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Vita

EDUCATION

2014 **Doctor of Philosophy in Counseling Education and Supervision** <u>ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY – SAN ANTONIO, TX.</u>

- 2008 Master of Education in Counseling SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY – UVALDE, TX.
- 2004 **Bachelor of Arts in Social Science** SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY – UVALDE, TX.

CREDENTIALS/TRAINING

2020 Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs: "How to Write a CACREP Self-Study"

- 2019 Eye-Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) Consultant
- 2017 Certified Field Supervisor Coach
- 2017 Certified Clinical Trauma Professional
- 2016 Substance Abuse Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral and Treatment (SBIRT) Trainer
- 2016 Behavioral Health Consultant
- 2016 Motivation Interviewing Therapist
- 2015 Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor (Exp. 05/2021)
- 2013 Counseling Cognitive Processing Therapist Certification (State of Texas, Region 8)
- 2011 Psychiatric Rehabilitation Skills Certification

UNIVERSITY TEACHING-RELATED EXPERIENCE

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY – UVALDE, TX.

8/2020–Present Counseling Program Coordinator | Associate Professor of Counseling

Coordinate coursework rotation for the 60-hour Master of Counseling program with four emphases that include, Community Mental Health Counseling, Child/Adolescent and School Counseling, Couple and Family Therapy, and Gerontology and Counseling the Older Generation. Responsible for assessing and reporting the counseling program quality measure results designed to assess the course, modular objectives, and progressive learning strategy outcomes. Originated and coordinated a counseling program self-study in preparation for CACAREP accreditation. Certified three courses through Quality Matters. Coordinated, originated, and updated Field Supervision policies and procedures to meet the Texas Education Association (TEA) guidelines, which resulted in a successful current audited outcome. Maintain and updated the counseling program virtual teaching platform developed in 2015 when serving as the Counseling program curriculum specialist.

Currently teach virtual courses that include Bilingual and Bicultural Counseling, Multiculturalism and Diversity, Consultation for Professional School Counselors, Counseling for Crisis, Trauma and Disaster, Counseling At-Risk Youth, Psychopathology and Psychopharmacology, Counseling and The

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Neurosciences, Substance Abuse and Addiction, Counseling Treatment Planning and Mental Health Advocacy, Marriage and Family Counseling, Ethical Legal and Professional Issues in Counseling coursework and provide supervision for Practicum and Internship fieldwork. Advise students accordingly for a professional school counselor or licensed professional counselor degree plans.

Incorporate traditional, hybrid, and enhanced virtual media instruction formats for the Professional School counselor and Licensed Professional Counselor coursework. Instruction is centered on the development of counseling students to work with largely diverse cultural populations. Manage the operations for the three university clinic sites.

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY – DEL RIO, TX

8/2018–08/2020 Counseling Program Coordinator | Assistant Professor of Counseling

Coordinate coursework rotation for the Master of Counseling program. Responsible for assessing and reporting the counseling program quality measure results designed to assess the course, modular objectives, and progressive learning strategy outcomes. Currently teach courses that include Psychopathology and Psychopharmacology, Counseling and The Neurosciences, Bilingual and Bicultural Counseling, Multiculturalism and Diversity, Substance Abuse and Addiction, Consultation for Professional School Counselors, Counseling for Crisis, Trauma and Disaster, Counseling At-Risk Youth, Counseling Treatment Planning and Mental Health Advocacy, Marriage and Family Counseling, Ethical Legal and Professional Issues in Counseling coursework and provide supervision for Practicum and Internship fieldwork. Advise students accordingly for a professional school counselor or licensed professional counselor degree plans.

Incorporate traditional, hybrid, and enhanced collaboration media instruction formats for the Professional School counselor and Licensed Professional Counselor coursework. Instruction is centered on the development of counseling students to work with largely diverse cultural populations. Manage the operations for the three university clinic sites.

