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**Loren (Greene) Toto**  
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## EDUCATION

2030  
(EXPECTED) Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)  
Social Work  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

2020 Master of Social Work (MSW)  
Specialization: Management and Policy  
Area of Emphasis: Social Policy  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

2016 Bachelor of Arts  
Psychology  
Summa Cum Laude  
Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Child welfare policy and practice; child and family well-being; community and social support; poverty, material hardship, and economic insecurity; income and wealth inequality; program implementation and evaluation.

## LICENSURE

2021 – Present, Licensed Social Worker, #44SL06734100, New Jersey

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2022 – Present *Senior Project Coordinator*  
Project: Elevating Youth and Family Voice in Continuous Quality Improvement to Inform Child Welfare Service Delivery  
PI: Cory Morton  
Center for Prevention Science, School of Social Work, Rutgers University  
Responsibilities:

- Lead research project management for the NJ Department of Children and Families' Youth and Family Interview Team, overseeing a large-scale qualitative evaluation.
- Design, implement, and refine data instruments and protocols for over 500 annual qualitative and quantitative interviews with youth

and families involved with the Division of Child Protection and Permanency.

- Prepare and submit IRB applications; manage and ensure compliance with research protocols; supervise, mentor, and train both full-time and student researchers.
- Facilitate data collection, analysis, and reporting for stakeholder communication, synthesizing findings to inform best practices and enhance casework quality.

2021 – 2022

*Project Coordinator*

Project: Promising Path to Success 2.0 Evaluation

PI: Cory Morton

Center for Prevention Science, School of Social Work, Rutgers University

Responsibilities:

- Coordinated evaluation for the NJ Children's System of Care's Promising Path to Success 2.0 initiative, supporting an externally funded grant focused on building a trauma-informed, healing centered, and youth and family-driven system of care in NJ.
- Managed literature reviews, qualitative and quantitative data collection, and analysis processes to support evidence-based reporting and policy recommendations.
- Collaborated extensively with multidisciplinary stakeholders, including state agencies and healthcare providers, to design, test, and adapt evaluation tools and ensure the efficacy of program initiatives.
- Established and tracked research timelines and deliverables to maintain data integrity and ensure project adherence to grant objectives.

2018 –2019

*Research Assistant*

PI: Chien-Chung Huang

Huamin Research Center, School of Social Work, Rutgers University

Responsibilities:

- Organized and supervised a service-learning research initiative for 15 undergraduates in Beijing, China, advancing global social work insights through cross-cultural collaboration.
- Conducted a quantitative study on mindfulness training for youth, resulting in two peer-reviewed publications, showcasing the research team's impact on youth behavioral health interventions.

2017 – 2019

*Research Assistant*

PI: Lenna Nempomnyaschy

School of Social Work, Rutgers University

Responsibilities:

- Gathered state-level data on public policies affecting low-income families, contributing to foundational research on father involvement and socioeconomic support systems.

- Supported data-driven inquiries into public policy’s role in shaping family dynamics, building experience in data collection, analysis, and academic presentation.

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2020 - 2021      *Digital Communications Manager*

New Jersey Citizen Action

Responsibilities:

- Strategically translated complex policy topics—such as financial justice, health care access, and anti-poverty initiatives—into accessible, impactful digital campaigns, enhancing public understanding and engagement.
- Built partnerships with nonprofits, state agencies, and advocacy groups to develop educational content and events, cultivating a deep awareness of social policy implementation and community advocacy.
- Led digital fundraising and donor communication efforts across email, social media, and online platforms, honing skills in effective dissemination of information and stakeholder engagement essential for research dissemination.

2018 - 2020      *Research Assistant*

Social Work Policy Network, School of Social Work, Rutgers University

Responsibilities:

- Researched, curated, and disseminated policy insights and academic opportunities through a high-impact weekly newsletter reaching over 1,000 social work professionals and students.
- Selected and synthesized relevant developments in state and federal policy, social science research, and professional events, emphasizing accessibility and engagement.

2016 - 2018      *Residential Counselor*

Triple C Housing, Inc.

Responsibilities:

- Provided critical support services across domains including mental health, substance use, and housing, developing tailored intervention plans informed by evidence-based practices.
- Designed and implemented individual and group treatment plans and behavioral interventions, gaining experience in program evaluation and client progress assessments.
- Engaged in regular assessments of client well-being, which contributed to a foundational understanding of diverse social determinants of health and resilience—a perspective essential for conducting research with vulnerable populations

## PEER REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

**Greene, L.,** Morton, C., & Alexander, L. (2022). *Effectiveness of the Nurtured Heart Approach Training Program for Resource Parents*. Poster presented at the Council on Social Work Education Conference. Anaheim, CA.

Huang, C. C., Chen, Y., **Greene, L.**, Cheung, S., Wei, Y. (2019). Resilience and emotional and behavioral problems of adolescents in China: Effects of a short-term and intensive mindfulness and life skills training. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 100, 291-297.

Huang, C-C, Chen, Y, Cheung, S, **Greene, L.**, Lu, S. (2019) Resilience, emotional problems, and behavioural problems of adolescents in China: Roles of mindfulness and life skills. *Health Soc Care Community*. 27: 1158– 1166. <https://doi.org/10.1111/hsc.12753>

## MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW AND IN PREPARATION

**Toto, L.**, Goodwin, J., & Morton, C. M. Applying continuous quality improvement to solve research problems: Lessons learned from a qualitative evaluation team engaged in a rapid-cycle, large-scale child welfare evaluation

Nonas-Barnes, L., Morton, C.M., & **Toto, L.** Adapting and Implementing a DBT Consultation Team Model to meet the needs of a Child Welfare Evaluation Team

Alexander, L., Nonas-Barnes, L., **Toto, L.**, Goodwin, J., & Morton, C.M. (under review). Applying the Nurtured Heart Approach® to resource parenting: A mixed methods analysis. Submitted 7/28/2025 to *Journal of Public Child Welfare*.

