

Curriculum Vitae  
**Tonya Renee Thurman**

[Revised April, 2015]

## **I. CONTACT INFORMATION**

Research Associate Professor, Tulane School of Social Work  
Director, Highly Vulnerable Children Research Center  
Country Director, Tulane International LLC South Africa  
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## **II. EDUCATION**

- Ph.D., International Health and Development, Tulane University, 2006.
- M.P.H., International Health Track, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 2001.
- B.A., Child Psychology, Community Development, University of Kansas, 1997.

## **III. ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

- Research Associate Professor, School of Social Work, Tulane University, November 2011-Present
- Research Assistant Professor, School of Public Health, Tulane University, August 2006-October 2011

## **IV. PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **a. Ad Hoc Reviewer**

- Review for the following journals: Journal of AIDS, AIDS Care, AIDS and Behavior, Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies

### **b. Consultation**

- Save the Children Hurricane Relief programs in New Orleans, State of Louisiana, Evaluation Specialist, Jan 2006-March 2007.
- CARE, Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) & People living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) support programs in Rwanda, Evaluation Specialist, May to July 2006.

- Measure Evaluation, OVC evaluations in Kenya and Tanzania, Research Advisor, April 2006 - June 2006.
- Measure Evaluation, sexual violence and HIV risk research activities in Lesotho, Research Advisor, Jan 2006 – May 2006.
- Centers for Disease Control, Priorities for Local AIDS Control (PLACE) study in Malawi, Field Coordinator Sept 2004 – May 2005.
- USAID Regional HIV-AIDS Project, research and capacity-building in Lesotho, Swaziland and South Africa, Evaluation Coordinator, Dec 2002 – May 2003.
- Christian Children’s Fund, psychosocial programs training guide, U.S.A., Training Advisor, Aug 2001 – Dec 2002.

**c. Appointed Positions**

- Director, Highly Vulnerable Children Research Center, Tulane School of Social Work, 2011-Present. <http://hvc-tulane.org>
- Country Director, Tulane International LLC South Africa, 2010 – Present

**d. International Work**

- South Africa:
  - Compiling an Evidence base for Highly Vulnerable Children (HVC) Programming, South Africa, Principal Investigator, 11/1/2011 – Current.
  - HIV/AIDS Orphans and Vulnerable Children Public Health Evaluation, South Africa, Principal Investigator, 10/20/2010 – 11/01/2014.
  - Enhancing Strategic Information for OVC Programming, South Africa, Principal Investigator, 6/01/2008 – 10/01/2011.
- Kenya and Tanzania:
  - Measure Evaluation, Kenya and Tanzania, Orphans and Vulnerable Children Advisor & Activity Lead, 8/30/2003 – 8/29/2008.
- Albania and India:
  - World Vision International Children in Crisis Initiative, Albania & India. Co-Principal Investigator, 3/30/2007 – 3/30/2008.
- Rwanda:
  - Tulane University OVC Mentorship program, Rwanda, Project Coordinator, 2001-2006.
- Lesotho:
  - Measure Evaluation, sexual violence and HIV risk research activities in Lesotho, Research Advisor, Jan 2006 – May 2006.
- Malawi:
  - Centers for Disease Control, Priorities for Local AIDS Control (PLACE) study in Malawi, Field Coordinator Sept 2004 – May 2005.
- Lesotho, Swaziland and South Africa:
  - USAID Regional HIV-AIDS Project, research and capacity-building in Lesotho, Swaziland and South Africa, Evaluation Coordinator, Dec 2002 – May 2003.

