



# Baylor University®

DIANA R. GARLAND SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

## Online MSW Adjunct Faculty Directory Summer 2022

### Dr. Bree Alexander

Dr. Alexander is a licensed clinical social worker in the state of South Carolina. Her professional experience includes serving the child and adolescent population through school-based mental health therapy, therapeutic foster care, and, most recently, mental health/social work consulting in primary pediatric care settings. She teaches a variety of courses related to mental health, introduction to social work, social work theory and research, and evidence-informed practice. Her research experience includes school-shooting trauma and focuses on broader interests like youth and family mental health and public-school mental health services.



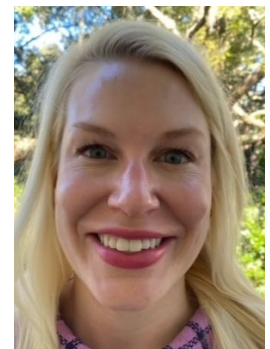
### Prof. Brooke Baker

Prof. Baker has worked at The Family Abuse Center in Waco and Cedar Crest Hospital in Belton. For the past five years she has been a school social worker for Midway ISD in Waco and has a true love and passion for school social work. Her research interests include working with children who have experienced trauma and how schools can implement trauma-informed strategies to help students thrive. Her current work at Midway ISD focuses on developing and implementing evidence-based interventions for assessing suicide risk and prevention strategies as well as training Midway ISD staff and teachers on trauma-informed care and working with students living in poverty.



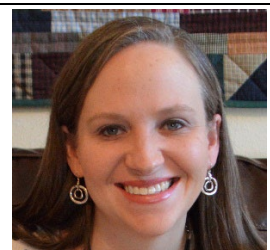
### Prof. Jessica Beattie

Jessica Beattie has practice experience working for state and non-profit healthcare organizations. She previously held both inpatient and outpatient roles with The Medical University of South Carolina's children's hospital. She provided clinical services and support to children with chronic medical conditions. She also worked with children and families at the Dee Norton Child Advocacy Center where she provided forensic assessments and trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy. She currently works for a non-profit faith-based hospice organization providing social work and grief support. Her research interests include health literacy, health disparities, grief, and social justice/advocacy.



### Prof. Jennifer Black

Jennifer Black, LMSW, is a graduate of The Garland School of Social Work and has spent her career as a social worker in the foster and adoption systems. She began her professional career in Waco as a therapeutic foster care case manager. She then spent years as a birth parent counselor and "post-legal" services coordinator for Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley in Dayton, Ohio. Most recently, she completed home studies for potential foster and adoptive homes for Buckner Child and Family Services in Lubbock, Texas.

