**Ronald John San Nicolas, PhD, MSW**

**University of Washington, Tacoma | School of Social Work and Criminal Justice**

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**Education**

PhD University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii December 1998

*Social Welfare*

*Dissertation Title: “Primary Caregivers of the Seriously*

*Mentally Ill in Guam: Caregiving Outcomes and*

*Implications for Social Work Practice”*

MSW University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii May 1990

*Concentration: Social Work in Mental Health*

BA University of Guam, Mangilao, Guam May 1985

*Major: Psychology & Sociology*

**Certifications/Licenses**

Certified Peer Counselor, Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, 2018 - Present

Health Care Authority – State of Washington

Mental Health Professional and Specialist (Ethnic Minority Mental Health 2016 - Present

Asian Pacific Islanders and Children’s Mental Health) – State of Washington

Social Worker Associate Independent Clinical License (SC 60115338) 2009 - Present

State of Washington

Academy of Certified Social Workers 1993 - Present

National Association of Social Workers, Washington DC

**Educational Scholarships - Fellowships**

Doctoral Minority Research Fellow 1993 - 1997

Council on Social Work Education Minority Fellowship Program

Alexandria, Virginia

Doctoral Fellow 1993 – 1997

University of Guam

Mangilao, Guam

Asian-Pacific Islander Scholarship 1988 - 1990

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Honolulu, Hawaii

**Teaching Interests**

Generalist social work practice, behavioral health and neurodevelopmental disabilities, individual and family social work practice, cross-cultural practice, applied research methods, social welfare policy and community organization

**Teaching Experiences**

*Assistant Teaching Professor of Social Work* 2017 - Present

University of Washington at Tacoma

School of Social Work & Criminal Justice

Tacoma, Washington

* Teach 5-6 courses per academic year in the undergraduate and graduate social work program
* Coordinate and administer the Simon Family Endowment Autism MSW Field Education Unit that includes student recruitment, selection review, support of MSW fellows in field placement, and extra-curricular activities and trainings
* Provide undergraduate and graduate off-site field instruction supervision and support of students placed in field placements focused on serving autistic clients (Foundation/Advanced Practicum (MSW)
* Serve as faculty adviser for 9 BASW and 14 MSW students
* Participate in School and Program staff and faculty meetings and committees (i.e., scholarship, BASW/MSW Admissions Committee)

Courses taught:

* Advanced Integrative Practice: Policy and Advocacy (MSW)
* Advanced Standing Integrative Seminar (MSW)
* Applied Statistics for the Human Services (BASW)
* Cross Cultural Grieving (BASW)
* Cultural Diversity and Social Justice (BASW and MSW)
* Mental Illness and Recovery (BASW)
* Multicultural Theory in Social Work Practice (MSW)
* Readings in Social Welfare (BASW and MSW)
* Social Work Practice III – Organizations and Communities (BASW)
* Social Work Practice V – Foundation Practice Skills (MSW)

*Part-time Lecturer of Social Work* 2008 - 2017

University of Washington at Tacoma

Social Work & Criminal Justice Program

Tacoma, Washington

* Taught 4- 5 courses per academic year in the undergraduate and graduate social work programs

Courses taught:

* + Advanced Integrative Practice: Policy and Advocacy (MSW)
  + Advanced Standing Integrative Seminar (MSW)
  + Applied Statistics for the Human Services (BASW)
  + Assessment Methods and Tools (BASW)
  + Human Behavior and the Social Environment (BASW and MSW)
  + Multicultural Practice Methods with Children, Youth and Families (MSW)
  + Mental Illness and Recovery (BASW)
  + Readings in Social Welfare (BASW and MSW)
  + Social Work Practice V – Foundation Practice Skills (MSW)
  + Suicide and Community Responses (BASW)

*Part-time Senior Lecturer*  2008, 2012, 2017

Saint Martin’s University

College of Arts and Sciences

Lacey, Washington

* Taught 3 semester courses in the Psychology, Social Work and Sociology Programs

Courses taught:

* American Social Problems
* Child Welfare Services
* Research Methods

**Faculty Sponsored Independent Reading/Research**

Understanding Nutrition in Social Work Practice (BASW Student) Summer 2021

Certified Peer Counselors (BASW Student) Spring 2021

Trauma and Developmental Disabilities (MSW Student) Spring 2020

Role of Public Libraries as Alternative Social Service Agencies and Autumn 2019

the Role of the Library Social Worker (BASW Student)

Self-Advocacy and the Development of a Pain Management Winter & Spring 2019

Resource Manual (MSW Student)

Personality Disorders: Assessment, Treatment and Implications Autumn 2018 – Summer 2019

for Social Work Practice (BASW Student)

Autism and First-Person Accounts (BASW Student) Winter 2018

Social Work Practice with Autistic Adults (MSW Student) Winter 2017 – Spring 2017

**Thesis and Dissertation Committee Participation**

External member, Dissertation Committee: Christina Dela Cruz 2011 - 2014

“Existential concerns among individuals living with a mental illness in Guam”

