

ESMERALDA J. RUBALCAVA HERNANDEZ, LMSW

Phone: 915-490-5256 Ejr9470@mavs.uta.edu ORCID: https://orcid.org/0009-0002-2509-9695 https://www.uta.edu/academics/schoolscolleges/social-work/stories/esmeraldarubalcava-hernandez

EDUCATION

PhD University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work

Dissertation: "Social Work Collaborations with Police and Immigration Enforcement Through Critical Race and

Anticolonial Conceptual Frameworks"

Committee: Marcela Nava, PhD, MPP, MSSW (chair); Christian Vazquez, PhD; Sofia Fantus, PhD, MSW; Laurie Cook Heffron,

PhD, LMSW

Anticipate Defense Date: December 2026

MSW University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work

Concentration: Clinical

BA St. Edward's University

Honors: Summa Cum Laude

HONORS AND AWARDS

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Integrated Behavioral Health Scholar, The University of Texas at Austin (\$10,000)

Outstanding Social Work Student of the Year

Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society

December 2026 (projected)

August 2020

May 2019

2019-2020

2019-Present

2019

Esmeralda J. Rubalcava Hernandez is committed to anti-oppressive, liberatory pedagogy that centers marginalized voices and fosters critical consciousness. She has taught interdisciplinary undergraduate courses designing dynamic syllabi that integrate guest speakers, interactive tools, and culturally relevant content. Her teaching creates decolonial spaces where students critically engage with systems of power and develop the skills to advocate for equity and justice in their communities.

St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas **Adjunct Professor**, School of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Introduction to Social Work SOCW1301

August 2025-present

The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas

January 2025-May 2025

Adjunct Professor, School of Social Work

Introduction to Social Work (Online Synchronous) SOCW2361

- Taught 19 interdisciplinary undergraduate students in an online, synchronous class
- Designed and created class syllabus, lectures, reading schedule, assignments, discussions, and class activities
- Incorporated guest speakers on Sri Lankan intersectionality
- Held weekly office hours and lectures in person
- Used online tools such as Kahoot to enhance class participation and learning

St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas

January 2025-May 2025

Adjunct Professor, School of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Race, Class, & Gender SOCW 4343/SOCI 4343

- Taught 20 interdisciplinary undergraduate students in in-person Race, Class, and Gender class.
- Designed and created class syllabus, lectures, reading schedule, assignments, discussions, and class activities
- Incorporated guest lecturers on Whiteness, Indigeneity, Know Your Rights
- Held weekly office hours and lectures in person and online

St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas

August 2024-December 2024

Adjunct Professor, School of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Race, Class, & Gender SOCW 4343/SOCI 4343

- Taught 18 interdisciplinary undergraduate students in in-person Race, Class, and Gender class.
- Designed and created class syllabus, lectures, reading schedule, assignments, discussions, and class activities
- Incorporated guest lecturers on Whiteness and Indigeneity.
- Held weekly office hours and lectures in person and online

St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas

January 2024-May 2024

Adjunct Professor, School of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Introduction to Social Work SOCW1301

- Taught 23 interdisciplinary undergraduate students in an in-person Intro to Social Work class
- Designed and created class syllabus, lectures, reading schedule, assignments, discussions, and class activities
- Incorporated guest speakers on policing and immigration.
- Held weekly office hours and lectures in person and online

The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas

August 2023-December 2023

Adjunct Professor, School of Social Work

U.S. Immigration Policy and the American Dream SOCW3320

- Taught 25 interdisciplinary undergraduate students in an in-person U.S. Immigration Policy class
- Designed and created class syllabus, lectures, reading schedule, assignments, discussions, and class activities
- Incorporated guest speakers on Sri Lankan immigration and social work and Indigenous populations.
- Held weekly office hours and lectures in person
- Used online tools such as Kahoot to enhance class participation and learning

