

Hi! I'm Connie Rodriguez I am submitting my name for voting as the Area I Representative on the TASP Executive Board.

As a learner at TASP Conferences and Summer Institutes, I would like to give back to TASP. The education one gains from TASP meetings creates so many essential learning opportunities. I would like to expand our TASP membership base. I welcome the voices of both current members and potential members to tell me their successes and challenges in their work.

As Director of Dallas ISD Psychological and Social Services, I supervise a team of Doctoral LSSPs, Masters LSSPs and LCSW/LMSWs that provide for the mental health/social services needs of 160,000 students. Services and programs provided by our department are crisis response, individual/group counseling, behavior intervention/support, mindfulness and homeless drop-in centers. Our department has a 20-year-old pre-doctoral internship program accredited by the American Psychological Association for school psychologists.

For 14 semesters I have served as adjunct faculty at Texas A&M-Commerce. Courses taught include brain/physiological psychology, abnormal psychology, health psychology, personality psychology, learning and behavior, cognitive social psychology and educational psychology. My educational interests are the impact of neuroscience plus mindfulness in education/therapeutic interventions.

My community work includes serving as a 2008 state delegate on the Democratic Platform Committee. This experience increased my communication skills in working with people who have diverse outlooks on mental health/social service issues. During the 2005 Katrina hurricane, I volunteered for the Mental Health Team of the American Red Cross. Subsequently, I received training as an ARC Government Liaison.