

Mayan Herman is an LCSW-S and has been a social worker for twelve years. Herman currently is an assistant clinical professor at the University of Texas at Austin, teaching BSW and MSW students. Herman is also a practicum liaison for students and trains practicum instructors. Herman works with UT TIES (Texas Initiative Enhancing Rural-Border Solutions), helping to address the shortage of mental health clinicians in Uvalde, TX. Herman has experience in bilingual social work, immigration, child welfare, dual diagnosis treatment, addiction education, mental health therapy with children and adults, primary care solution-focused treatment, and three years of teaching experience. Herman is also a clinical supervisor and has provided trainings on anti-oppressive practice approaches of self-care, burnout and trauma-informed care.

I want to be a part of Convene Steering committee because working in the substance use field helped me become a stronger social worker and helped me become aware of the lack of treatment options for people in the community. I also learned that many mental health clinicians, especially medical professionals, are not trained in addiction and do not know how to treat it. I witnessed community members being turned away by professionals because they had no idea how to treat addiction. This bothered me greatly and made me feel even more passionate about raising awareness. Every class I teach at UT, I make sure to incorporate treatment and awareness around addiction education. Recently I have been learning more about my coworker's involvement in the recovery community and it motivated me to become more involved. I miss working in the community and want to meet other professionals and community members who are smarter than me and have a variety of perspectives and backgrounds. I like being part of teams where we are all completely different but have a shared interest.