



Agnieszka Rykaczewska began her evaluation career as a research associate evaluating a mental health intervention program for youth ages 14 to 21. In addition to assisting the implementation of the evaluation, she developed engaging and interactive trainings on evaluation for program staff and, in an innovative approach, worked closely with program youth to disseminate data to the community through theatrical and artistic performances.

Finding her passion in using data to support learning and decision-making, Dr. Rykaczewska pursued a dual Master's and PhD in Claremont Graduate University's Evaluation and Applied Research Methods program. Simultaneously, she managed the evaluations of a variety of educational programs, ranging from STEM education and career and trade skill development, to afterschool programming and curriculum frameworks at the Claremont Evaluation Center. For example, she led the evaluation of The Learning Center at the Los Angeles Fairplex, a program intended to provide career skills and support academic progress of high school students at risk of dropout. At the same time, she co-managed the evaluation of International Baccalaureate's Middle Years Program by leading extensive literature and document reviews, development of a performance monitoring framework, survey creation and administration in three languages with over 1400 sites across 150 countries, and data analysis and tailored reporting. In Fall 2017, Dr. Rykaczewska worked at United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in a collaboration with the Claremont Evaluation Center New York to form leadership training in evaluation for UN diplomats.

Since 2018, Dr. Rykaczewska has lead system measurement efforts at First 5 LA, a county commission focused on improving conditions for young children and their families in L.A. County. She lead the development of an organization-wide measurement tool to measure progress on strategic goals and inform system change strategies. She also provides thought partnership and technical assistance on evaluation projects related to home visiting and early identification and intervention initiatives.

Dr. Rykaczewska's research focuses on improving communication of evaluation findings, exploring evaluator roles, and building methods to identify and mitigate evaluation anxiety.