

**Alita Kathryn Taylor, M.A., Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist**  
***Psychotherapy/Psychiatry Trainer, Consultant, Supervisor***

Washington State license # LMF60785809 since 2017

California State license # MFC43665 since 2006

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*[previous names: Alita Kathryn Markus 2015-2018, Kathryn Theresa Kemp 1993-2015, Kathryn Theresa Clark 1971-1993]*

***Education***

**Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology, Culver City, California 1995**  
Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in marriage and family therapy

**Pepperdine University, Seaver College, Malibu, California 1993**

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

***Qualifications***

- Internationally trained educator/trainer/supervisor in Open Dialogue and need-adapted approaches to psychosis and other psychiatric conditions
- International Certificate in Collaborative-Dialogic Practices (ICCP) Candidate (*to be completed April 2021*)
- Core preceptor/trainer for new hires in the emergency psychiatric services department within the emergency department 2007-17
- Licensed practitioner in acute, sub-acute, outpatient, emergency levels of care & private practice since 2006

***Experience***

**Founder, *Open Dialogue Pacific*, 2019-present**

Owner/operator of dialogical practices institute training and consulting to crisis service agencies, practitioners, administrators, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, counselors, and activists. Curriculum includes collaborative-dialogic theory and Open Dialogue principles, foundational and trainer level cohort-based courses.

**Board Member, *International Network for Dialogic Practices*, 2020-present**

Working to enhance worldwide connections and support of dialogical practices clinically and across disciplines including organizing Summer Schools, workshops, and online publications with associates: Alexandra Moreira, Elisa Petroni, Richard Williams, Petra Deters, Pavel Nepustil.

**Member, Scientific Committee *HOpenDialogue Project* under Raffaella Pocobello, PhD (Principal Investigator) *Institute of Cognitive Science*, Rome, Italy 2019-present**

Service on scientific committee for first 5-year international multi-center, controlled trials of Open Dialogue.

**Trainer, International psychotherapy supervisor/trainer in dialogical approaches, 2016-present**

Completed 520-hour certificate training under Jaakko Seikkula, Ph.D., *University of Jyväskylä* and *Dialogic Partners* including but not limited to: co-research, practicum, international literature review, supervision practice, co-teaching embodiment and somatic reflection, family-of-origin small group work, specialized training in anticipation dialogues, dialogical approaches to treating adolescents, and need-adapted/social network collaboration. Current owner/operator at *Open Dialogue Pacific*, a U.S.-based dialogical training school and *Dialogical Therapy*, a psychotherapy/psychiatric clinic for clinical practice and supervision.

**Psychotherapist *Rainier Associates*, Tacoma, Washington 2017-19**

Counseled families, teens, individuals, children, and couples, including but not limited to underserved populations such as veterans, sexual assault and child abuse victims, those with what-is-sometimes-called psychosis and their families/social networks, and eating disorders.

**Consultation Liaison Specialist/Behavioral Health Clinician, Emergency Psychiatric Services, *Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital*, Santa Barbara, California 2007-17**

Assessed and diagnosed in addiction medicine and psychiatry populations implementing interventions collaborating with emergency room team. Coordinated inpatient hospitalizations including live clinical review with insurance care managers. Spearheaded appropriate dispositions. Telephone crisis work, 5150 evaluations.

**Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist in private practice, Santa Barbara, California 2006-16**

Maintained private practice in psychotherapy serving couples, families, teens, individuals with specialties: grief, family members of those with addictions, men's issues, LGBTQ, teens, young adults, and couples.

**Trauma Substance Use Evaluation Team *Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital*, Santa Barbara, California 2006-15**

Provided confidential substance abuse assessments to hospital trauma patients, determining family involvement, giving individualized referrals, and screening for chemical dependency admission criteria. Participated as co-investigator in study recording data from interviews under Peter McGoey, MA and Trauma Department staff.

**Case Manager, *Cottage Residential Center*, Santa Barbara, California 2006-12**

Performed family, 1:1, and group therapy in residential treatment setting. Wrote treatment plans. Delivered lectures in codependency, motivational interviewing, cognitive distortions, and brain changes in recovery, and taught meditation and art therapy.

