



Silvia Juarez-Marazzo, LCSW, NCPsyA

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Silvia Juarez-Marazzo is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Nationally Accredited Psychoanalyst. Originally from Buenos Aires, Argentina, Silvia fell in love with young children and their inner world when she began to work as an educator for young children with unique emotional needs in the slums and peasant communities of Buenos Aires thirty-three years ago. Her work as an educator, psychotherapist, and social worker has been grounded in both relational and trauma perspectives, and centered on the core belief that there is no such thing as a child: there is a child, his caregiver(s), and their community. Thus Child First, where she has worked since 2005, seems to be the most natural home for her professional life. Silvia has a passion for learning; she strongly believes that to become healed and whole, we must be fully present in our heart and mind so that we can be present for the families we serve. She has a strong passion for teaching, and in that process, she has discovered that she is both the teacher and the student. Child First has offered Silvia a rich and fertile ground, where practicing Child-Parent Psychotherapy brings alive the theories and knowledge that she brings to both her clinical and reflective supervisory role for the Child First Program in Connecticut.

In 2010, Silvia discovered, through the deeply transformative experience at the Infant Parent Mental Health Fellowship at the University of Massachusetts, led by Dr. Ed Tronick, that creating "cuentos," or short illustrated stories for children, can help scaffold the integration of the Latino-American immigrant mothers' experiences about their journey into motherhood as a new avenue for both self-discovery and therapeutic action. She published her first cuento, "Mamá Cuéntame Como Viniste," in 2013. This book creates a dialogue that helps mothers remember, share and embrace their untold stories with their children. "Mamá Cuéntame Como Viniste," was invited to the 2014 Los Angeles Times Book Fair and will be reviewed and showcased at the *Publisher's Weekly Magazine*. Silvia is currently working on her next "cuento," expanding on these mothers' stories of courage, love and hope.