Emma Sanchez

MSW | Social Work Professional
Shoreline, WA | (915) 242-3877 | emmita.s@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dedicated social worker with expertise in advancing social justice, promoting equity, and addressing systemic disparities in child welfare. Bilingual in English and Spanish, I excel in serving diverse populations with inclusive, accessible solutions. My work includes consulting on culturally competent AI tools, mentoring social workers, and leading culturally sensitive training initiatives. Passionate about addressing complex community needs while driving systemic improvements for justice and inclusion. Dedicated to exploring and envisioning innovative approaches to creating sustainable social services both at the practitioner, and systemic levels.

EDUCATION

Master of Social Work (MSW) | University of Washington, Seattle
2018-2021

- Specialization in Multigenerational Practice with Children, Families, and Elders
- Focus on Ecological and multidimensional family and community-centered approaches
- Trained in Motivational Interviewing, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and Social Learning Theory
- Research on racial matching in child welfare, presented at CWTAP Student Institute (Feb 2020)
- Strong foundation in family systems theory, solution-focused therapy, and trauma-informed care

Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) | Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez
2005-2009

- Practicum in child welfare, community organizing, and government-level violence prevention work
- Experience in case management, group work, and conducting assessments with at-risk children and families

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Consultant | Self-employed

Providing consultation on culturally competent AI solutions for Spanish-speaking communities in child welfare

- Collaborating with developers to ensure AI tools are culturally and linguistically appropriate
- Offering training and creating guidelines for incorporating cultural practices in AI models
- Conducting needs assessments and providing feedback on system design, ensuring AI tools address gaps in service delivery for Spanish-speaking families

CFWS-Family Treatment Court | Department of Children, Youth, and Families
2021-Present, Seattle, WA

- Represented Washington State at the 2023 All Rise Conference as part of the King County team, selected to showcase policies and procedures of one of the nation's leading peer-learning Family Treatment Courts.
- Collaborated with Family Treatment Court team members to identify and address disability and accessibility concerns for participants, leading to updated policies that reflect these findings.
- Mentored CWTAP interns, highlighting the unique dynamics and practices of a specialized court within the Dependency system.
- Lead case planning and delivery of child welfare services for families involved in Family Treatment Court
- Provide consultation to colleagues on child safety and well-being assessments, intervention strategies, and evidence-based services
- Coordinate with educational, health, and community services to address child and family needs
- Collaborate with legal teams and judiciary to monitor case progress and recommend adjustments

- Offer training and mentorship to new and experienced social service specialists on service delivery and safety protocols
- Utilize Child Safety Framework to assess risks and develop child safety plans

CWTAP Intern | Office of Indian Child Welfare
2019-2021, Seattle, WA

- Attended permanency planning meetings and contributed to case staffing and shared planning for foster care
- Worked with families and providers to ensure culturally appropriate interventions in line with tribal and state child welfare policies
- Gained experience in the FamLink system, working with child safety assessments, court reports, and service planning
- Participated in training and contributed insights into enhancing culturally competent practices within child welfare services

School Social Worker | Instituto Valor y Verdad, Colegio Panamericano Bilingue
2009-2014, Ciudad Juárez, Mexico

- Provided case management and counseling services to at-risk children and families in a school setting
- Developed and implemented educational and behavioral plans to support students' development and academic success
- Partnered with local organizations to address the needs of students and families
- Led individual and group counseling sessions to improve student behavior and family involvement in education

---

SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

- **Case Assessment & Intervention**: Skilled in conducting thorough assessments and developing child safety plans based on risk and protective factors
- **Consultation & Mentorship**: Experience with consulting for culturally responsive practices. Passionate about mentoring and providing feedback to field staff to improve case outcomes and service delivery

- **Training & Development**: Proficient in providing training to staff, community organizations, and stakeholders on child welfare practices, trauma-informed care, and culturally relevant interventions
- **Child Welfare Expertise**: Deep understanding of child development, safety planning, and DCYF programs including CPS investigations, Family Assessment Response, Family Reconciliation Services, and Adoptions
- **Cultural Competence**: Bilingual (English/Spanish) with expertise in culturally sensitive practices, including working with Spanish-speaking families and communities
- **Technology Proficiency**: Familiar with FAMLINK and other child welfare systems to track case progress, assess safety risks, and ensure regulatory compliance
- **Public Speaking & Collaboration**: Effective communicator with experience in public speaking, facilitating group discussions, and fostering partnerships with community providers, schools, and law enforcement
- **Trauma-Informed & Strengths-Based Approach**: Focused on resilience, family systems, and solutions to promote safety, permanency, and well-being for children and families

---

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE & VOLUNTEER WORK

- Panel member at CWTAP annual conference 2024.
- Facilitated youth and children's groups, including refugee support and case management for at-risk children in both domestic and international settings
- Coordinated with community organizations to advocate for and provide resources to vulnerable populations
- Current active volunteer with several organizations in the Seattle Area serving the unhoused, those with unmet needs, and organizing neighborhood advocacy groups and with faith communities advancing the inclusion of LGBTQ populations.