

2020
ADVISOR
OF THE YEAR
CLARA SAENZ

BROOKHAVEN COLLEGE



Clara Saenz

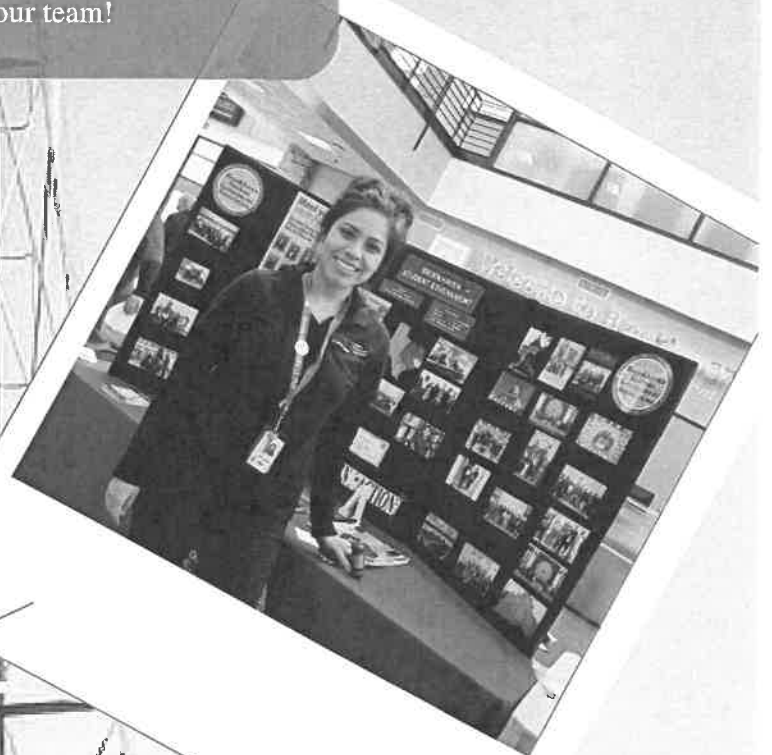
Clara is from Amarillo, TX. She graduated from West Texas A&M University and pursued Early Child Education major, and then had her master degree in higher education from the same institution. She then worked at Mountain View College as an Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator and then came to Brookhaven to become a Student Programs Development coordinator to oversee New student Orientations, Peer Leaders, Campus Events and Advise Student Clubs. Clara enjoys helping students become leaders along with guiding them through their educational journey to become all they are trying to be.



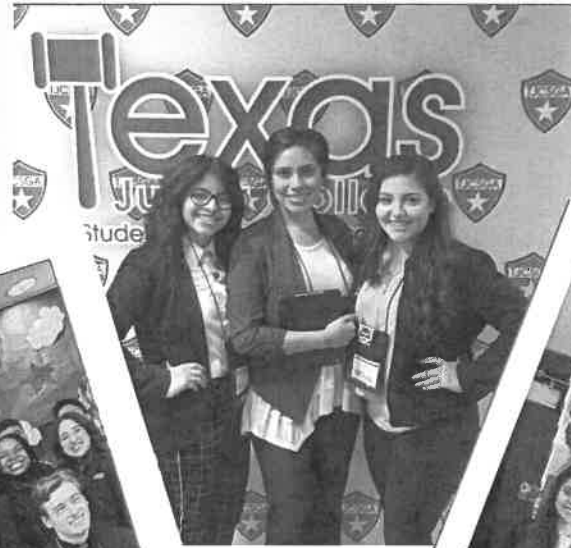
Brookhaven Chapter



Clara's journey with Student Government Association initially started with her offering to help transport students to the Region II Spring Conference. After attending the 2019 spring conference and having a better understanding of Student Government and all the activities that came with the organization she instantly offered to become co-advisor for Brookhaven's Student Government Association. Ever since then she has been a great asset to our chapter and we are so grateful to have her on our team!



TJCSGA REGION II



Ms. Saenz is one of the reasons why the Brookhaven College SGA is so successful, she has helped students to be more engaged in our local SGA Chapter and our Region II Chapter. This past semester Brookhaven College was the host school for the ASGA Conference. This conference brought students from all over the country to help gain knowledge in their roles as members of SGA. Without Clara this event wouldn't have been as successful as it was. Clara helped guide student to each session, assisted in providing lunch for all attendees and on top of that was an amazing leader to our local SGA and all the SGA chapters that attended this event, she is truly a leader.

