

<b>Job Title</b>	Social Workers
<b>Employer/ Agency</b>	Neighborhood Defender Service NDS will represent non-citizen clients who are charged with crimes and who cannot afford to hire a lawyer. Clients will be represented by teams composed of lawyers, investigators, social workers, client advocates, and team administrators. NDS adheres to a client-centered approach to representation that emphasizes a heightened responsiveness to clients' needs prior to arrest, while a case is pending, and after the case concludes. NDS is committed to addressing the comprehensive legal needs of clients. NDS Texas is funded by the Texas Indigent Defense Commission.
<b>Job Description</b>	<p>1. Embrace NDS' philosophy of client-centered, community-based, holistic representation and commitment to excellence.</p> <p>2. Work closely with team members to advocate for reduced sentences and/or alternatives to incarceration for clients. This advocacy includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Gathering factual mitigation through interviews and obtaining records;</li> <li>· Analyzing records;</li> <li>· Researching and recommending alternatives to incarceration;</li> <li>· Writing pre-pleading memoranda to judges and prosecutors seeking reduced sentences and alternatives to incarceration.</li> </ul> <p>3. Work closely with clients to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Make appropriate referrals to address clients' social service needs (drug treatment, mental health treatment, housing, and other benefits);</li> <li>· Assist clients in navigating available social service agencies;</li> <li>· Advocate on behalf of clients to social service agencies.</li> </ul> <p>4. Advocate orally on behalf of clients to judges, programs, and prosecutors.</p>
<b>Qualifications</b>	<p>1. A demonstrated commitment to criminal justice, indigent defense, racial equity, and social justice issues, and a substantive understanding of the biases impacting our clients.</p> <p>2. An ability to quickly build relationships with people of varying identities, income levels, races, and ethnicities.</p> <p>3. A high level of organization and administrative skills to handle a high caseload and multi-task in a very fast-paced environment.</p> <p>4. Clear and effective communication skills, both orally and in writing.</p> <p>5. An ability to work cooperatively in a team setting.</p> <p>6. An MSW degree.</p> <p>7. Spanish language fluency is required.</p>

<b>Salary/Hours</b>	Compensation is commensurate with experience and is in adherence to the NDS compensation scale. Exceptional benefits package includes full medical and dental for employee and family, retirement, life and AD&D insurance, paid vacation, holiday, and sick time.
<b>Address</b>	Most positions, including the Social Workers, will be based in San Antonio. Periodic travel to border counties will be required, but most legal proceedings will initially occur via Zoom. NDS expects to operate a satellite office in one of the border counties.
<b>Email Address</b>	texashiring@neighborhooddefender.org
<b>Application Method</b>	Email cover letter and resume to above email with subject line "Texas Social Worker"
<b>Opening Date</b>	Immediately

To post a job opportunity or if your response to this job posting results in successful employment, please email the GCSW Office of Alumni and Career Services at [mswjobs@central.uh.edu](mailto:mswjobs@central.uh.edu) with the hiring details of your new job opportunity. Thank you.