

Becky Morales, LCSW-S
CURRICULUM VITA
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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work

Master of Science in Social Work

08/01 – 5/03

Concentration: Administration and Planning

University of St. Thomas

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts

08/96 – 5/00

Primary Concentration: Political Science

Secondary Concentration: Communication

Graduated with honors

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Impact of chronic illness/disability on the family system, health disparities, psychosocial care, loss and grief

TEACHING INTERESTS

Generalist social work practice, loss and grief, crisis intervention, cultural responsiveness, clinical supervision and clinical supervision training, compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma, and burnout

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

The University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, Austin, Texas

Assistant Professor of Instruction

09/23 - present

Adjunct Assistant Professor

09/18 – 08/23

Adjunct Faculty Liaison

07/20 – 05/23

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Dell Seton Medical Center at The University of Texas at Austin (formerly University Medical Center at Brackenridge), Austin, Texas

Multidisciplinary Approach to Reduce Injury in Alcohol Abuse (MARIA) funded by NIH and NIAAA

Multidisciplinary Approach to Reduce Injury in Substance Abuse in Trauma Settings funded by NIH and NIDA

Clinical Coordinator – Behavioral Health Services 12/08 – 11/09

- Managed the operational aspects of federally funded research projects involving behavioral health services
- Directly supervised research project staff
- Coordinated the implementation of evidence-based counseling strategies for the injured trauma patient
- Provided brief interventions utilizing Motivational Interviewing principles for patients at risk for drug and/or alcohol abuse
- Served as liaison to greater hospital regarding program activities
- Collaborated with case management/social work department to provide optimal service to patients

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, Austin, Texas

Adjunct Assistant Professor Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023

Assistant Professor of Instruction Spring 2024

Advanced Integrative Capstone in Social Work Knowledge and Practice

- Planned and taught capstone course for final semester clinical concentration graduate students, utilizing a multi-level case study method
- Facilitated class discussions to support student preparation for professional social work practice
- Completed common evaluation instrument to measure the implementation of knowledge, skills, values, and/or cognitive and affective processes for EPAS competencies

The University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, Austin, Texas

Adjunct Assistant Professor Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022

Assistant Professor of Instruction Fall 2023

Crisis Intervention

- Planned and taught an advanced clinical selective course for graduate students, focused on relationship between assessment and intervention
- Developed assignments to support self-evaluation of ability to effectively provide crisis intervention counseling, in addition to gaining tangible skills to support individuals in crisis
- Facilitated class discussions to support student understanding of material learned and relationship to professional social work practice and ethical decision making

The University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, Austin, Texas
Adjunct Assistant Professor Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020

Loss and Grief: Individual, Family and Cultural Perspectives

- Planned and taught an undergraduate elective course, focused on issues of death and dying, placing a special emphasis on non-death losses that elicit grief responses
- Developed assignments to support knowledge of basic grief reactions experienced across the developmental lifespan and gain awareness of personal grief reactions and understand how this relates to continued development of skills for grief work
- Facilitated class discussions to support student understanding of material learned and relationship to social work values and ethics involved in grief work

The University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, Austin, Texas
Adjunct Assistant Professor Fall 2018, Spring 2019

Foundations for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice

- Team taught course focused on applying interprofessional collaborative practice competencies
- Supported small group composed of students from pharmacy, medicine, social work, and nursing who learn together as part of an interprofessional team
- Facilitated small group discussions to provide future health care practitioners with the competencies needed to deliver high quality, team-based care

The University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, Austin, Texas
Teaching Assistant 08/02 – 05/03

Social Work Methods I and II

- Reviewed and provided feedback of student reflection papers
- Held office hours for students as needed
- Graded multiple choice assignments and writing papers

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Courtney, A., Key, G., Koenig, K., **Morales, B.**, & Ring, D. (2018, Oct.). *Psychosocial health in specialty care*. Panel presentation at the Healthier Texas Summit, Austin, TX.
- Grigg, E., & **Morales, B.** (2019, Sep.). *Avoiding burnout: Essentials of self-care in CPS cases*. Presentation to Supreme Court of Texas Children's Commission, Austin, TX.
- Loring, P. & **Morales, B.** (2019, May). *Responding to grief and trauma in crisis: Tending to ourselves & others*. Presentation to Austin Police Department Victim Services staff, Austin, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2019, July). *Grief and trauma: Taking care of ourselves so we can care for others*. Presentation to Keep Austin Housed AmeriCorps staff, Austin, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2019, Aug.). *Life after cancer*. Presentation at the Testicular Cancer Foundation (TCF) Summit, Austin, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2019, Nov.). *Navigating the terrain of agency-based supervision: Avoiding pitfalls & advancing success*. Presentation at the Texas Clinical Supervision Conference, Austin, TX.