## VII. PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

### 1) Publications

#### a. Refereed Journal Articles

1. **Thurman TR**, Kidman R & Taylor T. (2015). Bridging the gap: the impact of home visiting programs on social grant uptake among HIV-affected households in South Africa. *Children and Youth Services Review* (48): 111-116. [doi:10.1016/j.chilyouth.2014.12.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2014.12.002)
2. **Thurman TR**, Kidman R, Nice J, Ikamari L. (2014) Family functioning and child behavioral problems in households affected by HIV and AIDS in Kenya. *AIDS and Behavior*, DOI: 10.1007/s10461-014-0897-6.
3. Kidman R, Nice J, Taylor T & **Thurman TR**. (2014).Home visiting programs for HIV-affected families: a comparison of service quality between volunteer-driven and paraprofessional models. *Vulnerable Children and Youth*, 9 (4): 305–317 DOI:10.1080/17450128.2014.954025
4. **Thurman TR**, Kidman R & Taylor T. (2014). Does investment in home visitors lead to better psychological health for HIV-affected families? Results from a quasi-experimental evaluation in South Africa. *AIDS Care*. 26 (Suppl 1): 2-10.
5. Kidman R & **Thurman TR**. (2014). Caregiver burden among adults caring for orphaned children in rural South Africa. *Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies*. 9 (3): 234-246. .
6. **Thurman TR**, Jarabi B, Rice J. (2012). Caring for the caregiver: Evaluation of support groups for guardians of orphans and vulnerable children in Kenya. *AIDS Care*. 24(7): 811-819.
7. Nyberg BJ, Yates D, Lovich R, Coulibaly-Traore D, Sherr L, **Thurman TR**, Sampson A, Howard B. (2012). Saving lives for a lifetime: Supporting orphans and vulnerable children impacted by HIV/AIDS. *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*. 60: S127-S135.
8. Johnston L, **Thurman TR**, Mock N, Nano L & Carcani V. (2010). Respondent-driven sampling: A new method for studying street children with findings from Albania. *Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies*. 5 (1): 1-11.
9. **Thurman TR**, Haas LJ, Dushimimana A, Lavin B, & Mock N. (2010). Evaluation of a case management program for HIV clients in Rwanda. *AIDS Care*, 22(6): 759-765.
10. Brown L, **Thurman TR**, Rice J, Boris NW, Ntaganira J et al., (2009). Impact of a mentoring program on psychosocial wellbeing of youth in Rwanda: Results of a quasi-experimental study. *Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies*. 4 (4): 288-299.
11. Boris NW, Brown LA, **Thurman TR**, Rice JA, Snider LM, Ntaginira J, et al. (2009). Depressive symptoms among youth heads-of-household in Rwanda: Correlates and implications for intervention. *Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine*. 161 (9): 836-843.

12. **Thurman TR**, Snider L, Boris N, Kalisa E, Nyirazinoye L, Brown L. (2008). Barriers to the community support of orphans and vulnerable youth in Rwanda. *Social Sciences and Medicine*. 66 (7): 1557-1567.
13. **Thurman, TR**, L. Snider, N. Boris, E. Kalisa, E. Muguria, J. Ntaginira and L. Brown. (2006). Psychosocial support and marginalization of youth-headed households in Rwanda. *AIDS Care*. 18(3): 220-229.
14. **Thurman, TR**, L. Brown, L. Richter, P. Maharaj and R. Magnani. (2006). Sexual risk behavior among adolescents in South Africa: is orphan status a factor? *AIDS & Behavior*. 10(6): 627-635.
15. Brown LA, **Thurman TR**, Bloem J, Kendall C. (2006). Magnitude of sexual violence in Lesotho. *Studies in Family Planning*. 37 (4): 269-280.
16. Boris NW, **Thurman TR**, Snider L, Spencer E, Brown L. (2006). Infants and young children living in youth headed households in Rwanda: Implications of emerging data. *International Mental Health Journal*, 27 (6): 584-602.

## 2. Articles Submitted for Publication

1. **Thurman TR**, Kidman R & TW Carton & P Chiroro. Psychological and behavioral interventions to reduce HIV risk: Evidence from a randomized control trial among orphaned and vulnerable adolescents in South Africa. *Submitted March 2015 to Children and Youth Services Review*.

## 3. Articles in Preparation

1. Kidman R & **Thurman TR**. Power imbalances in intimate relationships: The experience of HIV-affected adolescents in South Africa.
2. Thurman, TR, Taylor T, Neudorf K, & Chiroro P. Taking Interpersonal therapy for groups to scale for HIV-affected adolescents: Lessons learned from a mixed methods randomized control trial in South Africa.
3. **Thurman TR**, Kidman R & Chiroro P. Prevalence and mitigating factors of child maltreatment in HIV-affected households in South Africa.

