

# National Latinx Social Work Conference 2025



Latino Social Workers Organization

## Human Rights in Social Work Practice:

Meeting the Needs of Latinx/e Social Work Communities



**Join us at the University of Washington  
School of Social Work on September 11-12, 2025**



**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

### **Conference Location:**

University of Washington

**Alder Hall**

1315 NE Campus Parkway  
Seattle, WA 98105

## LSWO La Familia Keynote Speakers



**Dr. Kristina Lopez**  
(Keynote)

In her research, **Dr. Kristina Lopez, PhD. of Arizona State University School of Social Work** explores disparities in early diagnosis and subsequent intervention services among underserved children and families including low-income, limited-education and racial/ethnic minorities with a specialization in Latinx children with autism and other complex health care needs. She focuses on the impact of developmental disabilities and complex health care needs among children on family systems across racial and ethnic groups and socioeconomic levels.



**Dr. Luis R. Alvarez-Hernandez, PhD, LICSW**  
(Keynote)

**Luis R. Alvarez-Hernandez, PhD of Boston University School of Social Work** Dr. Alvarez-Hernandez's research focuses on the social determinants of health of Latinx, LGBTQ+, and immigrant communities with a particular attention to the liberatory experiences of people living at the intersections of these identities. His teaching and research are informed by over 10 years of experience as a bilingual (English and Spanish) clinical social worker in mental health and healthcare settings, and by critical and feminist theories.



**Dr. Gino Aisenberg, PhD**  
(Panel)

**Dr. Gino Aisenberg, PhD** is a bilingual/bicultural Latino mental health researcher. His interests focus on three interrelated areas: 1) traumatic exposure of children and families to community violence, including effects at the individual, family and neighborhood levels, 2) depression care for adults, and 3) evidence-based practice. In 2013, Dr. Aisenberg is the founding co-director of the Latino Center for Health, an interdisciplinary, community engaged research center invested in promoting the health and well-being of Latinos through collaborative research, policy and practice efforts. The Latino Center for Health is the first research center in Washington state to focus on the health of the Latino community. He will lead a Panel with the Latino Center for Health: **Promoting Latinx Health Equity---Impacts and Innovations of the Latino Center for Health**



# SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

**Keynote September 11, 2025**

**9:00am to 10:00am**

**(1 CE)**

| Room              | Panel   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>Auditorium</b> | <b>Kristina Lopez, PhD</b> , Arizona State University School of Social Work<br><b>Keynote:</b> Human Rights Violations among the Latinx/e/a/o community: The Ongoing Struggle for Freedom and Dignity |

## Group A Workshops

**September 11, 2025**

**10:30am to 11:30am (1 CE)**

| Room #            | Speaker (s)  | Workshop or Panel   |
|-------------------|--|---|
| <b>Room 103</b>   | <b>Keren M. Escobar, BA[H], MSW, PhD</b> , Oakland University  | Culturally Responsive CBT: Enhancing Mental Health Supports in Latinx Communities   |
| <b>Auditorium</b> | <b>Patricia Lopez-Pullman, MSW, LCSW, Paola Garcia, MSW and Hector A. Cano, MSW, School Social Workers</b>   | Life Space Crisis Interventions (LSCI): Verbal therapeutic approach empowering our Latinx/e youth facing trauma and immigration challenges. |
| <b>Room 105</b>   | <b>Dr. Michael J. Alicea</b> , Barry University, <b>Elsa Candelario, DSW, LCSW</b> , Rutgers University <b>SSW</b> , and <b>Héctor Pérez, MSW, LICSW</b> , PhD student at Simmons University | LSW0 Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities in Higher Education   |
| <b>Room 107</b>   | <b>Jessica Lomelin, MSW, LSW, Director of Human Trafficking Collaborative Services at A Safe Place</b>   | Uncovering the Overlooked: Racial Equity in the Movement to End Trafficking   |
| <b>Room 106</b>   | <b>Alyssa Zepeda, LCSW, Clinical Supervisor at SALT Wellness Group</b>   | Your right to Rest: A Decolonized Perspective on Rest and Somatic Well-Being  |

**Keynote September 11, 2025**

**12:45pm to 2:00pm (1.25 CE)**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>Auditorium</b> | <b>Dr. Luis R. Alvarez-Hernandez</b> , Boston University School of Social Work<br><b>Keynote:</b> Untamed Wild Tongues: Upholding Human Rights Through Social Action |
|-------------------|--|