St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas

August 2019- December 2019

Teaching Assistant, School of Behavioral and Social Sciences

- Teaching Assistant for Adam McCormick, Ph.D., LMSW, Assistant Professor of Social Work at St. Edward's University
- Lectured to introduction social work class about women's issues in social work
- Lectured to Introduction to Social Work class about social work and race

GUEST LECTURING

- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. (2023, October 11). Advocacy at the Texas Capitol, SOCW 3303 Social Welfare Policy and Services, BSW Class. [PowerPoint Slides]. School of Social Work. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. (2023, February 20). Humanizing Immigrants, SOCW 5345 Special Topics in Health Equity, MSW Class. [PowerPoint Slides]. School of Social Work. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. (2021, November 1). Forced Migration, BSW Class. Department of Social Work. St. Edward's University.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. (2019). Social Work and Race, BSW Social Work Class [PowerPoint Slides]. Department of Social Work. St. Edward's University.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. (2019). Women's Issues and Social Work, BSW Class. [PowerPoint Slides]. Department of Social Work. St. Edward's University.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Esmeralda's research centers on anti-colonial and abolitionist approaches to social work, with a focus on the intersections of immigration, policing, and racial justice predominantly in Black, Indigenous, and Latine communities. Her work bridges academic and grassroots knowledge, co-producing research with community partners to advance liberation-oriented, anti-oppressive social work practices and pedagogy.

Graduate Research Assistant to Marcela Nava, PhD, MPP, MSSW

September 2022-Present

School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas

- Managed team of 5 MSW students
- Performed qualitative thematic analysis for photovoice project
- Co-authored NIH grant for Tarrant County Healthy Communities
- Created video outline with RAICES
- Co-wrote on anti-oppressive pedagogy

Research Partner to Laurie Cook Heffron, Ph.D., LMSW,

June 2023-Present

School of Behavioral and Social Sciences, St. Edwards's University, Austin, Texas

- Co-created a community-based participatory action research study and co-facilitated focus group interviews
- Participated in community advisory board meetings and community events held by community advisory board
- Performed qualitative thematic analysis
- Presented to joint, interprofessional class on language justice
- Participated in language justice practice seminar

Graduate Research Assistant to Kirk Foster, Ph.D.

September 2024-January 2025

School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington

• Analyzed photovoice data using NVivo software for a book publication

• Troubleshot NVivo software

Graduate Research Assistant to Bethany Wood, Ph.D., MSW, CSWSchool of Social Work, The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington

- Collaborated on preparing and submitting manuscripts focused on Latinx-mental health for publication Graded student presentations
- Prepared abstracts for research conferences
- Collaborated on Council for Social Work Education Presentation
- Collaborated on Society for Social Work Research Presentation
- Graded student presentations for two sections of Master of Social Work Research Methods classes.

Graduate Research Assistant to Carmen Valdez, Ph.D., M.S June 2019-January 2020; April 2020-August 2020

Department of Population Health, Dell Medical School, Austin, Texas

- Translated legal documents for Latinx Youth Mental Health research project
- Spoke at Women's Empowerment Conference on Maternal Depression
- Gained experience working with a team in the process of and after IRB submission
- Coordinated and facilitated focus groups for Latinx Youth Mental Health community-based participatory research study

RESEARCH FUNDING

Dissertation Research Enhancement Grant (\$2,000)	April 2025
PhD Dean's Fellowship (\$2000)	January 2025
Social Work STEM Doctoral Fellowship (\$1914)	January 2025
Social Work STEM Doctoral Fellowship (\$1914)	September 2024
PhD Dean's Fellowship (\$2000)	September 2024
Social Work STEM Doctoral Fellowship (\$1914)	February 2024
PhD Dean's Fellowship (\$2000)	August 2023
PhD Dean's Fellowship (\$1000)	January 2023
School of Social Work Start-Up Fellowship (\$1000)	August 2022
Leadership Development Travel Scholarship (1,787)	September 2023
Social Work Endowment (\$1,000)	September 2023
10T2OD035659-01(PI Fulmer, L) National Institutes of Health via Healthy Tarrant County Collaboration Award: \$331,870 09/20/23-09/19/28 Community-Led Structural Intervention to Address Health Consequences of	September-2023 - March-2025
Community Eco 3d actural intervention to Address freath Consequences of Community Folice interactions	