## 4. Non-Refereed Publications – Professional Reports

1. **Thurman TR**, Kidman R & Taylor T. (2013) *The impact of paraprofessional versus volunteer-driven home visiting programs on the well-being of orphans and vulnerable children in South Africa: Results from a longitudinal evaluation in Kwa-Zulu Natal South Africa*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University School of Social Work, Highly Vulnerable Children Research Center.
2. **Thurman TR**, Taylor T, Kidman R & Chiroro P. (2013) *Isibindi: A longitudinal evaluation of selected sites in Kwa-Zulu Natal*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University School of Social Work, Highly Vulnerable Children Research Center.

3. Neudorf K, Mokgatle-Nthabu M, Taylor TM, **Thurman TR** (2012). *A Case Study: World Vision South Africa's Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Groups of Adolescents*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
4. **Thurman TR**, Kidman R, & Taylor TM. (2011). *Assessing the Impact of Interventions to Meet the Needs of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa; Study Overview and Baseline Demographics*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
5. **Thurman TR** & Kidman R. (2011). *Child maltreatment at home: Prevalence among orphans and vulnerable children in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
6. Kidman R & **Thurman TR**. (2011). *Chronic Illness in the Home: Implications for Children in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
7. **Thurman TR** & Kidman R. (2011). *HIV and AIDS Knowledge among Orphans and Vulnerable Children in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
8. Taylor TM, Kidman R, & **Thurman TR**. (2011). *Household Resources and Access to Social Grants among Orphans and Vulnerable Children in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
9. Neudorf K, **Thurman TR**, & Taylor TM. (2011). *A Case Study: Interventions Promoting Early Childhood Development in South Africa*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
10. Neudorf K, Taylor TM, & **Thurman TR**. (2011). *A Case Study: The Greater Rape Intervention Program (GRIP)*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
11. Neudorf, K., Taylor, T.M., & **Thurman, T.R.** (2010). *Tswelopele: Partnerships for Reaching Orphans and Vulnerable Children in South Africa with the Heartbeat Model of Care*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
12. **Thurman TR**, DeMarco KP, Lavin B, Littrell M, Yu S, & Taylor TM. (2009). *A Resource Guide: Developing a Case Study of Programs Serving Orphans and Vulnerable Children. Resource 1: Case Study Contents*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
13. **Thurman TR**, DeMarco KP, Lavin B, Littrell M, Yu S, & Taylor TM. (2009). *A Resource Guide: Developing a Case Study of Programs Serving Orphans and Vulnerable Children. Resource 2: Case Study Fieldwork*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
14. **Thurman TR**, DeMarco KP, Lavin B, Littrell M, Yu S, & Taylor TM. (2009). *A Resource Guide: Developing a Case Study of Programs Serving Orphans and Vulnerable Children. Resource 3: Tools for Case Study Development*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
15. **Thurman TR**, Yu S, & Taylor TM. (2009). *A Case Study: Care for Caregivers. A Psychosocial Support Model for Child and Youth Care Workers Serving Orphans and Vulnerable Children in South Africa: A Program Implemented by the National Association of Child Care Workers*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.

16. **Thurman TR**, Hutchinson P, Lavin B, Ikamari L, & Nyangara F. (2009). *Promoting HIV prevention and testing: Evaluation of the Integrated AIDS Program – Thika in Kenya*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
17. Yu S, Taylor TM, & **Thurman TR**. (2009). *A Case Study: Childline Mpumalanga. A Community Development Program for Orphans and Vulnerable Children and Psychosocial Support Program for All Children: Mpumalanga Province, South Africa*. New Orleans, LA: Tulane University.
18. Hutchinson P & **Thurman TR**. (2009). *Analyzing the Cost-Effectiveness of Interventions to Benefit Orphans and Vulnerable Children: Evidence from Kenya and Tanzania*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
19. Nyangara F, **Thurman TR**, Hutchinson P, & Obiero W. (2009). *Effects of Programs Supporting Orphans and Vulnerable Children: Key Findings, Emerging Issues and Future Directions from Evaluations of Four Projects in Kenya and Tanzania*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
20. **Thurman TR**, Hutchinson P, Ikamari L, Gichuhi W, Murungaru K, & Nyangara F. (2009). *Community Education and Sensitization as an OVC Care and Support Strategy: Evaluation of the Integrated AIDS Program - Thika in Kenya*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
21. **Thurman TR**, Rice J, Ikamari L, Jarabi B, Mutuku A, & Nyangara F. (2009). *The Difference Interventions for Guardians Can Make: Evaluation of the Kilifi Orphans and Vulnerable Children Project in Kenya*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
22. Nyangara, F., Obiero, W., Kalungwa, Z., & **Thurman, T.R.** (2009). *Community-based psychosocial intervention for HIV-affected children and their caregivers: Evaluation of the Salvation Army's Mama Mkubwa Program in Tanzania*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
23. Nyangara, F., Kalungwa, Z., Obiero, W., **Thurman, T.R.**, & Chapman, J. (2009). *Promoting a home-based program model for supporting children affected by HIV/AIDS: Evaluation of Tumaini Project in Iringa region, Tanzania*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
24. Nyangara, F., Obiero, W., Kalungwa, Z., & **Thurman, T.R.** (2009). *Community-based psychosocial intervention for HIV-affected children and their caregivers: Evaluation of the Salvation Army's Mama Mkubwa Program in Tanzania*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
25. **Thurman TR** & Neudorf K. (2008). *A Case Study: Integrated AIDS Program - Thika, Kenya*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
26. Brown L, **Thurman TR**, Kalisa E, Rice J, Bizimana J, Boris N, Snider L, & Ntaganira J. (2007). *Supporting volunteer mentors: Insights from a mentorship program for youth-headed households in Rwanda*. Horizons Research Summary. Washington DC: Population Council.