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY - DEL RIO, TX

1/2015-8/2018	Counseling	Curriculum	Development	Specialist	Assistant	Professor	of
1/2013-0/2010	Counseling						

Designed and implemented a new 60-credit hour cutting-edge counseling program with four emphases: Community Mental Health Counselor, Child, Adolescent, and School Counseling, MC Marriage and Family therapy and Gerontology and Counseling the Older Adult. Interfaced with the university faculty in organizing syllabi and course outlines; developed and launched new insights that encouraged new innovative ideas for evaluating and revising program curriculum in accordance with (THECB) and Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) and Quality Matters requirements.

Formulated and implemented traditional, hybrid, and online format curriculums to streamline counseling degrees within the current Master of Education Program, which focused on the development of counseling students to work with the most diverse cultural populations. Instructed and piloted various curriculums focused on preparing future professional school counselors and licensed professional counselors for professional client evaluations, clinical decisions, and direction for treatment planning and implementation. Defined patient/family problems and maintained an effective counseling relationship to provide complex crisis intervention and

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stabilization to patients who are in psychological distress. Prepared students for a collaborative process with the patient utilizing advanced counseling skills, including evidenced-based practices and screening/assessment. Incorporated a wide variety of individual, group, or familial counseling interventions to cultivate sensitivity to diversity and multicultural counseling skills when making diagnoses or formulating treatment goals and appropriating clinical interventions.

Assisted the counseling faculty coordinator, colleagues, and administration with the development and implementation of an in-house counseling program at three Sul Ross State University sites and provided supervision to graduate counseling interns. Established and communicated counseling guidelines and performance expectations for advanced graduate counseling students. Maintained a professional environment by following organizational policies, guidelines, and safety standards.

Served on the Quality Enhancement Program Committee and assist in the development of a plan to focus and enhance student learning, particularly for the population served in the southwest region of Texas.

Areas of concentration and research were focused on experiential learning and critical thinking skills development. Courses Developed and Piloted– Counseling and The Neurosciences, Mindfulness-Based Approaches to Counseling, Crisis, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and Disaster Counseling, Advance Strategies in Couples and Family Counseling, Marriage, Divorce, and Family Mediation, Bilingual and Bicultural Counseling, Gerontological Counseling, Substance Use, Abuse and Addiction, Counseling At-risk Youth, Community Treatment Planning and Advocacy and Consultation for Professional School Counselors.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION – SAN ANTONIO, TX 7/2019–Present Vet Center Director

Experience in the organization of understanding and resolving extremely complicated and multifaceted issues that arise from providing quality readjustment counseling in the normal line of progression as a vet center director. Serve as a member of a National District Strategic committee to evaluate, develop and promote current, efficient, and effective work processes for directors and senior clinicians that benefit veterans, which also encompasses strategic planning to reach veterans who are not linked to mental health and other veteran benefit services. Serve in the South Texas Veteran's Health Administration Mental Health Council and collaborate with team members and mental health professionals, paraprofessionals, volunteers, and others in South Texas VA facilities and community agencies to help veterans recognize and resolve problems and need at various social population levels. Serve in the VA Resiliency Committee of San Antonio, which includes collaborating with VA and non-VA stakeholders to identify risks and build the capacity to challenge city and county-wide barriers to veteran mental health services.

Experience developing and implementing business plans across the district, supporting VA, VHA, and RCS goals, to include allocation and appropriate adjustment of all resources. Presently attending and collaborating with the Texas Access to Justice Commission (Probono Legal Services for Veterans) of Austin to evaluate and potentially establish and place legal representative services for veterans engaging in counseling services at the twenty (20) Vet Centers located in Texas, and need legal services. Collaborated with VHA psychiatrist of South Texas in the process of referring to vet centers and the need

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for direct consultation with mutual veteran clients. Established and signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) to provide education and services to veterans; presently housing the TVC District Manager for South Texas. Enhanced the Eagle Pass Border mission by developing functional work schedules for all Counselors and VOPs from various vet centers.

Experience exercising significant responsibilities in dealing with officials of other units or organizations, or in advising management officials of higher rank. Assisted the Secretary of the Veteran's Administration and the Vet Center Chief officer with delivering a press conference in Washington, D.C. VA Headquarters to the public and press officials considering RCS goals and statistical data that highlighted trends and goal achievements. Discussed the vet center's mission and goals with the University of Texas Health Science Center Mental Health Institute Chairman and Committee to establish a collaborative work alliance that enables services to veterans as a bi-directional referral source, while simultaneously highlighting the educational and professional composition of Readjustment counselors' for the university mental health professional graduates.