## Group B Workshops

**September 11**

**2:30pm to 3:30pm (1 CE)**

| Room              | Speaker(s)   | Panel or Workshop  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| <b>103</b>        | <b>Jessica Rodriguez-JenKins, PhD</b> , LICSW, Portland State University   | Becoming water: Liberatory social work for Latine communities in uncertain times   |
| <b>Auditorium</b> | <b>Dr. Michael J. Alicea</b> , Barry University School of Social Work  | "Invisible Healers: The Experiences of Latino Social Workers as Caregivers for Latino Families with Alzheimer's Disease"                   |
| <b>107</b>        | <b>Jessica Lomelin, MSW, LSW</b> , Director of Human Trafficking Collaborative Services at A Safe Place  | Uncovering the Overlooked: Racial Equity in the Movement to End Trafficking  |
| <b>105</b>        | <b>Elsa Candelario, DSW, MSSW</b> , LCSW, Rutgers University School of Social Work   | Liberatory Journeys: Puerto Rico Study Abroad and Latinx Social Work Education   |
| <b>106</b>        | <b>Isai Diaz-Keck, MSW</b> , <b>Joel Aguirre</b> , Team Lead Syndemic Program, <b>Yesenia Cruz</b> , Monarcas Latina Transgender Women Support Group Coordinator | Development and Feasibility of a Community-Engaged Social Media Campaign to Support HIV Prevention and Care Among Transgender Latina Women |

**Group C Workshops****September 11, 2025****4:00pm to 5pm (1 CE)**

| <b>Room</b>       | <b>Speaker(s)</b>   | <b>Workshop or Panel</b>   |
|-------------------|---|--|
| <b>Auditorium</b> | <b>Melanie Morris, PhD, LCSW</b><br>University of Washington SSW  | Advancing Oral Health for Latino/a/e Adults through Socio-Structural and Social Work Approaches                    |
| <b>103</b>        | <b>Raisa M. Rodriguez Torres, DSW, LCSW,</b><br>Day One, NY.  | Healing Justice as Human Right: Expanding Access to Advanced Training for Latinx Clinicians                        |
| <b>105</b>        | <b>Adrian L Delgado, LCSW, CADC,</b> President of the LSWO  | La Familia Perspective: Integrating NASW Code of Ethics and Cultural Competency Standards for Social Work practice |
| <b>106</b>        | <b>Kristina Lopez, PhD,</b> Arizona State University, <b>Jessica Rodriguez-Jenkins, PhD,</b> LICSW, Portland State University, <b>Cheryl Aguilar, LICSW,</b> PhD student at Smith College | LSWO Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities in Higher Education  |
| <b>107</b>        | <b>Carrie Vereide, MSW</b> and <b>Cindy Franco, MSW,</b> Public Counsel   | Advancing Immigrants' Rights through Social Work Integration in Legal Representation                               |

**Panel****September 12, 2025****9:00am to 10:30am (1.50 CE)**

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>Auditorium</b> | <b>Gino Aisenberg, PhD,. Leo Morales, Dr. Aida Hidalgo-Arroyo, Giselle Cárcamo Romero, Emely Barragan,</b> University of Washington School of Social Work – Latino Center for Health<br><b>Presentation:</b> Promoting Latinx Health Equity---Impacts and Innovations of the Latino Center for Health |
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**Group D Workshops****September 12, 2025****11:00am to 12:00pm 1CE)**

| <b>Room</b>       | <b>Speaker (s)</b>  | <b>Workshop or Panel</b>  |
|-------------------|---|---|
| <b>Auditorium</b> | <b>Hansel A. Aguilar, PhD -</b> George Mason University   | State Parents, Broken Branches: The Institutional Family Tree of Unaccompanied Minors                       |
| <b>106</b>        | <b>Gloria Johnston, MSW, LICSW,</b> Founder, Inspiración Consulting   | The Human Right to Rest: Dismantling Hustle Culture in Latinx Social Work                                   |
| <b>105</b>        | <b>Cheryl Aguilar, LICSW,</b> Director of Hope Center for Wellness, PhD student at Smith College                    | Physically Separated, Psychically Connected: Immigrant Parents' Experiences of Separation and Reunification |
| <b>107</b>        | <b>Jaqi Baldwin, LCSW, MBA, Keyla Ruiz, MSW, Maddie Rock, MSW,</b> Siembra Leadership High School & SLHS Foundation | What Schools Should Be: How Social Worker Practice Heals our Broken Systems                                 |
| <b>103</b>        | <b>Vania Buck, MSW</b><br>PhD Student at the University of Washington   | Sana Mente: A Community-Based Approach to Mindfulness For Latinx Elders                                     |

