

# MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

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Welcome to UTHealth Houston School of Behavioral Health Sciences!

At UTHealth Houston's newest school, we are embarking on a transformative journey that will enhance mental health care and lead behavioral health innovation in Texas.

We recognize the critical need for behavioral health care professionals. With an estimated 1 in 5 people — including children — living with a mental illness, our mission is clear. We must bridge the gap between Texas' needs and staffing shortages by creating a robust pipeline of behavioral health care providers and leading researchers.

We are building on UTHealth Houston's long history of innovation, collaboration, commitment to community, and excellence in education, research, and clinical care. We invite you to be part of our mission. Together, we will transform behavioral health services in Texas, one compassionate provider at a time.

The School of Behavioral Health Sciences is the only graduate school in Texas, and of the few in the United States, to focus exclusively on Behavioral Health. If being at the cutting edge of a new and unique learning environment housed in the world's largest medical center with unmatched opportunities for direct clinical and research experience is appealing to you, then join us to be among the Behavioral Health Science leaders and practitioners of today and tomorrow.

Sincerely,

**Jair C. Soares, MD, PhD**

Founding Dean, UTHealth Houston School of Behavioral Health Sciences  
Vice President for Behavioral Sciences  
Professor & Pat R. Rutherford, Jr. Chair in Psychiatry, Louis A. Faillace,  
MD, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences  
Executive Director, John S. Dunn Behavioral Sciences Center  
Director, Center of Excellence on Mood Disorders