Morton, C.M., Alexander, L.A., Nonas-Barnes, L., **Toto, L.**, Addison, S.M., Thiruvankadam, N. (under review). Integrating Lived Experience on Interagency Coordinating Councils: Engaging Youth and Family Voice within a Children's System of Care. Submitted 9/30/2025 to *Children and Youth Service Review*

Morton, C.M., **Toto, L.**, Nonas-Barnes, L., & Addison, S. Reimagining Quality Improvement through Family Voice: A Collaborative Model for Interview Tool Development in Child Welfare

## TECHNICAL REPORTS

Nonas-Barnes, L., Morton, C.M., **Toto, L.** & Goodwin, J. (2025). *Collaborative Quality Improvement: Survey Development Report*. Technical report submitted to New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Office of Quality. Trenton, NJ, 18 pages.

Morton, C.M., **Toto, L.** & Goodwin, J., Addison, S., Cuadra Pagan, G., Fernandez, A., King, J. (2025). Collaborative Quality Improvement Cohort 4 Cycle 2 Local Office Reports: Atlantic West, Camden North, Cape May, Essex North, Hudson West, Mercer South, Middlesex West, Morris West, Ocean North, Salem, & Union Central. Technical reports

submitted to New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency, Trenton, NJ, 99 pages.

**Toto, L.**, Moton, C. M., Goodwin, J. (2024). *Youth and Family Interview Statewide Brief*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Office of Quality, Trenton, NJ, 26 pages

Morton, C.M., **Toto, L.** & Goodwin, J., Addison, S., Cuadra Pagan, G., Fernandez, A., King, J. (2024). *Collaborative Quality Improvement Cohort 3 Cycle 2 Local Office Reports: Burlington West, Camden Central, Essex Central, Gloucester West, Hudson South, Hunterdon, Mercer North, Middlesex Central, Middlesex Coastal, Monmouth South, Newark Center City, & Sussex*. Technical reports submitted to New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency, Trenton, NJ, 169 pages.

Morton, C.M., **Toto, L.** & Goodwin, J., King, J. & Nonas-Barnes, L. (2024). *Collaborative Quality Improvement Cohort 2 Cycle 2 Local Office Reports: Atlantic East, Bergen South, Bergen Central, Camden East, Cumberland West, Essex South, Gloucester East, Monmouth North, Newark Northeast, Passaic North, Union East, & Warren*. Technical reports submitted to New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency, Trenton, NJ, 135 pages.

Morton, C.M., Alexander, L., & **Toto, L.** (2024). *Promising Pathways to Success Final Evaluation Report*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care, Trenton, NJ, 136 pages.

Alexander, L., Morton, C.M., & **Toto, L.** (2024). *Promising Pathways to Success Evaluation Quarterly Report October-December 2023*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care, Trenton, NJ, 47 pages.

**Toto, L.** (2023). *Community needs assessment*. Technical report submitted to The New Jersey Citizen Action Education Fund, Highland Park, NJ, 29 pages.

Alexander, L., Morton, C.M., & **Toto, L.** (2023). *Promising Pathways to Success Evaluation Quarterly Report July-September 2023*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care, Trenton, NJ, 17 pages.

Alexander, L., Morton, C.M., & **Toto, L.** (2023). *Promising Pathways to Success Evaluation Quarterly Report April-June 2023*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care, Trenton, NJ, 27 pages.

Alexander, L., Morton, C.M., & **Toto, L.** (2023). *Promising Pathways to Success Evaluation Quarterly Report January-March 2023*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care, Trenton, NJ, 50 pages.

Morton, C.M., **Toto, L.**, Alexander, L., & Addison, S. (2023). *Promising Pathways to Success Evaluation Quarterly Report October-December 2022*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care, Trenton, NJ, 27 pages

Morton, C.M., **Toto, L.**, & Alexander, L. (October 2022). *Promising Pathways to Success Evaluation Quarterly Report July-September 2022*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care, Trenton, NJ, 27 pages.

**Toto, L.**, Morton, C.M., & Alexander, L. (July 2022). *Promising Pathways to Success Evaluation Quarterly Report April-June 2022*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care, Trenton, NJ, 27 pages.

**Toto, L.**, Morton, C.M., & Alexander, L. (April 2022). *Promising Pathways to Success Evaluation Quarterly Report January-March 2022*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care, Trenton, NJ, 27 pages.

**Toto, L.**, Morton, C.M., & Alexander, L. (January 2022). *Promising Pathways to Success Evaluation Quarterly Report October-December 2021*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care, Trenton, NJ, 27 pages.

**Toto, L.**, Morton, C.M., & Alexander, L. (October 2021). *Promising Pathways to Success Evaluation Quarterly Report July-September 2021*. Technical report submitted to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care, Trenton, NJ, 27 pages.

## **SERVICE**

School of Social Work Building Representative, URA-AFT Local 1766, June 2023 – October 2024

Mercer County Juvenile Conference Committee, September 2022 – Present

New Jersey Citizen Action, September 2021 – December 2023