

# Lesly Sanchez-Villar

LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER (LMSW)

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**Objective** To enhance academic achievement, cultural awareness, and personal growth with a focus on those who are oppressed, vulnerable and in need of support by promoting social and economic justice while following professional values and ethics that help identify and assess needs effectively. To promote the practice of strengths-based approach with individuals, families, and groups while improving human well-being by emphasizing the importance of human diversity and the respect of human rights.

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**Education**

2013 - 2015	<b>UConn School of Social Work</b> <b>MSW – Administration Concentration</b>  Puerto Rican and Latin@ Studies in Social Work
2009 - 2012	<b>University of Saint Joseph</b> <b>Bachelor of Science</b> <b>Social Work</b>  ¡Adelante! Certificate, Adult Learner Program
2004 - 2009	<b>Capital Community College</b> <b>Associate of Science</b> <b>Social Service</b>

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**Honors and awards**

April 2012	<b>Antonia Pantoja Award</b> <b>University of Saint Joseph</b> Awarded for Excellence in Latino Community Practice
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## Higher Education Experience

2017-2023

### **UConn MSW Program, Hartford, CT**

Field Seminar: Students enrolled receive support in acquiring and utilizing tools to take advantage of field education experiences. Some topics include student's and field instructors' roles and responsibilities, support around core competencies for the effective collaboration in the development of educational contracts. This course is a required course for students in the M.S.W. program.

- Taught two field seminars each semester to a class of 10 to 12 students.
- Developed and reviewed assignments for non-attending students.
- Review and support educational contracts developed by students and field instructors.
- Review of process recordings and materials necessary to submit grades.
- Assigning field education and field seminar grades and inputting these grades into PeopleSoft system.
- Provide academic advising to students enrolled in field education and field seminar.

2014-2015

### **UConn MSW Program, Hartford, CT**

#### **Puerto Rican and Latin@ Studies Project (PRLSP)**

- Assisted project chair and faculty by updating Exelencia nomination information.
- Collaboration in drafting of Hartford Foundation grant proposal for a community leadership/mentoring program.
- Coordination of PRLSP Advisory Board events.
- Facilitating a collaboration with CT Latino Legislators.
- Kept track of work-study students' hours.
- Assigned tasks to two work-study students.
- Development of project organizational chart.

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## Presentations and invited lectures

2016

### **UConn MSW Program, Hartford, CT**

#### **Puerto Rican and Latin@ Studies Project (PRLSP)**

#### **Guest Speaker**

Participation to share experience as a Latina immigrant in higher education to students who traveled from Puerto Rico to Connecticut.

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## Professional Experience

- 2023 – Present **UConn, School of Social Work, MSW Program**, Hartford, CT  
Assistant Professor in Residency  
Part of **Connecticut ¡Adelante!** Cohort supporting bi-lingual Spanish speaking students strengthen their clinical skills in Spanish. Teaching courses in the Individuals, Families and Groups (IGFP) concentration to MSW students.
- 2017 - Present **UConn, School of Social Work, MSW Program**, Hartford, CT  
Faculty Advisor  
Assisting MSW graduate level students in their field education experience, serving as an educational resource to field instructors and students, ensuring that school's standards for field education are met. In addition to mediating, as necessary between agency, field instructor, school, and student, taking leadership and serving as a troubleshooter.
- 2019 - 2023 **Village for Families and Children**, Hartford, CT –  
Bilingual Clinician  
To provide mental health interventions to patients meeting treatment needs as assessed during biopsychosocial evaluations. Duties include conducting individual, family, and group therapy, utilizing different clinical interventions. In addition to determining appropriate treatment options in consultation with the patient and other mental health professionals. Ongoing collaborations with referral sources and making community referrals, as needed.
- 2018 – 2019 **Village for Families and Children**, Hartford, CT  
MST Bilingual therapist  
Multi-systemic therapy Program therapist. Direct work with youth and their families. Aided parents to increase effective and specific interventions to improve/decrease unhealthy youth behaviors. Ongoing collaboration with systems impacting the youth's behaviors and challenges. Empowering parents and improving their effectiveness by identifying strengths and developing natural support systems and removing barriers. Utilization of evidence-based models to support youth decrease truancy, delinquency, and other behaviors.
- 2015 - 2018 **Community Renewal Team**, Hartford, CT  
Bilingual Clinician  
Provide counseling services to patients. Assess clients to formulate treatment needs. Provide crisis intervention services. Develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive treatment plans. Meet with clients individually and in a group setting. Communication with different agencies.
- 2010 - 2015 **Catholic Charities**, Hartford, CT  
*Family Support Worker*  
Visit assigned families weekly, provide information, and use a highly regarded curriculum to improve parenting skills and teach families about child development. Worked with families from pregnancy until the child reached 5 years of age. Help families access services from community resources. Group facilitator in parenting group skills.

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## Community service

2014 - 2015	<b>UConn MSW Program, Hartford, CT</b> Puerto Rican and Latin@ Studies Project (PRLSP) <b>Intern/Administration concentration</b> Administrative related duties in efforts to assist and support program participants, faculty, chair, and work-study students.
2011 - 2012	<b>Community Solutions Inc. Bloomfield, CT</b> Drapelick Center, Halfway House <b>Case worker/counselor</b> To provide basic needs information to male clients transitioning from incarceration to community reinsertion. Support around financial literacy resources, employment, and academic related services by assessing needs and making needed referrals.
2010-2011	<b>Catholic Charities of Hartford</b> Nurturing Families Program <b>Case manager/Group co-facilitator</b> Preparation of age-appropriate topics and support to mothers and their children. Collaboration and coordination of meal program served during groups.
2008-2009	<b>Youth United for Survival, Hartford, CT</b> <b>Youth Counselor</b> Supporting youth in after-school programs at Hartford and Bloomfield locations, assisting students with assigned homework help. Exploration of skills by promoting leisure activities.
2008	<b>Jubilee House</b> Refugee Assistance Program <b>Case Manager</b> Driving refugees to appointments, supporting with basic need applications, basic life skills, completion of required documentation. Ongoingly visiting the various refugee communities in the city of Hartford supporting the program director. Program coordination with stakeholders and coordination of meetings to secure funding.

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## Languages

English	Fluent listener, speaker, reader, and writer
Spanish	Native language

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## Computer skills

Programming

Microsoft Word  
Microsoft Excell  
PowerPoint  
Outlook  
People Soft  
Google Slides

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## References

*Adelante certificate*. Program: Adelante Certificate - University of Saint Joseph - Acalog ACMSTM. (n.d.). [http://catalog.usj.edu/preview\\_program.php?catoid=5&poid=581](http://catalog.usj.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=5&poid=581)

Bartucca, J. (2021, June 2). *Puerto Rican and latin@ studies project*. School of Social Work. <https://socialwork.uconn.edu/puerto-rican-and-latin-studies-project/>

*NASW Code of Ethics*. NASW, National Association of Social Workers. (n.d.). <https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English>