THE NIH Common Fund launched a new community-led research program in 2023 to address underlying factors that contribute to community health disparities. This award to a community-based organization will leverage academic-community partnerships to develop a structural intervention that addresses local policing practices which disproportionately impact racially and politically minoritized groups. Role: Graduate Research Assistant

Integrated Behavioral Health Scholar, The University of Texas at Austin (\$10,000)

2019-2020

PUBLICATIONS

Book Contributions

Maulding, R., Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. (2021). Contributing author, "Social Identity Reflection" in Faulkner, M. & Gonzalez, M. (Eds.), Advanced Research Methods in Social Work (2nd ed.). University of Texas at Arlington. [Open Educational Resource (OER), peer-reviewed textbook]. https://uta.pressbooks.pub/advancedresearchmethodsinsw/

Journal Articles

- **Rubalcava Hernandez, E. J.,** Bayhi, J., Dew, S., & Nava, M. (2025). The public health impacts of discretionary arrests on Black/African American communities in the United States: A Scoping Review protocol. Retrieved from osf.io/p5mz2
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E. J., Bayhi, J. L., Herron, C., Dew, S., & Nava, M. (2024). A scoping review protocol to assess the health impacts of discretionary arrests on the LGBTQ+ community in the United States. Retrieved from osf.io/p5mz2
- Wood, B., Cubbin, C., **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.**, DiNitto, D., Vohra-Gupta, S., Baiden, P., & Mueller, E. (2023). The price of growing up in a low-income neighborhood: A scoping review of associated depressive symptoms and other mood disorders among children and adolescents. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.
- Wood, B., Cubbin, C., Paxton Ward, K., **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.** (2023). The Link Between ACEs, Income, and Maternal Depressive Symptoms Through a Racial and Ethnic Lens: A Moderated-Mediation Analysis. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mhp.2023.200284
- Cook Heffron, L., Wachter, K., & **Rubalcava Hernandez, E. J.** (2022). "Mi Corazón se Partió en Dos":

 Transnational Motherhood at the Intersection of Migration and Violence. International journal of environmental research and public health, 19(20), 13404. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph192013404

IN PREPARATION

- Reyna, L., Praetorius, R., Nava, M., & **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.** (in preparation). "It's just Horrifically Exacerbated Now": Immigrants' Barriers to Care No sabian que éramos semillas: How Hispanic immigrants navigate structural barriers to care.
- Nava, M., **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.,** & Perez, J. (in preparation). Decolonizing the social work classroom through pedagogical and curricular forms of resistance from intersectional Black, Latine, and Indigenous voices and perspectives.
- Cook Heffron, L., **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.,** & Murillo Trejo (in preparation). Language Justice in Social Work Education and Practice through the Nepantlera Framework. McCormick, A., Rubalcava Hernandez E.J., & Machado N. (in preparation). Breaking the Silence on Palestine: A social Work Pedagogy of Resistance. Abolitionist Perspectives in Social Work.
- **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.**, Cook Heffron, L., & Murillo Trejo (in preparation). Language Justice in Social Work Education and Practice through the Nepantlera Framework.

Under Review

Rubalcava Hernandez, E. J., Bayhi, J. L., Herron, C., Dew, S., Margaritis, W., DeBerry, L.S, & Nava, M. (under review). The Public Health Consequences of Officer Discretion in Arrests Affecting LGBTQ+ Communities in the United States: A Scoping Review.

