



## **CATE ROBINSON**

**[wingsforsuccess@outlook.com](mailto:wingsforsuccess@outlook.com)**

**+56985453327**

**[www.linkedin.com/pub/cate-robinson/95/880/845/](http://www.linkedin.com/pub/cate-robinson/95/880/845/)**

### **Professional Summary**

I am a deeply motivated individual with a desire to improve services for children and young people both in terms of their protection and wellbeing. I have significant social work experience and I also have experience in child care research. I am keen for my career to follow a path that can positively influence children and their families not only through the implementation of evidence based practices but also through supporting change in government policy.

### **Current Projects**

#### **Doctoral Student**

**Universitat de Girona January 2020 - ongoing**

##### **Main responsibilities:**

- Using a relational perspective and participatory methods, I will investigate the needs of young people in alternative care and homeless situations in Chile with the aim of recommending new strategies for policy and practice.

#### **Independent Consultant in Alternative Care**

**University Diego Portales March 2020 - June 2020**

##### **Main responsibilities:**

- Co-author for a chapter in the Human Rights annual report by the Diego Portales University discussing the recent social uprising and the current and historical problems with the Chilean alternative care system.

#### **Independent Consultant in Alternative Care**

**CIDENI April 2020 - May 2020**

##### **Main Responsibilities:**

- Support colleagues with an international literature review regarding standards of auditing and supervision of children's homes.

#### **Independent Consultant in Alternative Care**

**Ministry of Social Development, Chilean Government: March 2019 - May 2020**

##### **Main responsibilities:**

- Design and write the theoretical framework, practices, standards and indicators for a new system of support for young people living permanently or partially in situations of homelessness.

**Teacher and coordinator of the diploma 'Relational intervention strategies in residential and foster care'.**

**Universidad Catolica: August 2019 - May 2020**

**Main responsibilities:**

- Presentation of the diploma to interested parties to invoke interest.
- Organisation of the diploma and the teachers to ensure the course runs smoothly.
- Teacher for the modules: A relational approach in alternative care; good practice, strategies and relational interventions in alternative care.

**Publications\***

- **Co-author:** *Foster care a method of alternative care in the framework of the new institution of the national service of protection. (Universidad San Sebastián, 2019).*
- **Colaborator:** *Investigation of the revision and analysis of specialised foster care of the direct administration and collaborators. (UNICEF, 2019).*
- **Principal investigator and author:** *Initial processes of recruitment, evaluation, training and allocation of foster care families. (Pro Acogida, 2018).*
- **Associate investigator:** *From statement to right: Quality standards for residential protection homes for children and young people. (Hogar de Cristo 2017). \*All titles have been translated.*

**Professional Experience**

**Independent Consultant in Alternative Care**

**UNICEF: March 2019 - March 2020**

**Main responsibilities:**

- Support the design of the technical guidelines for the Chilean Government's new pilot foster care recruitment, evaluation and training program.
- Support the design of the new pilot for emergency foster care.
- Support the redesign of the technical guidelines for the national foster and kinship programs.
- Complete various reports on foster care: such as an international literature review; the process of fostering and adoption in different countries; emergency foster care; processes for the recruitment and training of foster carers.
- Design and write a manual for the evaluation of foster carers including tools, instruments and ideas for pre-service training

**Shared Country Representative (Chile) Project Trust 2016 - March 2020**

**Main responsibilities:**

- Provide guidance, support and mentoring to young people on their volunteer gap year in Chile.
- Take action in crisis situations to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the young people.
- Source new projects and maintain support to current projects.
- Complete checks and make necessary arrangements to prepare organisations and families in Chile for the arrival of volunteers.

**Participant on the national working group for foster care.**

**Sename: October 2018 - April 2019**

**Main responsibilities:**

- Participate in monthly meetings with professionals and experts involved in foster care.
- Collaborate, provide ideas, information and evidence for the development and improvement of foster care programs.

**Collaboration in the investigation: *Investigation of the revision and analysis of specialised foster care of the direct administration and collaborators.***

**UNICEF - CIDENI: December 2018 - January 2019**

**Main responsibilities:**

- Collaborate with the development of the analysis
- Collaborate with the revision of international literature
- Participate in team meetings.

**Co-Designer for the diploma: Relational intervention strategies in residential and foster care. Universidad Católica: (FOCUS, Pro Acogida). October 2018 - December 2018**

**Main responsibilities:**

- Design of a new diploma for professionals in alternative care using the model of child and youth care relational practice.

