

Tanya N. Rollins, MSW
Graduate College of Social Work
University of Houston

Information

Tanya N. Rollins, MSW
tnrollins@cougarnet.uh.edu
512-632-2856

Education

Doctor of Philosophy	2021-Present	University of Houston
Master of Social Work	2007	Texas State University
Bachelor of Science	1990	Texas A&M University -College Station

University Experience

Adjunct Faculty	Park University	2011-2014
Adjunct Faculty	University of Phoenix	2008-2014
Adjunct Faculty	Texas State University	2013-2021
Research Assistant	University of Houston	2021-Present
Adjunct Faculty	University of Houston	2025-Present

Professional Background

Consultant	Inspiring Voices/ Equity and Inclusion	2020-Present
State Disproportionality Manager for Child Protective Services	Texas Dept. of Family and Protective Services	2010-2021
Academy Manager	Texas Dept. of Family and Protective Services	2007-2010
Academy Instructor	Texas Dept. of Family and Protective Services	2001-2007
Statewide Intake Supervisor	Texas Dept. of Family and Protective Services	1998-2001
Statewide Intake Specialist	Texas Dept. of Family and Protective Services	1995-1998

CPS Investigator

Texas Dept. of Family and Protective Services 1990-1995

Research Interest

Racial and ethnic inequities within child welfare and interlocking social service institutions

Mandated reporting as structural surveillance

Experiences of Black women employed in child welfare

Teaching Experience

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES:

Building Bridges Not Walls

Knowing Who You Are: Racial and Ethnic Identity

Knowing Who You Are: Supervisor Strategies

Child Protective Services Basic Skills Development

All Roads Lead to Permanency

Trauma and Race Equity

Poverty and Neglect

UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX:

Cultural Diversity

Intercultural Communication

Teamwork, Collaboration, and Conflict

Popular American Culture

PARK UNIVERSITY:

Minority Relations

Youth Culture

Texas State University:

HBSE Individual

HBSE Macro

Child Welfare

Policy

Diversity

Social Services

University of Houston:

Human Diversity and Human Development

Research and Technical Experience

Research Assistantship 2025 – 2026

Dr. Kelechi Wright, Department of African American Studies, University of Houston

Editor

Perspectives on Social Work Journal, Graduate College of Social Work, University of Houston

Research Assistantship 2023 – 2024

Dr. Suzanne Pritzker, Graduate College of Social Work, University of Houston

Research Assistantship 2021-2023

Dr. Reiko Boyd, Graduate College of Social Work, University of Houston

Invited Talks, Lectures, and Presentations

"Disproportionality and Disparities in Texas CPS: Past Efforts and Future Opportunities,"

NASW/TX State Conference, San Marcos, TX, (2014)

"Equity: Transforming Child Welfare Brick by Brick," Cross Systems Summit, Austin, TX, (2014)

"Engaging Fathers in Child Welfare," Champion for Children Conference, Abilene, TX, (2014)

"Courageous Conversations About Race," Prevention and Early Intervention Conference, Austin, TX, (2014)

"Walk a Mile in My Shoes: Conducting Poverty Simulations," West Coast Trainers Conference, Austin, TX (2013)

"Engaging Fathers in Child Welfare: Where is the Voice and Who Hears it?" NASW/TX State Conference, Austin, TX (2013)

"Engaging Fathers in Child Welfare: Where is the Voice and Who Hears it?" Southeast Regional Fatherhood and Healthy Families Institute Conference, Atlanta, GA (2013)

"Engaging Fathers in Child Welfare: Where is the Voice and Who Hears it?" National Title IV-E Roundtable, Galveston, TX (2013)

"Cultural Competency," Prevention and Early Intervention Conference, Austin, TX (2012)

"Eliminating Disproportionality and Disparities in Child Welfare: Steps of Change," Transforming Race Conference, Columbus, OH (2012)

"Now What? Strategies for Eliminating Disproportionality in Child Welfare," NASW/IL, Oakbrook, IL (2011)