Outside of SGA



Peer Leaders
2019-2020



Texas Rangers Game!



Sister II Sister
Guest Speaker

Not only is Clara involved in Student Government but she is also the supervisor for the Peer Leaders Program at Brookhaven College. Her goal this year was to bring light to the First Year Experience Program at Brookhaven, this program was created to assist first year college students in their academic journey here at Brookhaven. This past year Ms. Saenz changed the layout of First Year Student Orientation, to make it more engaging and productive, she wanted students to walk out of orientation with a positive mark of the school that they were planning on attending in the upcoming semester, to make it known to them that they are now a Brookhaven Bear and that their was always going to be someone to help. Clara gained all her knowledge about peer leading when she was in college because she herself was a peer leader. Clara is always looking for new ways to interact with each student and every time you are around her it is never a dull moment. Clara is also the advisor for the new club at Brookhaven College, Sister II Sister, this club was created in the summer of 2019. Clara leads a group of female and



Lets See What People Have To Say!

"Clara is very welcoming and supportive. She is a hardworking person who goes out of her way to make sure everyone is doing well. Her dedication to the success of students is very apparent."

-BHC SGA Special Events Coordinator
Axell Camarillo

"Clara is unequivocally the most efficient, uplifting and companionate person I know. I have had the pleasure to work with Clara in Osl for over a year and she has been a breath of fresh air. When I see Clara, I don't just admire her Educational excellence I.e her M.A , but how open minded and hard working she is to encourage every student to do their best! Clara, has been the most pleasant person to work with at the office of OSL. She is willing to take few minutes of her incredibly busy schedule to check up on everyone and I can't thank her enough for her support. I am so happy to have met her and I can't wait to see how amazing she will continue to do in her field."

-BHC Peer Leader
Nora Jandres

"Clara is my favorite staff of all time. She makes it very clear to the students that she is here to help us with anything we need. Aside from her being great at her job, she has a great personality and can always make you laugh."

-BHC Peer Leader & DCCCD Street Team
Stefany Delima

"Clara Saenz is a an up and coming professional with so much leadership potential. She always treats colleagues, students, administrators and community partners with kindness and grace. Whenever she is involved in a project or on a committee, not only does she contribute innovative ideas, but also sees the project through to its fruition. She has the spirit of a servant leader and is always one of the first people to volunteer to help out. One of my favorite things about her is that she always has a smile ready for anyone who walks through the door and that she keeps a positive outlook on life."

-BHC PTK Advisor & Program Coordinator
Rebekah Benivides

"Clara has been such a supportive co-advisor. She always tries to support the organization and the executive board in anyway she can in all their academic, career, and life endeavors. If any of the executive board officer needs a letter of recommendation, she is more than willing to write it. If any of us is ever having a bad day, she doesnt mind listening to our problems. Ultimately without Clara and her dedication, we would not be the SGA we are today"

-BHC PTK & SGA Vice President
Brandon Valdez

Lets See What People Have To Say!

"Joining SGA was an exciting but nerve wracking experience for me. I was being introduced to a lot of new faces and it was all pretty overwhelming for me at the beginning. Clara has made me feel comfortable since the moment I met her. She made the transition go by smoother and eased my nerves as I took on the responsibilities of the secretary. I can confidently say that Clara was the catalyst for my social upbringing."

-BHC SGA Secretary
Julie Olivares

"Miss Clara Sanchez is an awesome supervisor to about 15 (not sure) peer leaders. She is easy to work with and make us feel like family as a group. We love her and student orientation would not be a wonderful event at Brookhaven College without her."

-BHC Peer Leader
Esther Unfade

"It is my pleasure and honor to recommend Clara Saenz for advisor of the Year. Not only has Clara been an asset to our organization, but her skills, experience, and personal qualities have greatly benefited our chapter as a Student Government Association throughout this past year."

-BHC SGA Treasurer & Campus Activities Board Officer
Keesje Petersen

"The first time I met Clara was during the DCCCD Student Leadership Retreat, she was my group leader. Clara always has such a positive and radiant energy that makes coming to school a little bit easier. She has always been a person who motivates her student to become the best version of themselves. I am grateful to have her in my life and I can't wait to share the rest of my academic journey with her."