- Morales, B.** (2019, June). *Running on empty: Compassion fatigue and secondary trauma*. Presentation to members and staff of Travis County 126th Civil District Court, Austin, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2020, Jan.). *Trauma-informed parenting: Understanding and supporting youth impacted by abuse, neglect, and parental separation*. Presentation to foster parents, Bryan, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2020, Feb.). *Trauma-informed parenting: Understanding and supporting youth impacted by abuse, neglect, and parental separation*. Presentation to foster parents, Waco, TX.
- Grigg, E., Monestier Nikolaus, B., **Morales, B.**, & Storey-Lovin, S. (2020, May). *Lawyers and trauma*. Panel presentation for the Texas Lawyers' Assistance Program, Austin, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2020, Nov.). *Trauma-informed parenting: Understanding and supporting youth impacted by abuse, neglect, and parental separation*. Presentation to foster parents, Austin, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2021, Jan.). *Trauma-informed parenting: Understanding and supporting youth impacted by abuse, neglect, and parental separation*. Presentation to foster parents, Austin, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2021, April). *Effects of secondary trauma and tools for addressing the everyday and the crisis moments*. Presentation at the Judicial Trauma Institute for the Texas Center for the Judiciary and the Supreme Court of Texas Children's Commission, Austin, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2021, April). *Your mental health matters: Focusing on and prioritizing what makes us human*. Presentation at the Testicular Cancer Foundation (TCF) Summit, Las Vegas, NV.
- Morales, B.** (2021, May). *Finding rhythm in #2021*. Presentation to the Mayo Clinic Industry Resource Club.
- Morales, B.** (2022, April). *Cultural attunement: Understanding loss & grief experienced within the Latinx community*. Presentation at the Central Texas Grief and Loss Conference, Austin, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2022, Oct.). *Invisible wounds: Understanding post-traumatic stress disorder*. Presentation at the Testicular Cancer Foundation (TCF) Summit, Las Vegas, NV.

SELECTED INVITED GUEST LECTURES

- Aguirre, A. & **Morales, B.**, (2018, Mar.). Social Work at the Dell Medical School / UT Health Austin. Invited presentation at the DiNitto Center for Career Services, The University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, Austin, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2018, July). The future of healthcare social work. Invited presentation at Social Work in Health Care (Graduate Course). The University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, Austin, TX.
- Morales, B.** (2019, Oct.). Leadership development in social work: What we do and why it is meaningful. Invited presentation at Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare (Undergraduate Course). The University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, Austin, TX.

SOCIAL WORK COMMENTARIES IN THE MEDIA

- KAZI FM 88.7 (2020, April). Radio Interview: “AMEN program responds to wellness needs during COVID-19 pandemic.” <https://nursing.utexas.edu/news/amen-program-responds-wellness-needs-during-covid-19-pandemic>
- Spectrum News - Austin (2019, Aug.). Interviewed live about grief in the wake of tragic shootings. https://youtu.be/NEc7oV_SYy0
- Spectrum News – San Antonio (2019, Aug.). Interviewed live about grief in the wake of tragic shootings. <https://youtu.be/UfrPIIBHPQ>
- Studio 512 (2023, Aug.). Interviewed live about the importance of mental health support for those impacted by a cancer diagnosis and Flatwater’s Dam That Cancer. <https://www.kxan.com/studio-512/flatwaters-dam-that-cancer-presented-by-tylers/>
- Rx Saver (2020, April). Quoted: “Anxiety & COVID-19: What you’re feeling right now could be grief.” <https://rxsaver.retailmenot.com/blog/anxiety-covid-19-what-youre-feeling-right-now-could-be-grief>
- The Daily Texan (2019, Mar.). Quoted: “Students affected by loss turn to new path, leaning on others.” <https://thedailytexan.com/2019/03/24/students-affected-by-loss-turn-to-new-path-leaning-on-others>
- Austin Monthly (2022, Dec.). Quoted: “5 tips for those experiencing grief during the holidays.” <https://www.austinmonthly.com/5-tips-for-those-experiencing-grief-during-the-holidays/>
- The New Social Worker Magazine (2022, Dec.). Recorded Interview: “Conversations on social work careers: Interview with Becky Morales, LCSW-S.” <https://www.socialworker.com/feature-articles/career-jobs/conversations-on-social-work-careers-interview-becky-morales/>