**Support Counselor/Chemical Dependency Program Liaison, *Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital*, Santa Barbara, California 2004-09**

Utilized motivational interviewing techniques with chemical dependency patients on acute detoxification unit evaluating and presenting treatment options. Worked within a treatment team of medical professionals ensuring safety/follow-up. Obtained insurance authorizations. Led group, family, and individual therapy.

**Marriage & Family Therapist Intern *Cottage Residential Center & COPE Outpatient Program*, Santa Barbara, California 2004-06**

Co-led multi-family groups. Taught relapse prevention. Adhered to abstinence based and ASAM treatment criteria. Provided ongoing after-care to couples and families.

**Marriage & Family Therapist Intern *Domestic Violence Solutions*, Santa Barbara, California 2004-06**

Counseled children, families, and individuals, both victims and perpetrators. Taught cycle of violence, anger management, and parenting classes. Practiced play therapy and implemented behavioral techniques with parents and children. Facilitated 52-week batterer treatment groups. Planned and led teen anger management groups in continuation high school, and half-way house prison settings.

**Care Manager/Caretaker *James Ingraham Clark*, Palm Desert and Santa Barbara, California 1999-2003**

Gave direct care and hired, trained, and managed caregivers post stroke to my father. Advocated to insurance companies, facilities, and physicians. Maintained healthcare records. Managed household and payroll. Utilized hospice and other resources. Carried out duties of power of attorney and trustee, both health care and estate.

**Pharmaceutical Sales Representative**, *SmithKlineBeecham & GlaxoWellcome*, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties, California **1997-2000**

Planned and executed sales calls to psychiatrists, primary care physicians, OB/GYN's, infectious disease specialists, and neurologists. Detailed products in the anti-depressant, anti-Parkinsonian, smoking cessation, antibiotic, and anti-viral markets.

**Preschool Teacher and Membership Chairperson**, *Starr King Parent-Child Workshop*, Santa Barbara, California **1999-2000**

Represented preschool program to families. Informed and assessed suitability for co-op. Created and maintained database. Served as a Board member and weekly volunteered as a preschool teacher.

**Core Counselor/Part-time Counselor**, *Sanctuary Psychiatric Centers*, Santa Barbara, California **1995-1997** Counseled individuals, families, and groups. Educated residents on independent living, and community access. Formulated and implemented treatment goals and plans, behavioral contracts, coordinating care with psychiatrists and other therapeutic milieu staff members.

**Program Counselor**, *Meadowbrook Manor*, Los Angeles, California **1994-1995**

Led treatment of 12-14 psychiatric clients in a locked unit, including family and treatment plan meetings. Practiced emergency psychiatric procedures for assault.

### ***Certifications***

**Dialogical approaches in Couple and Family Therapy, Psychotherapy Trainers Training**, Supervisory Level, Jaakko Seikkula, PhD organized jointly by *Dialogic Partners* and *University of Jyväskylä*, Espoo, Finland, 520 hours, **2016-18**

**Riting Your Myth** Dennis Flatterly, PhD., *Pacifica Graduate Institute*, Carpinteria, California, **October 2015**

**Capacitar Trainer** (international healing techniques), *Pat Cane, La Casa de Maria Center*, Montecito, California, 140 hours, **2009**

**Domestic Violence Practitioner Training**, Santa Barbara County, California, 40 hours, **2004**

### ***Other Qualifications***

#### **Podcasts/Videos**

Live Town Hall Exploring Dialogical Responses to Crisis,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VBH6iBuHomg&feature=youtu.be> April 2020

Beyond Well with Sheila Hamilton <https://www.listennotes.com/podcasts/beyond-well-with/beyond-well-science-alita-MqRjH7JDOSc/August 2019>

Mad in America <https://www.madinamerica.com/2019/02/open-dialogue-making-meaning/> February 2019

ThreeVoicesPodcast <https://www.listennotes.com/podcasts/three-voices-podcast/alita-taylor-open-dialogue-zbEQMxworS6/> December 2018