-BHC SGA Public Relations Coordinator
Liliana Cruz

"Clara you're an awesome person!!! You're always so friendly, warming, and lovely to others. Whenever I encounter difficulties, you are always so understanding. Thank you for taking me into peer leaders, giving me an opportunity to get to know more people in my life."

-BHC PTK Officer, Peer Leader, & DCCCD Street Team
Coco Yen

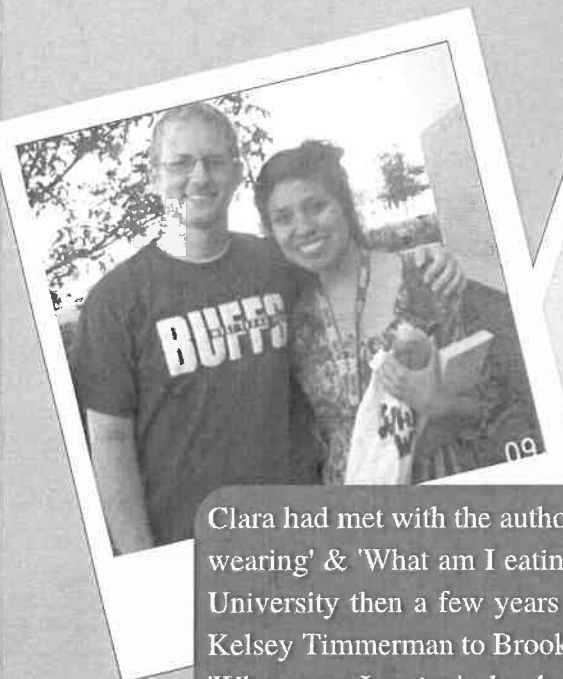
Community Service & Outside BSGA



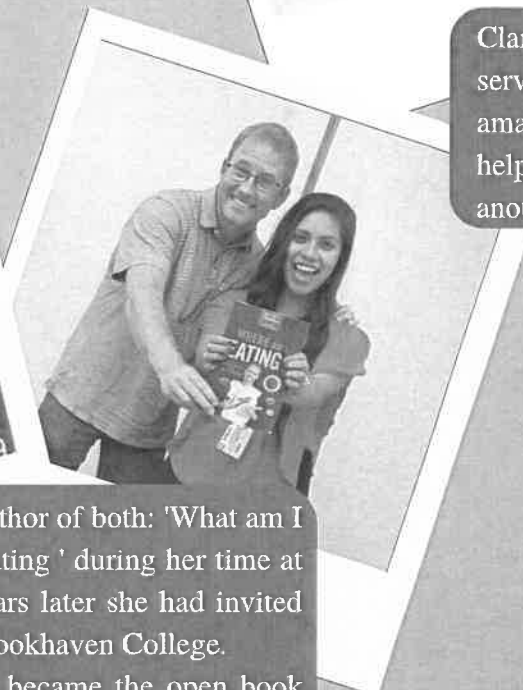
Clara had started this community event collecting purses and toiletries for women at the Genesis shelter. These women have gone through so much in their life and what better way to make their life a bunch more brighter.



Clara had volunteered at the MLK service to show her support for this amazing holiday as she hopes to help students empower one another.



Clara had met with the author of both: 'What am I wearing' & 'What am I eating' during her time at University then a few years later she had invited Kelsey Timmerman to Brookhaven College. 'Where am I eating' also became the open book project for the fall semester



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1/29/2020



Clara Saenz
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Farmers Branch, TX 75244

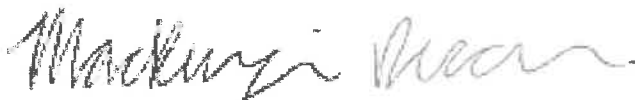
Dear Clara,

On behalf of the women and children of Genesis Women's Shelter, I would like to thank you for your donation of purses stuffed with hygiene care products! Having these essential items available for our clients means so much to us. We cannot thank you enough for choosing to contribute to our clients' growth and restoration.

We know that 1 in 4 women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime. In Texas, that number is 1 in 3. Domestic violence affects communities of all sizes, demographics and locations. Your gift provides Genesis the ability to empower women and children to know they are worthy and valued. Without wonderful donors such as you, we would not be able to provide the essential items needed to our clients.

