

Melissa Cardenas

M.A., LPC, LCDC, ADC, ICADC

Summarize service to TAAP/NAADAC or TCB, to include your local Chapter & any Awards/Honors

I am currently a member of the San Antonio Chapter of TAAP. I currently serve as the Secretary of the Texas Certification Board. In addition, I serve on the Ethics committee as a TCB member.

I have really enjoyed my time serving on the board and would like to continue learning from the esteemed professionals who serve.

Professional Work Experience – to include Service Work

I have a Master's degree in counseling from Texas A&M University-San Antonio and currently obtained an LPC. I have been a SUD counselor since 1998 and currently hold an LCDC and ADC. I have worked in multiple treatment facilities as a counselor. I have worked in criminal justice programs, outpatient, residential and MAT programs. I have been a clinical supervisor, co-developed a residential treatment program and trained practicum students and LCDC interns. In addition, I have done volunteer counseling services in my career. I strongly believe in giving back the gift that has been shared with me.

Share your philosophy about the role and future of TAAP/TCB

I am a proud member of the Texas Certification Board. I feel strongly about setting and maintaining the integrity and professional standards for individuals that work and serve in the SUD field. The work that we do in this field is vital. We help individuals, families and our communities. This is truly about life and death from the inside out and we need to have appropriate standards and ongoing training expectations in this field. It is our responsibility as professionals in this field to maintain accountability and ethical practice.