
HECTOR CHAIDEZ RUACHO, LCSW

Curriculum Vitae

PhD Candidate, School of Social Work | The University of Texas at Austin
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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin	Expected May 2027
Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work, GPA 4.0	
University at Buffalo – SUNY	August 2018 – May 2020
Master of Social Work, GPA 3.97	
University of Nevada, Las Vegas	August 2010 – December 2016
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Criminal Justice (Cum Laude), GPA 3.73	

ADVANCED TRAINING

Yale Child Study Center, Yale School of Medicine	July 2020 – June 2022
Post-Masters Advanced Clinical Social Work Fellow	

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Yale Child Study Center, Yale School of Medicine	July 2022 – August 2023; July 2025 – Present
Clinical Instructor of Social Work	

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Mental health equity; Spanish-speaking mental health care; mental health workforce demands, resources, and protective factors; immigrant mental health; father's mental health.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Chaidez Ruacho, H., Noel, L., & Valdez, C. (Manuscript in preparation). *Enfoque en el Sistema (A Focus on the System): Reducing advocacy demands for Latine Spanish-speaking providers through the utilization of a medical-legal partnership in a community child and family mental health clinic.*

Lee, P. C., **Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** Vanegas, S., & Magaña, S. (2026). The role of language and parental nativity in specialty services use among Latino families with children with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD). *American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 1–12.

Chaidez Ruacho, H., Fuentes-Balderrama, J., & Cubbin, C. (2025). Mental health care utilization among Spanish-speaking Hispanics in the aftermath of COVID-19 and a continuously changing system. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, 1–9.

Hong, J., **Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** Zeng, X., & Franklin, C. (2025). A scoping review of family-based interventions for immigrant/refugee children: Exploring intergenerational trauma. *Community Mental Health Journal*, 1–16.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND FUNDED RESEARCH

Stover Research Lab, Yale Child Study Center	July 2025 – Present
Clinical Instructor of Social Work	

Fathers for Change clinical trial: bilingual intervention delivery and adaptation for Spanish-speaking fathers; contributor to a pediatric-setting implementation study, including interview-guide development, participant interviews, and data analysis.

Latinx Mental Health & Community Research Lab, University of Texas at Austin August 2023 – Present

Graduate Research Assistant

Community-engaged research focused on mental health among Latinx children, young adults, families, and Latino immigrants; contributed to data collection and analysis.

Research Practicum Summer 2024

Proxy Principal Investigator

Designed and collected data for Enfoque en el Sistema (A Focus on the System): A Case Study Investigating the Demands and Resources for Latine Spanish-Speaking Mental Health Workforce.

Project PLAY (Playing to Learn About You) Research Lab August 2023 – May 2024

Graduate Research Assistant

Contributed to pilot-study preparation and creation and translation of child and caregiver surveys.

Social Development Research Lab January 2016 – May 2017

Research Lab Assistant

Designed, executed, and presented first-authored undergraduate research on perspective-taking, racial bias, and social activism.

The Crowd Management Research Council September 2016 – December 2016

Research Lab Assistant

Psychophysiology of Emotion and Personality Laboratory September 2016 – December 2016

Research Lab Assistant

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

Conference and Symposium Presentations

Stover, C., **Chaidez Ruacho, H.**, Yearwood, L. (2026, September). The Fathers for Change Therapy Approach. 2026 Fatherhood Journey: When Fathers Thrive, Children Succeed Conference, New Britain, CT.

Chaidez Ruacho, H. (2026, March). La sanación más allá de la oficina terapéutica: Abogacía y alianzas médico-legales. Latino Social Workers Organization Puerto Rico Symposium, San Juan, PR.

Chaidez Ruacho, H. (2025, October). Improving the mental health system for Spanish-speaking immigrant families through advocacy support for providers. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO.

Canenguez, K. M., **Chaidez Ruacho, H.**, Torres-Cortes, B., & Valdez, C. R. (2025, August). Migration, adversity, and emotional wellbeing in Central American families in the U.S. American Psychological Association Convention, Denver, CO.

Chaidez Ruacho, H. (2024, October). Spanish-speakers' mental health care utilization in the aftermath of COVID-19 and implementation of telehealth. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Kansas City, MO.

Orozco, A., **Chaidez Ruacho, H.**, (2024, February). Los Sonidos del Alma; The historical power of music in acknowledging an Latinx Mental Health. Latinx Social Work Symposium: ¿Cómo es que la Cultura Cura? Exploring the role of traditional healing and culture on mental health and community well-being. Oaxaca, Mexico.

Chaidez Ruacho, H., & Orozco, A. (2022, October). Acknowledging disenfranchised migratory grief through the use of dichos in therapy. LSWO National Latinx Conference, Seattle, WA.

Poster Presentations

- Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** & Fuentes-Balderrama, J. (2026, January). Expanding the circle of care: How children's utilization of therapy may support the therapy utilization of Hispanic caregivers. Society for Social Work and Research Convention, Washington, DC.
- Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** Valdez, C. R., & Canenguez, K. M. (2025, August). The infiltration of misinformation in migrant communities in a community-engaged research study. American Psychological Association Convention, Denver, CO.
- Hong, J., **Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** Zeng, X., & Franklin, C. (2025, January). A scoping review of family interventions for immigrant/refugee children, exploring intergenerational trauma. Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Seattle, WA.
- Lee, P. C., **Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** & Magaña, S. (2025, January). Special services use among Latino families with children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD): Does nativity and language matter? Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Seattle, WA.
- Hong, J., **Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** Zeng, X., & Franklin, C. (2024, October). A scoping review of family interventions for immigrant/refugee children, exploring intergenerational trauma. Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Kansas City, MO.
- Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** Tang, G., Abelar, J., & DiBona, T. (2017, April). Associations between perspective-taking, racial bias, and social activism. University of Nevada, Las Vegas Undergraduate Research Forum, Las Vegas, NV.

