



EMPACT – Suicide Prevention Center

Welcome to the 53rd Annual Southwestern School for Behavioral Health Studies

We are very excited to be back this year celebrating our 53rd year for the Southwestern School for Behavioral Health Studies! “**Renew, Reconnect, Reimagine**” is our theme this year for our first ever **Virtual Conference**. Who could have predicted all the changes that have occurred in the past year and a half? We have seen our world turned on its ear with the pandemic, but we have not stopped. As an industry of essential workers we had to make swift and decisive changes to the way we conduct business and provide service delivery. Now, more than ever, people are putting their focus on good health—both physical and mental. And to this end, the mission of this conference remains unchanged despite all the changes in the world. We are committed to continuing to educate those who work to improve the health of individuals and communities. By staying abreast of best practices and breakthroughs in healthcare, we strive to bring the most comprehensive array of sessions to equip service providers and leaders with tools for success.

We are grateful to the many organizations who have sponsored the Southwestern School for Behavioral Health Studies this year, without whom we would not be able to continue the tradition of excellence in programming.

We also want to thank our Advisory Committee members who work throughout the year to plan this conference and ensure that it continues to be a successful and rewarding event for all who attend.

Thank you for being here and I hope you enjoy your time at our virtual SWS conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Erica Chestnut-Ramirez".

Erica Chestnut-Ramirez MC, LISAC
Regional Vice President
EMPACT-SPC

Your partner for a safe, strong, and healthy community