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

Peer-Reviewed Oral Presentations

- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., Cook Heffron L, Murillo-Trejo, A.L. (2024, November 8). Language Justice in Social Work Education & Practice: Assets and Need. National Association of Social Workers-Texas Conference.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., & Cook Heffron L. (2024, November 7). Operation Lonestar: Know Your Rights Campaigns Amid Anti-Immigrant Policies. National Association of Social Workers-Texas Conference.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., Wood, B., & Vazquez, C. (2024, October 26). Night and Day: Racial Disparities in Police Arrests Across Black and Latine Communities in Travis County, 2020. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., & Cook Heffron L. (2024, October 25). Operation Lonestar: Know Your Rights Campaigns Amid Anti-Immigrant Policies. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., Cook Heffron L, Murillo-Trejo, Ana Luisa. (2024, October 25). Language Justice in Social Work Education & Practice: Assets and Need. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. & Wood, B. (2023, October 27). The link between ACES, income, and maternal depressive symptoms through a racial/ethnic lens. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting.

- Fulmer, L., & Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., (2023, October 25). Healthy Tarrant County collaboration: Together for Tarrant County. 2023 HTCC Community Partner Breakfast & UTA BS Public Health Moving Forward Conference.
- Cook Heffron, L. & Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. (2022, October 14). Mi corazon se partio en dos: Transnational mothering amid violence. 2022 NASW Texas Hybrid Conference.

Poster Presentations

- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., Wood, B., & Vazquez, C. (January 2025). Night and Day: Racial Disparities in Police Arrests Across Black and Latine Communities in Travis County, 2020. Society for Social Work Research Conference.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. & Wood, B. (2023, October 27). The link between ACES, income, and maternal depressive symptoms through a racial/ethnic lens. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting.

Panel Presentations

- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., Franco, S., Libal, B., & Padilla, V. (2024, September 25). Detention & Migrant Justice. St. Edward's University.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. Tomlinson, A., Maxwell, D.R. (2023, September 21). No mas bebes. The University of Texas at Arlington.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., Johnson, M., Branscum, A., Prado, I. (2023, April 14). Post BSW Panel. St. Edward's University.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., Vasquez, M., Carson, S., Gayles, A., & Rogers, L. (2023, March 3). REAL town hall. Social Work Advocacy at Texas State Capitol.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., Scales, C., Lee, E., Willaims, K., Tadena, L. & Puglisi, J. (2022, October 21). Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Staff Development Day. Austin Public Library, Central Library.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J., Branscum, A. (2023). Graduate Panel. St. Edward's University.

Community Facing Presentations

- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. (2025, August 5). Know Your Rights Campaigns Amid Anti-Immigrant Policies.
- Cook Heffron, L., & **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.** (2025, March 5). Community Response & Resistance to Operation Lonestar: Know Your Rights Campaigns Amid Anti-Immigrant Policies. Parkland Hospital.
- **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.,** & Soltero, E. (2025, February 20). Immigration Facts and Policies. Phi Alpha Honor Society for Social Work. University of Texas at Arlington.
- **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.** (2025, February 16). Immigration Facts and Policies. Williamson County Democrats Meeting.
- Hash, C. & **Rubalcava Hernandez, E. J.** (January 2025). Know Your Rights & Mental Health Impacts of Deportation and Detention Threats for Schools and Youth. Immigrant Legal Resource Center.

- Gray, K., & **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.** (2024 August 24). Educational equity: Growing together. Round Rock Independent School District Council of Parent Teacher Conferences Training Day.
- **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.,** (2023, March 4) Latinidad and White Supremacy. Anti-Racists Coming Together, Round Rock.
- Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. (2020, October 27). Semana contra la violencia doméstica. 2020; Refugee Services of Texas. Consulado Genereral de Mexico en Austin.

 https://www.facebook.com/ConsulMexAtn/videos/713508562598984/?extid=CL-UNK-UNK-UNK-IOS GK0T-GK1C&mibextid=irwG9G&ref=sharing
- **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.,** Vasquez, M., Ables, A. (2019, September 21). Maternal depression [Bilingual presentation]. Women's Empowerment Conference.