27. Brown L, Rice J, Boris N, **Thurman TR**, Snider L, Ntaganira J, Nyirazinyoye L, Kalisa E. & Nshizirungu E. (2007). *Psychosocial benefits of a mentoring program for youth-headed households in Rwanda*. Horizons Research Summary. Washington, DC: Population Council.
28. **Thurman TR**, Hoffman A, Chatterji M & Brown L. (2007). *A Case Study: Community- based HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care and Support Program*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
29. **Thurman TR**, Hoffman A, Chatterji M & Brown L. (2007). *A Case Study: Kilifi Orphans and Vulnerable Children Project*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
30. Littrell M, **Thurman TR**, Chatterji M, & Brown L. (2007). *A Case Study: Mama Mkubwa Psychosocial Support Program*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation.
31. Littrell M, **Thurman TR**, Chatterji M, & Brown L. (2007). *A Case Study: The Tumaini Home-Based Care Program*. Chapel Hill, NC: MEASURE Evaluation
32. Brown L, **Thurman TR**, & Snider L. (2005). *Strengthening the Psychosocial Well-being of Youth-headed Households in Rwanda: Baseline Findings from an Intervention Trial*. Horizons Research Update. Washington, DC: Population Council.
33. **Thurman TR**, Littrell M, Tuneberg S, Snider L. (2005). *Measurement Approaches for Children Affected by Conflict and HIV/AIDS*. The Netherlands: Bernard Van Leer Foundation.

## 2) Presentations

### a. Oral Conference Presentations

1. *Do home visiting programs improve wellbeing among orphans and vulnerable children? Evidence from a longitudinal evaluation of two programmatic approaches in South Africa*. XI International AIDS Impact Conference, Barcelona, Sep 2013
2. *A longitudinal evaluation of psychosocial distress among AIDS-affected families enrolled in home visiting programs in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa*. South African AIDS Conference, Durban, June 2013
3. *Preliminary results from a trial of two interventions designed to reduce psychological and sexual vulnerability among HIV-affected adolescents*. South Africa Department of Social Development OVCY Conference 'Changing Children and Young People's Lives', Durban, May 2013
4. *HIV Knowledge and Sexual Risk among Vulnerable Adolescents in Eastern Cape, South Africa*. OVC Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa, October 2012.
5. *Chronic Illness in the Home: Implications for the Mental Health and Protection of Children*. 30th International Congress of Psychology. Cape Town, South Africa. July 2012.

6. *Physical and Verbal Abuse among Orphaned and Vulnerable Children in Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa*. International Federation of Educative Communities Conference (FICE), Stellenbosch, South Africa, December 2010.
7. *Making a Difference in the Lives of Volunteers: Results from a Longitudinal Evaluation in Rwanda*. PEPFAR Conference. Kampala, Uganda. June 2008.
8. *Impact of Mentoring on the Psychosocial Wellbeing of Vulnerable Youth: Results from a Longitudinal Evaluation in Rwanda*. PEPFAR Conference. Kampala, Uganda. June 2008.
9. *Community Health Workers for OVC Guardians: Evaluating the Impact on Guardians and Children*. PEPFAR Conference. Kampala, Uganda. June 2008.
10. *Program Innovations and Challenges: Lessons Learned from Four OVC Programs*. PEPFAR Conference. Kigali, Rwanda. June 2007.
11. *Community Support of Vulnerable Youth in Rwanda*. American Public Health Association. Philadelphia, PA. November 2006.
12. *Research and Care of Orphan-Headed Households in Rwanda*. AIDS Impact Conference. Cape Town, South Africa. July 2005.