Invited Talks

- Landeros-Weisenberger, A., Torres-Viso, M., **Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** & Rivera, I. (2025, October). Collective heritage: Honoring the past, inspiring the future. Yale Child Study Center Grand Rounds.
- Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** & Orozco, A. (2023, November). Acknowledging disenfranchised migratory grief through the use of dichos in therapy. Connecticut Association for Infant Mental Health Fall Conference, Branford, CT.
- Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** Cifuentes, Y., & Marin, C. (2023, June). Cultural mental health services through the lifespan: Children and youth. Community Foundation for Greater New Haven: Progreso Latino Fund.
- Chaidez Ruacho, H.** (2023, March). Cultural humility in action: Raising awareness of migratory grief and the use of dichos with Latinos. University at Buffalo School of Social Work.
- Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** & Orozco, A. (2022, October). A culturally informed approach to treatment through the use of dichos with Latinos. Yale Child Study Center Grand Rounds.
- Chaidez Ruacho, H.** (2022, July). Cultural humility in action: Breaking barriers through the use of dichos with Latinos. Riggs–Yale Conference.
- Almasude, E., **Chaidez Ruacho, H.,** & Poe, C. (2022, March). Viral load: Mental health professionals-(mostly)-in-training during the pandemic. Yale Child Study Center.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work

August 2025 – Present

Co-Teacher

Dynamics of Organizations and Communities (MSW)

Teaching Assistant

Spanish for Social Workers (MSW)

Dynamics of Organizations and Communities (MSW)

Qualitative Research Methods (PhD)
 Social Work Research Methods (BSW)
 Foundations of Social Justice (BSW, asynchronous and in-person)

Invited Guest Lectures

Chaidez Ruacho, H. (2025). Intervening Through Advocacy at the Micro, Mezzo, and Macro Levels: Use of a Medical-Legal Partnership in a Community Mental Health Clinic. Guest Lecturer at The University of Texas at Austin.

Chaidez Ruacho, H. (2024). Improving Quality Mental Health Care for Latine Spanish-Speaking Families through Advocacy. Guest Lecturer at The University of Texas at Austin.

Chaidez Ruacho, H. (2024). Utilizing Cultural Humility and Traditional Latine Tools of Healing in Conjunction with Trauma-Specific Treatment. Guest Lecturer at St. Edward’s University.

Chaidez Ruacho, H. (2024). Responding to Immigrants and Refugees: Clinical Experience Working with Migrant Families. Guest Lecturer at Yale University.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Council on Social Work Education Minority Fellowship Program (MFP)	October 2026 – September 2027
Nationally competitive SAMHSA-funded fellowship supporting doctoral social work scholars committed to advancing behavioral health equity.	
Luis A. and Mercedes Zayas Family Endowed Fellowship in Social Work	August 2025 – May 2027
American Psychological Association Interdisciplinary Minority Fellowship Program (IMFP)	September 2024 – August 2026
Nationally competitive SAMHSA-funded fellowship supporting doctoral training and professional development in interdisciplinary behavioral health research and practice.	
Graduate School Recruitment Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin	August 2024 – July 2025
Graduate School fellowship awarded as part of doctoral recruitment.	
Graduate School Mentoring Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin	August 2023 – July 2024
Graduate School fellowship supporting doctoral recruitment and faculty-mentored training.	
NASW Student Award	May 2020
Phi Alpha National Social Work Honor Society	August 2019
Behavioral Health Workforce Education Training Fellowship (BHWET)	August 2019 – May 2020
Congressional Research Institute of Social Work and Policy (CRISP) Training Scholarship Award	July 2019
Student Day on Capitol Hill Scholarship Award	March 2019
Arthur A. Schomburg Fellowship	August 2018 – May 2020
Graduate School fellowship awarded as part of recruitment.	
1st Place, Fine Arts and Liberal Arts Poster Presentation Session Award	April 2017

ACADEMIC AND INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

School Social Work Council, University of Texas at Austin 2024 – 2025

Student-Elected PhD President

Represented doctoral student perspectives to School administration; communicated student needs and curriculum concerns; supported educational, service, and community-building activities.

Doctoral Program Committee, University of Texas at Austin 2024 – 2025

Doctoral Student Representative

Served as a voting member on doctoral program policy changes and liaison between the committee and doctoral students.

Yale Child Study Center Social Work Fellowship 2023 – 2026

Co-chair, Admissions Committee; member, Recruitment Workgroup; orientation seminar trainer.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Yale Child Study Center, Yale School of Medicine July 2020 – August 2023; July 2025 – Present

Mental Health Therapist – Social Work Fellow; Clinical Instructor of Social Work

Bilingual (Spanish/English) psychotherapy with children, adolescents, caregivers, and families across fellowship and clinical instructor roles; multidisciplinary training in outpatient and childhood trauma services.

Currently providing clinical work for a clinical trial research study.

BestSelf Behavioral Health Child, Family, and Adolescent Clinic August 2019 – April 2020

Advanced Year Intern

Provided bilingual individual and family psychotherapy, assessment, and treatment planning.

CLINICAL TRAINING AND LICENSURE

Licensed Clinical Social Worker June 2022 – Present

Licensed Master Social Worker January 2021 – August 2022

Fathers for Change (F4C) September 2025

Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) September 2022

Circle of Security Parenting May 2022

Child and Family Traumatic Stress Intervention (CFTSI) May 2021

Modular Approach to Therapy for Children with Anxiety, Depression, Trauma, or Conduct Problems October 2020