Experience giving employees advice, counsel, or instruction on work and administrative matters. Provided training to the District 4 directors on the recent trends of evidence-based therapy in the areas of family and couples counseling and counseling and the neurosciences in two separate Vet Center Director's annual training meetings. Provided detailed training to District 4 leadership and vet center directors on the benefits of evaluating and incorporating the VSignals program in each vet center and how to incorporate it into weekly staffing meetings or supervisions.

Experience coordinating the development of policy changes in response to changes in levels of appropriations or other legislative changes. Provided the Secretary of the VA with the effects of policy changes upon the veterans seen at vet centers and recommendations regarding staffing and technology resources during his visit to the San Antonio Vet Center that would enhance our services. Moreover, provided the VA secretary with statistical data to reflect productivity and potential growth patterns.

Provide a range of routine and complex services and include suicide prevention, crisis intervention, and short- and long-term treatment with clients exhibiting post-traumatic stress disorder, other psychiatric disorders, and/or readjustment problems. Actively collaborated with the VHA Hospital Chief of Psychology to maintain an active agenda item for discussion of collaboration between the Vet center counselors and the Suicide prevention team. Provided insight to the Chief of Psychology and the VHA mental health council the insight to current modalities for couples and family therapy to assist the VHA hospital with their rollout of providing more couples and family therapy.

Provide and assign veteran cases who are in need of a variety of psychological, rehabilitation, marriage, and family counseling in individual, group, conjoint, vocational, educational, substance abuse, and readjustment counseling.

Provide direct marriage and family work intervention involving serious and complicated problems frequently encountered by veterans and their families or significant others. Provide indirect services to target groups through advocacy work and negotiations with other service agencies that include, but are not limited to, veterans treatment court and the veteran benefit service office.

Provide psychodiagnostic testing and psychological assessment to those clients who display clinically severe or unusual psychological disturbances. Conduct other client treatment; individual, group, conjoint, and family therapy; biofeedback; relaxation training, and other therapeutic intervention strategies.

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Participate in conjoint emergency treatment with medical facility mental health personnel. Develop and coordinate procedures and programs to facilitate the optimum use of these resources and services by the hospital, other agencies, and individual members of the target group.

Supervise and provide consultation to professionals and paraprofessionals providing clinical services.

Perform administrative tasks required with a unique administrative structure and a variety of formal and informal working relationships with a wide range of VA facilities and community organizations.

Developed an in-house referral system to refer veterans to other programs and professionals and provide guidance and consultation to other team members conducting interviews, counseling, and therapy. Refer cases requiring outpatient or inpatient treatment to the VA Medical Center or Outpatient Clinic or appropriate referral services.

Responsible for establishing, coordinating, maintaining, and conducting outreach activities with veterans, community and service organizations, businesses and industry, professionals, and the public. Organize both VA and non-VA resources and community services on behalf of veterans.

Develop and maintain understanding and working agreements with other organizations and individuals sharing responsibility for the welfare of these veterans in the same geographical area.

Have and maintain current and broad knowledge in management, program evaluation, and theory and practice in delayed stress syndrome.

Maintain special responsibility for familiarity with and development of community health care (both public and private) resources within the geographical target area surrounding Bexar county, which includes 13 counties, and maximizes efficient and effective use of counseling and outreach resources for the target group.

VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION – SAN ANTONIO, TX 7/2017–07/2019 Readjustment Counselor /Clinical Coordinator

Provided the following Vet Center services independently to eligible individuals using therapeutic modalities for individual, family, marriage, and group evidence-based approaches. Services were provided to veterans, active duty Service members, National Guard, and Reservists and their families.

Provided intake screening and assessment, which required direct care with eligible individuals to establish a therapeutic relationship sufficient for completing all required readjustment counseling intake procedures including an assessment of risk for self-harm and psychosocial functioning.