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Flatwater, Austin, Texas

Chief Mission Officer

06/22 - present

- Oversight of program services connecting individuals impacted by a cancer diagnosis to therapists in their community
- Strategically plans for programmatic service expansion to additional regions
- Manages recruitment of licensed therapists for Flatwater Provider Network
- Develops and maintains relationships with community partners supporting the work of those impacted by a cancer diagnosis
- Serves as organizational Security Official and ensures that programmatic operations are in compliance with HIPAA
- Ensures organization is aligned with equity and inclusivity in all operations
- Serves as mental health subject matter expert for organization and responds to media inquiries as appropriate
- After 1.5 years, promoted from Senior Program Director to Chief Mission Officer

Colors of Austin Counseling, Austin, Texas

Therapist and Council-Approved Supervisor

10/19 – present

- Provides individual therapy services to adults, with focus on serving the Latinx population, and those impacted by cancer, medical illness, life transitions, and loss and grief
- Provides clinical supervision for LMSW professionals pursuing LCSW licensure
- Promoted to Team Lead after less than 2 years, then promoted to Clinical Director

The University of Texas at Austin, *HealthPoint* Employee Assistance Program, Austin, Texas

Senior Social Worker

12/19 – 07/20

- Provided direct client services in both English and Spanish including mental health assessment, treatment planning, and individual, group and couples counseling
- Provided consultation to campus leaders seeking to support distressed employees, enhance the work environment, and improve employee job performance
- Provided presentations to enhance mental health, wellness, and workplace productivity
- Provided outreach and services to workgroups impacted by crisis or trauma

The Austin Center for Grief & Loss, Austin, Texas

Clinical Director

01/19 – 09/19

- Directly responsible for the implementation, coordination, delivery and supervision of all clinical services provided to children, adults, families and groups
- Provided direct supervision to clinical staff and therapists
- Coordinated the Crisis Bereavement Team
- Coordinated and provided guidance for ongoing support groups
- Developed ongoing professional development workshops and community-based trainings and workshops
- Developed and maintained relationships with community partners supporting the work of grief, trauma and bereavement

Integral Care, Austin, Texas

Manager of Collaborative Care

07/17 – 11/18

- Managed the operational aspects of integrated mental health services into specialty care clinics operated by the Dell Medical School
- Ensured that clinical operations maintained fidelity to the Collaborative Care Model
- Collaborated with interdisciplinary clinical leadership team including medical directors and clinical operational leads of the specialty care clinics to ensure timely access to treatment and delivery of appropriate services
- Provided individual therapy to patients cared for in specialty care clinics in both English and Spanish as needed
- Served as subject matter expert on professional social work practice to the UT Health Austin clinical enterprise
- Provided direct supervision of licensed social work professionals, including LMSW and LCSW

Austin Child Guidance Center, Austin, Texas

Coordinator, Off-Site Services

06/16 – 07/17

- Oversight of three community projects involving delivery of mental health services, including planning and program oversight
- Supervised licensed mental health professionals including, LMSW and LCSW
- Provided individual, family, and group therapy to children and families in both English and Spanish
- Facilitated community-based parent workshops on various topics, including - but not limited to - social and behavioral development in children, bullying, effective parent/child communication, and test anxiety
- Represented agency as member of Austin Independent School District School Health Advisory Council (SHAC)

Any Baby Can, Austin, Texas

Clinical Supervisor

11/15 – 06/16

- Managed programmatic operations for the No Estás Solo counseling program
- Directly supervised clinically licensed mental health professionals providing direct counseling services
- Oversight of quality assurance for program
- Served as liaison for organization to local task forces and community meetings related to mental health
- Provided short-term individual counseling services, in both English and Spanish