"Disproportionality in Child Welfare Education," National Title IV-E Conference, Galveston, TX (2011)

"Race-Based Trauma: The Missing Piece of the Trauma Conversation", HHSC Equity Conference, San Marcos, TX (2016)

"Climbing the Mountain One Day at a Time: Texas Journey to Revamping Caseworker Training", NSDTA Conference, New Jersey (2016)

"Race-Based Trauma", Austin Travis County Integral Care Training Day, Austin, TX (2017)

"Race-Based Trauma", Central Texas African American Support Conference, Austin, TX (2017)

"Race-Based Trauma: The Missing Piece of the Trauma Conversation", Court Appointed Special Advocates State Conference, Galveston, TX (2017)

"Race Based Trauma: Grieving While Black", University of Texas Grief and Loss Conference, Austin, Tx (2018)

"Cultural Responsiveness, Not Just Political Correctness", TSABAA Conference, Fredricksburg, Tx (2018)

"Breaking Down Barriers", Texas Women's University Child Welfare Conference, Denton, Tx (2017, 2018, 2019)

Gender Infinity Panel Presentation, Gender Infinity Conference, Houston, TX (2019)

"Applying Trauma and Equity Informed Lens", CPI/CPS Leadership Conference, Dallas, Tx (2019)

"Equity, Poverty, and Elderly", APS Elderly Awareness Conference, Houston, Tx (2019)

“Living While Black: Race-Based Trauma”, University of Texas School Social Work Conference (2020)

“Behind Closed Doors: Child Welfare and Community Resilience During COVID-19”, Austin Community College Peace and Conflict Studies, Webinar (2020)

“CASA Conversations”, Texas Court Appointed Special Advocates, Recorded Session (2020)

“The Fix”, Texas Court Appointed Special Advocates, Recorded Session (2022)

Panelist, University of Texas Children’s Rights Clinic (2020-2026)

Speaker, University of Texas School of Social Work (2018-2023)

Facilitator, Texans Care Rider 33 Convening (2023)

Academic and Community Presentations

Poverty Simulation, Court Appointed Special Advocates Conference, Galveston, TX, (2014)

"Developing a Cultural Responsive Workforce: The Texas Model for Undoing Disparities and Disproportionality in Child Welfare," National Child Welfare Workforce Institute, Webinar (2013)

"Disproportionality: Beyond the Numbers," Bay Area Academy, Oakland, CA (2011)

Poverty Simulation, National Court Appointed Special Advocates Conference, New Orleans, La. (2015)

“Implicit Bias and Racial Disparities”, Texas A&M Law School, Ft. Worth, Tx (2017)

“Leading for Cultural Responsiveness”, HHSC Aspiring Leaders Academy, (2017-2020)

“Transracial Adoption”, Continuing Education, University of Texas School of Social Work, various locations (2017)

Poverty Simulation, San Antonio Homelessness and Hunger Week (2018)

“Transracial Adoption”, Continuing Education, University of Texas School of Social Work, various locations (2018)

“Equity and Poverty”, City of San Antonio Ambassador Orientation, San Antonio, Tx (2019)

“Equity and Youth in Care Identifying as LGBTQ”, Clergy, CASA, and Community Convening (2019)

“Cultural Responsiveness”, Women Infant and Children, Austin, Tx (2019)

“Cultural Responsiveness”, Travis County Drug Court, Austin, Tx (2019)

“Trauma and Race Equity Workshop”, Travis County Collaborative Coaching Session (2020)

Panel Moderator, Collective Impact Child Welfare Convening (2021)

“Disproportionality in Child Welfare”, TPN Health Network, (2022)

“Racial Trauma”, Collective Impact/Mission Capital (2022)

“They Don’t Give A Care About Us”, HHSC Behavioral Health Conference (2022)

Panel Moderator, Collective Impact Child Welfare Convening (2022)

“Journey to Abolition”, NASW Texas Conference/Hybrid (2022)