Provided readjustment counseling goal setting and service planning that reflected the course of therapeutic and psychosocial interventions inclusive of outcome measurements.

Provided risk assessment and crisis intervention to identify and address immediate needs, evaluate risk, and initiate safety planning as appropriate.

Coordinated a network of community care relationships, internal and external to VA, to coordinate access to readjustment counseling through community referrals to the Vet Center, and to ensure that eligible

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individuals received the full spectrum of services that supported their readjustment needs that were outside the scope of readjustment counseling.

Documented all clinical interactions with eligible individuals and episodes of care coordination on their behalf as required by RCS policy. Actively participated in one-to-one clinical and administrative supervision and in administrative and clinical staff meetings as directed by the Vet Center Director.

METHODIST HEALTHCARE MINISTRIES – SAN ANTONIO, TX1/2016–6/2017Behavioral Healthcare Clinical Manager

Served as the Licensed Professional Mental Health Counselor Supervisor on a multidisciplinary team. Developed Clinical Pathways for psychiatric behavioral health services to address symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder and other mental health disorders among a diverse population. Administratively supervised other mental health providers and conducted meetings and training to enhance therapeutic care.

Chaired the committee for the development of clinical pathways that involved an integrated multidisciplinary team, which included counselors, social workers, medical and dental physician providers, community workers, and community nurses. Established, and clearly communicated, clinical guidelines and performance expectations for counselors and social workers under my clinical supervision.

Developed an integrated Crisis policy to serve the Methodist Healthcare Ministries Corporation. Served as the trainer for behavioral health staff, nursing, and ancillary services on evidence-based treatment modalities. Created policies and procedures to guide effective multidisciplinary care. Appropriated, researched, and recommended psychometric assessment instruments to clinicians to assess major depression, substance misuse, anxiety, suicide/homicide, childhood, and adult post-traumatic stress disorder.

Demonstrated advanced knowledge and mastery of the fundamentals and advanced levels of the counseling process which included: assessment interviews, and developing treatment plans for the behavioral health department. Assisted Licensed Professional Counselors and Licensed Clinical Social Workers by supervising and staffing complex behavioral health cases in various specialty areas. Constructed and supervised foundational and advanced staff competence through regular consultation, training, meetings and discussions, strategic assignments, and progress note reviews. Collaborated with the psychiatrist and medical providers to enhance therapeutic outcomes.

Designed and implemented a clinic-wide crisis intervention protocol. Provided complex crisis intervention and stabilization to patients who demonstrated psychological distress and instructed, consulted, and supervised licensed master social workers and licensed professional counselors on therapeutic approaches to handling complex crisis cases.

Trained licensed professional counselors, licensed Master of Social workers, nursing, and other medical staff members on brief patient intervention strategies. Training includes Motivational Interviewing Solution Focused Brief Therapy, Eye-Movement Rapid Desensitization, and Reprocessing Therapy, Short-term Problem Focused Therapy, Focused Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, Behavioral Health Consultant Model, IMPACT Depression Care Model, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Cognitive Processing Therapy, Behavioral Activation Therapy, and other evidence-based treatment modalities. Ability to fully utilize the current DSM-V in making diagnoses and formulation of treatment goals and application of appropriate clinical intervention using professional counseling practices.

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Promoted the delivery of services in an integrated, collaborative manner to include Medical, Dental Behavioral Health, Wesley Nurses, Care Coordinators, Community Enrichment Programs, Parenting Programs/Services, and community services. Participated in various outreach programs. Established goals/treatment plans through a collaborative process with the patient utilizing advanced counseling skills, including evidenced-based practices and screening/assessment. Developed and delivered psycho-education groups that include life skills, family support, and community integration.

Promoted interactive communication with other Methodist Healthcare Ministries departments, Funded partners, stakeholders, and the community. Worked collaboratively with the psychiatrist and other medical staff members to develop and implement medical and behavioral health protocols that brought about new therapeutic positive outcomes. Effectively spearheaded a new medical/behavioral health integrative model for the Methodist Healthcare Ministries clinics.

Analyzed program data and produce reports for the Methodist Health Care Ministries Behavioral Health Services Director; to assist in improving planning, development, and effective use of resources.