Antioch University - Seattle, Washington

Chair, Thesis Committee: Roseann Camacho, “Stressors, social 2003 - 2005

support, and dietary compliance among Guam’s end-stage

renal disease patients”

University of Guam - Mangilao, Guam

**Professional Teaching Institute**

Strengthening Educational Excellence through Diversity (SEED) September 2018

Teaching Institute - University of Washington at Tacoma

**Professional Social Work Interests**

Generalist practice (individuals, families, and communities), Wraparound Intensive Services for at risk children and youth, neurodevelopmental disabilities, cross-cultural practice, peer support in behavioral health and recovery, implementation and evaluation of behavioral health evidence based best practices, community organization and advocacy related to autoimmune encephalitis of the basal ganglia

**Professional Social Work Experiences**

*Clinical and Staff Training Consultant* 2018 - Present

Family Behavioral Health

Catholic Community Services of Western Washington

Olympia, Washington

* Provide staff consultation on co-occurring behavioral health and neurodevelopmental disorders for youth and families enrolled in the Wraparound Intensive Services Program
* Develop and present clinical staff training modules focused on autism and intellectual disabilities

*Mental Health Program Administrator* 2008 - 2017

Behavioral Health Administration

Department of Health and Social Services

Lacey, Washington

* Developed, administered, and monitored multiple Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) and Community Mental Health Services (CMHS) federal block grants related to cultural competence practice in behavioral health and recovery-oriented services
* Developed and implemented legislative initiatives for the enhancement of behavioral health services for children and youth with serious emotional and behavioral disorders
* Member of the Office of Consumer Partnerships and responsible for the division’s consumer and constituent 1-800 line responding to inquiries, complaints, and grievances
* Served as the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) advisor and coordinator of the division’s Interpreter Services for Medicaid consumers who are deaf, hard of hearing and do not speak English
* Developed and monitored state and federal funded contracts related to the implementation of child and adult behavioral health programs, evidence-based practice trainings and state planned service modalities

*Clinical Supervisor* 2007 - 2008

Adult Counseling Services

Behavioral Health Resources

Lacey, Washington

* Provided clinical supervision and consultation to clinicians providing outpatient services to Medicaid enrollees with emphasis on the cognitive-behavioral model and solution focused brief therapy as authorized by the Thurston-Mason County Behavioral Health Organization
* Provided outpatient counseling for a caseload of 10 adult clients

*Research Assistant* 2004 - 2007

Mental Health Services, Research and Training

Social Sciences Research Institute

University of Hawai’i at Manoa and the

State of Hawaii Adult Mental Health Division

Honolulu, Hawaii

* Served as lead trainer and cultural competence consultant for the State of Hawaii’s Evidence-Based Practice (Illness Management and Self-Directed Recovery) Implementation Pilot Project funded by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration
* Provided technical assistance to service directors for the evaluation of case management and consumer services
* Developed curricula, technical reports, manuscripts, training presentations in the area of public mental health policy and services for the State of Hawaii

*Clinical Director* 2002 - 2004

Project I Famaguon-ta (Our Children)

System of Care Initiative

Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Tamuning, Guam

* Participated in the clinical administration and development of a CMHS Systems of Care Grant ($1.2 million) in Guam
* Directed and coordinated the delivery of clinical intervention and treatment services for 100 children and adolescents diagnosed with an emotional, behavioral, or mental health disorder or a combination of co-occurring disorders in Guam
* Provided case management training and supervision of social workers responsible for providing intensive case management services using the Wraparound and Coordinated Case Management approaches for children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances

*Individual, Marriage and Family Therapist*  1998 - 2004

Sole Proprietor

Agana, Guam

* Provided care coordination and private practice counseling services to children, adults, couples, and families with a specialization in post-divorce issues, phase of life issues, relational issues, and treatment of anxiety and depression.

**Publications**

San Nicolas, R.J., Dingcong, T., Miclat, E. (2002). Culturally competent practice with families of children and adolescents with serious emotional disabilities in Guam. In J.M.G. King, J.

Cook, M.D. Pullmann, & J. Simpson (Eds.). Building on family strengths: Research and services in support of children and their families. 2001 conference proceedings (pp. 173-176). Portland State University, Research and Training center on Family Support and Children’s Mental Health.

Furuto, S.B.C.L., San Nicolas, R.J., Kim, G.E., & Fiaui, L.M. (2001). Interventions with Kānaka Maoli, Chamorro and Samoan Communities. In R. Fong & S. Furuto (Eds.), Culturally competent practice (pp.327-342). Boston: Allyn and Bacon Publishers.

San Nicolas, R.J. (1999). Primary caregivers of the seriously mentally ill in Guam: Caregiving outcomes and implications for social work practice. Dissertation Abstracts - International, 59 (12-A), 4531.

San Nicolas, R.J. (1996). Collaborative social work practice with Chamorro families of the seriously mentally ill in Guam. Asia Pacific Journal of Social Work, 6(1), 6 -15.

**Community and Conference Presentations**

San Nicolas, R.J., & Gilman, K. (June 2019). “Certified peer counselors as legislative advocates: Cultivating community solutions for behavioral health policy change.” A presentation at the 2019 Washington State Behavioral Health Conference, Vancouver, WA.

