50TH ANNUAL NASW TEXAS STATE CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 5—7, 2026 | GALVESTON ISLAND CONVENTION CENTER

FACULTY & STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

VISIT US: BOOTH 55

UTA
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
School of Social Work

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Galleon 1
8:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Ethical Trauma-Informed Assessment & Treatment in Family Violence Interventions.

Explore ethical decision-making in family violence assessment and treatment across CPS, probation, and correctional systems, including batterer intervention, survivor-focused family violence education groups, and accountability- based treatment. This session is sponsored by Behavioral Solutions of Texas, LLC. (Ethics, Distinct Populations)

Joseph V. Brown, LCSW, LSOTP, LCDC; Chezamethyst Obi, LCSW; Marissa Mendoza, LMSW, ASOTP; T. Marc Calvert, Attorney; **Jonalyn Brown, UTA-MSW Intern**

Spinnaker
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Beyond the Sentence: The Impact of Parental Incarceration on Children.

Examine the developmental impact of parental incarceration on children and explore trauma-informed, justice-centered social work strategies that promote resilience across clinical, school, and systems settings. (Distinct Populations)clarity, compassion, and effectiveness in clinical, school, and child welfare settings. (Distinct Populations)

Jasmine Davis, LMSW

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Galleon 1
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Burnout, Compassion Fatigue, and Women in Helping Professions: A Gendered Lens.

Women in helping professions experience burnout and compassion fatigue shaped by gendered emotional labor, inequity, and caregiving expectations. This workshop offers intersectional insights, practical boundary-setting tools, and sustainable, healing-centered strategies for restoration.

Dr. Jessica Sanchez, LMSW, MEd; Sarah Wellborn, MSSW, LCSW; Shunale Oliver, DSW, MSW; Vanessa Cordoba, LMSW

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Galleon 1
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Supervising in a Shifting Landscape: Regulatory Updates and Real-World Practice.

Texas supervision requirements are evolving. This panel brings together members of the NASW-TX Supervision Workgroup to discuss recent regulatory changes, address frequently asked supervisory questions, and share practical strategies for providing effective, ethical clinical supervision today. (Supervision)

Brandi Felderhoff, PhD, LCSW-S, APHSW-C; **Stephanie Books, LCSW-S; Kiva Harper, LCSW-S**; Tamera Linseisen, ACSW, LCSW-S; Angie Lutts, LCSW-S

Ballroom B
10:30 AM - 12:00PM

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Social Work: Ethics, Equity, and Professional Responsibility.

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Laura Hernandez Gold, LCSW-S; Ly-Huong Barrett, JD, LCSW; Dr. Denetria Brooks-James, DSW, LCSW; **Dr. Mansi Patel, LMSW, MBA;** Michael Daley, PhD, LMSW-AP; Amy Eskelsen, LCSW-S, MBA

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM **Networking Lunch in the Exhibit Hall. Sponsored by The University of Texas at Arlington.**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Harbor
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Expanding Clinical Practice: Integrating Sound, Tarot, and Culturally Rooted Care.

Expand your therapeutic toolkit by exploring the ethical integration of sound healing and tarot as culturally responsive, decolonized practices that support client insight, healing, and overall well-being.

Sarah Herrera, PhD, LCSW-S; **Jessica Sanchez, PhD, LMSW, MEd**

2026 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Dr. Norman H. Cobb LCSW

Each year, the Texas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers selects a social worker for this award to celebrate a lifetime of accomplishments. In honoring the Lifetime Achievement Award winner, NASW Texas recognizes the best social work values and accomplishments demonstrated throughout the social worker's lifetime. Recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Awards demonstrate repeated outstanding achievements, make contributions of lasting impact, exemplify outstanding creativity, and receive recognition beyond the social work profession.

Dr. Norman H. Cobb has devoted more than four decades to social work education, clinical practice, mentorship, and professional development. He earned his MSW from the University of Texas at Arlington and his PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Cobb held faculty positions at Dana College, the University of North Texas, and the University of Texas at Arlington, where he served on the School of Social Work faculty for 33 years before retiring in 2022. His teaching, scholarship, and clinical practice focused extensively on mental health theory and treatment.