Your gift allows us to continue our efforts to provide a free, comprehensive continuum of care for women and children who have suffered unspeakable violence. We are deeply grateful that you have chosen to support Genesis Women's Shelter and the brave women and children we serve. We sincerely thank you for your support!

Warmest regards,



Mackenzie Duncan
In-Kind Donations Coordinator

Thank you!!

*Please retain this as a receipt for IRS Purposes.

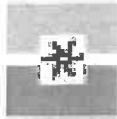
*No Goods or services were provided to the addressee as a result of this donation.

*Genesis Women's Shelter is a non-profit organization exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Friendly, professional, dedicated, responsible, amazing, supportive are some of the few words that can describe Clara. Since she arrived at Brookhaven College, she has been a key to our organization and school. I am so grateful to have Clara as my co-advisor and advisor. Any time that I needed someone to talk to me, she has been there for me. She guided me and gave many advises for my personal and professional life. On-time, she was sharing with me why she decided to become a teacher or to work with students in other areas that are not teaching. She said that when she was in college, she was a peer leader, and her advisor was excellent that she how to inspire by her to work as the orientation coordinator. Then Clara told me she wants to be an inspiration for many young people, especially young women, to pursue their dreams. With confidence, I can say that Clara's goal of being an inspiration to others does work, and she so inspires me. Also, I hope one day to work with young people and be their inspiration like how Clara is for me today.

Jennifer Hernandez Benitez

Brookhaven Student Government Association President



February 23, 2020

Dear Members of the TJCSGA Region II Selection Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Clara Saenz for the Texas Junior College Student Government Association (TJCSGA) Region II Advisor of the Year. As the Director of Student Life at Brookhaven College I have had the pleasure of hiring, supervising and working alongside Clara for about a year and a half. More importantly I have been able to watch her grow and develop as a student affairs professional throughout this time as she adapted to a coordinator position on campus and the students at Brookhaven. It is because of this that I can attest to her dedication, commitment, curiosity for knowledge, drive for success and leadership potential throughout her life. She has easily been the best New Student Orientation Coordinator we have ever had at Brookhaven.

From her arrival on campus Clara has taken the initiative and gotten involved in many aspects of campus life. She has revitalized the way we do some things in Student Life. She resuscitated the Ambassador Program that had floundered for years and turned it into a Peer Leader program. More importantly she has invigorated new life into New Student Orientation at Brookhaven. In addition to regular Orientations, she has created special Orientations targeting Dallas County Promise students, Veterans, and other special populations. She has added excitement to the activities and programs offered by the Office of Student Life throughout the entire year. More importantly she has done all of this while developing professional and positive relationships with all the students who come through our office. It seems like there is always a student in her office looking for guidance, advice or just a quiet place to get away and talk. She collaborates with other academic and student affairs departments on campus on countless programs every semester.

Clara came to Brookhaven from Mountain View College where she previously served as the Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator. She took what she knew from that position and excelled at Brookhaven. Last summer Rebekah volunteered to present sessions and serve as a small group mentor for the DCCCD Summer Leadership Retreat, and this year she went above and beyond developing a Leadership Training program for the Peer Leaders at Brookhaven. She also volunteered to supervise all of the part time employees in the office so she hires, trains, schedules, and evaluates them.

Early last spring I asked the staff if anyone was interested in helping out with Student Government. Our SGA is so big that I really just needed help driving students to conferences. After her first TJCSGA Region II conference Clara was hooked. She asked if she could co-advise SGA and hasn't missed a Region II Conference or State Convention since then. Without her the Brookhaven SGA would not be as successful or strong as it is.

It is without reservation that I professionally support her for the TJCSGA Region II Advisor of the Year. She often speaks eagerly about furthering her career development and the goals she has set for herself. She hopes to get more involved in TJCSGA going forward. She is one of the most dedicated and committed staff members I have supervised at Brookhaven. She continually goes above and beyond what is asked and expected of her. Her energy, enthusiasm, work ethic, and leadership skills make her a strong candidate for this award.

Thank you for taking the time to review Clara's application and considering her for this prestigious award. I honestly believe she will be one of your top candidates. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance. You can reach me at 972.860.4116 or bborski@dcccd.edu.

Sincerely,

Brian Borski

Brian Borski

Director of Student Life at Brookhaven