San Nicolas, R.J. (August 2018). “Navigating the journey to recovery.” A presentation at the 2018 King County Recovery and Wellness Conference, Seattle University, WA.

San Nicolas, R.J. (March 2017). “Increasing cultural competence to reduce behavioral health disparities.” A presentation to MSW Fellows at the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE) Minority Fellowship Program Conference, Alexandria, VA.

San Nicolas, R.J., Howell, P., and Cohen-More, E. (June 2015). “Faith-Based Response for Promoting a Recovery-Oriented System of Care.” A panel presentation to participants at the Washington Behavioral Health Conference, Vancouver, WA.

**Colloquia and Training Presentations**

Angelica Lauriano-Eldred, A., Salinas, I.M., Bovee, J., McMichael, K., Lopez, K., Miller, L., Sampson, M, San Nicolas, R., Balderas, Y., and Cripe, SM. (June 2021). “Cultural Perspectives about IDD and Social and Health Inequities in the IDD Community.” A virtual panel presentation to participants of the UW ECHO Intellectual Developmental Disabilities Training: University of Washington, Seattle and Seattle Children’s Hospital.

San Nicolas, R.J. (October 2020). “Acute Onset Neuropsychiatric Disorders in Children and Youth.” An online colloquium presentation – 2020 Mental Illness Awareness Week: University of Washington, Tacoma.

San Nicolas, R.J. (October 2019). “Acute Onset Neuropsychiatric Disorders in Children and Youth.” A colloquium presentation – 2019 Mental Illness Awareness Week: University of Washington, Tacoma.

San Nicolas, R.J. (July 2019). “Intersection between Culture and Recovery.” A training presentation to substance use disorder certified peer counselor trainees, Washington State University Behavioral Workforce Collaborative. Chehalis, WA.

San Nicolas, R.J. (April 2019). “Autism Awareness and Acceptance.” A colloquium presentation – 2019 Autism Awareness and Acceptance Day: University of Washington, Tacoma.

San Nicolas, R.J. (August 2018) “Cultural Awareness and Competence in Behavioral Health Treatment” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M3Lh0E0vk0c&feature=youtu.be>). Washington State University’s Behavioral Health Workforce Collaborative: State Youth Treatment – Implementation Webinar Series. Olympia, WA.

San Nicolas, R.J. (July 2018). “Importance of Cultural Competence for the Certified Peer Counselor.” A training presentation to certified peer counselor trainees, Washington State University Behavioral Workforce Collaborative. Kelso, WA.

San Nicolas, R.J. (August 2017). “Cultural Competence.” A training presentation to certified peer counselor trainees, Washington State University Behavioral Workforce Collaborative, Tacoma, WA.

**University of Washington, Tacoma Service**

*Ex-Officio Member* 2020 - Present

Student Fee Activity Committee

*Co-Adviser* 2018 - Present

Registered Student Organization

National Alliance in Mental Illness (NAMI on Campus)

*Undergraduate Student Mentor* 2019

UW Tacoma Center for Service and Leadership

**School of Social Work and Criminal Justice Service**

Scholarship Review Committee Member 2019 - 2021

Faculty mentor for two (2) part-time social work Instructors 2017 - 2021

Faculty Council Member 2020 - 2021

BASW and MSW Admissions Committee Member 2017 - 2019

**Professional and Community Volunteer Service**

Council of Social Work Education Minority Fellowship Program 2021 - Present

MSW and PhD Advisory Committee

Member, Council on Mental Illness 2021 - Present

National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities

Chairperson, Inclusion and Mental Health Ministries 2021 - Present

Archdiocese of Seattle

Member, Racial Justice and Cultural Diversity Commission 2021 - Present

Archdiocese of Seattle

Board Member and Chairperson, Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Committee 2021 - Present

Washington State Community Connectors

Board Member, Holy Family School 2020 - Present

Lacey, Washington

Northwest Pediatric Autoimmune 2019 - Present

Neuropsychiatric Disorders due to Streptococcal Infection

Pediatric Acute Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANDAS/PANS)

Parents’ Network and Legislative Workgroup

Council of Social Work Education Minority Fellowship Program 2019 - 2020

MSW Mentorship Program

Governor Appointed Member, Washington State 2018 - 2021

Developmental Disabilities Council

(Co-Chair, State Plan and Policy and Equity Workgroup Committees)

Patient Chaplain, Chaplaincy Services 2017 - 2020

Western State Hospital

**Awards and Honors**

Master of Social Work Hooding Ceremony Faculty Speaker June 2021

University of Washington, Tacoma

Master of Social Work Hooding Ceremony Faculty Speaker June 2020

University of Washington, Tacoma

Master of Social Work Hooding Ceremony Faculty Speaker June 2019

University of Washington, Tacoma

Master of Social Work Hooding Ceremony Faculty Speaker June 2012

University of Washington, Tacoma

President’s Research Award Recipient March 2002

University of Guam

Social Worker of the Year March 1991

Guam Association of Social Workers