Coordinated with interdisciplinary team activities to develop and maintain quality assurance indicators that evaluated the effectiveness of Behavioral Health Services. Develop measures to assess outcomes. Applied specialized knowledge and advanced practice skills in the areas of consultation, education, research, advocacy, community organization, development, application, and administration of policies, programs, and activities.

Supervised, monitored, and evaluated the clinical performance of staff to ensure the effective execution of behavioral health services. Encouraged creative tension and differences that resulted in productive outcomes..

OMNI THERAPY CENTER – DEL RIO, TX 2/2012–1/2015 Chief Executive Officer/Licensed Professional Counselor-Supervisor

Designed articles of incorporation, by-laws, and business plan. Skillfully managed the overall operations of the counseling center, involving data analysis and management, service evaluation, and intern supervision. Established and communicated guidelines and performance expectations to staff members. Maintained a professional environment by developing and practicing organizational policies, guidelines, and safety standards. Administratively supervised other providers and conducted meetings. Developed and maintained annual corporate budget, fiscal and personnel management, and resource utilization. Conceptualized and executed a pro-bono and fee schedule program for clients within the rural area of Val Verde County as well as the surrounding counties within an 80-mile radius.

Employed clinical expertise in rendering therapy-related consultation to the medical community, mental health colleagues, city and county entities, and students within the field of counseling. Partnered with local, state, and federal agencies in promoting and bringing awareness on mental health topics, which impacted various multicultural populations and family dynamics. Conducted comprehensive workshops for various medical, mental health, and academic entities that effectively promoted mental health wellness among military veterans suffering from Post-traumatic stress disorder; special emphasis placed on combat veterans re-integrating back into the community after tours to hostile combat zones.

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Made professional evaluations, decisions, and recommendations for treatment planning and implementation. Integrated advanced knowledge and mastery of the fundamentals of the counseling process that included defining patient/family problems and maintaining an effective counseling relationship. Established goals/treatment through a collaborative process with the patient utilizing advanced counseling skills, including evidenced-based practices and screening/assessment. Provided complex crisis intervention and stabilization to patients who were in psychological distress. Offered individual and group counseling to patients and family members over issues of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and related psychological difficulties, marital and family issues, substance abuse, employment, military sexual trauma, homelessness, bereavement, and other issues impacting upon a patient's ability to re-enter civilian society experience is preferred successfully.

HILL COUNTRY MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT DISABILITIES – DEL RIO, TX 10/2011–3/2012 Clinical Caseworker-Ph.D. Candidate Counselor Education and Supervision

Provided optimal behavioral health by delivering Individual, group, and family counseling services to military veterans facing symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) under the Fund for Veteran's Assistance grant.

Offered counseling to military and civilian personnel for substance abuse and addiction issues. Administered treatment services by mixed methods, such as cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), cognitive processing therapy (CPT), exposure therapy, narrative therapy, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR) therapy, and mindfulness therapy among other evidence-based therapeutic models. Administered various formal assessment tools related to trauma, substance misuse, depression, anxiety, career, and other tools to garner pertinent information to formulate care planning and implementation.

Responded to various situations requiring on-call crisis management service and assistance, including clients contemplating suicide. Established and clearly communicated guidelines and performance standards to other team members and law enforcement agencies when coordinating continuity of care for clients experiencing a crisis.

Reviewed client history and characteristics and updated local resources referral list and administered follow-up care in collaboration with the Interdisciplinary Treatment Team recommendations. Administratively supervised other providers/caseworkers and conducted weekly meetings. Carefully coordinated integrated care with other team members and staff psychiatrists regarding client progression and medication outcomes.

Incorporated problem-solving and analytical skills to address inherent client conflicts, negative behavior, and perceptive presentations. Incorporated informal and formal evaluations, while formulating treatment plans in accordance with the Diagnostic Statistics Manual for diagnosis. Maintained a professional environment by following organizational policies, guidelines, and safety standards.