Opinion Publications

Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J. (2023, August 19). Letter to the editor; Back off book bans. Austin Chronicle. https://www.austinchronicle.com/feedback/2023-08-19/3061808/

Guest Lectures

- **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.** (2023, October 11). Advocacy at the Texas Capitol, SOCW 3303 Social Welfare Policy and Services, BSW Class. [PowerPoint Slides]. School of Social Work. University of Texas at Arlington.
- **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.** (2023, February 20). Humanizing Immigrants, SOCW 5345 Special Topics in Health Equity, MSW Class. [PowerPoint Slides]. School of Social Work. University of Texas at Arlington.
- **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.** (2021, November 1). Forced Migration, BSW Class. Department of Social Work. St. Edward's University.
- **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.** (2019). Social Work and Race, BSW Social Work Class [PowerPoint Slides]. Department of Social Work. St. Edward's University.
- **Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.** (2019). Women's Issues and Social Work, BSW Class. [PowerPoint Slides]. Department of Social Work. St. Edward's University.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- Austin Justice Coalition Press Conference Against House Bill 2548. Texas Capitol. (2025, February). Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.
- Recio. Z. (2024, October 3). Panelists voice awareness, advocacy for immigration justice. Hilltop Views. https://www.hilltopviewsonline.com/30008/news/panelists-voice-awareness-advocacy-for-immigration-justice/
- Cruz, C. (2023, April 4). Repartirán Narcan en escuelas del distrito escolar de Round Rock. Univision 62. https://www.univision.com/local/austin-kakw/repartiran-narcan-en-escuelas-del-distrito-escolar-de-round-rock-video

- Cruz, C. (2023, March 21). Conoce cuál es la opinión sobre la propuesta de vouchers escolares en Texas.

 Univision 62. https://www.univision.com/local/austin-kakw/cual-es-la-opinion-sobre-la-propuesta-de-vouchers-escolares-en-texas-video?mibextid=Zxz2cZ
- Ferreira, P. (2022, February 21). Round Rock ISD relaja su mandato de mascarillas ante baja en los casos de covid-19. Univision 62. https://www.univision.com/local/austin-kakw/round-rock-isd-mandato-mascarillas-baja-casos-covid-19-condado-williamson
- We Believe Campaign. (2023, February 13). Protesting Book Bans. https://www.webelieveineducation.org/our-stories/].
- Castro, K. (2022, January 20). Estudiantes de Round Rock abandonan sus clases y exigen más medidas en escuelas ante aumento de covid-19. Univision 62. https://www.univision.com/local/austin-kakw/estudiantes-round-rock-abandonan-clases-exigen-medidas-escuelas-aumento-casos-covid-19
- Figueroa, F. (2022). Round Rock school officials, parents focus on safety. Austin American Statesman. https://www.statesman.com/story/news/local/round-rock/2022/08/12/round-rock-school-officials-parents-focus-on-safety/65391328007/
- Ferreira, P. (2021, November 5). Round Rock ISD anuncia el termino de su programa de aprendizaje virtual. Univision 62. https://www.univision.com/local/austin-kakw/round-rock-isd-anuncia-el-termino-de-su-programa-de-aprendizaje-virtual-video
- Ramos, A. (2021. September 23). Así fue la reunión que generó controversia sobre el uso de mascarillas en Round Rock ISD. Univision 62. https://www.univision.com/local/austin-kakw/asi-fue-la-reunion-que-genero-controversia-sobre-el-uso-de-mascarillas-en-round-rock-isd-video
- Grobe, L. (2020). Graduate students petition for reduced summer tuition due to COVID-19. The Daily Texan. https://thedailytexan.com/2020/04/28/graduate-students-petition-for-reduced-summer-tuition-due-to-covid-19/

Public Testimony

Texas Senate Bill 8 Hearing. (2025, April 15). Texas Capitol. Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.

Round Rock ISD Board of Trustees, Regular Meeting. (2023, August). Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.

Texas Senate Bill 17 Hearing. (2023, April). Texas Capitol. Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.

Round Rock Independent School District Board of Trustees Public Hearing on the Proposed 2022-2023 Budget and tax rate, (2022, June 16). Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.