Among Dr. Cobb's most enduring contributions is his commitment to preparing social workers for professional licensure. His licensing exam preparation program grew from workshops for UTA graduates into a resource serving social workers across Texas and nationally. More than 2,500 social workers have passed licensing examinations with support from his courses and materials, with a reported 91% pass rate. He has also provided clinical supervision to more than 200 graduates pursuing advanced licensure.

Dr. Cobb's excellence in teaching has been recognized with numerous university and system-level honors, including UTA's President's Award for Excellence in Teaching and the University of Texas System Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award. He also directed UTA's mental health clinic, integrating classroom instruction with hands-on clinical education and supervision.

Nationally recognized with the NASW Pioneer Award, Dr. Cobb's lifelong dedication to education, clinical excellence, mentorship, and professional development reflects the enduring values and mission of social work.

Application Deadlines

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Galleon 2
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Beyond Behavior: Trauma, Masculinity, and the Hidden Stories Shaping Boys.

Boys and men often express trauma through behavior rather than words, leaving helping professionals struggling to understand what they are seeing. This session offers a trauma-informed framework for understanding how childhood narratives and survival adaptations shape behavior, identity, and relationships across the lifespan. Participants will learn to recognize the story beneath behavior, reframe trauma responses as adaptive, and apply practical strategies to support boys and men with greater clarity, compassion, and effectiveness in clinical, school, and child welfare settings. (Distinct Populations)

Adam McCormick, MSSW, PhD

Ballroom C
2:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Professional Transitions in Social Work Education and Ethics in Clinical Supervision.

As NASW Texas celebrates its 50th Anniversary, this session explores how the profession has evolved and what it means for today's clinical supervisors. Learn how advances in technology are reshaping education, employment, and supervision, and gain practical tools to confidently address current trends and emerging challenges. (Ethics, Supervision, Distinct Populations)

Linda Openshaw, DSW, LCSW-S, ACSW; **Libby Kay LCSW-S, ACSW**

Yacht
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

TikTok Tribes and Trust: Best Practices for Working with Today's Teens.

Explore teen culture, digital spaces, and identity through a practical lens. Learn ethical, strengths-based strategies to build trust, strengthen engagement, and enhance social work practice with today's teens. (Distinct Populations)

Joelle Nagel, LCSW; **Amanda Roberts, LCSW**

Galleon 1
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

How Social Workers at Abortion Funds Integrate Micro Practice and Macro Advocacy.

This panel explores how Texas abortion fund social workers combine direct client support with macro advocacy to advance reproductive justice, health equity, and ethical social work practice in restrictive policy environments.

Kamyon Conner, LCSW; Charlie Hughes, LBSW, MA; raven E. Freeborn, LCSW, LICSW, CNP

Galleon 2
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Mobilizing for Change: A Social Work Guide to Immigration Justice.

Master the intersection of immigration policy and social work advocacy. Through collaborative learning, participants will develop actionable community education plans and ethical strategies for advancing social justice in Texas. (Distinct Populations)

Aaron Moon, LCSW-S; Norma Cora, LCSW-S

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Yatch
8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Healing in the Halls: Engaging Black Young Adult Males in Mental Health Groupwork.

Take your psycho-educational group from "good" to "GOAT" (Greatest of All Time), where culture and curriculum "click"! Learn Afrocentric strategies for success to address mental health with Black young adult members of Gen Z. (Distinct Populations)

Quentin R. Jiles, LCSW; **Dr. Nicole Willis, LMSW**

Ballroom C
8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Service, Ethics, and Systems: Social Work Practice Across Military Branches

This multi-branch military social work panel explores ethical challenges, cultural considerations, and practice differences between military and civilian settings through lived experience, case discussion, and interactive audience engagement. (Ethics, Distinct Populations)

Janet Tuohy, MSW, LCSW-S; USPHS Officer; Kio Ahmed, MSW, LCSW, BCD; **Diana Hall, LMSW**; Johanna Zollman, LCSW

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Galleon 1
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

From Practice to Prosperity: Building Multiple Revenue Streams with Your Social Work Skills.

