandeis.edu/pdfs/2013/Employment%20Capital.pdf>
- Boguslaw, Janet, Thomas, Hannah, Sullivan, Laura, Meschede, Tatjana, **Chaganti, Sara**, & Shapiro, Thomas. 2013. *Hard Choices: Navigating the Shock of Unemployment*. The Pew Charitable Trusts Economic Mobility Project.
- Meschede, Tatjana, **Chaganti, Sara**, & Revis, Alexandra. 2013. *Secure Jobs, Secure Homes, Secure Families: Process Evaluation of the Massachusetts Secure Jobs Pilot*. Institute on Assets and Social Policy, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University.
- Meschede, Tatjana, **Chaganti, Sara**, & Mann, Alexis. 2012. *Rapid Re-Housing and Short-Term Rental Vouchers for Homeless Families: Summary of a Pilot Project*. Retrieved from Institute on Assets and Social Policy, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

Work, Employment & Unemployment: Sociological Approaches, Brandeis University (Spring 2015, 2016)

Teaching Fellow

Protest, Politics and Change: Social Movements, David Cunningham, Brandeis University (Spring 2014)
The Culture of Consumption, Laura Miller, Brandeis University (Fall 2012)
The Paradox of Wealth and Poverty, Thomas Shapiro, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University (Fall 2010, 2011)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Evaluation Project Manager 2013-present
Institute on Assets and Social Policy (IASP), Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA

Mixed methods evaluation of workforce program for homeless families in Massachusetts

Graduate Research Assistant 2010-present

Institute on Assets and Social Policy

Projects:

Leveraging Mobility

Evaluation of Father Bill's MainSpring Housing First for Homeless Families

Super VITA Project (Final report: "VITA – More Than Tax Prep." July 2010).

<http://iasp.brandeis.edu/pdfs/masscapsupervita.pdf>

Research & Innovation Intern 2010

Crittenton Women's Union, Boston, MA

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2016

"Job Readiness Training: Preparing Low-Income Adults for Employment. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA (forthcoming).

Panel Organizer and Presider for "Critical Dialogue: Labor Market Inequalities." Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual meeting, Seattle, WA (forthcoming).

"Families at Work: A Cross-Systems Workforce Model for Addressing Family Homelessness." Research and Evaluation Conference on Self-Sufficiency, Washington, DC. Poster.

"Job Readiness Training for Homeless Families." Commonwealth Workforce Coalition Annual meeting, Sturbridge, MA.

2015

"Manufacturing the Ideal Worker: Job Readiness Training for Low-Income Adults." Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

"Beyond Wages: Structuring Inclusion in Wealth-Building Opportunities" with Hannah Thomas and Janet Boguslaw. Labor and Employment Relations Association-Allied Social Sciences Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

2014

Panel Organizer and Presider for “Asset Inequality: Causes and Consequences” with Alexis Mann. Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

“Secure Jobs for Homeless Families: Partnerships for Integrated, Individualized Services” with Tatjana Meschede. Commonwealth Workforce Coalition Annual Meeting, Sturbridge, MA.

“Barriers and Bridges to Employment for Multiply-Marginalized Women in Massachusetts” with Tatjana Meschede. Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Baltimore, MD.

“Workforce Development for Homeless Families: Using a Partnership Model to Achieve Secure Employment and Housing” with Tatjana Meschede. Institute for Children, Poverty and Homeless National Conference. New York, NY.

2013

“Sociological Perspectives on Soft Skills Job Training: A Critical Review.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. New York, NY.

“The Importance of place: Is Social Cohesion Shaped by Class, Race and Space?” with Alexis Mann. Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA.

2012

“The Resettlement and Integration of Hurricane Katrina Evacuees: Race, Class and Work” with Jasmine Waddell. Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. Denver, CO.

“Soft Skills and African-American Men: A Social Constructionist Analysis of a Social Policy Problem.” Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. Denver, CO.

“Structural Barriers to Stable Housing: Rapid-Rehousing for Homeless Families in Massachusetts.” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. New York, NY

2011

“Race, Gender and Soft Skills: A Social Constructionist Analysis of a Social Policy Problem.” Institute for the Study and Promotion of Race and Culture Diversity Challenge. Chestnut Hill, MA.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

American Sociological Association (ASA)	2011-present
Organizations, Occupations and Work (OOW) Section	
Reviewer for ASA-OOW Annual meeting roundtable submissions	2016
Inequality, Poverty and Mobility Section	
Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)	2011-present
Poverty, Class and Inequality Division	
Chair, Graduate Student Paper Competition Committee	2015, 2015
Labor Studies Division	
Eastern Sociological Society (ESS)	2011-present
Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM)	2008-present

Reviewer

Journal of Urban Health