## Speaking Engagements

*(invited as a subject matter expert in Open Dialogue)*

- **Pierce County Counselors Association**, Tacoma, Washington (October 2019)
- **Pacific Lutheran University**, Tacoma, Washington (July 2019)
- **International Certificate program for Collaborative-Dialogic Practices (ICCP)**, Co-presenters *Monica Sesma and Yochay Nadan*, Brno, Czech Republic (June 2019)
- **American Family Therapy Academy (AFTA) Conference**, Oakland, CA (June 2019)
- **Rethinking Psychiatry**, Portland, Oregon (May 2019 & November 2018)
- **Peerpocalypse**, Salem, Oregon (May 2019)
- **Vancouver School Board School Counselors**, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada (January 2019)
- **Slow Psychiatry**, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada (November 2018)
- **Registered Nurse Practitioners Association of Pierce County**, Tacoma, Washington (October 2018)
- **Pierce County National Alliance for the Mentally Ill**, Tacoma, Washington (August 2018)
- **Crazywise** post-screening panelist **Pierce County Chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill** Lakewood, Washington (March 2018) & **Meaningful Movies** Tacoma, Washington (May 2018)

## Associations, Honors, and Other Experience

**The Association of Family Therapists of Northern California (AFTNC)** Clinical Member 2020-present

**Dance Movement Therapy (DMT)** (Alternate Route) student *Northwest Creative & Expressive Arts Institute, Center for Movement Education & Research, West Coast Dance Movement Therapy*, under *Amber Elizabeth Gray, Judy Gantz, and Hana Kamea Kemble*, 2019-present

**Galvanizing Family Therapy** conference attendee, 2019

**Climate change and its effects on the family**, AFTA committee under *Larry Freeman*, 2019-present

**Taos Institute**, Clinical Member of the Online Learning Community, 2018-present

**American Family Therapy Academy (AFTA)** Clinical Member 2018-present

**American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT)** Clinical Member 2017-present

**Washington Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (WAMFT)** Clinical Member 2017-present

**California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT)** Clinical Member 2004-present

**Tacoma Mental Health Salon**, Member, 2017-18

**Founding Visionary Member, WisdomWomen**, *Esalen Institute* and ongoing online Women's Paradigm Shifting Support 2017-19

**Carver's Camp Canoe Tribe**, Open canoe family, puller and/or support crew for annual Tribal Canoe Journey *Elder: Phil RedEagle*, 2017-present

**Merit Scholar of Poetry**, Tupelo Press Poetry Conference, Truchas, New Mexico, 2016 & 2017

**Work Scholar**, Songwriting with John Smith, Esalen Institute, 2017

**Seminarian**, Gestalt Practice Training, Dorothy Charles, Spinefulness, Jean Couch, Trauma, Wisdom and the Body, Suzanne Scurlock-Durana, The Sun Writing Workshop, Arrive Already Loved Gestalt Training, Mariah Fenton-Gladis Esalen Institute, 2016

**Teacher Assistant**, Big Sur Wilderness Experience, Steven Harper; Acting Improvisation & The Max, Expanding the Limits of Your Self-Expression, Paula Shaw, Esalen Institute, 2016

**Esalen Staff Liaison** R.D. Laing Symposium; Mindfulness for Dan Siegel & Rick Hanson, Esalen Institute, 2016

**Intern** Quality of Life Care, Deanna Cochran, RN Grief, Death, Dying/End-of-life Doula Training 2015-16

**Research and Educational Participant and Guide**, Shared Crossing Project William Peters, LMFT  
Death/dying/afterlife phenomena research and discussion group 2013-16

**Two-day Workshop Trainee**, Personality Disorders: The Challenges of the Hidden Agenda and Advanced Cognitive Behavioral Therapy PESI, 2013

**Host & Student**, Relational Constellations, Joanna Chartreud & Dyrian Benz, Santa Barbara, CA 2011-2017

**Visiting lecturer**, introduction to domestic violence, Pacifica Graduate Institute, 2011

**Group therapy training**, Motherwound, Immaculate Heart Center for Spiritual Renewal, Montecito, CA 2010

**Lecturer**, Codependency, Family Systems, Grief & Loss, Addiction Cycle, Art Therapy, Cottage Residential Center, 2004-10

**Admissions Facilitator and Utilization Review**, Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital Chemical Dependency Services, 2006-17

**Trainer/Presenter for MFT Interns/Trainees**, New Beginnings Counseling Center, 2006

**Educational Therapist**, taught developmentally disabled adults with behavior problems Brentwood Center for Educational Therapy, 1993

**Research Assistant**, Cognitive and Behavioral Correlates of Child Abuse, under Cindy Miller-Perrin, Ph.D 1993

**Research Practicum**, Camarillo State Hospital Psychiatric Unit, under Tomas Martinez, Ph.D., 1992