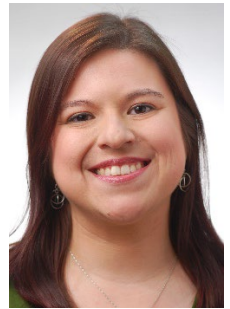


<h2>Prof. Kattina Bryant</h2>	
<p>Prof. Bryant is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker committed to helping people flourish within their environment through mental health wellness. She brings over 16 years of experience in areas of drug prevention, substance abuse treatment, hospital settings, suicide prevention with the federal government, psychiatric hospitals, school systems, private practice, and managed healthcare. Currently, Prof. Bryant is a Behavioral Health Case Manager II in the Reconnection and Advocacy Program for the East Tennessee Region. She also has a private practice where she utilizes eye movement desensitization reprocessing, solution-focused brief therapy, motivational interviewing, moral resonation therapy, and many other evidence based best practices when working with clients that are in crisis, dealing with depression, anxiety, relationship problems, or trauma.</p>	
<h2>Prof. Jennifer Caballero</h2>	
<p>Prof. Jennifer Caballero received her MSW from the Baylor University School of Social Work and MDiv from Truett Seminary. She is currently the Bereavement Coordinator for Community Health Care of Texas. She also has a background in managing federal grants related to housing solutions for homeless individuals, families, and youth and has previously served as the Director of Social Services with The Salvation Army. Her research interests include ethical integration of faith and practice, diversity sensitive practice, public policy on poverty and homelessness, grief and loss, and non-profit leadership and development.</p>	
<h2>Dr. Sonya Carson</h2>	
<p>Dr. Sonya Nicole Carson is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a board approved supervisor in the State of Texas. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology at Wiley College, her Master of Social Work degree through the University of Houston’s Graduate College of Social Work, and her Doctorate of Counselor’s Education from Texas Southern University. Throughout her career, she has worked in Child Protective Services, acute care and medical hospital settings, as well as at a psychiatric prison. Dr. Carson has extensive experience in crisis intervention, child abuse, treatment planning and is every excited to share her expertise in these areas.</p>	
<h2>Prof. Jai Combest</h2>	
<p>Prof. Combest works full time as a medical social worker, pursuing graduate level certificates in Sports Social Work and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Her clinical work includes oncology, neurology, geriatrics, and children. Prof. Combest currently has a part-time private practice and works with people from all life stages and enjoys mentoring social work students, as well as early career social work professionals. Her practice interests include grief and loss, motherhood and parenting, medical Social Work, and athletes.</p>	
<h2>Prof. Heather Deal</h2>	
<p>Prof. Deal currently serves as the Director of Development for Baylor University’s Diana R. Garland School of Social Work and is a doctoral student at the Garland School. She has presented at various development and fundraising conferences including The Bridge Conference which focuses on integrated marketing and fundraising. She earned her M.Div. and MSW from Baylor’s George W. Truett Theological Seminary and the Garland School of Social Work where she specialized in congregational social work and wrote the “Understanding Poverty” unit for the Center for Family and Community Ministries’ Walking Alongside curriculum which helps guide congregations as they are considering how God has called them to serve their communities.</p>	



## Dr. Crystal Diaz-Espinoza

Crystal Diaz-Espinoza, Ph.D. serves as the Director of Enrollment, Career & Alumni Services in the Garland School of Social Work at Baylor University. Her work investigates how the experiences of women and BIPOC are impacted in spaces where they are not the predominant group. She has published in journals such as the NASPA Journal about Women in Higher Education and Journal of Learning Spaces. She has also published chapters about workplace bullying in higher education and women in leadership, and she has presented at conferences on computer science education, social work and higher education.



## Prof. Kristen Drumgoole

Prof. Drumgoole has taught Social Policy, Foundations of Social Justice, and Advanced Community Practice for the Garland School of Social Work. She has served in various social work capacities since completing her MSW at the Garland School, including Director of Community Partnerships at Helping Hands Ministry, Child and Family Advocate at the Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and Children, and Case Manager in the Methodist Children's Home Family Outreach program. Her professional and research interests include social policy, civic engagement, congregational social work, and kinship care.



## Prof. Laura Ellis

Prof. Laura Ellis, a graduate from Mary Hardin-Baylor University and University of Texas at Arlington, has practiced social work for 11 years in the field of medical social work in primary and internal medicine care settings serving a large geriatric population. She has also practiced in pregnancy centers providing services to individuals facing unexpected pregnancies and parents with children under the age of one. Prof. Ellis has lived in the Waco area for the past 14 years and is passionate about training and preparing new social workers in and for field.



## Prof. Carolina Fuentes

Prof. Fuentes is a graduate of the MDiv/MSW program at Baylor University. During her tenure as a social worker she has worked as a case manager for refugee families, a children's hospital social worker, a child abuse and violence prevention education specialist, and a volunteer court-appointed child advocate. She has also been a speaker at regional and national conferences. Prof. Fuentes currently works at DePelchin Children's Center in Houston as a school-based clinician and a trainer for the Mental Health Awareness program. In addition, she is an expert consultant with the National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center.



## Prof. Wesley Furlong

Prof. Furlong has conducted program evaluations in child welfare, workforce development, education, and human trafficking prevention. He served as a pastor for 12 years where he led initiatives to open the first community health center in Cape Coral, Florida for the uninsured and under-insured, a mentoring network in title I schools with the School District of Lee County, and a regional foster care support network. He has been a foster parent since 2012. His primary research interests include program evaluation and child welfare, specifically foster care. Presently, his research focus includes predictive models for permanency outcomes and methods to measure child well-being in foster care.



## Prof. Kristina Garrison-Clark

Prof. Garrison-Clark's passion is to create and be a part of opportunities that restore lives, renew minds, and change hearts. She has worked in a variety of social service settings serving different populations including marginalized communities, youth and families, adults with severe and persistent mental illness, social work interns, and congregations. Her research interests include equity, African-American communities, community-based churches, and finding the intersection between faith and wellness. She also maintains a small business as a life coach.