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Dr. Dominique Spigner, DSW, LCSW-S, EMDR-C; **Dr. Tamara Fields, EdD, LCSW-S**; Dr. Kenshara Cravens-Knoxson, LMSW, LGSW, CCM, SAP, LCDC (CI); Dr. Ashley Glover, DSW, LCSW, LCDC

Ballroom B
10:30 AM - 12:00PM

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Galleon 3
1:45 PM - 5:15 PM

Growing Confident Clinicians: Deliberate and Relational Approaches to Supervision.

Supervision can quickly become unproductive venting or vague case consultation. This session presents intentional supervisory approaches that strengthen clinical skills and encourage self-advocacy in stressful work environments. (Supervision)

Sarah Herrera, PhD, LCSW-S

Ballroom B
1:45 PM - 5:15 PM

Ethics in Action.

Develop greater confidence in navigating ethical challenges by exploring the intersection of personal beliefs, professional ethics, workplace culture, and societal values. Leave with practical approaches for making sound ethical decisions that protect clients, strengthen practice, and uphold the core values of the social work profession. (Ethics, Distinct Populations)

Roger Bruce McNellie, PhD, LCSW-S, DCSW, LPC-S, LMFT

Yacht
3:45 PM - 5:15 PM

Reducing Fear, Increasing Competence: Social Work Practice with Kink and Alternate Sexual Expression.

Grounded in social work values, this interactive panel examines kink-affirming and sex-positive practice. Participants will gain practical tools for creating nonjudg-mental spaces and responding ethically in clinical settings. (Distinct Populations)

Brandi Felderhoff, PhD, LCSW-S, APHSW-C; Faithe Mistretta-Hamilton, LCSW-S, MSW; John Yowell, MA, LCSW; Samantha Flores, LCSW

Harbor
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Developing Programs to Meet the Needs of Oncology Caregivers in an Outpatient Cancer.

Learn how targeted support programs can improve outcomes for oncology caregivers in outpatient cancer centers. This session highlights the development of effective programs and practical approaches you can apply in your own practice.

Dinah Foster, MSSW, LCSW, OSW-C

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Galleon 3
9:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Defending Equity, Transforming Practice: Social Workers and "The Sum of Us".

Let's "circle up" to discuss Heather McGhee's nationally acclaimed book, The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together. Racism can often be a sticking point—even among social workers. Join colleagues in an informal, interactive session to explore how "zero-sum" and "solidarity dividend" perspectives shape institutional racism and challenge us to think both outside the box and inside the circle in our professional practice. NOTE: Reading the book before attending is encouraged but not required. (Ethics, Distinct Populations)

Dr. Nicole Willis, LMSW; Virginia Manuel, LMSW-AP

Harbor
9:45 AM - 11:15 AM

Que Ansia: Anxiety in Latinos.

Strengthen your understanding of anxiety prevalence, core symptoms, and culturally responsive, evidence-based assessment and treatment, with an emphasis on how social, systemic, and immigration-related stressors affect Latino communities. (Distinct Populations)

Diana Beltran, LCSW-S, CCATP

Harbor
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Expanding Clinical Practice: Integrating Sound, Tarot, and Culturally Rooted Care.

Expand your therapeutic toolkit by exploring the ethical integration of sound healing and tarot as culturally responsive, decolonized practices that support client insight, healing, and overall well-being.

Sarah Herrera, PhD, LCSW-S; Jessica Sanchez, PhD, LMSW, MEd

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Yacht
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Harnessing the Power of Social Work: Modern Strategies to Advance Social Justice.

We will be presenting case studies about current work being done and will allow time for small group break out sessions to create plans on how to engage their local NASW branches and communities. We will reserve time for a Question and Answer session.

Victoria Highland, LCSW; Dr. Teauania Charles, DSW, LCSW; Louise F. Lynch, MSSW, LMSW-AP; Paola Ramirez



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