FORT SAM HOUSTON - SAN ANTONIO, TX

08/2010-12/2011	Counselor	(PhD	Candidate	Counselor	Education	and	Supervision-
08/2010-12/2011	Internship)						

Provided counseling services to active duty military and their families. Counseling services provided encompassed structured assessments and evidenced-based therapy used to positively impact behavioral health issues, such as PTSD, combat-related issues, traumatic brain injury (TBI), substance abuse, dysfunctional family dynamics, suicide, and homicidal ideation. Identified potential influential social and

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biochemical factors and internal conflicts by evaluating personal and social data through interviews and client support systems.

Promoted the St. Mary's doctoral internship program and the organization's pro-bono services to the Brook Army Medical Center social work services department, the Wounded Warrior's Program, and the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) by personally networking with and presenting the program to perspective authority officials. Maintained a professional environment by following organizational policies, guidelines, and safety standards.

Worked in partnership with Fort Sam installation chaplains in rendering counseling and treatment to military and civilian members suffering from symptoms of depression, anxiety, and other emotional disturbances, substance misuse, and work performance difficulties. Clearly communicated guidelines and performance expectations for continuity of care to chaplains and St. Mary's University clinical staff.

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY – SAN ANTONIO, TX.

1/2010–8/2010 Neurofeedback Therapy (Ph.D. Candidate Counselor Education and Supervision-Intern)

Initiated client intake evaluation before the initial client session to determine the chief complaint. Gathered relevant demographic and psychological background information to determine neurological trigger influences.

Completed brain mapping assessments to ensure proper brain electrode placement and heighten actual neurofeedback therapeutic outcome. An Electroencephalography was used to verify electrode placement brainwave continuity.

Initiated traditional Neurofeedback protocols as well traditional evidence-based counseling and peripheral biofeedback methods. Followed ethical guidelines throughout each session to ensure the delivery of quality care.

OTHER-RELATED MEDICAL EXPERIENCE

FORT DUNCAN MEDICAL CENTER – EAGLE PASS, TX

1/1996–1/2001 Director- Respiratory Care Department

Served as the Director of the Respiratory Care Department. Effectively fulfilled administrative responsibilities of budget development and maintenance. Managed and supervised ten employees. Provided clinical supervision and training for department staff. Developed, coordinated, and instructed a home-based Respiratory Care certified trainng program that graduated four technicians. Developed and maintained a quality assurance program. Served three committees as the director and chaired the Safety committee. Developed and maintained policies and procedures to satisfy JCHAO Department Accreditation standards.

SANTA ROSA NORTHWEST HOSPITAL – SAN ANTONIO, TX1/1990–1/1996Director - Cardiopulmonary Department

Administrative responsibilities that encompassed budget development and maintenance,

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personnel management and supervision of ten employees, clinical supervision and training of cardiopulmonary and nursing staff and ancillary services. Developed an in-house department training program. Developed and maintained a continuous quality assurance program. Served in several hospital committees as the department head and representative. Developed policies and procedures that met and maintained JCHAO Department Accreditation standards.

UNITED STATE ARMY

9/1985–7/1990 Director - Cardiopulmonary Department

Assigned as the NCOIC for my section in the 5th Support Battalion, 9th Infantry Division at Ft. Lewis, Washington. Performed all administrative duties of supervising other enlisted soldiers under my leadership. Maintained accurate inventory of equipment and supplies for rapid deployment. Served as an inspector for the 9th Infantry Division IG department under Lieutenant General Norman Schwarzkopf's command.

Served again as the NCOIC/Technical Director of the Respiratory Care Department at Darnell Army Hospital at Ft. Hood, Texas. Effectively fulfilled administrative responsibilities of budget development and maintenance. Managed and supervised eight employees. Provided clinical supervision and training for department staff. Developed and coordinated a Physician Assistant clinical rotation program for active duty students undergoing the military physician program.