## Dr. Louis Gomez

Dr. Gomez has been in private practice in Houston, TX since 2011 and is currently completing a Ph.D. in International Psychology from The Chicago School, in addition to his clinical doctorate from Rutgers University. He served on the GSSW Board of Advocates as member, vice-chairman, and chairman, and on the Houston MSW Advisory Committee. He is a member of the American Psychological Association, mentors STEM AP Research Capstone projects in Illinois, and is also licensed in Florida. His research interests include qualitative research methods, trauma, culture, cross-cultural psychology, indigenous psychology, acculturation, cultural neuroscience, spirituality/religiosity, social determinants of health, and clinical social work.



## Dr. Bonni Goodwin

Bonni Goodwin, LCSW, PhD, has worked in the field of Social Work for the past 18 years. Most of her work has been with children and families, empowering them to overcome challenges toward hope and stability. Bonni spent 6 years providing direct services to children, families, and groups through an adoption-specialized counseling center. She is the Statewide Coordinator of Adoption Preservation Services with the Oklahoma child welfare department. She also works in the Center for Child Welfare Training & Simulation at the University of Oklahoma. Bonni has taught BSW and MSW courses for the past two years.



## Prof. Catina Hart

Prof. Hart has a Master's degree in Social Work with a Children and Families concentration. She has served as a counselor for residential treatment, juvenile detention, and adolescent substance abuse. She is currently working in medical social work providing treatment for children and families with End Stage Renal Disease. Her research interest includes mental health and patient & family engagement, healthy pathways for at risk youth, and best practice approaches to address health literacy needs within minority communities using family collaboration.



## Prof. Nick Haynes

Prof. Haynes is a graduate of the Baylor MSW program and has served as a social worker in the Waco community since 2010, working in health care for four years in acute care and hospice. In 2014, he acted on his passion for policy advocacy and ran for U.S. Representative. Afterward, he spent one year managing a supportive housing program at Mission Waco. Since 2014, he has worked in student support roles at Baylor University. He has taught classes on social work with immigrants and refugees, professional development, and social policy. He and his wife, an immigrant from Mexico, are committed to advocating for immigration policy reform.



## Prof. Jennifer Hensen

Jennifer Hensen, LMSW, has professional experience working several sessions as a legislative aide in the Texas Legislature. She also has experience with statewide political campaigns and in government affairs with state government agencies. When completing her Masters in Social Work, she had internship placements at the Baylor Counseling Center and Heart of Texas MHMR Center. She is currently a PhD Candidate at the Diana R. Garland School of Social Work.



## Prof. Jim Heston

Prof. Heston is the Academic Consultant - Instructional Designer for the Garland School of Social Work. He serves as the Academic Technology Director and works with faculty in designing and improving instruction. He is a former K-12 teacher and administrator and has taught as a Baylor adjunct since 2015, including online instruction using both synchronous and asynchronous modality. He currently teaches Social Justice & Technology online, which he designed alongside Dean Jon Singletary, exploring how presentations, social media, simple websites, and video can enhance a social worker's effectiveness.





## Prof. Jennifer Hollenberger

Prof. Hollenberger is a present PhD Candidate at Baylor where she is researching how pregnancy options counseling is practiced across varying settings within the US. She is also an assistant professor of social work at Grove City College, a Christian liberal arts college in Pennsylvania. Prof Hollenberger has 15 years of social work practice experience in community and medical mental health settings as well as school social work. Her clinical experience is with children and families where she specialized in serving individuals struggling with anxiety, depression, addiction, and eating disorders.



## Prof. Venee M. Hummel

Prof. Hummel, LCSW has taught graduate courses in the areas of research and practice evaluation, with experience in both the physical and virtual classroom. Additionally, she is a clinician at the Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Centerstone in Clarksville, TN. Prof. Hummel provides clinical services to veterans and military-connected family members with a specialty focus on evidence-based treatments for posttraumatic stress disorder, suicide prevention, anxiety disorders, and the impact of deployments on children, couples, and families. She previously completed a fellowship in combat trauma research, assessment, and intervention at the STRONG STAR Research Consortium and Consortium to Alleviate PTSD at Fort Hood, Texas.



