Treston Shaw, 24, of Fort Worth, is featured in a national ad campaign that will run in the Dallas area until May 2019. The campaign highlights Shaw as a Social Work student at the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA).

"It was truly life changing," said Amber Hovanec-Carey, a Social Work master's student, of the trip. "I was able to form strong connections with my peers, faculty and Belize residents and was given the opportunity to learn from the Belizean people and how they live." Hovanec-Carey is a first-generation college student who comes from a family of professional nurses. She describes the trip as "an eye opener," and says she was "impressed by how much can be accomplished within the community".

"The travel to Belize was the first time UTA Social Work students and faculty had formally studied abroad as a group," said Treston Shaw, UTA School of Social Work Bachelor of Social Work student. "It was eye opening to see how the culture was different from the United States and to see how important it is to be culturally sensitive." Shaw’s first introduction to Social Work was a "Power Hour" event at the Center for African American Studies at UTA. "I’m passionate about Social Work because it allows us to celebrate the tremendous achievements of our students and to support them in achieving their goals."}

"I'm really grateful for the support of UTA," Shaw said. "UTA is helping me get where I want to be by providing support and connecting me to people in my field of work." Shaw plans to graduate in May 2019 and hopes to use his Education in Social Work degree to help others succeed.

"I wanted to become a Social Work student because I have a desire to help others," Shaw said. "I want to work with people who are struggling with addiction issues and help them find their way out of the darkness." Shaw says he is "driven by a desire to help others" and is "passionate about helping people who are struggling with addiction issues." Shaw says he hopes to use his Social Work degree to help others succeed and to "empower people to achieve their goals."