The LIVESTRONG Foundation, Austin, Texas

Manager, Navigation Services

10/13 – 11/15

- Led and developed policies and procedures for navigation programming that addressed the psychosocial needs of people affected by cancer; including the oversight of counseling services and emotional health resources
- Managed and provided clinical supervision for social work professionals who provided case management and counseling services
- Maintained relationships with national and community partners supporting the work of psychosocial programming
- Carried small counseling caseload to assess and treat mental health conditions related to cancer, in both English and Spanish
- After 1.5 years, promoted from Emotional Support Manager to Navigation Services Manager

Lone Star Circle of Care, Austin, Texas

Director of Patient-Centered Services

07/12 – 10/13

- Led the Patient Experience Department in developing and implementing initiatives to improve the patient and staff experience
- Identified systemic issues and worked collaboratively with physicians, administrators and staff to resolve issues and improve systems
- Collaborated closely with Quality Improvement and Risk Management in promoting performance improvement activities and reducing organizational liability through prompt and caring resolution of patient/family issues

- Provided guidance and leadership in staff training and development around issues of patient-centered care
- Directly supervised members of the Patient Experience Department, in addition to Community Health Workers

Texas Health and Human Services Commission – Family Violence Program, Austin, Texas

Program Specialist

11/09 – 07/12

- Served as a liaison with internal and external programs, service providers, agencies, stakeholders and the general public to increase awareness of family violence and the HHSC Family Violence Program
- Reviewed grant applications on annual basis for statewide family violence services and assisted with annual grant application process for receipt of federal grant dollars
- Provided contract management, consultative services, and technical assistance to plan, implement, and monitor effective family violence programs and services around the state
- Served as team lead on service provider communications and trainings

LifeWorks, Austin, Texas

Program Services Coordinator

10/05 – 11/08

- Managed case management department of Resolution Counseling program
- Directly supervised administrative case management team and full-time counselors
- Served as co-chair for Travis County Batterers Intervention and Prevention Program (BIPP) Advisory Committee
- Provided group counseling in English and Spanish for individuals identified as using violence against an intimate partner
- After 1.5 years, promoted from Bilingual Counselor I to Program Services Coordinator

National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Lone Star Chapter, Austin, Texas

Chapter and Clinical Programs Coordinator

4/05 – 10/05

- Developed and monitored affiliated self-help groups in Austin and Waco marketing areas
- Provided clinical support and ongoing training for self-help group facilitators
- Assisted with development and maintenance of wellness programs, including yoga, tai chi, and aquatics
- Provided supportive services at the Multiple Sclerosis Clinic of Central Texas
- Developed and managed programming budgets for Austin and Waco marketing areas

Any Baby Can, Austin, Texas

Bilingual Clinical Social Worker

11/03 – 4/05

- Provided written and spoken case management for families of children with special health care needs in English and Spanish
- Conducted family needs assessments and developed individual family service plans for identified needs
- Provided short-term individual, family, and group counseling
- Developed, co-facilitated, and evaluated prenatal education peer support group for adolescents
- Analyzed policies and procedures in accordance with state agency audit

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Member, 2019 Texas Clinical Supervision Conference Planning Committee
Selected as Member (2015-2019), Community Partnership Development and Professional Linkage Committee, Steve Hicks School of Social Work at The University of Texas at Austin
Appointed, Practicum Instructor for the Steve Hicks School of Social Work at The University of Texas at Austin

AFFILIATIONS

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Council-Approved Supervisor, License Number 38512, Valid Through 04/25
Member, Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing International Association (EMDRIA)
Member, Association of Oncology Social Work (AOSW)
Member, American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS)
Affiliate, The University of Texas at Austin Center for Health Interprofessional Practice and Education

HONORS, CERTIFICATES, AND SELECTED TRAININGS

Awarded 2022 Lecturer Teaching Excellence Award from the Steve Hicks School of Social Work at The University of Texas at Austin
Awarded 2016 Charles I. Wright Distinguished Alumna Award from the Steve Hicks School of Social Work at The University of Texas at Austin
Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), Basic Training, 2020
Certificate in Motivational Interviewing
Selected for 2014 ExCEL in Social Work (Excellence in Cancer Education and Leadership) course, Association of Oncology Social Workers, Baltimore, Maryland
Selected for 2009 Leadership Pipeline Class, Leadership Women, Austin, Texas