## Prof. Michelle Johnson

Professor Johnson is an advocate for underserved communities, racial reconciliation and congregational unity. She has worked in residential, non-profit, and congregational settings creating safe spaces for vulnerable populations. She is passionate about issues of poverty, equity in diverse communities, rehabilitated societal systems, and the Christian faith. She also finds great joy in empowering students in educational settings. Her research interests include spiritual formation/development, Christian community development, cultural humility, racial solidarity, and women in ministry.



## Prof. Rachael Linthicum

Prof. Linthicum has been a social worker for over 10 years and is currently a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Currently, she works as the Social Work Manager of Behavioral Health Services at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, TX and maintains a small private practice. In the past, Prof. Linthicum has experience working in a variety of places such as foster care, youth residential treatment center, shelter for survivors of domestic violence, and both inpatient and outpatient psychiatric settings. Due to this experience, she has become well versed in utilizing suicide risk assessments and interventions, as well as, crisis counseling/debriefing.



## Prof. Carolyn Lofton

Prof. Lofton has 29 years of social work experience with 9 years in hospice care. She is the current Mayor of Marlin, Texas and the first Black and first Black female Mayor ever elected. She has provided mentoring and tutoring to grade school students and has been a breast cancer survivor since July 7, 2011. Her research interests include increasing accessible resources for older adults that include dental provisions.



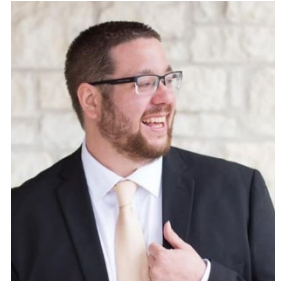
## Prof. Ally Matteson

Prof. Matteson works as a Project Director with the Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development which focuses on training organizations who work with victims of child sex trafficking across the state of Texas using Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI®). She has also spent time doing community development projects in India and Egypt. In addition, Prof. Matteson has worked as a therapist specializing in complex trauma at a residential treatment center that serves child sex trafficking in long term treatment and has trained residential treatment centers, schools, law enforcement, and community-based service agencies on TBRI®, trafficking, and complex trauma as well as developing cultures of care across the community.



## Dr. David McClung

Dr. McClung is a nationally recognized expert in youth engagement, youth participatory action research, and collaborative partnerships between faith communities and mental health professionals. He holds extensive experience in youth mental health, which also includes work related to juvenile justice, residential care, child relinquishment, community organizations, and higher education. He is currently the Vice President of Youth M.O.V.E National and recently completed a PhD in Social Work from Baylor University, where his research has focused on the mental health literacy of faith leaders in Texas.



## Prof. Sarah McPherson

Prof. McPherson has been working in violence prevention since graduating with her master's in social work from Baylor. She served as the Prevention and Education Coordinator at the Advocacy Center in Waco and also worked for Title IX at Baylor University before returning to Pennsylvania. Sarah also has a Bachelor of Science degree in anthropology and psychology from The University of Pittsburgh. She currently works as the Director of Outreach & Education at Centre Safe in State College, PA. She is most passionate about working to address oppression and social justice issues, and, of course, her two young children.



## Prof. Amy Murphy

Prof. Murphy has taught in both the GSSW and Baylor School of Education Leadership Department. Prof. Murphy's teaching profile includes Introduction to Social Work, Human Behaviors in Social Environment I & 2, Capstone, MSW Introduction to Social Work, and multiple Baylor leadership classes. Prof. Murphy enjoys expanding her social work knowledge in macro social work, racial reconciliation, and community development.



## Prof. Tracey Kelley Neal

Tracey Kelley Neal is a graduate of the School (MSW) and has taught undergraduate and graduate level courses both residually and virtually. Her teaching and practice experience include: Evaluation of Social Work Practice, Social Policy, Gerontology, Field Internship Seminar, Legal Guardianship (Adults), Nonprofit Management and Marketing, Higher Education Administration, University Advancement and Leadership. She has also taught as a visiting professor at the College of Theology and Education, Chisinau, Moldova. She is an LMSW in the State of Texas and her research interests include: Gerontology, Social Work Education, Jurisprudence, Program Evaluation and Relationships Enrichment.