“Disproportionality in Child Welfare”, Foster Hope Conference (2022)

“Black Families Matter-Policing in Child Welfare”, SXSW EDU (2023)

“Safe Spaces in the Academy Don’t Exist”, CSWE Conference (2023)

“Racial (In)justice in a School of Social Work: Experiences of a Multi-Racial Doctoral Cohort”, CSWE Conference (2023)

“Journey to Abolition”, NACC Online Conference (2023)

“ You Can’t Handle the Truth: When White “Allies” Lash Out (Panel Session), CSWE Conference (2023)

“Yes, The Child Welfare System is Oppressive: More Than An Intellectual Endeavor” (Panel Session), SSWR Conference (2026)

Publications

Works in Print

Rollins, T. (2020). Sitting at The Same Table: Thoughts on reshaping how our systems engage with community. *2020 Clinician’s Corner*. <https://medium.com/clinicians-corner->

2020/sitting-at-the-same-table-thoughts-onreshaping-how-our-systems-engage-with-community-14655a0577a0

Simmons-Horton, S. Y., Rollins, T. N., Harris, R., & Blackmore, A. (2022). Aunties, Uncles, Me Maws, and Play Cousins: Exploring Trends in Formal Kinship Care for Black Families in Texas. *Child Welfare*, 100(1).

Simmons-Horton, S. Y., Rollins, T. N., Aarons-Cooke, S. (In Review). Reversing the Curse: Liberatory Models for Black Leaders and Clinical Supervisors in the Family Separation System in *Decolonized Clinical Supervision*. Cambridge.

Works in Review

Wright, K., Rollins, T.N. (2026). Structural Surveillance as a Health Determinant: Mandated Reporting, Medical Practices, and Black Familial Health. *Health and Social Work*.

Wright, K., Rollins, T.N., Bohler, E. (2026). Structural Violence and Policing Black Families: A Qualitative Study Examining Black Parents' Perspectives of Mandated Reporting in Family Medicine. *Journal of African American Studies*.

Service

Facilitator, Equity University Conference, Texas State University- San Marcos (2013)

Facilitator, Equity University Conference, Texas State University – San Marcos (2014)

Facilitator, Equity University Conference, Texas State University – San Marcos (2015)

Facilitator, Equity University Conference, Texas State University – San Marcos (2016)

Disproportionality Workshop, Texas NASW Conference, San Marcos (2014)
"Disproportionality in Child Welfare," Texas State University Guest Lecturer School of Social Work, San Marcos, TX (2011-2013)

Panelist, First Annual Racial Harmony Day, Texas State University- San Marcos (2004)

City of Austin Institutional Racism Taskforce – Health Subcommittee, Austin, TX (2017)

Student Day at the Legislature (2018)

Participation in Austin Mayor Steve Adler's Taskforce on Institutional Racism (2017-2018)

Facilitator, Poverty Simulation, Texas State School of Social Work (2018)

Facilitator, Poverty Simulation, Texas State School of Social Work (2019)

Panelist, NASW Texas Advocacy Day (2022)

NCJFCJ Meeting at the Intersection Texas Cohort Emerging Leader Initiative (2019-2022)

Member, Casey Family Program Race Equity Improvement Collaborative (2019-present)

Founding Member, Travis County Child Welfare Race Equity Collaborative, (2018-present)

Collaborative Member, Texas Children's Commission (2016-present)

Founding Member, Texas Meeting at the Intersection for Safe Families (2019-present)

Member, Texas LGBTQIA+ Youth in Care Taskforce, (2017-present)

Participant, TexProtects Child Welfare Convening (2022)

Participant, UH GCSW Racial Justice Principles Planning Team (2022-2024)

Legislative Testimony, Higher Education Committee/Texas Legislature (2023)

Participant, "Transforming Our Work with People Who Use Violence: A Gathering of Activists", Futures Without Violence (September 2024)

Board Member, Social Empowerment Texas (2026)

Member, League of Women's Voters (2025-Present)