**Group E Workshops****September 12, 2025****1:00pm to 2:00pm (1 CE)**

| Room       | Speaker(s)   | Workshop or Panel   |
|------------|--|---|
| Auditorium | <b>Maria Fernanda Amado Cordova, LMSW</b> , Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center   | "Human Rights in Oncology and Palliative Social Work with the Latinx Community"                             |
| 107        | <b>Luisa Fernanda Sandoval Cortes</b> , PhD Student, Fordham University  | Historical Trauma of the women asylum seekers of the Garifuna Community and their forced migration process. |
| 105        | <b>Keren M. Escobar, PhD</b> , Oakland University, <b>Melanie Morris, PhD, LCSW</b> , University of Washington SSW, and <b>Gino Aisenberg, PhD</b> , University of Washington SSW                                  | LSWO Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities in Higher Education                                     |
| 103        | <b>Carrie Vereide, MSW and Cindy Franco, MSW</b> , Public Counsel  | Advancing Immigrants' Rights through Social Work Integration in Legal Representation                        |
| 106        | <b>Hansel A. Aguilar, PhD</b> - (City of Berkeley, CA) Director of Police Accountability, <b>Carmen Martinez, BA</b> , City of Richmond, CA and <b>Gia Irlando</b> , BART Office of the Independent Police Auditor | Latinx Voices in Civilian Oversight: Advancing Human Rights through Trauma-Informed Public Safety           |

**Final Program****September 12, 2025****2:30pm to 5PM (2.5 CE)**

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Auditorium | <b>Adrian L Delgado, LCSW</b> , LSWO Leadership <b>Theo Rigby</b> , Director of Ination Media, <b>Dr. Deisy Haid</b> , Walla Walla University Social Work, <b>Jaqi Baldwin, LCSW, MBA</b> , Siembra Leadership High School, <b>Dr. Michael Alicea</b> , Barry University Social Work program<br><b>Program:</b> Social Work Profession: Advocacy and Social Justice Guiding our Practice in Turbulent Times |
|------------|---|

**Special Thank you to Portland State University School of Social Work with providing the Continuing Education Credits for this educational event.**



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## Current Schedule for the Conference

(The program is subject to change depending on speaker availability and facilities)

### Schedule for September 11, 2025

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 7:30am to 8:30am   | Registration and Exhibitors Setup   |
| 8:30am to 9:00am   | Adrian L Delgado, LCSW - <b>Latino Social Workers Organization</b> and Dr. Gino Aisenberg, University of Washington. and Dean Michael S. Spencer (Ballmer Endowed Dean in Social Work-University of Washington) |
| 9:00am to 10:00am  | Keynote Speaker: <b>Dr. Kristina Lopez, PhD. of Arizona State University School of Social Work</b>  |
| 10:00am to 10:30am | Networking and Exhibitor Time   |
| 10:30am to 11:30am | <b>Group A Concurrent Workshops</b>   |
| 11:30am to 12:45pm | Lunch break   |
| 12:45pm to 2:00pm  | Sponsor Statement: <b>Deisy Haid, DSW, MSW, LICSW, Walla Walla University</b><br>Keynote Speaker: <b>Luis R. Alvarez-Hernandez, PhD of Boston University School of Social Work</b>                              |
| 2pm to 2:30pm      | Networking/ Exhibitor Break   |
| 2:30pm to 3:30pm   | <b>Group B Concurrent Workshops</b>   |
| 3:30pm to 4:00pm   | Networking/Exhibitor Break  |
| 4:00pm to 5:00pm   | <b>Group C Concurrent Workshops</b>   |

