



**MEET OUR  
IN CONTROL  
STAFF**



# Joise Garzon

Program Director



Joise Garzon, is an Independent Clinical Social Worker licensed in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Her recent experience has been in the post-secondary setting where she worked as the Director of Student Success office at RIC. In this role, she was responsible for ensuring that RIC students had access to case management services to help them overcome the life barriers that impacted their ability to stay enrolled until degree completion. This work included oversight of a team of staff, community partners, graduate students, and social work interns that provided individual support to students.

In previous positions as Clinician and Assistant Clinical Director of Stevens Treatment Programs as well as Clinician in a private practice, Joise engaged in diverse clinical treatment modalities with children, adolescents, adults, couples, families, and groups. In these roles, Joise worked closely with interdisciplinary teams consisting of Department of Children and Families workers, Department of Mental Health workers, school liaisons, parents, program administrators, teachers, and behavioral specialists. Joise's social work experience also includes providing clinical support to clients in the secondary setting, the criminal justice system, and community-based organizations that support clients with substance use and mental health needs.



# Yesenia Salazar

In Control Instructor



Yesenia Salazar is a person who enjoys helping others, with extensive knowledge of human personality and character. Since her youth she has been interested in reflection and knowledge of the person and his conflicts. With 12 years of experience in emotional problems and clinical diagnoses in adolescents and young people, she has the skills to investigate, listen and diagnose, planning information clearly and transparently. She is able to work in a team with large and small groups, ease of speech, use of simple and direct language, ability to give necessary information, good management of time in work environments, good customer service, punctuality and kindness.

She has worked on projects with young people in different organizations, she has been a community mental health agent in the state of Rhode Island, has also participated in community programs, and currently has a navigator's certificate in social work. Salazar was a clinical psychologist in Guatemala, within the United States she has a degree equivalent to a bachelor of science in clinical psychology.



# Jessica Calle

In Control Instructor



Calle is bilingual and biliterate in English and Spanish and has 11 years of experience working in early childhood. She has experience in early childhood classroom settings where she worked directly with young children and their families, and more recently facilitates professional development opportunities for early childhood educators. In her current role, one of Jessica's focuses is the trauma curriculum for educators.

Jessica has a passion for incorporating trauma-informed knowledge into her future practices. She truly believes this type of work improves outcomes for young children and adolescents when trauma-sensitive interventions are identified to support the client. Jessica believes it is imperative to understand how trauma can affect the daily living of trauma survivors and their families.

Calle is currently in the Master of Social Work Program at Rhode Island College and obtaining a Graduate Studies Certification in Trauma in young children and adolescents. Calle holds a BA in Human Development and Family Studies with a concentration in Early Childhood Setting from the University of Rhode Island. Calle also obtained a minor in Psychology.



# Laura Suarez

In Control Instructor



Laura is a person passionate about serving her community. She seeks to help the rising generation by bringing awareness and the necessary resources so they may achieve mental, emotional and physical wellness.

Laura has 8 years of experience working with youth between the ages of 13 to 25. As a youth leader at her local church she has been able to interact with youth that have had different needs. She is also currently working as a Site Director in an after school program at an Elementary school in Cumberland.

Laura holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Liberty University. She is currently in the process of initiating her Masters in Mental health with an emphasis in Christian Counseling.