**Investigator**

**Universidad San Sebastián: October 2018 - December 2018.**

**Main responsibilities:**

- Revision of international literature comparing residential and foster care, foster care practices and evidence in foster care.
- Collaboration in team meetings.

**Director of investigations**

**Pro Acogida: April 2018 - October 2018**

**Main responsibilities:**

- Responsible for decisions, the execution of plans and leading team meetings.
- Collaboration on the proposals for the government: Proposals for strengthening foster care families in Chile: advancing towards the right to live in a family; and Proposals for alternative care: advancing towards an early family intervention model.
- Presentation of the proposals to the national working group on child protection, a number of the recommendations were then included in the National Agreement for Children (Government of Piñera, April 2019).
- Presentations and lobby to various political ministers: Gabriel Boric, Hugo Gutiérrez, Juan Antonio Coloma, Carolina Marzán and Francesca Muñoz.
- Responsible for the investigation, organisation of volunteers and the writing of the study: *Initial processes of recruitment, evaluation, training and allocation of foster care families.*

**Manager of residential children's home (girls: 5-18 years)**

**Hogar de Cristo: October 2017 - March 2018**

**Main responsibilities:**

Management of the daily running of the children's home.

Meeting the needs of the children and ensuring their wellbeing.

Providing emotional contention in times of crisis, aggression and violence.

Supporting learning within the lifespace for children and their workers.

Promoting strengths based practices to encourage resilience both in the children and workers.

Supporting understanding of trauma needs.

Providing supervision to a team of 12 individuals including a psychologist, social worker and direct care workers.

Ensuring the management and monitoring of interventions.

Providing emergency responses to families in crisis via home visits, support and counselling.

Providing on call support 24/7 via mobile phone.

Management and supervision of finances.

Management of volunteers: recruiting, retention and care.

Providing regular feedback to managerial staff and seeking guidance from senior managers.

Inter agency working with police, tribunals, NGOs and other social work agencies.

Meeting the demands and needs of the institution.

**Residential Child Care Researcher, Department of Social Work Studies**

**Hogar de Cristo: 2015 - 2017**

**Researcher investigating the needs of children in children's homes and the standards required to meet these needs.**

**Main responsibilities:**

Shared responsibility in the design and planning of the research.

Completion of an international literature review on best practices in residential childcare, models of residential care and standards of care.  
Assessment, review, and synthesis of international standards in residential child care.  
Use of the RAND framework to determine essential standards of residential child care.  
Primary interviewer in each of the 30+ interviews conducted with children.  
Secondary interviewer in interviews with families, young adults who have left care (home visits) and staff (focus groups).  
Provision of feedback within the team, generating and translating ideas to support the development of the research.  
Involved in providing the foundational information for the development of a new practice model to be implemented in two pilot adolescent residential homes.

**Children and Families Social Worker, South Lanarkshire Council, Scotland 2005 - 2015**

**Main responsibilities:**

Provide advice, guidance and assistance to parents and their children.  
Assess and manage need and risk to ensure the wellbeing of children and adolescents. Use the appropriate legislation and policies to manage the protection of children.  
Work with families to negotiate and make decisions to ensure the protection of children.  
Work with children and families developing relationships to support interventions to encourage positive change.  
Work in partnership with agencies to share information and meet the needs of the child and family.  
Attend meetings in various settings, presenting assessments and information relevant to the situation to help inform decisions.  
Record keeping, report writing, review of documents and assessments as required.  
Working within deadlines for the Children's Hearing and court processes.

**Education**

**Honorary Research Fellow Strathclyde University: 2015 - 2017**

I was nominated for this position due to my involvement in the research with Hogar de Cristo.

**MPhil: Strathclyde University 2009 - 2015**

Answering the research question:

"What are social workers needs in engaging in direct work with children and young people?"

**BA DipSW in Residential Child Care: Strathclyde University 2002-2005**

**Languages**

Native English speaker. Fluent Spanish speaker.

**Other Achievements**

Reiki Master 2013 - 2018, Reiki Chile.

Life Coaching Diploma with Achievement Specialists 2014 - 2015

This diploma involved 9 months of study and supervision and 50 hours of voluntary coaching.

**Early Achievements**

Project Trust volunteer in Hogar de Cristo (Chile), living in a girls home, working in a nursery 2000-2001.

Volunteer girls home Hogar de Cristo (two months, 2003).

Head Girl Berwick upon Tweed High School (1999-2000).

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze, Silver and Gold (1995 - 1999).