Round Rock ISD Board of Trustees, Called Meeting. (2021, September 22). Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.

Round Rock ISD Board of Trustees, Called Meeting. (2021, August 16). Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.

Round Rock ISD Board of Trustees, Called Meeting. (2021, June 19). Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.

Round Rock ISD Board of Trustees, Called Meeting. (2021, June 14) Rubalcava Hernandez, E.J.

Social Worker February 2024

Immigrant Legal Resource Center Convening on SB4 and Operation Lone Star, San Antonio, Texas

- Provided clinical services for participants of the convening who experienced activation due to the difficulty of topics on immigration
- Created a list of San Antonio, Tx resources to distribute to convening participants

Social Worker February 2022- May 2022

U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI), Austin, Texas

- Traveled throughout the U.S. to assess safety of unaccompanied minors who experienced the most severe forms of trauma including trafficking and torture before, during, or after migration journey to the U.S.
- Provided crisis intervention and brief clinical interventions for unaccompanied minors experiencing suicidal ideations and domestic violence
- Completed individualized needs assessments with unaccompanied minors and sponsors, and developed case plans with particular attention to culture, language, and special circumstances while assessing appropriateness and safety of sponsorship
- Maintained a high standard of record-keeping according to USCRI and Office of Refugee Resettlement policies and procedures
- Advocated for minor clients within various systems including education, medical, mental health, legal, child welfare while building a network of local pro bono legal resources and service providers to facilitate access for unaccompanied minors and sponsors

Family Support Coordinator

April 2021- February 2022

U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI), Austin, Texas

- Traveled throughout the U.S. to assess safety of unaccompanied minors reuniting with sponsors after release from Office of Refugee Resettlement shelters, and assessed for signs of trafficking and maltreatment
- Provided crisis intervention for minors experiencing suicidal ideations and domestic violence and advocated for minor clients within various systems including education, medical, mental health, legal, child welfare
- Provided in-person and virtual culturally and linguistically appropriate case management services to unaccompanied minors, many who are survivors of trafficking and torture
- Developed and administered safety plans, individualized needs assessments
- Maintained high standard of record keeping

STEP Crisis Case Manager

August 2020- December 2020

Refugee Services of Texas, Austin, Texas

- Case-managed adult and minor survivors of sex and labor trafficking, domestic violence, kidnapping and performed evaluations, needs assessments, suicidality assessments
- Responded to trafficking rescue operations and worked alongside Austin Police Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, Hays County Police Department
- Advocated for survivors with legal teams, medical teams and other service providers
- Trained by Office of the Governor and Office of the Attorney General to perform CSE-IT evaluation to assess minors at risk for trafficking
- Entered grant data, spreadsheets, and reports and kept meticulous case notes to the specifications of Refugee Services of Texas

Master of Science in Social Work Intern

January 2020- May 2020

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Healthcare for Homeless Veterans

- Case-managed unhoused veterans experiencing substance abuse as part of an interdisciplinary team within McCabe Treatment Center
- Performed outreach in encampments of people experiencing houselessness, prisons, hospitals, and other governmental facilities
- Attended housing first, wrap around service meetings with Travis County and City of Austin officials
- Provided in-person and telehealth mental health care and case management

Undergraduate Social Work Intern

December 2018- April 2019

Austin Voices for Education and Youth, Juan Navarro High School Family Resource Center, (Formerly Lanier High School)

- Case-managed adult clients and high school students in both Spanish and English
- Provided crisis intervention services to students experiencing suicidality
- Worked alongside Austin Independent School District Police Department officers in administering suicide assessments to students
- Attended and worked community events that benefited the community and provided access to health and mental health resources
- · Advocated for clients within community organizations and in the Texas legislature

ORGANIZING EXPERIENCE

Austin Sanctuary Network

October 2024-Present

Austin, Texas

- Provided education to community members about transgender communities and colonization.
- Coordinated mutual aid for immigrant community members facing or impacted by deportation.

