

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 <i>Social Welfare</i>	December 1998
	<i>Dissertation Title: "Primary Caregivers of the Seriously Mentally Ill in Guam: Caregiving Outcomes and Implications for Social Work Practice"</i>	
MSW	University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii <i>Concentration: Social Work in Mental Health</i>	May 1990
BA	University of Guam, Mangilao, Guam <i>Major: Psychology & Sociology</i>	May 1985

Certifications/Licenses

Certified Peer Counselor, Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, Health Care Authority – State of Washington	2018 - Present
Mental Health Professional and Specialist (Ethnic Minority Mental Health Asian Pacific Islanders and Children’s Mental Health) – State of Washington	2016 - Present
Social Worker Associate Independent Clinical License (SC 60115338) State of Washington	2009 - Present
Academy of Certified Social Workers National Association of Social Workers, Washington DC	1993 - Present

Educational Scholarships - Fellowships

Doctoral Minority Research Fellow Council on Social Work Education Minority Fellowship Program Alexandria, Virginia	1993 - 1997
Doctoral Fellow University of Guam Mangilao, Guam	1993 – 1997

Asian-Pacific Islander Scholarship
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Honolulu, Hawaii

1988 - 1990

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
University of Washington at Tacoma
School of Social Work & Criminal Justice
Tacoma, Washington

2017 - Present

- 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
University of Washington at Tacoma
Social Work & Criminal Justice Program
Tacoma, Washington

2008 - 2017

- 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
Saint Martin's University
College of Arts and Sciences
Lacey, Washington

2008, 2012, 2017

- 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 Resource Manual (MSW Student) Winter & Spring 2019

Personality Disorders: Assessment, Treatment and Implications for Social Work Practice (BASW Student) Autumn 2018 – Summer 2019

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 support, and dietary compliance among Guam’s end-stage renal disease patients” 2003 - 2005
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
 Behavioral Health Administration
 Department of Health and Social Services
 Lacey, Washington

2008 - 2017

- 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
 Adult Counseling Services
 Behavioral Health Resources
 Lacey, Washington

2007 - 2008

- 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
 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

2004 - 2007

- 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=M3LhOE0vk0c&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

<i>Ex-Officio Member</i> Student Fee Activity Committee	2020 - Present
<i>Co-Adviser</i> Registered Student Organization National Alliance in Mental Illness (NAMI on Campus)	2018 - Present
<i>Undergraduate Student Mentor</i> UW Tacoma Center for Service and Leadership	2019

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 MSW and PhD Advisory Committee	2021 - Present
Member, Council on Mental Illness National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities	2021 - Present
Chairperson, Inclusion and Mental Health Ministries Archdiocese of Seattle	2021 - Present
Member, Racial Justice and Cultural Diversity Commission Archdiocese of Seattle	2021 - Present
Board Member and Chairperson, Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Committee Washington State Community Connectors	2021 - Present
Board Member, Holy Family School Lacey, Washington	2020 - Present
Northwest Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders due to Streptococcal Infection Pediatric Acute Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANDAS/PANS) Parents' Network and Legislative Workgroup	2019 - Present
Council of Social Work Education Minority Fellowship Program MSW Mentorship Program	2019 - 2020
Governor Appointed Member, Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council (Co-Chair, State Plan and Policy and Equity Workgroup Committees)	2018 - 2021
Patient Chaplain, Chaplaincy Services Western State Hospital	2017 - 2020

Awards and Honors

Master of Social Work Hooding Ceremony Faculty Speaker University of Washington, Tacoma	June 2021
Master of Social Work Hooding Ceremony Faculty Speaker University of Washington, Tacoma	June 2020

Master of Social Work Hooding Ceremony Faculty Speaker University of Washington, Tacoma	June 2019
Master of Social Work Hooding Ceremony Faculty Speaker University of Washington, Tacoma	June 2012
President's Research Award Recipient University of Guam	March 2002
Social Worker of the Year Guam Association of Social Workers	March 1991