## Prof. Kevin Pranoto

Prof. Pranoto, MDiv, LMSW, is the Executive Director of Mission Oak Cliff. He is passionate about serving people experiencing marginalization and is an advocate for relational ministry. As a licensed social worker and ordained minister, Prof. Pranoto has experience working in a variety of global and local faith-based nonprofit agencies, including the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Buckhead Christian Ministry in Atlanta, Georgia. He has served on the board of Second Helpings Atlanta, a food rescue agency, and is currently the Vice Chair on the board of the Innovative Space for Asian American Christianity.



## Prof. Natalie Qualls

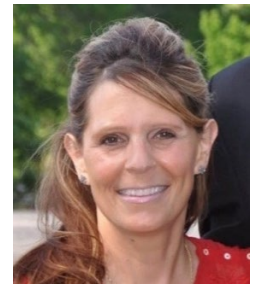
Prof. Qualls completed her BSW and MSW at Baylor University with field work at a domestic violence shelter and a substance abuse treatment facility. The majority of Prof. Qualls' career has been within public service as she has worked for the Veterans Health Administration since 2010 in roles ranging from direct practice with Veterans living with severe mental illness diagnoses to supervising a multidisciplinary homeless outreach team. Over half of her time is spent leading the suicide prevention efforts at both the Central Texas and the North Texas VA Health Care Systems.





## Prof. Heidi Rathbun

Prof. Rathbun earned a BS in Family and Interpersonal Communication from Weber State in Ogden, UT and an MSW from the GSSW. Prof. Rathbun-McVeigh has spent time at Strong Star, Ft. Hood, TX treating PTSD, Insomnia, and nightmares, while supporting a research prevention program designed to support families through the cycles of deployment. She currently serves in the Road Home Program in Chicago, funded by WWP, treating Veterans in a 3-week IOP setting with additional programming supporting mind, body and spirit.



## Prof. Natalie Riggins

Prof. Riggins has practiced in school social work settings primarily with Spanish-speaking populations at the elementary, middle, and high school levels providing individual and group counseling and crisis intervention. She is passionate about social work education and mentorship and has served as a field instructor for both Baylor and University of Texas investing in the lives of future social workers. She is also a biological, foster, and special needs mom dedicated to child welfare and advocacy. Prof. Riggins has a Master's Degree in Social Work from Baylor University and a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Azusa Pacific University.



## Prof. Megan Sayers

Prof. Sayers has worked in direct community practice by designing and implementing international and domestic initiatives that work with women, children and teenage mothers. She completed her service as a Community Development Specialist for the United States Peace Corps in Morocco and worked as a Learning and Evaluation Consultant in London. Her research interests are in International Community Development, Monitoring and Evaluation practices, and promoting nonprofit accountability through constituent feedback. She currently works on Oracle NetSuite's Social Impact team, implementing software for small nonprofit organizations. She received her MSW from Baylor's GSSW program with a Concentration in Community Practice and Specialization in International Community Development.



## Prof. Lauren Serafy

Prof. Serafy began her career in politics before earning her MSW at the Garland School of Social Work. At Baylor, Lauren expanded her knowledge of non-profit management, focused her research on corporate social responsibility, and focused her studies on community development. She currently works at a non-profit consulting firm (which she also founded) providing her clients with administration and program development guidance, as well as fundraising and development services, including grant writing. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Children's Museum of Brownsville and is an active member of their development committee. Prof. Serafy's social work interests include non-profit management, community development, social policy, and grant writing.



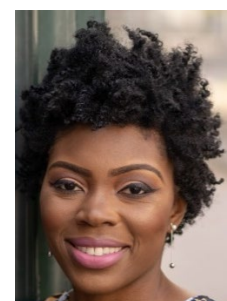
## Prof. Vanessa Simpson

Prof. Vanessa Simpson, LCSW, is a Behavioral Health Care Manager at Children's Health. She provides tele-behavioral health therapy to students in multiple school districts across North Texas. She loves having the opportunity to teach future social workers and to provide relevant therapy experience in the classroom. She has co-authored journal articles on the topics of suicide and binge eating disorders, and her areas of interest include children and families, mental health, CBT, and eating disorders.



## Prof. Bianca Smith

Prof. Smith currently serves as an Adolescent Substance Abuse Counselor for a school district near Houston's energy corridor. She is also an author and social justice advocate. Prof. Smith is a graduate of GSSW's MSW Program where she enjoyed international social work and studied abroad in Costa Rica and Kenya. Her social work experience includes both clinical and community-based practice. Her current research interests include evaluating the relationship between white supremacy and religion; analyzing trends in hate crimes and case disposition; and assessing African-American women for generational trauma and physical health outcomes.