Campaign Event Coordinator

September 2024-December 2025

Melissa Ross for Round Rock Independent School District, Place 2 Campaign, Round Rock & Austin, Texas

- Organized events for Place 2 Round Rock Independent School District Trustee Melissa Ross
- Collaborated with community businesses to organize campaign events for newly elected school board trustee
- Successfully organized Charting a Course for Education Gala Event which raised over \$2,000 towards campaign funds.

Organizing Leadership Team

August 2020-Present

Anti-Racists Coming Together, Round Rock (ACT), Round Rock, Texas

- Organized direct action in Round Rock Independent School District (RRISD) to change racist policies in RRISD and to provide language access at board meetings and in the district
- Facilitated meetings with Round Rock ISD Superintendent, Chief of Police
- Advised as part of community advisory meetings with superintendents and school board trustees
- Led and mediated meetings with local and state political candidates, community stakeholders, and students
- Presented and led anti-racism and equity trainings, created organizational policies and primers for incoming members
- Attended People's Institute for Survival and Beyond Organizer's Convening in New Orleans, La.

Chair of Race, Equity, Accountability, Leadership Committee

February 2022-October 2023

National Association of Social Workers-Texas, Austin Texas

- Collaborated with NASW-Tx Government Relations Director and other Equity Committee Chairs to create testimony against SB17 and SB 14.
- Trained team of 7 social work educators, social work students, and social work practitioners on racial equity within social work.
- Organized and led Social Work Advocacy Day Town Hall Presentation on Social Work and Race at **Texas State Capitol**
- Collaborated on Equity Committee meetings with NASW-Tx President

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Licensed Master Social Worker

Texas, February 2021-Present

The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond Undoing Racism Training

September 2021

Commercial Sexual Exploitation-Identification Tool Training

Austin, Texas, September 2020

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Latinx Faculty & Staff Association

January 2023-Present

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

March 2025- Present Chair

Society for Social Work Research Doctoral Student Committee

Volunteer January 2025

Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference 2025

Member January 2024-March 2025

Society for Social Work Research Doctoral Student Committee

Volunteer January 2024

Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference 2024

Doctoral Student Member September 2023-August 2024

Children and Families Curriculum Committee, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas

Society for Social Work Research Abstract Reviewer

June 2023

June 2023- January 2024

Community Organizer Liaison,

Society for Social Work Research Doctoral Student Committee

Chair August 2024-Present

University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work Doctoral Student Association

President June 2023-August 2024 School of Social Work Doctoral Student Association University of Texas at Arlington

Student Associations and Organizations Presenter GADE Conference, University of Texas at Arlington

March 2023

Member October 2019

CSWE Re-Accreditation Student Meeting University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work, Dean's Conference Room, Austin, Texas

Volunteer Spring 2018

Social Work Border Trip, University of Texas at Austin, St. Edward's University, McAllen, Texas

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Member November 2023-Present

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Committee, Round Rock Independent School District

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Chair August 2024 – Present

Round Rock Independent School District Council of PTAs

Volunteer Coordinator, Ridgeview Middle School PTA August 2024 – Present

Ridgeview Middle School PTA

Equity Chair January 2021 – December 2022

Forest Creek Elementary Equity Committee, Round Rock, Texas

Crisis Volunteer February 2021

Palmer Events Center Warming Shelter, Austin, Texas

Mental Health Collaborator February 2021

Austin Mutual Aid, Round Rock, Texas; Austin, Texas

Credible Fear Interview Translator June 2019

UT School of Law Immigration Clinic, Austin, Texas; Carrizo Springs, Texas

Bilingual Volunteer January 2018 – January 2020

Posada Esperanza & Casa Marianella, Austin, Texas

Troop Leader September 2016 – August 2022

Girl Scouts of America, Round Rock, Texas

Lead Organizer August 2018

The Big Bake Sale for Border Families, Austin, Texas

Babywearing Educator September 2014 – October 2015

Baby Wearing International (BWI) of Northern Virginia, Fairfax, Falls Church,

Alexandria, Centreville, Virginia; Washington D.C.