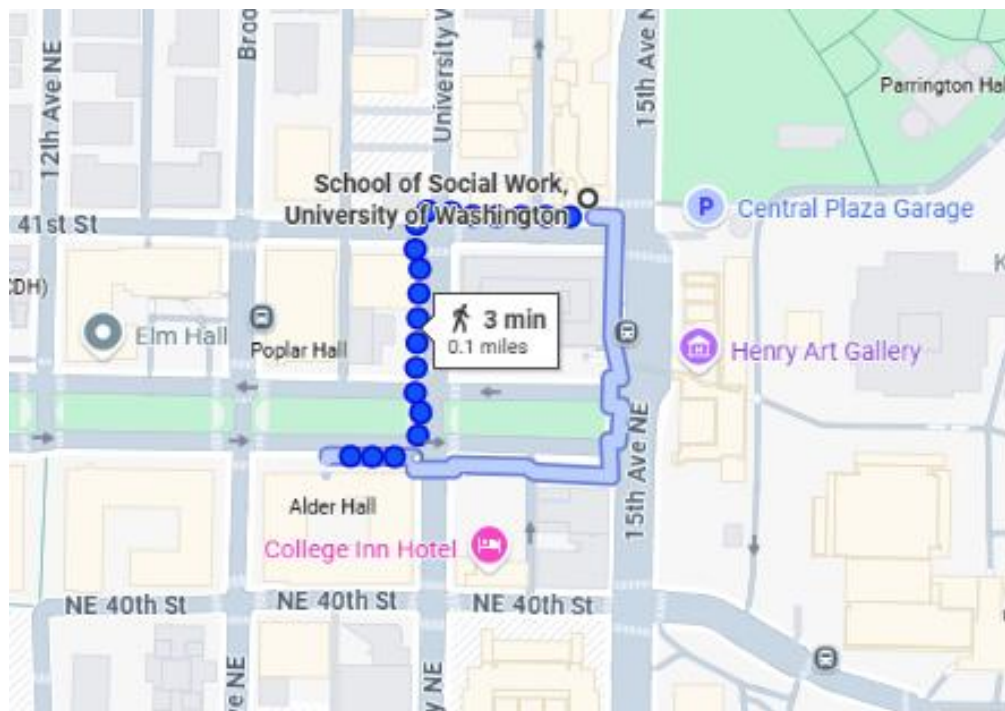
### Schedule for September 12, 2025

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 8:30am to 9:00am   | <b>LSWO Welcome: Noe Torres, LCSW and Sponsor statement: Catholic Community Services of Western Washington, Family Behavioral Health</b>   |
| 09:00am to 10:30am | <b>Dr. Gino Aisenberg – University of Washington Schoof Social Work and Panel</b>  |
| 10:30am to 11:00am | Exhibitors/Networking  |
| 11:00am to 12:00pm | <b>Group D Concurrent Workshops</b>  |
| 12:00am to 1:00pm  | Lunch on Your Own  |
| 1:00pm to 2:00PM   | <b>Group E: Concurrent Workshops</b>   |
| 2:00pm to 2:30pm   | Exhibitors and Networking  |
| 2:30pm to 5:00pm   | <b>Social Work Profession: Advocacy and Social Justice Guiding our Practice in Turbulent Times</b><br>Speakers: Adrian Delgado, LCSW and Film Director Theo Rigby, Deisy Haid, DSW, Jaqi Baldwin, LCSW, MBA, |



University of Washington School of Social Work

**(Alder Hall is the Location of the Conference)**



**Rain jacket:** September is one of the months with less rain in Seattle, but Seattle always has some rain. We recommend all to bring a poncho or rain jacket or umbrella.

**Water Bottle:** Always consider bringing a water bottle with you. You can fill it up at water stations.

**University District:** There are many dining options near the University District. Lunch is on your own for this conference. (Vania Buck, MSW, PhD student at University of Washington is providing you with a list of neighborhood eateries.

## LSWO Social Work Faculty Reviewers for Workshops/Panels

**Dr. Iraida V. Carrion**

University of South Florida

**Dr. Carmen Monico**

North Carolina Agricultural and  
Technical State University

**Dr. Catherine Marrs Fuchsel**

University of St. Thomas

**Dr. Pablo Arriaza**

West Chester University

**Dr Rey Martinez**

New Mexico Highlands University

**Dr. Leticia Villarreal Sosa**

The University of Texas Rio Grande  
Valley School of Social Work

## LSWO Faculty Reviewer for Student Poster Sessions

**Jessica Rodriguez-JenKins, PhD, LICSW**

Portland State University School of Social Work

The *Latino Social Workers Organization* appreciates Dr. Gino Aisenberg and the University of Washington School of Social Work for hosting this conference. This will be their 3<sup>rd</sup> conference. This school offers many social work educational options for you to consider. In this age of online education, we recommend their Social Work Program, as well as review the Latino Center for Health website.



**Gino Aisenberg, PhD - Associate Professor  
Co-director, Latino Center for Health**



**We appreciate the Support of our Sponsors**

**La Familia Sponsors/Exhibitors**



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**Exhibitors**

University of Washington School of Social Work

National Association of Social Workers (Washington State)

Harborview Medical Center

Mosaic

Institute for Clinical Social Work

On the Margins

University of North Carolina School of Social Work

University of Houston Graduate School of Social Work

**Handouts provided in your Promotional bag from:**

- The Latinx Advisory Group – Puerto Rico Symposium 2026
  - Ination Media – Theo Rigby – Filmmaker.

**(Visit our Exhibitors for educational, employment  
and internship opportunities)**