## Prof. Hannah Sukany

Prof. Sukany has a Master's degree in Social Work with a Community Practice specialization from Baylor University and has been working with nonprofits and grant management since 2009. She is currently the Chief Operations Officer at Communities in Schools (CIS) of the Heart of Texas. Her work experience has centered around resource and organizational development, as well as program and grant management for the Waco school district and CIS. She is passionate about education, social justice, and equal rights.



## Dr. Kayte Thomas

Dr. Thomas is a licensed clinical social worker in North Carolina and a certified clinical trauma professional. Her diverse experience includes birth defects advocacy, developmental disability support, mental health, and refugee resettlement. Dr. Thomas is a passionate advocate for social justice and enjoys guiding new social workers through clinical supervision. Her research is focused on trauma and resiliency in Syrian refugee mothers, and she is interested in global issues of maternal health as well as intergenerational trauma transmission.



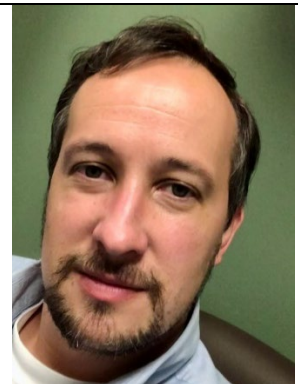
## Prof. Elizabeth (Bethie) Timmons

Prof. Timmons is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a board approved Supervisor. She has worked for the Heart of Texas Region MHMR Center in Waco, Texas for 6 years and is currently the Director of Clinical Services at HOTRMHMR in Adult Mental Health. Prof. Timmons has 10 years of private practice experience where she served a diverse group of individuals from children to adults as a former Child Protective Services worker, Prof. Timmons is passionate about children and families and has come to understand the significance of relationships and how they can affect the lenses through which a person views the world.



## Prof. Andrew Trujillo

Prof. Trujillo, LCSW, has worked with Buckner Children and Family Services doing holistic community development in the Colonias of the Rio Grande Valley, TX. He has also worked with Unaccompanied Children from Central America, eventually becoming a Program Director of Home Studies and Post Release Services for this population at YMCA International Services in Houston. He currently provides psychotherapy to Veterans at Michael E. DeBakey Hospital in Houston, TX and is an ordained minister with the International Pentecostal Holiness Church. Prof. Trujillo has a passion for serving the Latino community and regaining the language and culture that his family lost due to assimilation practices experienced across several generations.



## Prof. Will Ward

Prof. Will Ward has spent much of his practice in school social work. He has also spent time serving in healthcare and congregational roles. He holds both his M.Div. and MSW degrees from Baylor. His MSW work focused on community practice, but he has experience in micro, mezzo, and macro practice. He recently began his PhD studies at Baylor, with research focusing on the intersection of faith and LGBTQ identity in young people. Ward hopes to cultivate a classroom environment where student voice is at the center, just like we do with our clients.



## Prof. Kelsey Wiggins

Prof. Kelsey Wiggins received her MSW from the Garland School of Social Work and her MDiv from Truett Seminary. She is currently a clinical case-manager for the City of Austin coordinating wraparound services and housing solutions for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness as well as providing restorative justice solutions in the community court setting. She also has professional experience providing mental health interventions, crisis prevention, and support to students in the school system as well as experience working with adults and families in hospice care. Her professional interests include ethical integration of faith and practice, trauma informed care, strengthening resiliency, and mental health.





# Dr. Amanda Wilson Harper

Dr. Harper received her undergraduate degree from the University of North Texas and completed her MSW degree and PhD of Social Work at Baylor University and her MDiv at Baylor’s Truett Seminary. She has worked in a variety of social work settings including Houston’s third ward, churches, private clinical practice, and is currently the Executive Director of a counseling center. Amanda has received two fellowships as a PhD student and is a task force member with Kettering Research. Her research experience has largely fallen within the realm of social justice, faith and politics, and public deliberation with social issues, with an ultimate goal of helping institutions, churches, and agencies create healthy spaces to foster dialogue and action around current social issues.



**Also teaching in Online MSW Program (Not Pictured):**

Flor Avellaneda

Rebecca Shumake