#### b. Recent Invited Lectures

- Presentation to the South African National AIDS Committee for Children Affected by AIDS (NACCA): *OVC Evaluations in South Africa: Key Findings from a Systematic Literature Review*. Pretoria, South Africa. August 2014
- Presentation to Khululeka (<http://www.khululeka.org/>) Board of Directors and attendees of the Annual General Meeting: *Mitigating Psychological distress among orphans and vulnerable children: What have we learned?* Cape Town, South Africa. August 2014.
- Presentation to the South African National AIDS Committee for Children Affected by AIDS (NACCA): *Strategic Steps for Establishing National Research Priorities*, Pretoria, South Africa. February 2014.

### VIII. GRANT PROPOSALS

#### a. Funded Proposals

Dates	Title and Role	Funding Source	Award Amount
11/1/2014 – 9/30/2016	Principal Investigator. Compiling an Evidence base for Highly Vulnerable Children (HVC) Programming – Project Expansion and Extension	USAID/PEPFAR Southern Africa mission Cooperative Agreement	Additional Funds: \$2,014,158



11/1/2011 – 11/01/2014	Principal Investigator, Compiling an Evidence base for HVC Programming	USAID/PEPFAR Southern Africa mission	Grant Total: \$4,481,390
10/20/2010 – 11/01/2014	Principal Investigator & Chief of Party, HIV/AIDS OVC Public Health Evaluation	USAID/PEPFAR (This project was competitively selected for support by the USAID OVC Working Group in Washington DC.)	Grant Total: \$3,182,154
6/01/2008 – 10/01/2011	Principal Investigator, Enhancing Strategic Information (ESI) for OVC Programming	USAID/PEPFAR South Africa	Grant Total: \$4,000,000

#### **b. Unfunded Proposals**

- December 2010, Principal Investigator, *Evaluation of psychosocial interventions for orphans and vulnerable children in South Africa*, R01-RFA-HB-10-017, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NIH/NICHD). Application was scored a 29, and was ranked within the top 30<sup>th</sup> percentile. (Scores range from the strongest possible score of 10 to the weakest score of 90).

### **IX. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS**

#### **a. Research Interests**

- Program design, evaluation methodologies, operations research and capacity building pertaining to initiatives for highly vulnerable children and their families

#### **b. Teaching Interests**

- Monitoring and evaluation in social service delivery; Advanced research methods; Evidence based programming for vulnerable children and families in developing countries; HIV and AIDS global impact and care and support strategies

## **X. RECENT COMMUNITY SERVICE**

### **a. School**

- Development of the Highly Vulnerable Children Research Center
  - Devised the mission, objectives, a logo, summary brochure, stand-up 6-foot poster, and an associated website to increase visibility of activities and resources: <http://hvc-tulane.org/>
  - Official launch of the Center in South Africa in May 2013 where promotional materials and reports were made available at a special HVC-RC tent at the Department of Social Development OVCY Conference. Plans for a similar launch in USA are under development.
- Facilitating professional opportunities for students
  - Employment of four TSSW students as research assistants
  - Facilitated a host site in South Africa for Global Social Work professional internships which is now in its second year of successfully supporting students
  - Created work opportunities and covered some travel costs for two students to conduct professional internships associated with my project in South Africa
  - Hiring a TSSW graduate as Staff
- Member of the Research Task Force, 2011 – 2012
  - Contributing to the strategic direction of the School's increased emphasis on research and scholarship

### **b. International**

- Member of the National Action Committee for Children Affected by HIV and AIDS, South Africa since 2011
  - Supporting evidence-based decision making for key national policy and programs
- Member of the OVC Research Working Group, South Africa since 2010
  - Supporting enhanced monitoring systems for national service delivery and the development of national research priorities