

Connecting Rural Texas Cancer Survivors with Cancer Care Services: Using Group Model Building to Capture Voices of the Community

Dr. Lailea Noel, PHD

Assistant Professor at the University of Texas at Austin



*Meet the HEALS February
Planning Team*

Our Team



Tatiana Torres is a social work graduate student at Arizona State University. After earning her MSW in May 2021, she hopes to work in an integrated healthcare setting providing access to mental health services for all.



Elizabeth Yesakov is an MSW student in the full-time clinical program at Michigan State University. She has a B.S. in Human Biology and Psychology and hopes to integrate that into her work in private practice as well as medical social work.

Our Team



Syreeta Jones is an undergrad student obtaining her Bachelors of Social Work degree at Arizona State University. She is an active member of AmeriCorps. Once she completes her education, she is looking to obtain a career in the field of Medical Social Work.



Michael Kosinski is an undergraduate student in the School of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He will be earning his BSW this May and plans on enrolling to an MSW program this upcoming fall so he can prepare to fight for the equality, equity, and access to healthcare for all.

Our Team

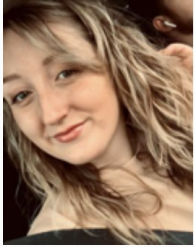


Cassandra LaLonde is an MSW Student at Michigan State University. She currently has a field placement at Sparrow Hospital in the Patient Support Services department. She hopes to continue on in the health field after graduation in early May.



Wei Ning Weng is an MSW student at University of South Carolina. She is from Taiwan where she received her BSW. Wei Ning worked as a health social worker in Taiwan for three years. She is interested in working with aging population in the healthcare setting.

Our Team



Elena Bigness is a full time BSW student at The University of Texas at Austin completing her senior year. She currently also works full time at the settlement home, which is a nonprofit organization in Austin.

Faculty Sponsors:



Dr. Janet Liechty is an Associate Professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign



Professor Dede Sparks is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Texas at Austin

Why do we care about rural health?

- ❑ 60% of rural Americans live in mental health professional shortage areas
- ❑ More than 90% of all psychologists and psychiatrists and 80% of Masters of Social Work, work exclusively in metropolitan areas.
- ❑ More than 65% of rural Americans get their mental health care from primary healthcare provider, and the mental health crisis responder for most rural Americans is a law enforcement officer.

Reference:

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/media/2018/mental-health-and-rural-america-challenges-and-opportunities.shtml>

Poll

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Q & A

Resources

- ❑ Rural Health Information Hub
<https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/>
- ❑ More about Dr. Noel's research
<https://socialwork.utexas.edu/directory/lailea-noel/>
- ❑ CDC on Children in Rural Communities
<https://www.cdc.gov/childrensmentalhealth/features/rural-health.html>
- ❑ CDC on Rural Health
<https://www.cdc.gov/ruralhealth/about.html>

Thank You!

To the staff of the Health Education and Leadership Scholars (HEALS) Program: Lorenzo Shaw-Graham, Julie Rhoads, Carrie Dorn, Kerrie Criswell

And the sponsors of the HEALS program:

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