ACTIVITIES

2022	Co-Organizer/ Eagle Pass Border Patrol VA Rapid Response Counseling Team, EagleProviderPass, TX.
2022	Co-Organizer Uvalde Mass Shooting VA Rapid Response Counseling Team, Eagle Pass, TX.
2017	Co-Organizer/ Sutherland Springs Mass Shooting VA Rapid Response CounselingProviderTeam, Sutherland, Springs, TX.
2013	Co-Organizer/ 173rd District Representative of Texas Veteran Families,PresenterAdolescent and Child Wellness Symposium, Del Rio, TX.
2012	Co-Organizer Mental Health Symposium, Del Rio, TX.
2008	Moderator Mayoral Candidates, Del Rio TX.
2006	Organizer/Provider At-Risk Youth Conference Del Rio, TX.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2023Member | Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing International Association2019Member | American Counseling Association2019Member | Texas Commission Association2019Member | Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development2019Member | Chi Sigma Iota - Counseling Honors Society

DISSERTATION

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Garcia, S. (2015). The clinical approaches of licensed mental health professionals with divinity education with clients who hold different religious and cultural values: A ground theory approach. (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). St. Mary's University. San Antonio, TX.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- Garcia, S. (2022) Counseling and the Neurosciences. Manuscript (Textbook Draft).
- Garcia, S. (2019). *The Neurological Implications of Opioid Addiction*. Sul Ross State University. Del Rio TX.
- Garcia, S. (2019). The Neurological Implications of Cannabis use. Sul Ross State University. Del Rio TX.
- Garcia, S. (2012). *Narrative therapy process in substance abuse group counseling*. St. Mary's University. San Antonio, TX.
- Garcia, S. (2009). Significance of the initial therapeutic session on sexual assault victims. St. Mary's University. San Antonio, TX.

PRESENTATIONS

- Garcia, S. (2023). *Counseling Services for Veterans*. The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas.
- Garcia, S. (2022). *Counseling services for veterans who have experienced trauma*. Guest Speaker. National Press Conference alongside the Secretary of the Veteran's Administration, Washington, D.C.
- **Garcia**, S. (2022). *The Neuroscience of Motivation, Feedback and Team Building*. Panel Speaker, National Readjustment Counseling Services Leadership Training, Dallas, TX.
- Garcia, S. (2019). *Trauma and the Criminal Justices System: The Neuroscience of Thought*. Panel Speaker, Mental Health Convention. Del Rio, TX.
- Garcia, S. (2018). The Neuroscience of Legal Decision Making, Learning, and Communication, 5th Circuit Judicial Conference, Panel Speaker, Austin, TX.
- **Garcia**, S. (2018). *Motivational Interviewing Therapy and Emotional Intelligence Education*: District Veteran Center Clinical Training, Reno, NV.
- Garcia, S. (2018). *Hidden Wounds in Contemporary Warfare The Neuroscience of PTSD.* Certificate for: Veterans' Service Providers (CVSP) Program Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- **Garcia**, S. (2017). *Counseling and the Neurosciences*. Texas Counseling Association 61st Annual Professional Growth Conference, Galveston, TX.

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- **Garcia, S.** (2017). *Gender roles and relationship violence: Counseling youth of Mexican descent.* Texas Counseling Association 61st Annual Professional Growth Conference, Galveston, TX.
- **Garcia**, S. (2017). *Re-Envisioning counselor education and training in the border region*. Texas Counseling Association 601st Annual Professional Growth Conference, Galveston, TX.
- Garcia, S. (2015). The Future of Cutting-Edge Counseling: A survey of Mindfulness-Based Approaches.
 Texas Counseling Association 59th Annual Professional Growth Conference, Corpus Christi, TX.
- Garcia, S. (2015). The Authentic Counseling Practice: Embracing Cultural Richness and Integrity. Texas Counseling Association 59th Annual Professional Growth Conference, Corpus Christi, TX.
- Garcia, S. (2015). *PTSD Among Clients of Mexican Descent*. Texas Counseling Association, 59th Annual Professional Growth Conference, Corpus Christi, TX.
- Garcia, S. (2013). *Post-traumatic Stress Disorder Issues in the Workplace*. Texas Workforce Commission: Southwest Regional Meeting: Veteran's Resource. Uvalde, Texas.
- Garcia, S. (2011). *LGBT, Religious and Multicultural Perspectives*. Texas Counseling Association 55th Annual Professional Growth Conference. Fort Worth, Texas.